



Letter from New York: BBC Woman's Hour Broadcasts

By Helene Hanff



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For six years, Helene Hanff held captive audiences all over the world with her monthly broadcasts on the BBC's Woman's Hour. In five-minute vignettes, she managed to convey the essential New York City: life in a high rise apartment building (the last small town in America); annals of Chester-the-Sheepdog, Duke, the German shepherd, and their friends; the tree-lighting, magic and music of Christmas in New York. We meet Arlene, Hanff's high-flying friend who's social life (and wardrobe) put Hanff's one-and-one-half room apartment and simple writer's life in perspective. We walk through Nina's garden, 16 stories up and witness famous New York rites of passage from the hysteria of St. Patrick's Day to Shakespeare's Garden and the neighbors who saved it, to block parties, with their sizzling Italian sausages and shish kebab and flossy plates of pate and brie, all told in Hanff's inimitable style. We join Hanff as she flies to London to realize a lifetime dream at the Ambassador Theatre: opening night for the play, 84, Charing Cross Road. And we witness the elegant Arlene as she meets and falls in love with a New York City cop.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

From 1978 to 1984, Hanff (84 Charing Cross Road) recorded a five-minute broadcast once a month for the BBC's Woman's Hour about her everyday experiences as a resident of New York City. Reproduced here, the selected scripts provide a witty, if somewhat rosy account of the adventures of Hanff and friends, fellow apartment dwellers in Manhattan. Included are reports on such events as author readings and free concerts, and observations on the Shakespeare Garden in Central Park, the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the ups and downs of city dogs. Hanff's love of her adopted city is reflected in upbeat anecdotes describing New Yorkers at their best--as good neighbors and charming eccentrics. A light diversion.

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From Library Journal

In 1978, Hanff, author of the charming *84, Charing Cross Road* (LJ 9/1/70) and *Q's Legacy* (LJ 7/85), began recording a five-minute monthly broadcast about her life in New York City for a popular BBC radio show called "Woman's Hour." Gathered here in this slim volume are six years worth of Hanff's observances; her brief vignettes run the gamut of the Big Apple experience, from an unforgettable party for 18 people in a tiny studio apartment to the magic of a New York Christmas and the glories of a Central Park summer. While jaded New Yorkers and others familiar with the city may find her anecdotes a bit simplistic and, at times, outdated, rabid Hanff fans will find her enthusiasm for her adopted city irresistible. Buy where her books are popular.

- *Wilda Williams, "Library Journal"*

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About the Author

Helene Hanff is the author of *APPLE OF MY EYE*, *THE DUCHESS OF BLOOMSBURY STREET*, *LETTER FROM NEW YORK*, *Q'S LEGACY* and *UNDERFOOT IN SHOW BUSINESS*. She wrote a number of books for young readers the best known being *MOVERS AND SHAKERS* and *TERRIBLE THOMAS*. Born in Philadelphia, Helene lived most of her life in New York City.

Users Review

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James Brier:

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Robert Black:

Precisely why? Because this Letter from New York: BBC Woman's Hour Broadcasts is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who have write the book in such incredible way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book include such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking way. So , still want to delay having that book? If I had been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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