

## ***Instructions***

The following are the introduction pages, the pages in between sections, and the index. Do not include this page, which should be replaced with a blank page 1. The pages are as follows:

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**NINON DE L'ENCLOS  
LIFE AND LETTERS**

**Translated and Edited by  
ROBINSON – OVERTON**

FIRST EDITION

Of this Edition 1000 Copies have been printed of which this is No. 6

## *Insert*

Love life of the most beautiful woman of the Seventeenth Century... The Friend, Companion, Confidante and Intimate of Queens, Cardinals, Princes, Noblemen, Cavaliers, Great Warriors, Sages and Philosophers.

Eighty Years' Secret History of the Court of Versailles, Under Anne of Austria, Louis XIII, and Madam de Maintenon.

Modern Society and the Social Relations of the Twentieth Century Prefigured... Letters that Reveal the Heart, Love, Character, Secret Aspirations and Longings of Women, Written by one of Their Sex Whose beauty was the Wonder, Admiration and Attraction in Paris for Seventy-five years.

Life, Letters and Epicurean Philosophy of Ninon de l'Enclos

The gift of perpetual beauty was bestowed upon Ninon de l'Enclos by a "Noctambule," or a little black man, and for nearly 80 years she was the rage in Paris, her charms influencing the most distinguished men of the period, including Cardinal Richelieu, the great Condé, La Rochefoucauld, Molière, Voltaire, and a host of others.

The book relates her experience and biographical anecdotes of great men whose hearts she captured.

Also her celebrated letters to Marquis de Sévigné, recognized models of elegance and standards on the subject of love and the female heart.

Added is the hereto comparatively unknown correspondence between Mademoiselle de l'Enclos and Saint-Evreumont, the sage, when both had passed the age of eighty, years. The letter of Saint-Evreumont to the modern Leontium, is a remarkable delineation of the trend of modern society. Written more than two hundred years ago, and the philosophy of Epicurus and with its modern adaptation according to the principles and practices of Ninon de l'Enclos.

EXTRACTS FROM:

UNIVERSAL ENCYCLOPÆDIAS: "she was beautiful and spirited. She was indispensable for all young men of both wealth and elegant manners. Ladies of the highest position and of the finest education crowded to her salon, and for fifty years her social position was brilliant. One admirer followed the other in rapid succession, and this life went on uninterruptedly for more than half a century."

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**MEDIAEVAL CLASSICS**

**LIFE, LETTERS  
AND  
EPICUREAN PHILOSOPHY  
OF**

**NINON DE L'ENCLOS**

**The Celebrated Beauty of the Seventeenth Century**

**ROBINSON – OVERTON  
EDITION AND TRANSLATION**

**CHICAGO – THE LION PUBLISHING CO.  
MCMIII.**

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**NINON DE L'ENCLOS' LIFE**

NINON DE L'ENCLOS

## *Introduction*

The inner life of the most remarkable woman that ever lived is here presented to American readers for the first time. Ninon, or Made-moiselle de l'Enclos, as she was known, was the most beautiful woman of the seventeenth century. For seventy years she held undisputed sway over the hearts of the most distinguished men of France; queens, princes, noblemen, renowned warriors, statesmen, writers, and scientists bowing before her shrine and doing her homage, even Louis XIV, when she was eighty-five years of age, declaring that she was the marvel of his reign.

How she preserved her extraordinary beauty to so great an age, and attracted to her side the greatest and most brilliant men of the century, is told in her biography, which has been entirely re-written, and new facts and incidents added that do not appear in the French compilations.

Her celebrated "Letters to the Marquis de Sévigné," newly translated, and appearing for the first time in the United States, constitute the most remarkable pathology of the female heart,

its motives, objects, and secret aspirations, ever penned. With unsparing hand she unmasks the human heart and unveils the most carefully hidden mysteries of femininity, and every one who reads these letters will see herself depicted as in a mirror.

At an early age she perceived the inequalities between the sexes, and refused to submit to the injustice of an unfair distribution of human qualities. After due deliberation, she suddenly announced to her friends, "I notice that the most frivolous things are charged up to the account of women, and that men have reserved to themselves the right to all the essential qualities; from this moment I will be a man." From that time – she was twenty years of age – until her death, seventy years later, she maintained the character assumed by her, exercised all the rights and privileges claimed by the male sex, and created for herself, as the distinguished Abbé de Chateauneuf says, "a place in the ranks of illustrious men, while preserving all the grace of her own sex."





**LETTERS OF NINON DE L'ENCLOS  
TO THE  
MARQUIS DE SÉVIGNÉ**

NINON DE L'ENCLOS





**CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN  
LORD SAINT-EVREMOND  
AND  
NINON DE L'ENCLOS  
WHEN OVER EIGHTY YEARS OF AGE**





**DOCTRINE OF EPICURUS  
EXPLAINED BY  
MARSHAL DE SAINT-EVREMOND  
IN A LETTER TO THE MODERN LEONTIUM  
(NINON DE L'ENCLOS)**





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