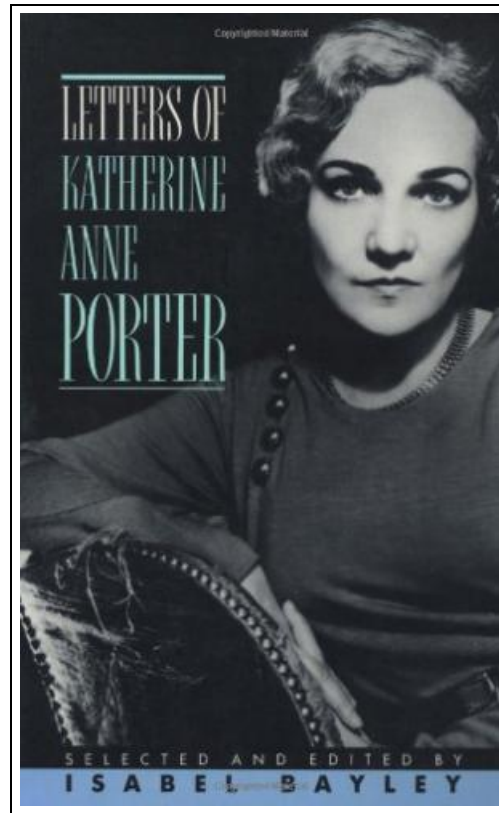


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Avalon Travel Publishing, United States, 1994. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book. Novelist, short-story writer, winner of the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize, Katherine Anne Porter is one of America's most respected and enduring literary figures. Upon her death in 1980 at the age of ninety, she left behind thousands of letters, from which Isabel Bayley, Porter's close friend for over twenty-five years and her literary archivist, selected the best. "The book was conceived as a whole, Bayley explains. "The letters will carry you, if you wish to read in sequence, from point to point during her major working years, 1930 to 1963. Little bridges form from idea to idea, from theme to theme. One of Porter's themes was an outrage born of unfair politics, and her words are as fresh today as when they were written: "What has discouraged me, she writes in 1957, "is simply the fact that from Mussolini on—Franco, Hitler, Tito, Peron, Batista, Trujillo, in a rapidly descending scale to Nasser, our government has without fail backed and supported, in completely criminal collusion, every foul and stinking political dictator in turn as they rise, with the hypocritical excuse that these are all "anti-Communist. And in 1947 she asks the kind of question that underlies the finest of her writing: "Man cannot—oh why can he not? This to me is the riddle of the universe—face the truth of his own motives. The list of Porter's correspondents reads like a Who's Who of twentieth-century letters: Marianne Moore, Ezra Pound, Eleanor Clark, James Stern, Cleanth Brooks, Malcolm Cowley, Allen Tate, Caroline Gordon, Josephine Herbst, Hart Crane, Monroe Wheeler, Glenway Wescott, Eudora Welty, John Malcolm Brinnin. She tells Edith Sitwell...

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