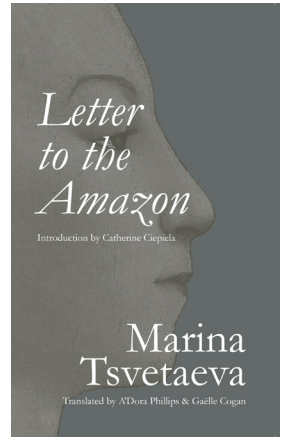


Marina Tsvetaeva

Letter to the Amazon

The first English translation of a lost modernist classic, *Letter to the Amazon* remains a surprisingly contemporary essay written in response to Natalie Clifford Barney's *Pensées d'une Amazone* (*Thoughts of an Amazon*). Tsvetaeva uses her essay to emphasize what is to her mind a general truth of lesbian relationships (i.e. they cannot endure because of a woman's innate desire for a child) and to explore her seemingly agonized feelings about Sophia Parnok, the Russian poet with whom she fell in love in 1914.



// The most peculiarly excitable and brilliant ... style in twentieth-century Russian poetry.

— CLAUDIA ROTH PIERPONT

// Tsvetaeva was a century ahead of her time in thinking about human sexual and emotional freedom.

— CATHERINE CIEPIELA

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Marina Tsvetaeva born in Moscow in 1892, was one of the most renowned poets of 20th-century Russia. Her life coincided with years of extreme turbulence in Russian history. She hanged herself on August 31, 1941.

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