



A Life in Letters, 1914-1982 (Hardback)

By Gershom Gerhard Scholem

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS, United States, 2002. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Perhaps the greatest scholar of Jewish mysticism in the 20th century, Gershom Scholem (1897-1982) once said of himself, I have no biography, only a bibliography. Yet, in thousands of letters written over his lifetime, Scholem's biography does unfold, inscribing a life that epitomized the intellectual ferment and political drama of an era. This selection of the best and most representative letters - drawn from the 3000 page German edition - gives readers an intimate view of this remarkable man, from his troubled family life in Germany to his emergence as one of the leading lights of Israel during its founding and formative years. In the letters, we witness the travails and vicissitudes of the Scholem family, a drama in which Gershom is banished by his father for his anti-kaiser Zionist sentiments; his antiwar, socialist brother is hounded and murdered; and his mother and remaining brothers are forced to emigrate. We see Scholem's friendships with some of the most intriguing intellectuals of the 20th century - such as Hannah Arendt, Walter Benjamin, and Theodor Adorno - blossom and, on occasion, wither. And we learn...



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