

thank you letter to nurse preceptor

thank you letter to nurse preceptor is a meaningful way to express gratitude and acknowledge the vital role that nurse preceptors play in shaping the careers of new nurses. A well-crafted thank you letter not only reflects professionalism but also strengthens the mentor-mentee relationship, fostering a supportive learning environment. This article explores the importance of writing a thank you letter to a nurse preceptor, the essential elements to include, and practical tips for composing a heartfelt and impactful message. Additionally, examples and templates will be provided to guide healthcare professionals in creating personalized letters that resonate with their preceptors. Whether you are concluding a clinical rotation or recognizing ongoing support, understanding how to effectively communicate appreciation is invaluable. The following sections will help navigate the process of drafting an effective thank you letter to nurse preceptor.

- The Importance of a Thank You Letter to Nurse Preceptor
- Key Components of an Effective Thank You Letter
- Tips for Writing a Professional and Heartfelt Letter
- Sample Thank You Letters to Nurse Preceptors
- Common Mistakes to Avoid When Writing Your Letter

The Importance of a Thank You Letter to Nurse Preceptor

Expressing gratitude through a thank you letter to nurse preceptor is more than a formality; it is a

professional gesture that recognizes the dedication and expertise invested in mentoring emerging nurses. Nurse preceptors serve as role models, educators, and supporters, guiding new nurses through complex clinical environments. Acknowledging their efforts through written appreciation helps to reinforce positive mentorship and promotes a culture of respect within healthcare settings.

Building Professional Relationships

A thank you letter fosters a strong professional connection between the preceptor and the mentee. This relationship can extend beyond the clinical rotation, providing networking opportunities and ongoing career support. By formally expressing thanks, new nurses demonstrate their professionalism and respect, which can lead to continued guidance and mentorship.

Recognition of Effort and Expertise

Nurse preceptors often invest significant time and energy in teaching clinical skills, critical thinking, and professional behavior. A thank you letter highlights the preceptor's contributions and validates their role in the mentee's development. Such acknowledgment can boost morale and encourage preceptors to continue their vital work with enthusiasm.

Key Components of an Effective Thank You Letter

A well-structured thank you letter to nurse preceptor should include several essential elements to effectively convey appreciation and professionalism. Each component serves a purpose in ensuring the message is clear, sincere, and impactful.

Clear Expression of Gratitude

The letter should begin with a direct and sincere statement of thanks. This sets the tone and immediately conveys the purpose of the letter, ensuring the preceptor understands the writer's appreciation from the beginning.

Specific Examples of Support and Guidance

Including specific instances where the preceptor's guidance made a difference adds authenticity to the letter. Detailing particular skills learned, challenges overcome, or knowledge gained personalizes the message and demonstrates genuine reflection.

Recognition of Professional Qualities

Highlighting the preceptor's qualities such as patience, expertise, communication skills, and leadership reinforces their value as a mentor. This acknowledgment shows an understanding of the multifaceted role a nurse preceptor plays.

Closing with Warm Regards and Future Intentions

The conclusion should reiterate gratitude and, if appropriate, express a desire to maintain professional contact or continue learning. Ending on a positive and respectful note leaves a lasting impression.

Tips for Writing a Professional and Heartfelt Letter

Composing a thank you letter requires balancing professionalism with genuine emotion. The following tips can enhance the quality and effectiveness of the letter.

- **Be Timely:** Send the letter soon after the clinical experience or mentoring period to ensure relevance and impact.
- **Keep It Concise:** Aim for clarity and brevity; a well-focused letter is often more memorable.
- **Use Formal Language:** Maintain a respectful tone appropriate for professional communication.
- **Personalize the Content:** Tailor the letter to reflect the unique experiences and relationship with the preceptor.
- **Proofread Carefully:** Correct grammar and spelling errors to uphold professionalism.
- **Consider Handwritten Notes:** When possible, a handwritten letter can add a personal touch that digital formats may lack.

Sample Thank You Letters to Nurse Preceptors

Reviewing examples can provide valuable guidance in structuring and phrasing a thank you letter to nurse preceptor. Below are two sample letters illustrating different approaches.

Sample Letter 1: Formal and Professional

Dear Nurse [Preceptor's Last Name],

I am writing to extend my sincere gratitude for your exceptional guidance and support during my clinical rotation on the [specific unit]. Your expertise and dedication greatly enhanced my learning experience and helped me develop critical nursing skills. I especially appreciate your patience in teaching me complex procedures and your encouragement during challenging situations.

Your mentorship has been invaluable in shaping my professional growth, and I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from you. Thank you once again for your commitment to excellence and for fostering a supportive learning environment.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Sample Letter 2: Personal and Warm

Dear [Preceptor's First Name],

Thank you so much for the incredible support and mentorship you provided throughout my clinical rotation. Your kindness, knowledge, and willingness to share your experiences made a lasting impact on me. I learned not only the technical aspects of nursing but also the importance of compassion and communication in patient care.

I truly appreciate the time you took to answer my questions and guide me through each step. Working alongside you has inspired me to strive toward becoming the best nurse I can be. I look forward to applying all that I have learned from you in my future practice.

Warm regards,

[Your Name]

Common Mistakes to Avoid When Writing Your Letter

Ensuring the thank you letter to nurse preceptor is effective requires awareness of common pitfalls.

Avoiding these mistakes can enhance the letter's professionalism and sincerity.

- **Being Too Vague:** Avoid generic statements that do not specify how the preceptor helped or influenced your growth.
- **Overly Lengthy Letters:** Long, unfocused letters may dilute the message and lose the reader's interest.
- **Using Informal Language:** Slang or casual expressions can undermine the professional tone.
- **Neglecting Proofreading:** Spelling and grammatical errors can reduce credibility and respect.
- **Delaying Too Long:** Sending the letter long after the experience may lessen its relevance and impact.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a nurse preceptor?

A nurse preceptor is an experienced nurse who provides guidance, training, and support to new

nurses or nursing students during their clinical practice.

Why should I write a thank you letter to my nurse preceptor?

Writing a thank you letter to your nurse preceptor shows appreciation for their mentorship, guidance, and support, which helped you develop your nursing skills and confidence.

What key elements should be included in a thank you letter to a nurse preceptor?

A thank you letter to a nurse preceptor should include a personalized greeting, specific examples of how they helped you, expressions of gratitude, and a closing statement that reflects your appreciation.

Can you provide a sample opening sentence for a thank you letter to a nurse preceptor?

Certainly! A good opening sentence might be: 'I am sincerely grateful for your guidance and support throughout my clinical rotation as my nurse preceptor.'

How long should a thank you letter to a nurse preceptor be?

A thank you letter to a nurse preceptor should be concise yet heartfelt, typically one page or around 150-200 words.

Is it appropriate to send a thank you letter to a nurse preceptor after completing a clinical rotation?

Yes, it is highly appropriate and considered a professional courtesy to send a thank you letter after completing your clinical rotation to acknowledge the preceptor's time and effort.

Should a thank you letter to a nurse preceptor be handwritten or emailed?

Both handwritten and emailed thank you letters are acceptable; handwritten letters add a personal touch, while emails are quicker and more convenient. Choose the method based on your relationship and context.

Additional Resources

1. *Gratitude in Practice: Writing Thank You Letters to Nurse Preceptors*

This book offers practical guidance on expressing appreciation to nurse preceptors through heartfelt letters. It includes sample letters, tips on tone and structure, and insights into the importance of gratitude in nursing mentorship. Readers will find it helpful for crafting sincere and meaningful thank you notes.

2. *The Art of Appreciation: Thank You Letters for Nursing Mentors*

Focused on the nursing profession, this book explores the significance of acknowledging the support of nurse preceptors. It provides templates and examples of thank you letters that convey respect and gratitude, enhancing professional relationships. The book also discusses the impact of positive feedback on mentorship.

3. *Heartfelt Thanks: Crafting Meaningful Letters for Nurse Preceptors*

This guide helps nursing students and professionals articulate their gratitude through personalized letters. It emphasizes emotional sincerity and professional etiquette, offering techniques to make thank you notes memorable. Readers will learn how to highlight specific preceptor contributions effectively.

4. *Thank You Notes That Inspire: A Guide for Nursing Students*

Designed for nursing students, this book encourages the practice of writing thank you letters to preceptors who shape their clinical experiences. It outlines various styles and approaches to letter writing, ensuring messages are both genuine and appropriate. The book also covers timing and the

role of gratitude in career development.

5. Mentorship Appreciation: Letters to Nurse Preceptors and Beyond

This resource extends beyond thank you letters to include ways to recognize and honor nurse preceptors throughout the mentoring journey. It offers strategies for ongoing appreciation, including written and verbal acknowledgments. Readers gain insight into fostering strong mentor-mentee bonds.

6. Sincere Thanks: Expressing Gratitude to Your Nurse Preceptor

A concise manual focusing on sincerity and clarity in thank you letters, this book helps writers avoid clichés and generic phrases. It includes exercises to identify personal experiences worth mentioning and guidance on balancing professionalism with warmth. Ideal for those new to writing appreciation notes.

7. Notes of Gratitude: Building Connections with Nurse Preceptors

This book highlights the role of thank you letters in developing lasting professional relationships with nurse preceptors. It explores the psychological benefits of gratitude and provides examples tailored to different preceptor personalities. The book encourages ongoing communication beyond the initial thank you.

8. Thank You Letters in Nursing: A Student's Guide

Specifically aimed at nursing students, this guide covers the essentials of writing effective thank you letters to preceptors after clinical rotations. It offers checklists, sample phrases, and formatting tips to ensure clarity and professionalism. The book also addresses cultural considerations in expressing gratitude.

9. Expressing Appreciation: Thank You Letters for Healthcare Mentors

This comprehensive book covers thank you letter writing for various healthcare mentors, including nurse preceptors. It discusses the unique challenges and rewards of healthcare mentorship and how gratitude can enhance these relationships. Readers receive step-by-step instructions and diverse letter samples to suit different contexts.

Thank You Letter To Nurse Preceptor

Thank You Letter to Nurse Preceptor: Express Your Gratitude with Grace and Impact

Ever felt overwhelmed trying to articulate your sincere appreciation to your nurse preceptor? Finding the right words to express your gratitude for their guidance, support, and mentorship can feel nearly impossible. You want to convey your deep appreciation, but struggle to find the perfect balance between professional and personal, concise and heartfelt. You might worry about sounding insincere, or conversely, too informal. This ebook provides you with the tools and templates you need to craft a truly impactful thank-you letter that leaves a lasting impression.

This ebook, "Thank You Letter to Nurse Preceptor: A Guide to Expressing Sincere Gratitude," by [Your Name/Pen Name], will help you:

Overcome writer's block: Learn how to articulate your feelings effectively and avoid generic thank-you notes.

Craft a personalized letter: Discover techniques for tailoring your message to your preceptor's individual impact on your learning.

Navigate the professional boundaries: Write a letter that is both respectful and genuine, avoiding overly familiar or formal language.

Choose the right format and delivery method: Learn about different ways to express your appreciation, from handwritten notes to emails.

Create a lasting impression: Ensure your letter conveys your sincere gratitude and strengthens your professional relationship.

Contents:

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Thank You Letter to Nurse Preceptor: A Comprehensive Guide

Introduction: The Importance of Expressing Gratitude

to Your Preceptor

Your nurse preceptor played a crucial role in your development as a nursing professional. They invested their time, expertise, and patience in guiding you through the complexities of clinical practice. A heartfelt thank-you letter is not merely a polite gesture; it's an opportunity to acknowledge their significant contribution to your success and strengthen a valuable professional relationship. This guide provides a step-by-step approach to crafting a memorable and impactful thank-you letter. It transcends simple formality; it's about genuine appreciation and fostering connections within the nursing community. By expressing your gratitude effectively, you build bridges, create positive professional memories, and possibly even open doors for future opportunities.

Chapter 1: Understanding Your Preceptor's Impact: Identifying Key Moments and Lessons Learned

Before you begin writing, take time to reflect on your preceptor's influence. What specific instances stand out? Did they provide exceptional support during a challenging situation? Did they offer insightful advice that significantly impacted your learning? Consider these key areas:

Specific Skills and Knowledge Gained: Did your preceptor teach you a particular skill, like starting an IV or performing a specific assessment? Mention specific examples. For instance, "Your detailed explanation of administering medication via NG tube significantly improved my confidence and understanding."

Mentorship and Guidance: Did they offer career advice, help you navigate difficult patient interactions, or provide constructive criticism that helped you grow? Highlight these moments. For example, "Your guidance in navigating the complex emotional aspects of palliative care was invaluable and profoundly impacted my approach to patient care."

Personal Support: Did they offer emotional support, encouragement, or understanding during stressful times? A simple "Your unwavering support during a particularly difficult week meant the world to me" can express genuine gratitude.

Positive Professional Qualities: Consider highlighting their professionalism, empathy, dedication, or problem-solving skills. This demonstrates your awareness of their strengths.

By reflecting on these key moments, you'll be able to craft a personalized and sincere thank-you letter that goes beyond generic expressions of gratitude.

Chapter 2: Structuring Your Thank You Letter: Crafting a Compelling Narrative

A well-structured thank-you letter flows naturally and effectively conveys your message. Consider this structure:

Salutation: Begin with a formal salutation, such as "Dear [Preceptor's Name],"

Opening Paragraph: Briefly express your overall gratitude. For example, "I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for your exceptional mentorship during my preceptorship."

Body Paragraphs (2-3): Develop the main points outlined in Chapter 1. Use specific examples to illustrate their impact. Keep each paragraph focused on a single aspect of their guidance.

Concluding Paragraph: Reiterate your gratitude and express your hopes for future interaction, if appropriate. For example, "Thank you again for your invaluable guidance. I hope to maintain contact with you as I continue my nursing career."

Closing: Use a professional closing, such as "Sincerely," or "Respectfully," followed by your signature and typed name.

Chapter 3: Writing with Impact: Choosing the Right Words and Tone

Your choice of words and tone is crucial. Maintain a professional yet warm and personal tone. Avoid overly formal or informal language. Here are some tips:

Use specific language: Avoid vague phrases like "you were a great help." Instead, use concrete examples.

Show, don't tell: Instead of saying "You are a good teacher," describe a specific teaching moment.

Express genuine emotion: Let your sincerity shine through. Avoid clichés and empty phrases.

Proofread carefully: Errors detract from the impact of your letter. Proofread carefully before sending.

Chapter 4: Examples and Templates: Ready-to-Use Thank You Letter Formats

This chapter will provide several examples of thank-you letters tailored to different situations and preferences. These templates can be adapted and personalized to reflect your unique experience. They will demonstrate various writing styles and tones to help you find the perfect fit for your message.

Chapter 5: Beyond the Letter: Other Ways to Show Appreciation

A thank-you letter is a powerful start, but consider other ways to express your gratitude:

A small gift: A thoughtful gift, like a gift card or a personalized item, can complement your letter.

Referral: Recommend your preceptor for awards or recognition.

Networking: Maintain contact and seek advice in the future.

Conclusion: Maintaining Professional Relationships After Your Preceptorship

The relationship with your preceptor doesn't have to end with your preceptorship. Maintain contact, seek their advice when needed, and consider them a valuable mentor throughout your career. Your thank-you letter is not just a closing statement; it's a foundation for a potentially long-lasting professional relationship.

FAQs

1. Should I handwrite or type my thank-you letter? Both are acceptable. A handwritten letter can feel more personal, but a typed letter allows for easier editing and ensures readability.
2. How long should my letter be? Aim for a concise and impactful letter, typically one page.
3. What if I made a mistake during my preceptorship? Should I mention it? Briefly acknowledging any mistakes and highlighting how you learned from them demonstrates self-awareness and maturity.
4. Is it appropriate to send a thank-you email instead of a letter? An email is acceptable, especially if your preceptor prefers digital communication.
5. When should I send the letter? Send it promptly after your preceptorship ends, ideally within a week.
6. What if my preceptor didn't help me much? Focus on any positive aspects of their mentorship and keep the tone respectful.
7. Should I include details about my personal life? Keep the focus on your professional experience and the impact of their mentorship.
8. Should I ask for a letter of recommendation in the thank you letter? It's generally better to send a separate request for a letter of recommendation at a later time.
9. Can I send a group thank you letter if I had multiple preceptors? You should send individual letters to each preceptor to personalize your gratitude.

Related Articles:

1. Writing Effective Professional Emails: Tips for crafting clear and concise professional emails.
2. Networking Strategies for Nurses: How to build and maintain professional connections.
3. Mentorship Programs in Nursing: Information on finding and participating in mentorship opportunities.
4. Strategies for Dealing with Difficult Preceptors: Advice for navigating challenging mentorship experiences.
5. Building Confidence as a New Nurse: Techniques for overcoming self-doubt and building professional confidence.
6. The Importance of Continuing Education for Nurses: Why ongoing learning is essential for career advancement.
7. How to Write a Powerful Resume for Nurses: Tips for crafting a resume that highlights your skills and experience.
8. Mastering the Nursing Interview: Strategies for successfully navigating nursing job interviews.
9. Maintaining Work-Life Balance as a Nurse: Tips and strategies for preventing burnout and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

thank you letter to nurse preceptor: *The Nurse Preceptor Toolkit - E-Book* Beth Heuer, Cynthia A. Danford, 2024-06-25 Develop the skills necessary for precepting RN and APRN students and new orientees! The Nurse Preceptor Toolkit is written by and for RN and APRN clinicians and faculty members from a variety of levels, specialties, and settings. Using real-life examples and practical tips, this comprehensive resource answers the questions preceptors often ask when interacting with students of all levels, as well as new orientees. Within its pages, you'll find everything you need to develop and solidify the clinical teaching skills essential to becoming an effective preceptor. - This completely new book serves as a comprehensive resource for precepting both RN and APRN students and new orientees. - Coverage addresses questions preceptors have asked when interacting with students of all levels, as well as with new orientees. - Content is written by and for RN and APRN clinicians and faculty members from a variety of levels, specialties, and settings. - Real-life examples and practical tips guide the development and solidification of the clinical teaching skills needed to become an effective preceptor. - Coverage of essential precepting topics includes effective communication, flexibility, time management skills, providing feedback and support, an understanding of different adult learning styles, and the ability to confidently evaluate student knowledge and competencies. - Chapter objectives serve as advance organizers to help prepare you for the content that follows. - Exemplars model excellence in clinical precepting through contributor-authored stories of successful faculty-preceptor-learner partnerships related to the content of each chapter. - Boxes highlight tips from successful preceptors. - Appendices provide ready-to-use tools to enhance the preceptor-learner experience.

thank you letter to nurse preceptor: Clinical Teaching Strategies in Nursing Marilyn H. Oermann, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, Teresa Shellenbarger, PhD, RN, CNL, CNEcl, ANEF, Kathleen B. Gaberson, PhD, RN, CNOR, CNE, ANEF, 2021-12-24 Now in its sixth edition, this highly acclaimed core text for nurse educators continues to be the only resource to address clinical teaching in all settings. Delivering comprehensive and detailed information on planning, guiding, and evaluating learning activities for prelicensure and graduate nursing students, the sixth edition is distinguished by its focus on clinical teaching in a wide range of settings including teaching in online environments. The book prepares graduate students, preceptors, adjunct faculty members, and clinicians for their role as clinical nurse educators. Integrating theory and practical content, the text is updated with current information relevant to the future of nursing, student and faculty diversity,

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from the International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative (IDDSI).

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thank you letter to nurse preceptor: Clinical Teaching Strategies in Nursing, Fourth Edition Kathleen B. Gaberson, PhD, RN, CNOR, CNE, ANEF, Marilyn H. Oermann, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, Teresa Shellenbarger, PhD, RN, CNL, CNEcl, ANEF, 2014-03-05 Named a 2013 Doody's Core Title and Essential Purchase! Praise for the Third Edition: I recommend this book as an introduction to new educators involved in clinical teaching. -Journal for Nurses in Staff Development The fourth edition of this highly acclaimed text continues to provide a comprehensive framework for planning, guiding, and evaluating learning activities for graduate and undergraduate nursing students in numerous clinical settings. A respected resource for clinical faculty, it addresses the distinct requirements of clinical learning as opposed to classroom learning and provides proven strategies to maximize clinical education. The revision features expanded content on teaching graduate students, regulatory issues affecting distance education, and the use of social media. It covers establishing and using dedicated education units (DEUs), the challenges of student access to electronic health records and documentation of care, and reducing the demands of clinical staff members when multiple students rotate through a particular setting. Additionally, this edition provides guidelines for using preceptors, evaluating multimedia, and observing students in practice; sample observation guidelines, learning assignments, and clinical learning activities; and sample policies for clinical evaluation and adherence to professional conduct standards. It includes the latest revisions of the NCLEX test plan and the AACN Essentials guidelines for nursing education. The instructor's manual, which includes learning activities for each chapter and teaching suggestions, and PowerPoint presentations accompany the text. New to the Fourth edition: Two completely new chapters: the first Developing Clinical Learning Sites, and the second Pedagogical Technologies for Clinical Education Expanded approaches for meeting the clinical needs of graduate students Regulatory issues affecting distance education across state lines Using social media Discussion of benefits of DEUs and practical suggestions for developing them as clinical teaching sites Important content regarding the NLN CNETM Examination Detailed Test Blueprint Challenges of student access to electronic health records Guidelines for using preceptors, evaluating multimedia, and student observation Sample observation guidelines, learning assignments, and clinical learning activities and sample policies for clinical evaluation and professional conduct standards

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Becoming a Registered Nurse is the true story of one woman's experiences as she searched for her true calling in life and overcame her challenges with faith.

thank you letter to nurse preceptor: *Mosby's Essentials for Nursing Assistants* Sheila A. Sorrentino, PhD, RN, Leighann Remmert, MS, RN, 2013-11-21 Designed for shorter programs of 85 hours or fewer, *Mosby's Essentials for Nursing Assistants*, 5th Edition provides coverage of the concepts and skills that are essential to becoming a nursing assistant. With focus on quality of life in the patient/person and self-pride in the nursing assistant this concise text emphasizes the importance of treating residents with respect while providing safe, competent, and efficient care. Delegation Guidelines identify the nursing assistant's specific responsibilities in accepting commonly delegated tasks. Promoting Safety and Comfort boxes highlight important considerations for providing safe and effective care while promoting patient comfort. Procedures boxes are divided into step-by-step format with instructions for performing each skill, including Quality of Life courtesies, Pre-procedure, Procedure, and Post-Procedure sections to make learning critical skills easier. Focus on PRIDE boxes highlight personal and professional responsibility, rights and respect, independence and social interaction, delegation and teamwork, and ethics and laws, encouraging you to promote pride in the person, family, and yourself. Quality of Life reminders in the procedure boxes reinforce the simple courtesies that should be afforded to all patients, demonstrating how to show respect for the patient as a person. NNAAP in the Procedure Title Bar alerts you to skills that are part of the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program. Concise coverage of nursing assistant content that's ideal and easy to use in classes with shorter hour requirements. Detailed illustrations offer step-by-step visual guidelines for performing key procedures. NEW! Focus on Surveys boxes with common survey questions emphasize the nursing assistant's role in providing safe and effective care. NEW! Focus on Practice boxes at the end of each chapter present short case scenarios with questions so you can consider practical applications for providing patient care. NEW! The Person's Rights chapter highlights the importance of understanding and protecting a patient's rights. NEW! Pressure Ulcers chapter familiarizes you with the risk factors of pressure ulcers and the information to identify individuals at risk. NEW! Laminated, pocket-sized reference cards include information on vital signs, measurement conversions, range-of-motion, abbreviations, positioning, and the 24-hour clock for easy access to information critical in providing safe and effective care. NEW! Updated Companion CD has 28 procedures, including 3 new procedures, containing interactive learning exercises, an updated audio glossary, a new Spanish audio glossary, and Body Spectrum (an anatomy and physiology program) providing you with additional tools for independent learning that reinforces textbook content.

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Biography of three artists closely associated with the Pre-Raphaelites whose letters give a vivid insight into the dramas of their personal life. Joanna, George and Henry tells the story of the intertwined lives of three young artists in the 1850s. When the transcript of the material on which this group portrait is based came to light ten years ago, no one could have imagined the drama within. They were family letters: letters from a young woman to her brother and later to her suitor - of interest chiefly because all three were painters, and all were active participants in the youthful Pre-Raphaelite revolution that swept England in the 1850s. They turned out to be a revelation - giving not only a comprehensive picture of what it was like to be an artist in the mid-19th century, but containing within them a powerful family drama and a most unusual love story. It is a love story, moreover, told largely from a woman's point of view. Joanna Boyce's dedication to her art was absolute: she studied in Paris under Thomas Couture and had her first painting exhibited at the Academy when she was only 24. She was headstrong, self-critical, opinionated and teasing - an artist with her pen as well as her brush. She died tragically young. Between them, Joanna, her brother George and suitor Henry Wells knew all the artistic luminaries of the day, among them Ruskin, Millais and Rossetti (with whom George shared a great deal, including mistresses). They wrote to each other not just about art, but about their friends, their favourite books, their travels, their illnesses, their passions and their quarrels. In this book, they tell their story in their own vivid words - a story which portrays the age in which they lived and the powerful drama of their emotional and professional lives. Sue Bradbury taught in Spain for three years before joining The Folio Society in 1973. She became Editorial Director in 1984, a post she held for twenty-five years. Her own publications include translations of *Three Tragedies* by Federico Garcia Lorca, a novel, *Midnight Madonna*, set in the Spanish Civil War, and a four-volume history of the world in contemporary accounts - *Eyewitness to History* - with Robert Fox. She was awarded the OBE in 2010.

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