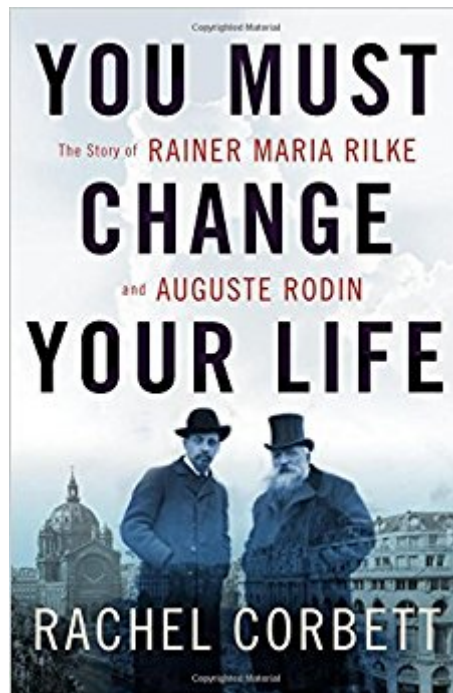


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# You Must Change Your Life: The Story Of Rainer Maria Rilke And Auguste Rodin



## Synopsis

The extraordinary story of one of the most fruitful friendships in modern arts and letters. Paris, 1902: Renowned sculptor Auguste Rodin has just completed *The Thinker*. Rainer Maria Rilke is a delicate young visitor from Prague, broke and suffering from a case of writer's block. When Rilke is commissioned to write a book about Rodin, everything changes. . . . *You Must Change Your Life* reveals one of the great stories of modern art and literature: Rodin and Rilke's years together as master and disciple, their heartbreaking rift, and ultimately their moving reconciliation. In her vibrant debut, Rachel Corbett reveals how Rodin's influence led Rilke to write his most celebrated poems and inspired his beloved *Letters to a Young Poet*. She captures the dawn of modernism with appearances by Paul Cézanne, Henri Matisse, Lou Andreas-Salomé, George Bernard Shaw, and Jean Cocteau. And she recounts the remarkable friendship of two extraordinary artists whose work continues to reverberate a century later. 16 illustrations

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A truly great read! This is a great find for anyone who enjoys historical biographies. It is clearly very well researched and anyone who already knows a little about Rilke and Rodin will definitely learn much more about these important figures. There is also a good deal of attention given to surrounding figures, which makes the whole story very rich and engaging. The author does an incredible job of drawing you into the details of this historical period and the depth of Rilke and Rodin's relationship.

A masterfully written and utterly engaging work written by Rachel Corbett. Even if you know little about the central figures biographed in the book, the author's striking descriptions of turn of the century European zeitgeist hook you, and her inclusion of so many deliciously amusing historical anecdotes makes the story told enthralling from start to end. I don't typically read biographies but I thoroughly enjoyed this book. Absolutely recommend!

One of the finest books I've read on what it means to be an artist and the question of how to live your life as one. Corbett is a masterful stylist who is lyrical and pointed in her exploration of two great masters. I'd recommend this book to anyone who's interested in fin de siècle Paris, art and the lives of artists.

An endlessly inspiring book on a topic I knew nothing about. Who knew these two knew each other, let alone had such a profound effect on one another?! This was so engaging I read through it almost too quickly - I didn't want it to end. (And I personally loved the attention paid to the women in this particular Parisian social scene, true talents and personalities worthy of acknowledgement in their own right). I read this book to learn about the history, but gleaned so much more. Corbett effortlessly creates an immersive dual-portrait, and her account compels me to tackle projects of my own and motivated me to take the artists' lessons to heart. There is no time to create like the present.

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