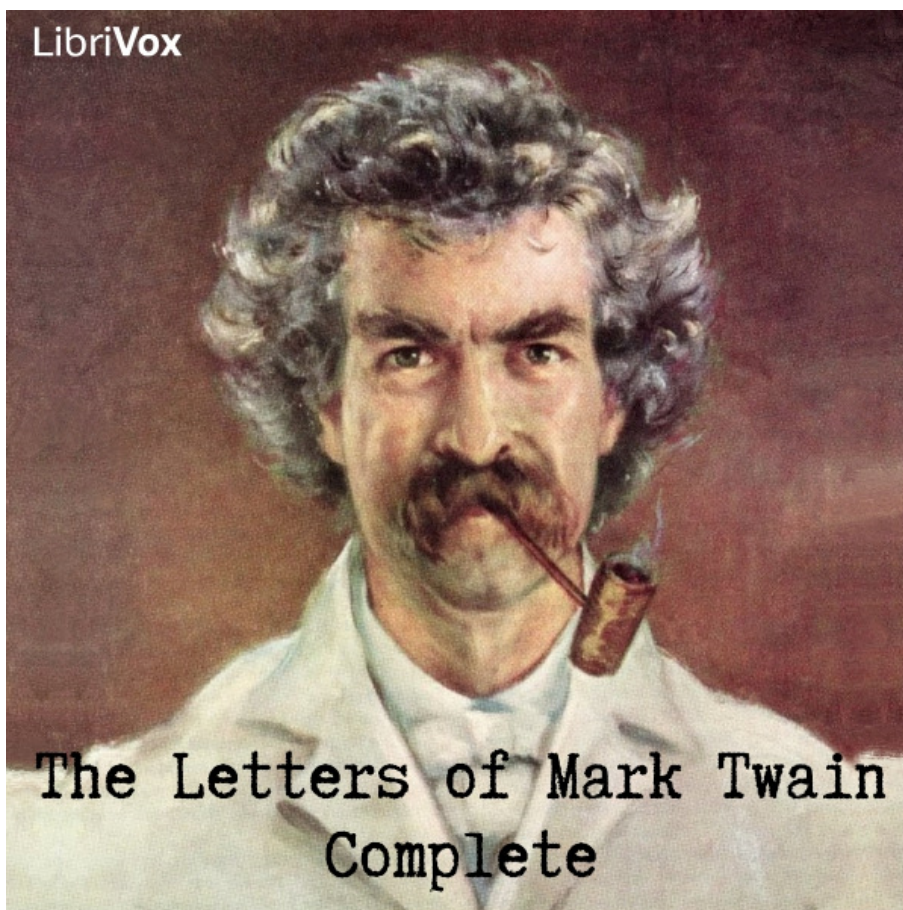


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The Letters of Mark Twain Complete

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The Letters of Mark Twain, Complete

by Mark Twain (1835-1910)

These letters were arranged in two volumes by Albert Bigelow Paine, Samuel L. Clemens's literary executor, as a supplement to *Mark Twain, A Biography*, which Paine wrote. They are, for the most part, every letter written by Clemens known to exist at the time of their publication in 1917. They begin with a fragment of a letter from teenaged Sam Clemens to his sister, Pamela, and conclude with a letter to his attorney two weeks before his death.

These letters give us some degree of insight into the evolution of Twain's style of speech and prose over his lifetime. We see in them the development of his trademark "grotesque exaggeration"--his "gentle resignation to disappointment." They are a small window into the psyche that created the various characters of his stories.

But *The Letters of Mark Twain* also reveal the tragedies of his life: the lack of success in his business ventures, the passing of family and friends. And as I read each one in this collection, I can almost detect the faint odor of one of his "devilish" cigars wafting across the room.

This audio book has 51 files and a total running time of 32:45:20

Read by: James K. White
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