



## The Memoirs of Jacques Casanova, Volume 1

by Giacomo Casanova (1725 – 1798)

Translated by Arthur Machen

This is the first of five volumes. Born in Bohemia Giacomo Casanova was a famous Venetian adventurer, writer, and womanizer. He used charm, guile, threats, intimidation -- and aggression, when necessary -- to conquer women, sometimes leaving behind children or debt. In his autobiography *Histoire de ma vie*, regarded as one of the most authentic sources of the customs and norms of European social life during the 18th century, he mentions 122 women with whom he had sex.

Although he is often associated with Don Juan because both seduced many women, Casanova is in fact very different from his fictitious counterpart. While Don Juan is a legend, Casanova is a historical character. (*Wikipedia*)

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