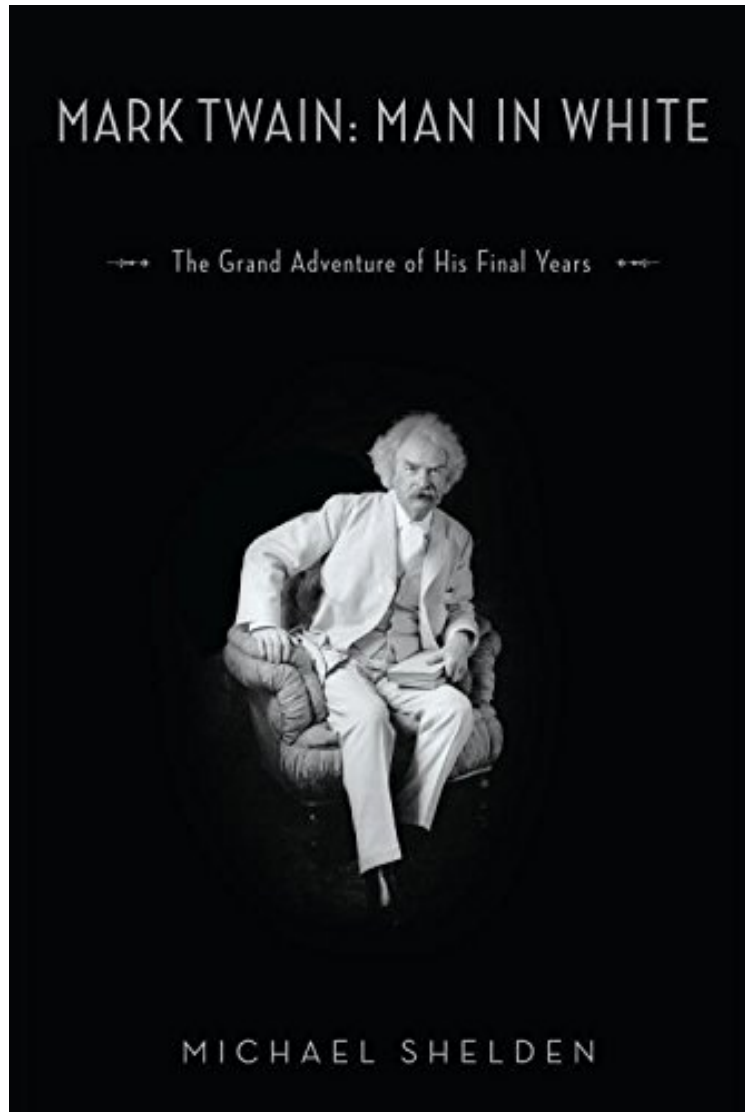


[Download] Mark Twain: Man in White: The Grand Adventure of His Final Years

# Mark Twain: Man in White: The Grand Adventure of His Final Years

*Von Michael Shelden*

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**Von Michael Shelden : Mark Twain: Man in White: The Grand Adventure of His Final Years** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mark Twain: Man in White: The Grand Adventure of His Final Years:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. In The End, A Man We Can Relate To Von James Gallen "Mark Twain: Man In White" is the chronicle of the last years of the

great author and humorist. Many of us think of Mark Twain in his white suit but, as this book points out, he first wore this in 1906 at the age of 71. This book is biographical, not literary. By the time of the period covered by this book, the last six years of his life, Twain's great literary works had already made him famous. This is a period of flamboyance, triumph and tragedy. Flamboyance in the white suit that became his trademark and the humorous talks with which he entertained his audiences. Triumph was found in the acclaim with which he was honored by all and tragedy in his personal and family circumstances. Twain's wife, Olivia, had died in 1894. His daughter, Jean, battled illness in and out of institutions until her death in 1909. His daughter, Clara, provided both tragedy and triumph in her long but ultimately successful quest to make a career as an entertainer and not just as Mark Twain's daughter. This book portrays a Twain occupied by the mundane concerns of a patriarch of a troubled family. As it starts we find him testifying in support of an extension of copyright protection so that his family could continue to benefit from his works long into the future. As it progresses we find Twain obsessed with Clara's care and treatment, concerns about financial investments and feuds with advisors. A showman, Twain, as predicted, came in with Halley's Comet and went out with it 76 years later. This book is entertaining and held my interest throughout. It portrays Twain as a person, not an icon, a person with faults, happiness and problems. We see Twain as a person to whom we can relate and with whom we can sympathize. For that it is a worthwhile read.

**Kurzbeschreibung** One day in late 1906, seventy-one-year-old Mark Twain attended a meeting on copyright law at the Library of Congress. The arrival of the famous author caused the usual stir but then Twain took off his overcoat to reveal a "snow-white" tailored suit and scandalized the room. His shocking outfit appalled and delighted his contemporaries, but far more than that, as Pulitzer Prize finalist Michael Sheldon shows in this wonderful new biography, Twain had brilliantly staged this act of showmanship to cement his image, and his personal legend, in the public's imagination. That afternoon in Washington, less than four years before his death, marked the beginning of a vibrant, tumultuous period in Twain's life that would shape much of the now-famous image by which he has come to be known America's indomitable icon, the Man in White. Although Mark Twain has long been one of our most beloved literary figures Time magazine has declared him "our original superstar" his final years have been largely misunderstood. Despite family tragedies, Twain's last half-decade was among the most dynamic periods in the author's life. With the spirit and vigor of a man fifty years younger, he continued to stir up trouble, perfecting his skill for living large. Writing ceaselessly and always ready with one of his legendary quips, Twain would risk his fortune, become the willing victim of a lost-at-sea hoax, and pick fights with King Leopold of Belgium and Mary Baker Eddy. Drawing on a number of unpublished sources, including Twain's own journals, letters, and a revealing four-hundred-page personal account kept under wraps for decades (and still yet to be published), *Mark Twain: Man in White* brings the legendary author's twilight years vividly to life, offering surprising insights, including an intimate, tender look at his family life. Filled with first-rate scholarship, rare and never-published Twain photos, delightful anecdotes, and memorable quotes, including numerous recovered Twainisms, this definitive biography of Twain's last years provides a remarkable portrait of the man himself and of the unforgettable era in American letters that, in many ways, he helped to create. From the Hardcover edition. **Pressestimmen** "Vivid and immersive and enormously readable, *Man in White* seems to me the liveliest and best work of Twain biography in recent memory." Jon Clinch, author of *Finn* "Here is a well-researched book for all Twainiacs as well as those coming to the subject's late years for the first time." Publishers Weekly "Marvelous, haunting A powerful evocation of a man full of vigor, charm, charisma, and above all humor, even in the midst of life's storms and earthquakes. Sheldon weaves it all together masterfully with detective-like curiosity a cunning critical sensibility and a deep historical and scholarly expertise A very fine piece of biographical storytelling and a pleasure to read." Harold K. Bush, author of *Mark Twain and the Spiritual Crisis of His Age* "A genuine breakthrough in Mark Twain biography. Entirely revises our thinking about Twain's final years, and does so in eloquent, moving prose that brings every scene into vivid focus." Alan Gribben, *American Literary Scholarship* "Sheldon uses unpublished sources, including Twain's journals and letters, to document the iconic author's later years." USA Today "This superb biography, told in a non-academic tone, is saturated with sadness, but every reader will be grateful that, finally, Mark Twain appears before us, warts and all. Highly recommended." Library Journal, starred Impressive scholarship delivers the authentic accents of a truly American voice. **Booklist**, starred **Kurzbeschreibung** One day in late 1906, seventy-one-year-old Mark Twain attended a meeting on copyright law at the Library of Congress. The arrival of the famous author caused the usual stir but then Twain took off his overcoat to reveal a "snow-white" tailored suit and scandalized the room. His shocking outfit appalled and delighted his contemporaries, but far more than that, as Pulitzer Prize finalist Michael Sheldon shows in this wonderful new biography, Twain had brilliantly staged this act of showmanship to cement his image, and his personal legend, in the public's imagination. That afternoon in Washington, less than four years before his death, marked the beginning of a vibrant, tumultuous period in Twain's life that would shape much of the now-famous image by which he has come to be known America's indomitable icon, the Man in White. Although Mark Twain has long been one of our most beloved

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