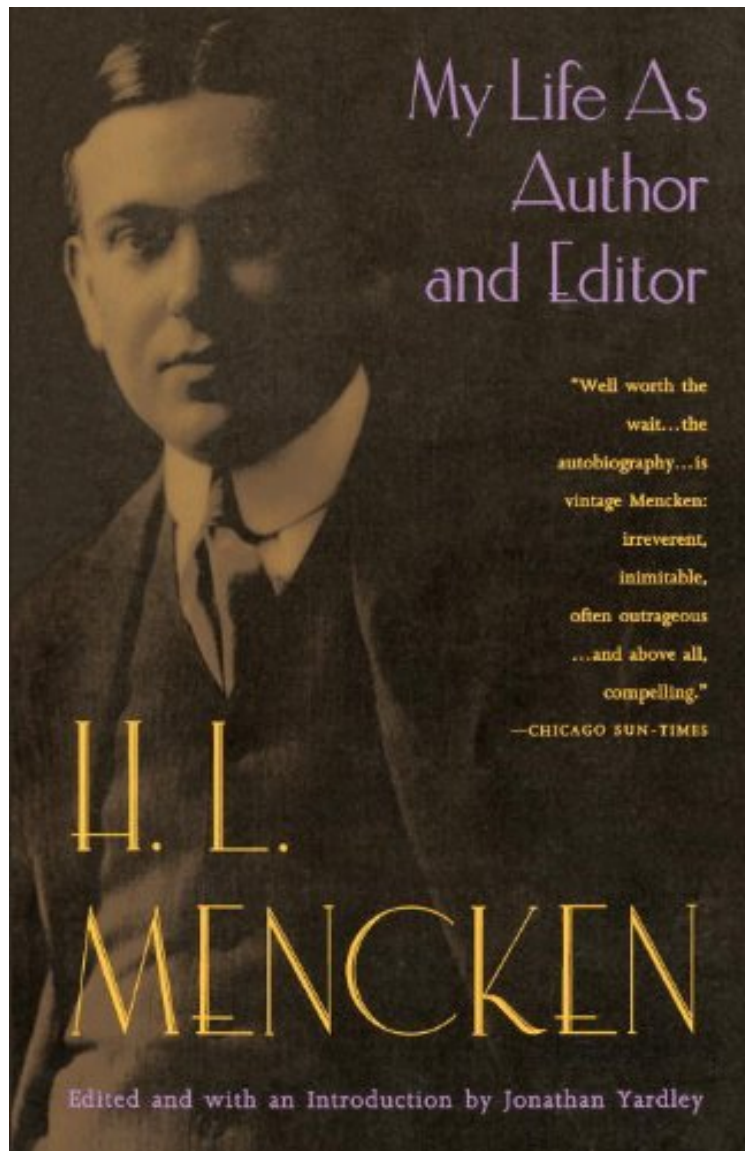


[Free pdf] My Life as Author and Editor

## My Life as Author and Editor

Von H.L. Mencken

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**Von H.L. Mencken : My Life as Author and Editor** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Life as Author and Editor:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Must For Mencken FansVon Chris GMencken recounts his experiences and the people with whom he associated as magazine reviewer, editor, and author in the years 1908-24. This book is far from complete; Mencken suffered a debilitating stroke in November 1948 and could not finish it. But still what he did complete is very amusing and

interesting. He gives a particularly in-depth account of his relationship with Theodore Dreiser (including his efforts to fight the suppression of Dreiser's "The Genius" by the vice crusaders), his adventures with George Jean Nathan in pulp publishing, fighting the censors and other enterprizes, and to a lesser extent, of his relationship with Scott Fitzgerald and Sinclair Lewis. He also gives his memories of James Huneker, James Branch Cabell, Willa Cather, Ezra Pound, James Joyce, Abraham Cahan, Lilith Benda, Ruth Suckow, Harry Kemp, Julia Peterkin and many other writers. And much more.

KurzbeschreibungH. L. Mencken stipulated that this memoir remain sealed in a vault for thirty-five years after his death. For good reason: *My Life as Author and Editor* is so telling and uproariously opinionated that it might have provoked a storm of libel suits. As he recounts his career as a critic, essayist, and editor of the ground-breaking magazine *Smart Set*, Mencken brings us face to face with the literary aristocracy of his day, from the dour womanizer Theodore Dreiser to F. Scott Fitzgerald, drowning his gifts in alcohol. Here, too, are the hacks, poseurs, and bohemian crackpots who flocked around them. Most of all, here is Mencken himself, defying censors and Prohibition agents with equal aplomb in an age when literature was a contact sport..deAny best-of list dealing with American political satire has to include H.L. Mencken, who was the country's leading social critic between the world wars. This volume of new material was written at the end of his life, well after his epochal days at the *Smart Set* and the *American Mercury* were over and his pro-German sentiments had driven him from the national stage. *My Life as Author and Editor* is taken from the immense unfinished manuscript that was deposited in the Enoch Pratt Free Library upon Mencken's death; in accordance with his wishes, the packet was not read for 35 years. To modern readers, it is not scandalous as much as fiercely opinionated; Mencken pulls no punches regarding the people he met and the life he led from 1896 to 1923. Fitzgerald, Dreiser, Pound, Joyce, and many others all pass under Mencken's gimlet eye. Along the way, plenty of the author's criticism is heaped on "Life in These United States," the stupidity and lack of sophistication that Mencken raged against his entire career. Better examples of Mencken's satire can be found, but as an introduction to the author's gruff charm and bombast, *My Life as Author and Editor* is well-suited. And, of course, it is a necessity for the devoted Mencken fan. --Michael Gerber.comAny best-of list dealing with American political satire has to include H.L. Mencken, who was the country's leading social critic between the world wars. This volume of new material was written at the end of his life, well after his epochal days at the *Smart Set* and the *American Mercury* were over and his pro-German sentiments had driven him from the national stage. *My Life as Author and Editor* is taken from the immense unfinished manuscript that was deposited in the Enoch Pratt Free Library upon Mencken's death; in accordance with his wishes, the packet was not read for 35 years. To modern readers, it is not scandalous as much as fiercely opinionated; Mencken pulls no punches regarding the people he met and the life he led from 1896 to 1923. Fitzgerald, Dreiser, Pound, Joyce, and many others all pass under Mencken's gimlet eye. Along the way, plenty of the author's criticism is heaped on "Life in These United States," the stupidity and lack of sophistication that Mencken raged against his entire career. Better examples of Mencken's satire can be found, but as an introduction to the author's gruff charm and bombast, *My Life as Author and Editor* is well-suited. And, of course, it is a necessity for the devoted Mencken fan. --Michael Gerber