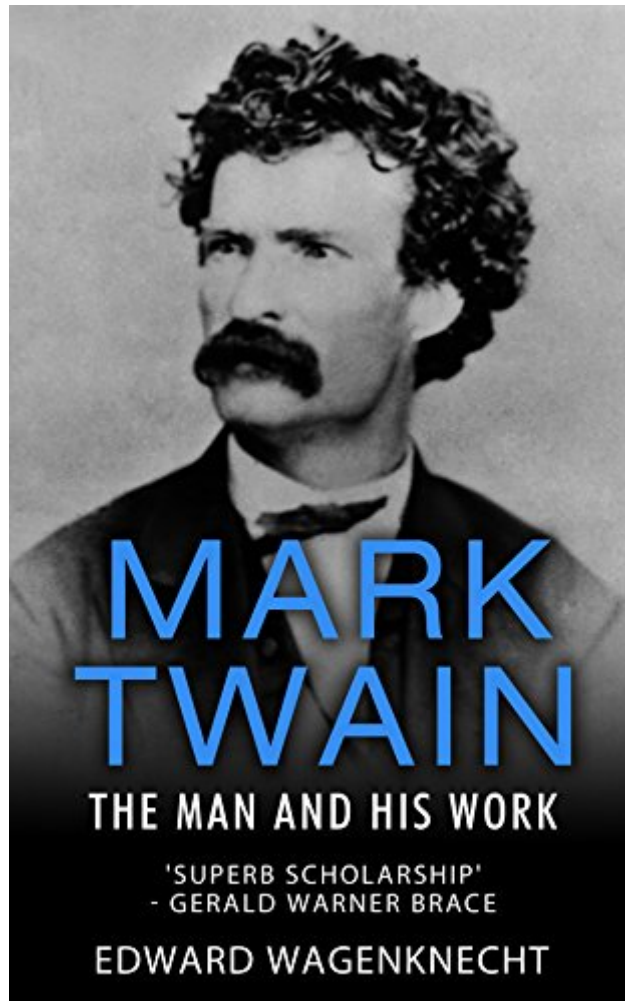




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Mark Twain: The Man And His Works



Synopsis

Samuel Langhorne Clemens, better known by his pen name Mark Twain, was one of the greatest American authors that has ever lived. But who was the man behind the famous pseudonym? Exploring his life as well as his works, Edward Wagenknecht goes a long way to uncover this fascinating author. Particular reference is paid to Twain's most famous novels *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Wagenknecht uncovers Twain's political views on imperialism, civil rights and labor as well as his opinions on religion and many other subjects. Edward Wagenknecht's important and readable biography is enhanced by the addition of a commentary on Mark Twain criticism and scholarship since 1960. His always keen insight has grown through the years and his own literary style has been refined, so that *Mark Twain: The Man and His Work* is a delight for its own sake as well as for the clear vision it brings us of America's foremost humorist. After more than eighty years, the book still cannot be better characterized than when Bernard DeVoto, in a review in *The New York Times Book Review* in 1935, called it "Mr. Wagenknecht's sane, sound, and tolerant book, which expresses what is probably the wisest opinion of intelligent and qualified critics." "Superb scholarship" Gerald Warner Brace

Edward Wagenknecht is a distinguished biographer, literary critic, and editor, whose interests range widely in both English and American literature. In addition to his own extensive writing, he has reviewed "thousands of books" for major newspapers and journals. Among his many other books are *Dickens and the Scandalmongers*, *The Man Charles Dickens*, *The Movies in the Age of Innocence*, *Seven Daughters of the Theater*, *Merely Players*, and *Chicago*.

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