

Orwell

Wintry Conscience of a Generation



Jeffrey Meyers

TB

Jeffrey Meyers
taught at Eton

he had a peculiar
reluctance for personal
discomfort P197
during WW I in London

Orwell - two approaches to
social inequalities P204
① Revolutionary

② Moralistic

Always a new tyrant
ready to take over

He was a socialist
his ideas were adopted
by Labour gov. in 1945

V.S. Pritchett called
G.O. a saint

1941 - went to work
BBC - experience ended

up in 1984

O. hated propaganda and
his job

605. Jeffrey Meyers
Orwell: Wintry Conscience of a
Generation
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Loved his mother / not fond of his father
Jan 21, 1950 - died
Eton

Tues Jan 18 A.M.
6ft 2 1/2"
1938 - weighed 159

1935 - met Eileen O'Shaughnessy - p120
works in Hampstead book store
marries June 9, 1936

Orwell's road to Wigan Pier is a road to nowhere -
a dead end; an economic disaster p132
high point of C.O. belief in Socialist revolution

Animal Farm - 1945
p248 - Preface of People
20 American publishers
turned it down

Death of Eileen
Adoption of Richard
He had TB

1984 - Winston Churchill represents Orwell p276
creation of book ^{intentionally} killed Orwell p279

Burmese police - dropped his cloths on floor so
servants could pick up. p62
hit with fists - he loathed his job
he eventually opposes capital punishment -
saw one hanging in Burma.

Sally Jerome - wouldn't sleep with him
have recently talked to her
Kay Weller - 9 month relationship

Orwell

P28

He felt guilty about his family's colonial background
Slaveowner in Jamaica
exploiter in Burma
Opium Dealer in India
his snobbish upbringing
his education at Eton
deliberate immersion into filth
indignity of the homelessness

His most erotic moment with Eleanor Jaques
ended up in 4 novels P81

P96
writer he most resembled was D.H. Lawrence
Both lived in poverty / fiercely independent
and had a crushing spirit

102
1st Book published in 1933 - I start calling
him Geo. Orwell - name of a village near Cambridge

Orwell had a tendency toward violence
using fists
P110
kicking servants in Burma / using cane with
students

BOOKNOTES
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1984 - rare against time because he was dying p27
Winston
Julia
O'Brien
published June 8, 1949

How many sold

By 1989 Animal Farm and 84' sold 40 million
most popular English writer of our time

Orwell enemy of Capitalism

1984 phrases

~~doublethink~~
un persons
doublethink
thought police
vaporized

(p29) accurate predictions about
Communism and world's future
also prophetic - breakdown of
family etc.

Spanish WAR - 1937 - Barcelona 1/2 year

POUM - The Unified Marxist Workers Party

a cross
between anti Stalinist communists and Trotskyists

at least Orwell - "really believes in Socialism"

3000 British volunteers fought in S.C.W. - half wounded
300 killed

Georges Kopp from Marseilles - Orwell's commander
he was O'Brien in 1984

May 20, 1937 - shot thru the throat

Muggins - "proletarian fancy dress"
punctilious rolling of his cigarettes

Most important
experience of his
life

you call
Homage to Catalonia
his finest book

Received
electrical shocks