



Stephen Spender: The Authorized Biography

By John Sutherland

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A biography of a remarkable writer - a hero of the 1930s - a panoramic portrait of a troubled century. Seven years after Spender's death, John Sutherland offers the first authorized life of this brilliant, but famously enigmatic, man. As well as knowing him personally Sutherland has had unhindered access to archive material and living witnesses to Spender's career. From the portrait of Spender's cosmopolitan family, to the breakaway years in 1930s Weimar Germany, where his comrades in exile were W.H. Auden and Christopher Isherwood; through the war, to the postwar years of international celebrity, this biography offers a full, and unvarnished image of Spender and of his extraordinary times.

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Editorial Review

Review

"John Sutherland has written a superlative biography. He has combined tact with a straightforwardness like Spender's own. His study also challenges the misconceptions that have surrounded Spender since the 1960s. Sutherland emphasizes that he was not like the other poets of his time with whom he is so often grouped. Spender is--and I think will remain--very much his own man and his own poet."--John Bayley, *New Statesman*"Masterly.... Vibrant, humane, anecdote-packed."--John Carey, *Sunday Times (London)*"His lucid and affectionate biography reminds us of the astonishing range of Spender's literary and extra-literary achievements. And it traces the Spenderian manner--the holy foolishness, relentless networking, stubborn liberalism, and saintly forbearance--back to its roots."--Blake Morrison, *Guardian*"It is a model of its kind: thoughtful, knowledgeable, and thoroughly engaged, both with Spender and the landscapes through which he moved." --D. J. Taylor, *The Independent*

About the Author

John Sutherland was until recently the Lord Northcliffe Professor of Modern English Literature at University College London and a visiting professor at the California Institute of Technology. He is the author of many works of literary criticism, biography, and publishing history and is one of Britain's best known literary reviewers with a regular column in the *Guardian*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Louise Reyes:

The particular book *Stephen Spender: The Authorized Biography* has a lot info on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was written by the very famous author. The author makes some research previous to write this book. This book very easy to read you will get the point easily after perusing this book.

Brandi Anderson:

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