



## Chronicles of Wasted Time

*Malcolm Muggeridge , Ian Hunter (Foreword)*

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### **Chronicles of Wasted Time** Malcolm Muggeridge , Ian Hunter (Foreword)

Back in print for the first time since Muggeridge's death in 1990, both published volumes of his acclaimed biography-*The Green Stick* and *The Infernal Grove*, plus the previously unpublished start to an unfinished third volume entitled *The Right Eye*-all brought together in one unabridged volume.

Born in 1903, Malcolm Muggeridge started his career as a university lecturer in Cairo before taking up journalism. As a journalist he worked around the world on the *Guardian*, *Calcutta Statesman*, the *Evening Standard* and the *Daily Telegraph*. In 1953 became editor of *Punch*, where he remained for four years. In later years he became best known as a broadcaster both on television and radio for the BBC. His other books include *Jesus Rediscovered*, *Christ and the Media*, and *A Third Testament*.

### **Chronicles of Wasted Time Details**

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Memoir

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## From Reader Review Chronicles of Wasted Time for online ebook

### Seth says

Possibly the greatest English autobiography of the 20th century. Even though he didn't manage to finish it. Even though he shaved the truth in spots. One of the handful of books which, after finishing it, had made my sides literally sore with laughing (the first time that happened was in my teens with "Don Quixote").

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### Abu Dhabi says

Read the first volume (The Green Stick).

Overall, most of the book I've found boring. Much of it is the tame writing style of the author, another is the subject matter. The final chapter, on the USSR, is by far the most interesting. Otherwise, there are a few brilliant paragraphs peppered throughout.

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### Kimberly Uhuru says

I found this book mildly engaging, although not a "must read." Some interesting stories and reflections, but on the whole it just was not that interesting.

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### Valerie says

This book was very long and he can spend an inordinate amount of time on little details. However, I really liked this book, Malcolm has that rare ability to see clearly when the majority disagree with him. Watching him change his beliefs through his life was fascinating.

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### David says

At the end, was tempted to give it four stars, but I enjoyed it so much along the way that five stars seemed right. Apparently Muggeridge intended to write another volume to complete the story of his life, but wasn't to be. This ends at the end of World War II. I'd have liked that third volume to see how he completed his immersion in Christianity.

Am now reading a couple of his "religious" books written about the same time as this memoir . . . as one might expect, lots of consistency.

While much of the story of Muggeridge's life is interesting, and his reflections on his life and way-of-life are candid and self-deprecating, some of what I enjoyed most were comments on civilization and society and what he sees as the dangerous ascent of the "ego." Of course, that's really nothing new . . . as he says here and in "A Third Testament," the battles between the will and the spirit (imagination) are ongoing and ebb and flow.

This isn't turning out to be a very useful review . . . sorry . . . rushed now . . . may return to this later.

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### **sholom ber nemanov says**

Still not sure what it was I read when it was all over, but it was a beautiful and haunting journey all the while.

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### **Chris Cangiano says**

The collected version of Malcolm Muggeridge's memoirs, *The Green Stick* and *The Infernal Grove* (along with the posthumously published snippet from the start of his third volume *The Right Eye*) form a wonderful encapsulation of the major events of the Twentieth Century. Muggeridge was there for it all and he tells it with just the right amount of detail and a devastating wit (some of the sections were laugh out loud funny). It is also a sort of pilgrim's progress from naivety to worldly experience. The son of a dyed in the wool British socialist his time in Russia under the Stalinist purges and his genocidal enforced famines cured him of any belief in the Utopias promised by the Left. While his own innate skepticism and cynicism exempted him from easy Right Wing Nationalism. His experiences with Socialism as a young man, life under the Raj; life in the Second World War as a soldier and spy all make this a fascinating read for those interested in the evolution of events in the Twentieth Century (also he knew and offers opinions about just about everyone Bernard Shaw, Graham Greene, Kim Philby, PG Wodehouse, Evelyn Waugh, DeGaulle, Churchill, Montgomery, Atlee, the list goes on - he is quite the name-dropper). I'd add another half-star and highly recommend it to anyone interested in the period.

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### **Raymond Browne says**

An absolutely must read for anyone who wants to understand the twentieth century. Brilliant insights written with superb style.

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### **Will says**

Called one of the best autobiographies of the 20th century.

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