

Seeking to Understand the World

Literary Journalism of Vincent Sheean

SERIES IN LITERARY STUDIES

Summary

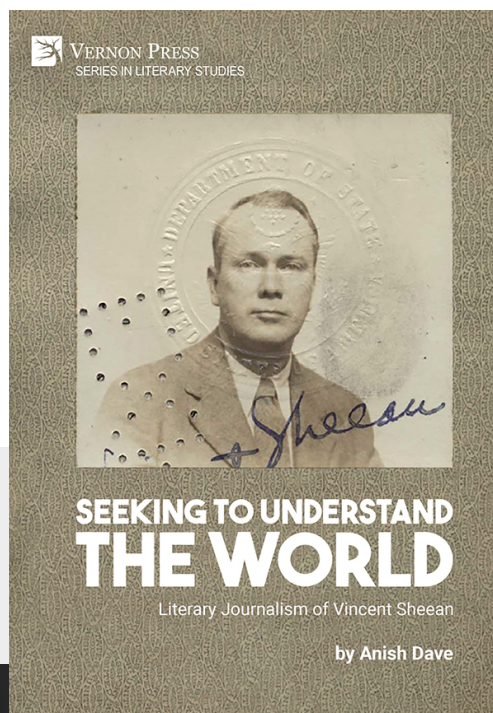
Vincent Sheean, a groundbreaking American foreign correspondent and author, is known for reporting from Europe, North Africa, and Asia, writing news reports, articles, and books. A few books and articles have described Vincent Sheean's life, and briefly discussed his major nonfiction books. However, no book-length study or article has closely examined his journalistic career, these books include 'Personal History' (1935), 'Not Peace but a Sword' (1939), 'Between the Thunder and the Sun' (1943), 'Lead, Kindly Light' (1949), and 'Nehru: The Years of Power' (1960). Set in different world areas, the books illuminate events as disparate as the Riffian war, the Spanish Civil War, the infamous Munich pact, the Nazi bombing of London, and the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. Sheean's books provide an in-depth, personal look at these and related events. This book includes analysis of Sheean's works, finding that they have several prominent characteristics of literary journalism: stories and scenes, cohesive structure, lifelike characters, vivid description, well-crafted sentences, immersive reporting, among others.

About the author

Dr. Anish Dave is an associate professor of English and director of the writing center at Georgia Southwestern State University in Americus, GA. He has a Ph.D. in rhetoric and professional communication from Iowa State University and an MFA in creative writing (fiction) from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. His research has been published in peer-reviewed journals such as 'Research in the Teaching of English and Technical Communication Quarterly'. He teaches professional writing and composition courses to undergraduates.

This is a wonderful and suitably comprehensive book. It provides the reader with a crystal-clear understanding of both literary journalism and the works of Vincent Sheean. The author has skillfully crafted this book in such a way that even a reader wholly unfamiliar with either topic/subject will still be able to retain interest and follow along. Dr. Dave has analyzed five journalistic books by Vincent Sheean and has ably demonstrated how literary journalism proponents and students/disciples can benefit from further reading Vincent Sheean's works. All of the chapters in the book flow in a neat and streamlined way, and the reader will eagerly go from one chapter to another in possibly one sitting. I applaud the efforts of Dr. Dave to shine a light on Vincent Sheean, who is truly a very important figure in literary journalism. He has done a truly applause-worthy job here.

Prof. Dr. Aditya Simha
University of Wisconsin



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