

Chapter 1 : Happy Days (disambiguation) - Wikipedia

Happy Days is delightful. It covers 12 years in the youth of H. L. Mencken, one of my favorite authors. It takes place in Baltimore, and is a treasure house of information of the living standard at that time in that place.

When Henry was three, his family moved into a new home at Hollins Street, [2] in the Union Square neighborhood of Baltimore. Apart from five years of married life, Mencken was to live in that house for the rest of his days. In his best-selling memoir, *Happy Days* he described his childhood in Baltimore as "placid, secure, uneventful and happy". In one winter while in high school he read Thackeray and "then proceeded backward to Addison, Steele, Pope, Swift, Johnson and the other greats of the eighteenth century". He read the entire canon of Shakespeare, and became an ardent fan of Rudyard Kipling and Thomas Huxley. He applied in February to the Baltimore Morning Herald newspaper, and was hired as a part-timer there, but still kept his position at the factory for a few months. In June he was hired on as a full-time reporter, and his new career was well underway. He continued to contribute to the Sun full time until, when he ceased to write. Mencken began writing the editorials and opinion pieces that made his name. On the side, he wrote short stories, a novel, and even poetry—which he later reviled. It soon developed a national circulation and became highly influential on college campuses across America. In, Mencken resigned as editor. He ceased writing for the Baltimore Sun for several years, focusing on his memoirs and other projects as editor, while serving as an advisor for the paper that had been his home for nearly his entire career. In, he briefly returned to the political scene, covering the presidential election in which President Harry S. Wallace of the Progressive Party. His later work consisted of humorous, anecdotal, and nostalgic essays, first published in *The New Yorker*, then collected in the books *Happy Days*, *Newspaper Days*, and *Heathen Days*. Man of ideas Edit In his capacity as editor and "man of ideas", Mencken became close friends with the leading literary figures of his time, including Theodore Dreiser, F. Knopf, as well as a mentor to several young reporters, including Alistair Cooke. He also championed artists whose works he considered worthy. For example, he asserted that books such as *Caught Short! A saga of wailing Wall Street*, by Eddie Cantor ghost-written by David Freedman did more to pull America out of the Great Depression than all government measures combined. He also mentored John Fante. Mencken also published many works under various pseudonyms, including Owen Hatteras, John H. Brownell, William Drayham, W. Bell, and Charles Angoff. Hirshberg, he wrote a series of articles and in most of the book about the care for babies. His humor and satire owe much to Ambrose Bierce and Mark Twain. He did much to defend Theodore Dreiser, despite freely admitting his faults, including stating forthrightly that Dreiser often wrote badly and was a gullible man. Mencken recommended for publication the first novel by Ayn Rand, *We the Living*, calling it "a really excellent piece of work". Shortly after, Rand addressed him in correspondence as "the greatest representative of a philosophy" to which she wanted to dedicate her life, "individualism", and, later, listed him as her favorite columnist. Much of that book relates how gullible and ignorant country "boobs" as Mencken referred to them are swindled by confidence men like the deliberately pathetic "Duke" and "Dauphin" roustabouts with whom Huck and Jim travel down the Mississippi River. These scam-artists swindle by posing as enlightened speakers on temperance to obtain the funds to get roaring drunk, as pious "saved" men seeking funds for far off evangelistic missions to pirates on the high seas, no less, and as learned doctors of phrenology who can barely spell. As a nationally syndicated columnist and book author, he famously spoke out against Christian Science, social stigma, fakery, Christian radicalism, religious belief and, as a fervent nonbeliever the very notion of a Deity, osteopathy, antievolutionism, chiropractic, [10] [11] [12] and the "Booboisie", his word for the ignorant middle classes. In, he deliberately had himself arrested for selling an issue of *The American Mercury* that was banned in Boston under the Comstock laws. He joined a local Baltimore club known as the Saturday Night Club, a gathering of local men who got together once a week and played music and drank beer. Mencken played the piano and favored the works of Brahms, Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn, and Bach, but not much else. Haardt had led efforts in Alabama to ratify the 19th Amendment. The marriage made national headlines, and many were surprised that Mencken, who once called marriage "the end of hope" and who was well known for mocking relations

between the sexes, had gone to the altar. Haardt was in poor health from tuberculosis throughout the marriage, [17] and died in of meningitis, leaving Mencken grief-stricken. He had always supported her writing, and after her death had a collection of her short stories published under the title Southern Album. Last years Edit On November 23, , Mencken suffered a stroke that left him aware and fully conscious but nearly unable to read or write, and to speak only with some difficulty. After his stroke, Mencken enjoyed listening to European classical music and, after some recovery of his ability to speak, talking with friends, but he sometimes referred to himself in the past tense as if already dead. Preoccupied as he was with his legacy, he organized his papers, letters, newspaper clippings and columns, even grade school report cards. These materials were made available to scholars in stages, in , and , and include hundreds of thousands of letters sent and receivedâ€”the only omissions were strictly personal letters received from women. Mencken died in his sleep on January 29, If, after I depart this vale, you ever remember me and have thought to please my ghost, forgive some sinner and wink your eye at some homely girl. Phot by Carl van Vechten The mob man, functioning as citizen, gets a feeling that he is really important to the worldâ€”that he is genuinely running things. Out of his maudlin herding after rogues and mountebanks there comes to him a sense of vast and mysterious powerâ€”which is what makes archbishops, police sergeants, the grand goblins of the Ku Klux and other such magnificoes happy. And out of it there comes, too, a conviction that he is somehow wise, that his views are taken seriously by his bettersâ€”which is what makes United States Senators, fortune tellers and Young Intellectuals happy. Finally, there comes out of it a glowing consciousness of a high duty triumphantly done which is what makes hangmen and husbands happy. Mencken wrote as follows about the difficulties of good men reaching national office when such campaigns must necessarily be conducted remotely: The larger the mob, the harder the test. In small areas, before small electorates, a first-rate man occasionally fights his way through, carrying even the mob with him by force of his personality. But when the field is nationwide, and the fight must be waged chiefly at second and third hand, and the force of personality cannot so readily make itself felt, then all the odds are on the man who is, intrinsically, the most devious and mediocreâ€”the man who can most easily adeptly disperse the notion that his mind is a virtual vacuum. The Presidency tends, year by year, to go to such men. As democracy is perfected, the office represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. We move toward a lofty ideal. He considered groupings on a par with hierarchies, which led to a kind of natural elitism and natural aristocracy. Based on his achievement and work ethic, Mencken considered himself a member of this group. Dubious In , per his instructions, Alfred A. There was a club in Baltimore called the Maryland Club which had one Jewish member, and that member died. Mencken said, "There is no other Jew in Baltimore who seems suitable", according to the article. And the diary quoted him as saying of blacks, in , " For example, he had this to say about a Maryland lynching: Not a single bigwig came forward in the emergency, though the whole town knew what was afoot. Any one of a score of such bigwigs might have halted the crime, if only by threatening to denounce its perpetrators, but none spoke. So Williams was duly hanged, burned and mutilated. Jews Edit Mencken seemed to hold ambivalent opinions on Semitic people. Mencken idealized German culture and therefore may have been influenced by racial and anti-Semitic attitudes common in late 19th-century Germany. In the edition of Treatise on the Gods and removed at his direction from all subsequent editions [32] Mencken wrote: The Jews could be put down very plausibly as the most unpleasant race ever heard of. As commonly encountered, they lack many of the qualities that mark the civilized man: They have vanity without pride, voluptuousness without taste, and learning without wisdom. Their fortitude, such as it is, is wasted upon puerile objects, and their charity is mainly a form of display. On the other hand he came to view Adolf Hitler as a buffoon, and once compared him to a common Ku Klux Klan member. Far from being an anti-Semite, Mencken was one of the first journalists to denounce the persecution of the Jews in Germany at a time when the New York Times , say, was notoriously reticent. On November 27, , Mencken writes Baltimore Sun , "It is to be hoped that the poor Jews now being robbed and mauled in Germany will not take too seriously the plans of various politicians to rescue them. Roosevelt for refusing to admit Jewish refugees into the United States: There is only one way to help the fugitives, and that is to find places for them in a country in which they can really live.

Chapter 2 : H. L. Mencken: The Days Trilogy, Expanded Edition | Library of America

HAPPY DAYS. (). H. L. Mencken. ****. Mencken () had published a fragment of his memoirs in *The New Yorker*, and was encouraged by their editor to expand the writing to book form. He did better than that; he expanded the work to three separate titles, of which this is the first. All of.

A Second Mencken Chrestomathy: Selected, Revised, and Annotated by the Author. Distributed by Random House, Mencken, H enry L ouis , Thirty-five Years of Newspaper Work: Johns Hopkins University Press, In Defense of Marion: The Love of Marion Bloom and H. My Life as Author and Editor. Foreword by Gore Vidal. Reprint Services Corp, The Diary of H. Mencken and Sara Haardt Mencken. Mencken on the election. New Republic Book Co. The Best of His Work. Originally published in by Alfred A. Maryland Paperback Bookshelf Series. Originally published as a Borzoi Book by Alfred A. A Carnival of Buncombe. Johns Hopkins University Press, c. Schirmer Books, , c Vintage Books, , c Originally published in a hardcover edition by Alfred A. Knopf, New York, NY in This title is still in print. Treatise on the Gods. Second edition, corrected and rewritten. Maryland Paperback Bookshelf Series, Originally published by Vintage Books, a division of Random House, Project Gutenberg Edition, Based on unknown edition, c. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Originaly published by Alfred A. Knopf, New York, in The political thought of H. Microfilm by University Microfilms. A Study of His Thought. Mencken and the South. Louisiana State University Press, Originally published by University of North Carolina Press, c. Critical Essays on H. Critical Essays on American Literature series.

Chapter 3 : Happy Days, " - Wikipedia

Happy Days, () is the first of an autobiographical trilogy by H.L. Mencken, covering his days as a child in Baltimore, Maryland from birth through age twelve. The book was received with some surprise by Mencken's readers, since, unlike his commentaries on current events, it is written with great warmth and affection.

Black Boy American Hunger , The Outside Review the list of volumes available for adoption and select one or more writers or volumes that have personal significance for you or someone close to you. Notify Library of America that you are considering adopting a volume. Library of America staff are happy to assist you in making your selection and will send you a sample acknowledgment page so that you may see how your commitment will be recognized in perpetuity. The pledge is typically paid all at once but may be paid in two equal installments over two years. If you would like to arrange payment in installments, Library of America staff will customize a payment schedule for you. You may also adopt a volume with a planned gift as part of your estate plan. If you would like information about how to become a Guardian of American Letters with a legacy gift, please consult with Caroline Horn, Director of Institutional Advancement at Ronald Daniel pictured above with admiration and appreciation from his colleagues for 60 years of outstanding leadership at the company. Become a Guardian If you would like to learn more about endowing and preserving a favorite volume of American writing as a Guardian of American Letters, please contact Caroline Horn, Director of Institutional Advancement. An Anonymous Gift in honor of those who have been inspired by the impassioned writings of James Baldwin James Baldwin: Paul Cauley Clark, U. Aron Charitable Foundation, Inc. Novels Candace K. Beinecke Edgar Allan Poe: Poetry and Tales Edgar Allan Poe: Selected Journals Ralph Waldo Emerson: Selected Journals War No More: Colt Foundation, in memory of Anita C. Novels and Stories, Dorothy and Lewis B. Duffy, in memory of Martha Duffy Eudora Welty: Complete Stories Philip Roth: Democracy in America Barbara W. Houghton, in honor of the birthday of Maisie Houghton American Poetry: The Twentieth Century, vol. Four Novels of the s Women Crime Writers: Four Novels of the s Geoffrey C. Hughes Foundation Crime Novels: Complete Stories Elmore Leonard: Complete Plays James Thurber: Writings and Drawings Edmund Wilson: Lawrence and Rose Hughes Raymond Chandler: The Leatherstocking Tales, vol. Hughes Shakespeare in America: Writings from the Pamphlet Debates two vols. Collected Writings Arthur Miller: John Logan Sinclair Lewis: Novels and Stories Mark Twain: Historical Romances Louisa May Alcott: Mellon Foundation, in honor of John C. The Nineteenth Century two vols. Collected Early Stories John Updike: Collected Later Stories Margaret T. Morris Foundation, in memory of Margaret T. Nature Writings Movado Group, Inc. Writings from the War of Independence, in memory of James J. Peterson Foundation, in honor of Peter G. Peterson John Kenneth Galbraith: Literary Criticism, Volume 2: Plays , in memory of Richard Santino Henry James: Novels , in honor of Cheryl Hurley William S. Reese John James Audubon:

Chapter 4 : Happy Days by Mencken, H L

The first installment of what became his Days trilogy, Happy Days is Mencken's memoir of his childhood in Baltimore during the s and 90s. If you know Mencken from his journalism, you'll expect explosive prose and robust misanthropy, but you'll only find the former here.

Chapter 5 : Books: Monologue on a Bugle - TIME

A primary source is a work that is being studied, or that provides first-hand or direct evidence on a topic. Common types of primary sources include works of literature, historical documents, original philosophical writings, and religious texts.

Chapter 6 : Guardians of American Letters | Library of America

Note: Citations are based on reference standards. However, formatting rules can vary widely between applications and fields of interest or study. The specific requirements or preferences of your reviewing publisher, classroom teacher, institution or organization should be applied.

Chapter 7 : Recommended Reading

Auto Suggestions are available once you type at least 3 letters. Use up arrow (for mozilla firefox browser alt+up arrow) and down arrow (for mozilla firefox browser alt+down arrow) to review and enter to select.

Chapter 8 : Book Review by Anthony Campbell: Happy Days, by blog.quintoapp.com

One of hundreds of thousands of free digital items from The New York Public Library.

Chapter 9 : H.L. Mencken | Libertarianism Wiki | FANDOM powered by Wikia

In defense of Marion: the love of Marion Bloom and H.L. Mencken / edited by Edward A. Martin.