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A Selected Bibliography of Literary Journalism

Compiled by Norman Sims

This bibliography is more suggestive than complete, and was compiled in 2008. It contains a range of books, some that are considered classic works and others that are much less known. These works are not infallible; some may contain fictionalized stories or elements. Mark Twain encouraged readers to exercise judgment, and that remains true today.

With a few exceptions, autobiographies, memoirs, and newspaper stories have been excluded, as have criticism and books about literary journalism. Most of the works were written during the twentieth century, although a few nineteenth century classics are included. Often only a few works by an author are mentioned. For example, John McPhee has more than thirty books of literary journalism in print, but only a couple are listed here. This list is intended as a starting point for further reading and research.

Works are arranged in three categories according to the date when they were written; sometimes the same author appears in two sections.

Before 1915

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