

American Cassandra: The Life of Dorothy Thompson, a Trailblazing Journalist

Dorothy Thompson (1893-1961) was an American journalist, foreign correspondent, and broadcaster who became known as the "American Cassandra" for her prescient warnings about the rise of fascism in Europe. A trailblazing figure in journalism, Thompson was one of the first women to achieve international prominence as a foreign correspondent and commentator.

Early Life and Career

Dorothy Thompson was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1893. She graduated from Syracuse University in 1914 and began her journalistic career as a reporter for the Syracuse Herald. In 1920, she moved to Europe to cover the aftermath of World War I for the New York Evening Post.



American Cassandra: The Life of Dorothy Thompson

by Peter Kurth

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

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Word Wise : Enabled

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Lending : Enabled



Thompson quickly established herself as a gifted observer and writer. Her dispatches from Europe were widely read and respected, and she soon became one of the most influential American journalists covering the region.

Warning About Fascism

In the 1930s, Thompson became increasingly alarmed by the rise of fascism in Europe. She witnessed firsthand the rise of Nazi Germany and the Italian Fascist Party. In her dispatches and broadcasts, she warned that fascism was a serious threat to democracy and peace.

Thompson's warnings were largely ignored by the American public and government. Many Americans were isolationist and did not want to get involved in European affairs. Thompson's warnings were also met with resistance from some of her fellow journalists, who accused her of being alarmist.

World War II and Aftermath

When World War II broke out in 1939, Thompson was one of the few American journalists who had predicted the conflict. She covered the war from Europe and the United States, reporting on the fighting and the political machinations behind it.

After the war, Thompson continued to write and broadcast about international affairs. She was a strong advocate for the United Nations and

for the creation of a more just and equitable world.

Legacy

Dorothy Thompson died in Lisbon, Portugal, in 1961. She was 67 years old. She left behind a legacy as one of the most important and influential journalists of her time.

Thompson's warnings about fascism were ultimately vindicated by the events of World War II. She was also a pioneer for women in journalism, proving that women could be just as successful as men in covering international affairs.

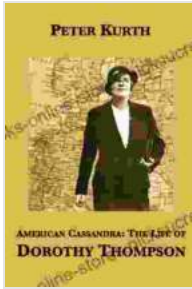
Today, Dorothy Thompson is remembered as the "American Cassandra." Her prescient warnings about fascism and her trailblazing career in journalism continue to inspire journalists and policymakers today.

Additional Information

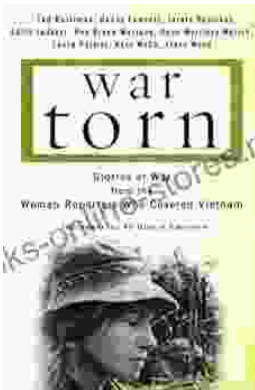
- Dorothy Thompson was married twice, first to Sinclair Lewis and then to Maxim Kopf.
- She was a close friend of Eleanor Roosevelt and other prominent figures of her time.
- Thompson was a recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary in 1939.
- She was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1993.

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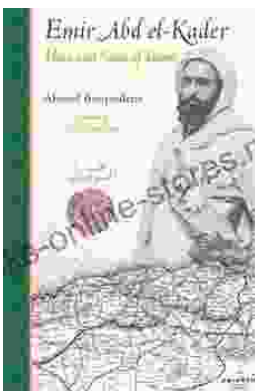


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