

About the author:

Timothy Egan

Timothy Egan is an author of seven books, including a famous one about the Dust Bowl (The Worst Hard Time), for which he won a National Book Award. He is also a journalist and an op-ed columnist for the New York Times. I actually met him recently at Quinnipiac University where he delivered a lecture on Thomas Meagher. I was able to show him a picture I had taken of a recent monument put up in honor of Meagher at Antietam, where he supposedly fell off his horse before the battle... unconscious. Egan told me that the BBC has bought the rights to a 10-part documentary on Meagher which he will be writing prominently.

FRONT COVER - DESIGN!
Be creative!

- Draw or in some other way (computer) express the "soul" of the text you have read

Author Title → The Immortal Irishman
→ by Tim Egan

One of the greatest Irish heroes the world has ever known - but nobody knows him! ← Book



This drawing is symbolic - Meagher created the design for the Irish flag. Green = Catholic, Orange = Protestant, White = Unification

Three Greatest Moments in the Book:

- ① In the beginning, I found Thomas Meagher's rebellious nature most refreshing, especially when he was sent to a British University in England and suspended for speaking out loud about the repressive English land laws. Millions of Irish died during the "Great Hunger" or "famine" even though there was plenty of food in Ireland. The British Parliament - wanted to exterminate the Irish! Many spoke openly about it.
- ② Meagher was imprisoned on the island of Tasmania, where he was not allowed to speak to anyone. Meagher was a great orator + loved to speak passionately est. about his homeland + British homeland. In a great desperate moment, Meagher escapes his prison with the help of sympathetic locals, pirates + Irish nationalists to New York... and Free Towns!
- ③ In America, a land + country Meagher would come to love, he becomes an instant hero for Irish immigrants, a general of the famous Irish Brigade in the Civil War... Antietam, Bull Run, Fredericksburg... they (British troops) used to party in between battles just + crazy!

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Description
About the key character/idea:

- Thomas Meagher was a wealthy man, the son of an Irish nobleman, who could have lived a comfortable life and not bothered anyone.
- A civil war general.
- governor of Montana.
- Wild, wild west.
- Orator, poet, fighter, politician.
- Conflict / major problem:

... but his people, the men + women he loved, were suffering... he had to speak out against the injustice... and he was forced to give up almost everything... including his homeland... he was banned from Ireland forever... a fugitive, wanted by the British government.

Questions:
- Did Meagher have secret plans to go back to Ireland, raise an army + raise a resistance against the English Crown?
- How was he really killed?