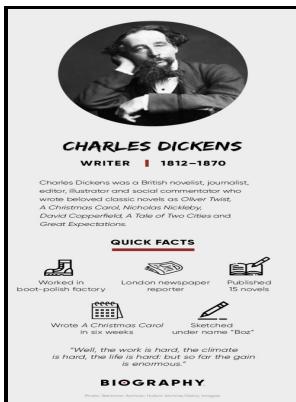


Charles Dickens - his life

Dobson - Charles Dickens was cruel to his wife, hated his mother and had an affair, writes A.N. WILSON



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A Timeline of Charles Dickens' Life

In 1842 he travelled with his wife to the United States and Canada, which led to his controversial American Notes 1842 and is also the basis of some of the episodes in Martin Chuzzlewit.

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His latest novel, Martin Chuzzlewit, sees disappointing sales numbers. Much of the humor of the novels derives from Dickens's descriptions of these characters and from his ability to capture their speech mannerisms and idiosyncratic traits.

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Relaxed after a pleasant dinner followed by brandy and cigars, he confided in her about his relationships, and his regrets. The fact that Dickens — a leading champion of Victorian family values — did not wish the world to know he had a mistress necessitated a life of constant subterfuge and deception, which had been the pattern of his existence for the previous 13 years since he first met Nelly when she was just 18, and acting on the West End stage. Faced with a crisis, Nelly acted quickly. His instalment format inspired a narrative that he would explore and develop throughout his career, and the regular made each new episode widely anticipated.

Charles Dickens Biography

He was enthusiastic, and even planned a travel book, The Uncommercial Traveller Upside Down, but ultimately decided against the tour.

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