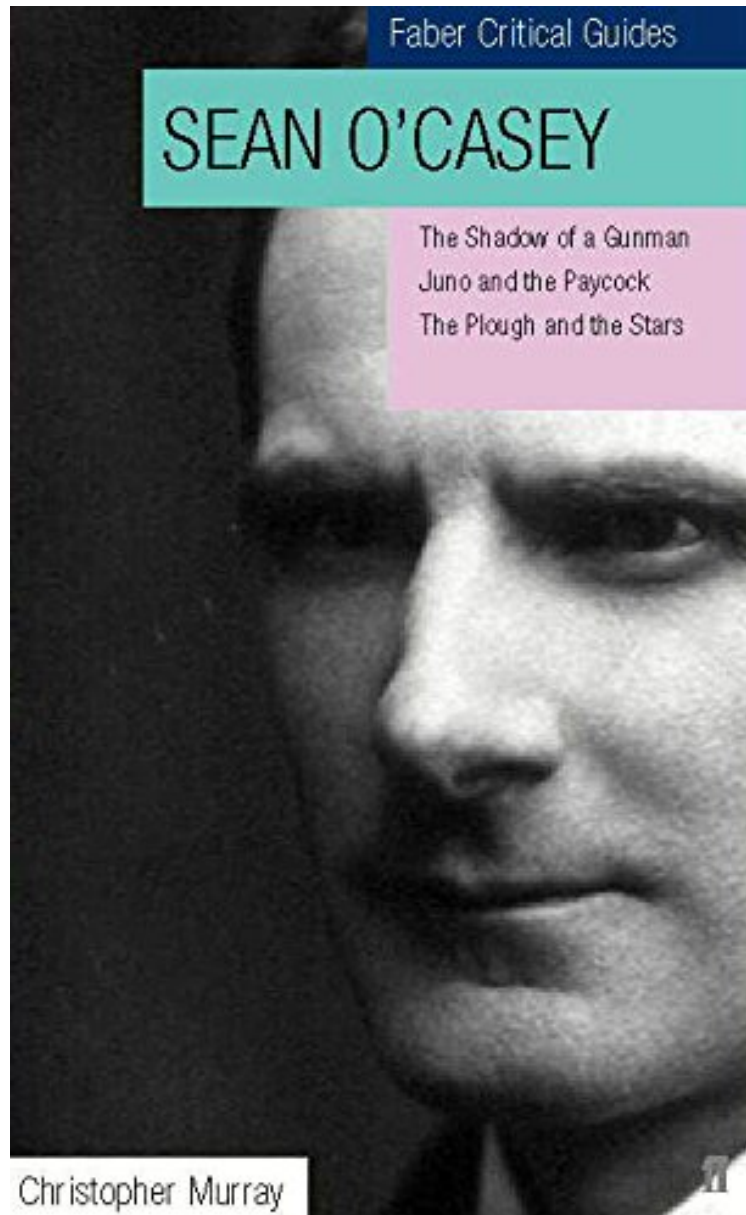


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## Sean O'Casey: Critical Guide / Three Dublin Plays: The Shadow of a Gunman, Juno and the Paycock, The Plough and the Stars (Faber Critical Guides)

Christopher Murray

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sean O'Casey: Critical Guide / Three Dublin Plays: The Shadow of a Gunman, Juno and the Paycock, The Plough and the Stars (Faber Critical Guides):

6 of 10 people found the following review helpful. This book doesn't contain the plays.....By AJ Runner which is something that it failed to mention. I was very disappointed in the fact that all it contains is a critique of O'Casey and the plays. Don't buy this book if you are looking for the plays.

The next installment in The Faber Critical Guides Series: An in-depth look at the maverick Irish playwright Sean O'Casey was one of the most affecting playwrights of his generation; a renegade who came of age at the dawn of Ireland's fight for independence from Britain and championed the working-class during the bleak years of The Great Depression. Praised for his genius-ear for dialogue and the poetry of his prose, O'Casey's work brought audiences into the gritty, impoverished world of Dublin's streets and pubs. His controversial plays helped establish the reputation of the internationally renowned Abbey Theatre, where the productions of *The Plough and the Stars* and *Juno and the Paycock* were met with riots and vigorous protests. In *Sean O'Casey*, Christopher Murray examines the abovementioned works as well as *The Shadow of a Gunman*, which taken together comprise O'Casey's famed Dublin trilogy, and elucidates the social context of the plays and the theatrical environment of the times--crucial elements in understanding O'Casey's writing.

"I came of age in the Fascist-threatened thirties of the Great Depression. From my youthful vantage, the only steady-on democratic conscience was O'Casey's, a beam of light searching the darkness ahead for a sign of a humane polity."- Arthur Miller