Timothy Egan is an acclaimed writer and veteran chronicler of the West whose interests range wide across the American landscape and American history. He is a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter, a popular columnist, and a National Book Award-winning author.

His weekly online column for The New York Times, the popular “Opinionator,” is consistently among the most read pieces on the NYT site. Before that, he worked as one of the newspaper’s national correspondents, roaming the West and serving as its Pacific Northwest correspondent. In 2001, Egan was part of the Pulitzer Prize-winning team that wrote the series “How Race Is Lived in America.”

Egan is the author of several books, including The Big Burn – Teddy Roosevelt and the Fire That Saved America, a New York Times bestseller and winner of the 2009 Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award, and The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl, a work Walter Cronkite called “can’t-put-it-down history,” which won the 2006 National Book Award for nonfiction. (Egan is featured prominently in Ken Burns’ acclaimed 2012 film, The Dust Bowl.)

His most recent book, a “riveting biography” (Boston Globe) of the famous photographer of American Indians, Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher: The Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward S. Curtis, was named one of the best books of the year by Publishers Weekly and was awarded the 2013 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction. The Wall Street Journal said, “Egan fills

“Mr. Egan uses the past powerfully to explain and give dimension to the present.”
— The New York Times

“As with Egan’s last two narrative works of history, ‘The Big Burn’ and the National Book Award-winning ‘Worst Hard Time’, the author gracefully transforms the past into vivid scenes that employ all five senses.”
— Minneapolis Star Tribune
his chronicle with bright turns of phrase and radiant descriptions, making both places and people come alive . . . A sweeping tale about two vanishing ways of life."

This third-generation Westerner is also the author of The Good Rain: Across Time and Terrain in the Pacific Northwest, a text consistently voted one of the essential books about the region. It won the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Award. “When it comes to this spectacularly mildewed corner of the American linoleum, Timothy Egan gets it right,” commented Tom Robbins.

Egan also wrote Lasso the Wind: Away to the New West, a New York Times Notable Book of the Year which won the Mountains and Plains Book Seller’s Association Award, and Breaking Blue, a true crime account of the nation’s longest running murder investigation. On this latter book, Tony Hillerman said, “I wish I had written it. No one who enjoys mystery can fail to savor this study of a classic case of detection.”

Egan has also penned a novel, The Winemaker’s Daughter, a story of wine, love, fire and betrayal, and has been a regular contributor to BBC Radio with his series of vignettes on American life.

“Fine reportage . . . honed and polished until it reads more like literature than journalism.”
—The Los Angeles Times