



# The Old Man And The sea

*Ernest Hemingway*

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## **The Old Man And The sea** Ernest Hemingway

Written in 1951, and published in 1952, *The Old Man and the Sea* is Hemingway's final work published during his lifetime. The book, dedicated to Hemingway's literary editor Maxwell Perkins, was featured in *Life* magazine on September 1, 1952, and five million copies of the magazine were sold in two days. *The Old Man and the Sea* also became a Book of the Month Club selection, and made Hemingway a celebrity. Published in book form on September 1, 1952, the first edition print run was 50,000 copies. The illustrated edition featured black and white illustrations by Charles Tunnicliffe and Raymond Sheppard. The novel received the Pulitzer Prize in May, 1953, and was specifically cited when he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1954. The success of *The Old Man and the Sea* made Hemingway an international celebrity. *The Old Man and the Sea* is taught at schools around the world and continues to earn foreign royalties.

Ernest Miller Hemingway (July 21, 1899 – July 2, 1961) was an American author and journalist. His economical and understated style had a strong influence on 20th-century fiction, while his life of adventure and his public image influenced later generations. Hemingway produced most of his work between the mid-1920s and the mid-1950s, and won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1954. He published seven novels, six short story collections, and two non-fiction works. Additional works, including three novels, four short story collections, and three non-fiction works, were published posthumously. Many of his works are considered classics of American literature. Hemingway was raised in Oak Park, Illinois. After high school he reported for a few months for *The Kansas City Star*, before leaving for the Italian front to enlist with the World War I ambulance drivers. In 1918, he was seriously wounded and returned home. His wartime experiences formed the basis for his novel *A Farewell to Arms* (1929). In 1947 Hemingway was awarded a Bronze Star for his bravery during World War II. He was recognized for his valor, having been "under fire in combat areas in order to obtain an accurate picture of conditions", with the commendation that "through his talent of expression, Mr. Hemingway enabled readers to obtain a vivid picture of the difficulties and triumphs of the front-line soldier and his organization in combat. In 1921, he married Hadley Richardson, the first of his four wives. The couple moved to Paris, where he worked as a foreign correspondent and fell under the influence of the modernist writers and artists of the 1920s "Lost Generation" expatriate community. He published his first novel, *The Sun Also Rises* in 1926. After his 1927 divorce from Hadley Richardson, Hemingway married Pauline Pfeiffer; they divorced after he returned from the Spanish Civil War where he had been a journalist, and after which he wrote *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1940). Martha Gellhorn became his third wife in 1940; they separated when he met Mary Welsh in London during World War II. He was present at the Normandy landings and the liberation of Paris. Next he married Hadley in Austria and had son from her. Hemingway's marriage to Hadley deteriorated as he was working on *The Sun Also Rises*. In the spring of 1926, Hadley became aware of his affair with Pauline Pfeiffer, who came to Pamplona with them that July. On their return to Paris, Hadley asked for a separation; in November she formally requested a divorce. They split their possessions while Hadley accepted Hemingway's offer of the proceeds from *The Sun Also Rises*. The couple were divorced in January 1927, and Hemingway married Pauline Pfeiffer in that May. In the early morning hours of July 2, 1961, Hemingway "quite deliberately" shot himself with his favorite shotgun and said his final goodbye to this miserable world full of false love, treachery, jealousy and criticism.

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