

Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961)

1899: Born in Oak Park, Illinois (eight miles from Chicago) to Clarence (a doctor) and Grace (musician/teacher)

1899-1902: Mother dresses him as a girl until he is three-and-a-half, older than most boys of the time wore dresses (Lynn 41, cf. 39-42).

1899-1917:

- Spends summers at family cottage in northern Michigan, exploring woods, streams, and lake with father and friends, including a group of Ojibwa Indians
- Participates in a wide range of sports in school, with mixed success

1917:

- United States enters World War I. Hemingway turns eighteen but is still too young to enlist.
- Writes for the Kansas City *Star* and learns to write a “simple, declarative sentence,” a style with few adjectives and no extra words

1918:

- Joins Missouri Home Guard
- Serves as volunteer ambulance driver for American Red Cross in Italy
- Missouri Home Guard called to active duty in Italy
- Hemingway wounded in an explosion; falls in love with his nurse, who is eight years older

1919: Returns to United States thinking he is engaged to his nurse, but she breaks off their relationship

1920: Begins writing for the Toronto *Star*

1921: Marries Hadley Richardson (eight years older than he is)

1922:

- Moves to Paris with Hadley
- Befriends American authors Gertrude Stein and Ezra Pound
- Serves as correspondent to the Toronto *Star*, covering a wide range of topics including political events and Spanish bullfighting
- Covers the Greco-Turkish War, including the Turks’ burning of Smyrna
- A thief steals luggage containing most of Hemingway's fiction writing
- Hadley becomes pregnant

1923:

- Publishes several poems, stories, and vignettes

- Returns to Toronto to work full-time for the Toronto *Star* under a new, less friendly editor
- First son (John Hadley Nicanor) born

1924:

- Quits job at Toronto Star, his last full-time job
- Returns to Paris with his family
- Publishes collection of vignettes as *in our time*
- Begins making connections to people like Spanish painter Pablo Picasso and Irish author James Joyce

1925:

- Publishes *In Our Time*, including the full-length short stories
- Meets F. Scott Fitzgerald (Martin)

1926:

- Publishes first novel, *The Sun Also Rises*
- Has an affair with Pauline Pfeiffer

1927: Hadley divorces him; he marries Pauline Pfeiffer but gives Hadley lifelong rights to the income from *The Sun Also Rises*

1928:

- Returns to America for birth of his second son, Patrick
- Father commits suicide

1929: Sells the film rights to *A Farewell to Arms* (for the rest of his life, he makes a lot of money from the sale of film and television rights)

1930s:

- Hemingway and his wife Pauline live off of her trust fund, her uncle's gifts, and Hemingway's writing during the Great Depression.
- His son Gregory is born (1931).
- Hemingway has an affair with Martha Gellhorn and goes with her to Madrid (1937) to report on the Spanish Civil War while his wife remains at home.

1939: Hemingway moves to Havana, Cuba with Martha Gellhorn.

1940: Pauline divorces him; he marries Martha Gellhorn.

1941: United States joins World War II

1942: Hemingway organizes amateur group to spy on Nazi spies, patrols in his fishing boat to look for Nazi submarines

1943: Martha leaves to serve as war correspondent, but Hemingway refuses to join her.

1944:

- Hemingway replaces Martha as war correspondent for the same magazine. Actually gets in a landing craft for D-Day. Is accused of behaving like a combatant, lies about his actions, and is cleared by the court-martial.
- Meets Mary Welsh Monks (also a journalist and author) and begins an affair with her.

1945: Divorces Martha.

1946: Marries Mary Welsh Monks

1948-1949: Lives in Italy with Mary, becomes infatuated with 18-year-old Adriana Ivancich

1950: Ivancich and her mother visit the Hemingways' home; Hemingway ridicules his wife.

1951: Mother dies, Pauline Hemingway dies.

1952: *The Old Man and the Sea* published.

1953: Wins the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

1954:

- Hemingway and his wife survive two plane crashes.
- Hemingway wins the Nobel Prize for Literature.

1961: Hemingway unsuccessfully attempts suicide twice. Several months later, he successfully commits suicide with his shotgun.

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