Having been one of the most translated novels ever, Paulo Coelho’s masterpiece “The Alchemist” has a special place in the heart of most novel readers. After it was originally written in Portuguese, the novel made a huge success that made it very famous worldwide, so it was translated into more than 70 languages, selling more than 65 million copies. Now, if you wonder why does this novel have all this fame that made Coelho won many prizes after writing it, read the summary of the novel to find out.

Our story features a young Spanish shepherd called Santiago who once had a dream about discovering a hidden treasure beneath the Egyptian pyramids while he was sleeping next to an old church. At first, he ignored the dream but the dream kept visiting him again and again, so he decided to ask for help. After he shared his experience with a gypsy woman, she recommended him to follow his dream and travel to Egypt. Surprisingly, he met a strange old man who encouraged him to travel to Egypt to find his “Personal Legend” and he shared his experience with Santiago, after that, Santiago decided to find his “Personal Legend”, so he headed to Tangier to start his journey.

When he arrived in Tangier, he was confronted with a significant challenge: the unfamiliar language and culture, which resulted in the theft of his money, causing him to second-guess his decision. Nonetheless, he did not give up and opted to seek employment at a local crystal store. It wasn't long until his hard work paid off for him and the merchant, who both became wealthy. When he had enough money to cross the Sahara on his road to Egypt, he was afraid of what would happen, but the merchant persuaded him to keep going and not give up in the middle of his journey.

When he joined a caravan heading to Egypt, he met an Englishman who was keen to meet the Alchemist who could turn lead into gold. They spent a lot of time together, and the Englishman began teaching Santiago alchemy. After the caravan stopped in Al-Fayoum, he fell in love with a girl named Fatma. He promised her that he would marry her after achieving his Personal Legend, and she responded that she would wait for him.

Following that, he encountered the alchemist, who would help him in learning the language of the universe and discovering his true self, allowing him to overcome numerous hurdles on his journey to Giza. He got at the pyramids and began digging for his treasure, only to be beaten and stolen again. It came as a surprise to him, but one of the thieves told him that he had a similar dream about finding treasure under a tree near an old church in Spain. Santiago realized the connection and promptly returned to Spain, where the true treasure is located; he was able to locate the treasure, thereby accomplishing his Personal Legend.