

Don Quixote

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Don Quixote



Title page of first edition (1605)

Author(s)	Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra
Original title	<i>El ingenioso hidalgo don Quixote de la Mancha</i>
Country	Spain
Language	Spanish
Genre(s)	Picaresco , satire , parody , farce
Publisher	Juan de la Cuesta
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Published in English	1612 (Part One) 1620 (Part Two)
Media type	Print
Dewey Decimal	863
LC Classification	PQ6323

Don Quixote (ⓘ /ˈdɒn kiːˈhoʊtiː/; Spanish: [ˈdon kiˈxote] (ⓘ listen)), fully titled *The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha* (Spanish: *El ingenioso **hidalgo** don Quijote de la Mancha*), is a novel written by [Miguel de Cervantes](#). The novel follows the adventures of

Alonso Quijano, who reads too many [chivalric novels](#), and sets out to revive chivalry under the name of Don Quixote. He recruits a simple farmer, [Sancho Panza](#) as his squire, who frequently deals with Don Quixote's rhetorical orations on antiquated knighthood with a unique Earthy wit. He is met by the world as it is, initiating themes of [Intertextuality](#), [Realism](#), [Metatheatre](#) and [Literary Representation](#).

Published in two volumes a decade apart, in 1605 and 1615, *Don Quixote* is considered the most influential work of literature from the [Spanish Golden Age](#) and the entire Spanish literary canon. As a founding work of modern Western literature, and one of the earliest canonical novels, it regularly appears high on lists of the greatest works of fiction ever published. In [one such list](#), *Don Quixote* was cited as the "best literary work ever written".

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[\[edit\]](#) Plot



This article's plot summary **may be [too long](#) or [excessively detailed](#)**. Please [help improve it](#) by removing unnecessary details and making it more concise. (*December 2011*)

[\[edit\]](#) Part 1

The First Sally

Alonso Quijano, the protagonist of the novel, is a retired country gentleman nearing fifty years of age, living in an unnamed section of [La Mancha](#) with his niece and housekeeper.

While mostly a rational man of sound reason, reading Romances, or books of chivalry, in excess has had a profound effect on Quijano, leading to the distortion of his perception and the wavering of his mental faculties. In essence, he believes every word of these books of chivalry to be true though, for the most part, the content of these books is clearly fiction. Otherwise, his wits, in regards to everything other than chivalry, are intact. He decides to go out as a [knight-errant](#) in search of adventure. He dons an old suit of armour, renames himself "Don Quixote de la Mancha," and names his skinny horse "[Rocinante](#)". He designates a neighboring farm girl, as his [lady love](#), renaming her [Dulcinea del Toboso](#), while she knows nothing about this.

He sets out in the early morning and ends up at an inn, which he believes to be a castle. He asks the innkeeper, whom he thinks to be the lord of the castle, to dub him a knight. He spends the night holding vigil over his armor, where he becomes involved in a fight with [muleteers](#) who try to remove his armor from the horse trough so that they can water their mules. The innkeeper then dubs him a knight to be rid of him, and sends him on his way. Don Quixote next "frees" a young boy who is tied to a tree and beaten by his master by making his master swear on the chivalric code treat the boy fairly. The boy's beating is continued as soon as Quixote leaves. Don Quixote has a run-in with traders from [Toledo](#), who "insult" the imaginary Dulcinea, one of whom severely beats Don Quixote and leaves him on the side of the road. Don Quixote is found and returned to his home by a neighboring peasant.



 "Don Quixote" by [Pablo Picasso](#) (1955)

The Second Sally

While Don Quixote is unconscious in his bed, his niece, the housekeeper, the parish [curate](#), and the local barber secretly burn most of the books of chivalry, and seal up his library pretending that a magician has carried it off. After a short period of feigning health, Don Quixote approaches his neighbor, [Sancho Panza](#), and asks him to be his squire, promising him governorship of an island. The uneducated Sancho agrees, and the pair sneak off in the early dawn. It is here that their series of famous adventures begin, starting with Don Quixote's attack on [windmills that he believes to be ferocious giants](#). The two next encounter a group of friars accompanying a lady in a carriage. They are heavily cloaked, as is the lady, to protect themselves from the hot climate and dust on the road. Don Quixote takes the friars to be enchanters who hold the lady captive. He knocks a friar from his horse, and is immediately challenged by an armed [Basque](#) travelling with the company. As he has no shield, the Basque uses a pillow to protect himself, which saves him when Don Quixote

strikes him. The combat ends with the lady leaving her carriage and demanding those travel with her to "surrender".

The Pastoral Wanderings

Sancho and Don Quixote go on, and fall in with a group of goatherds. Don Quixote tells Sancho and the goatherds about the "Golden Age" of man, reminiscent of both [Ovid](#) and the later [Rousseau](#) in which property does not exist, and men live in peace. The goatherds invite the Knight and Sancho to the funeral of Grisóstomo, once a student who left his studies to become a shepherd after reading [Pastoral](#) novels, seeking the shepherdess Marcela. At the funeral Marcela appears, delivering a long speech vindicating herself from the bitter verses written about her by Grisóstomo, claiming her own [autonomy](#) and freedom from expectations put on her by Pastoral clichés. She disappears into the woods, and Don Quixote and Sancho follow. Ultimately giving up, the two stop and dismount by a pond to rest. Some [Galicians](#) arrive to water their ponies, and Rocinante attempts to mate with them. The Galicians hit Rocinante with clubs to dissuade him, which Don Quixote takes as a threat and runs to defend Rocinante. The Galicians beat Don Quixote and Sancho leaving them in great pain.

The Adventures with Cardenio and Dorotea

After leaving the prisoners, The Knight and Sancho wander into the [Sierra Morena](#), and there encounter the dejected [Cardenio](#). Cardenio relates the first part of his [story](#), but Don Quixote interrupts when Cardenio suggests that his beloved may have become unfaithful after reading Chivalric novels.



 *Don Quixote de la Mancha and Sancho Panza*, 1863, by [Gustave Doré](#)

In the course of their travels, the protagonists meet innkeepers, prostitutes, goatherds, soldiers, priests, escaped convicts, and scorned lovers. These encounters are magnified by Don Quixote's imagination into chivalrous quests. Don Quixote's tendency to intervene violently in matters which do not concern him, and his habit of not paying his debts, result in many privations, injuries, and humiliations (with Sancho often getting the worst of it). Finally, Don Quixote is persuaded to return to his home village. The author hints that there was a third quest, but says that records of it have been lost.

[\[edit\]](#) Part 2

The Third Sally

Although the two parts are now normally published as a single work, *Don Quixote, Part Two* was a sequel published ten years after the original novel. While Part One was mostly [farcical](#), the second half is more serious and philosophical about the theme of deception.

As *Part Two* begins, it is assumed that the literate classes of Spain have all read the first part of the history of Don Quixote and his squire. When they encounter the duo in person, a Duke and Duchess, and others, deceive Don Quixote for entertainment, setting forth a string of imagined adventures resulting in a series of practical jokes that put Don Quixote's sense of chivalry and his devotion to Dulcinea through many tests.

Even Sancho deceives him at one point. Pressured into finding Dulcinea, Sancho brings back three dirty and ragged peasant girls, and tells Don Quixote that they are Dulcinea and her ladies-in-waiting. When Don Quixote only sees the peasant girls, Sancho pretends that their derelict appearance results from an enchantment. Sancho later gets his comeuppance for this when, as part of one of the duke and duchess's pranks, the two are led to believe that the only method to release Dulcinea from her spell is for Sancho to give himself a surplus of three thousand lashes. Sancho naturally resists this course of action, leading to friction with his master. Under the duke's patronage, Sancho eventually gets a governorship, though it be false, and proves to be a wise and practical ruler; though this, too, ends in humiliation.

Near the end, Don Quixote reluctantly sways towards sanity: an inn is just an inn, not a castle.

The lengthy untold "history" of Don Quixote's adventures in knight-errantry comes to a close after his battle with the Knight of the White Moon, in which we the readers find him conquered. Bound by the rules of chivalry, Don Quixote submits to prearranged terms that the vanquished is to obey the will of the conqueror, which in this case, is that Don Quixote is to lay down his arms and cease his acts of chivalry for the period of one year (a duration in which he may be cured of his madness). Defeated and dejected, he and Sancho start their journey home.

Part Two of Don Quixote is often regarded as the birth of modern literature, as it explores the concept of a character understanding that he is being written about. This is a theme much explored in writings of the [20th Century](#).

Upon returning to his village, Don Quixote announces his plan to retire to the countryside and live the pastoral existence of shepherd, although his housekeeper, who has a more realistic view of the hard life of a shepherd, urges him to stay home and tend to his own affairs. Soon after, he retires to his bed with a deathly illness, possibly brought on by melancholy over his defeats and humiliations. One day, he awakes from a dream having fully recovered his sanity. Sancho tries to restore his faith, but Alonso Quixano, for that is his true name, can only renounce his previous existence and apologize for the harm he has caused. He dictates his will, which includes a provision that his niece will be disinherited if she marries a man who reads books of chivalry. After Alonso Quixano dies, the author emphasizes that there are no more adventures to relate, and that any further books about Don Quixote would be spurious.

[\[edit\]](#) Themes

See also: [List of works influenced by Don Quixote](#)



 Don Quixote by [Honoré Daumier](#) (1868)

The novel's structure is in episodic form. It is written in the [picaresco](#) style of the late sixteenth century, and features reference other picaresque novels including [Lazarillo de Tormes](#) and [The Golden Ass](#). The full title is indicative of the tale's object, as *ingenioso* (Spanish) means "quick with inventiveness".^[1] marking the transition of modern literature from [Dramatic](#) to thematic unity. The novel takes place over a long period of time, including many adventures all united by common themes of the nature of reality, reading, and dialogue in general.

Although the novel is [farcical](#) on the surface, the second half is more serious and philosophical about the theme of deception. *Quixote* has served as an important thematic source not only in literature but in much of art and music, inspiring works by [Pablo Picasso](#) and [Richard Strauss](#). The contrasts between the tall, thin, fancy-struck, and idealistic Quixote and the fat, squat, world-weary Panza is a motif echoed ever since the book's publication, and Don Quixote's imaginings are the butt of outrageous and cruel practical jokes in the novel. Even faithful and simple Sancho is unintentionally forced to deceive him at certain points. The novel is considered a satire of orthodoxy, veracity, and even nationalism. In going beyond mere storytelling to exploring the individualism of his characters, Cervantes helped move beyond the narrow literary conventions of the [chivalric romance](#) literature that he [spoofed](#), which consists of straightforward retelling of a series of acts that redound to the [knightly virtues](#) of the hero.

From shepherds to tavern-owners and inn-keepers, which figures in *Don Quixote*, was groundbreaking. The character of Don Quixote became so well known in its time that the word [quixotic](#) was quickly adopted by many languages. Characters such as Sancho Panza and Don Quixote's steed, [Rocinante](#), are emblems of Western literary culture. The phrase "[tilting at windmills](#)" to describe an act of attacking imaginary enemies derives from an iconic scene in the book.

It stands in a unique position between medieval [chivalric romance](#) and the modern novel. The former consist of disconnected stories featuring the same characters and settings with little exploration of the inner life of even the main character. The latter are usually focused on the psychological evolution of their characters. In Part I, Quixote imposes himself on his environment. By Part II, people know about him through "having read his adventures," and so, he needs to do less to maintain his image. By his deathbed, he has regained his sanity, and is once more "Alonso Quixano the Good".

When it was first published, *Don Quixote* was usually interpreted as a comic novel. After the [French Revolution](#) it was popular in part due to its central ethic that individuals can be right while society is quite wrong and seen as disenchanting—not comic at all. In the 19th century it was seen as a social commentary, but no one could easily tell "whose side Cervantes was on." By the 20th century it had come to occupy a canonical space as one of the foundations of modern literature.

[\[edit\]](#) Background

[\[edit\]](#) Sources

Sources for *Don Quixote* include the Castilian novel [Amadis de Gaula](#), one of the first chivalric epics. Another prominent source, which Cervantes evidently admires more, is [Tirant lo Blanch](#) which the priest describes in Chapter VI of *Quixote* as "the best book in the world." The scene of the book burning gives us an excellent list of Cervantes's likes and dislikes about literature.

Cervantes makes a number of references to the Italian poem [Orlando furioso](#). In chapter 10 of the first part of the novel, Don Quixote says he must take the magical helmet of Mambrino, an episode from Canto I of *Orlando*, and itself a reference to [Matteo Maria Boiardo's Orlando innamorato](#).^[2] The interpolated story in chapter 33 of Part four of the First Part is a retelling of a tale from Canto 43 of *Orlando*, regarding a man who tests the fidelity of his wife.^[3]

Another important source appears to have been Apuleius's [The Golden Ass](#), one of the earliest known novels, a picaresque from late classical antiquity. The wineskins episode near the end of the interpolated tale "The Curious Impertinent" in chapter 35 of the first part of *Don Quixote* is a clear reference to Apuleius, and recent scholarship suggests that the moral philosophy and the basic trajectory of Apuleius's novel are fundamental to Cervantes's program.^[4] Similarly, many of both Sancho's adventures in Part II and proverbs throughout are taken from popular Spanish and Italian folklore.

[\[edit\]](#) Spurious *Second Part* by Avellaneda

It is not certain when Cervantes began writing *Part Two* of *Don Quixote*, but he had probably not gotten much further than Chapter LIX by late July 1614. About September, however, a spurious Part Two, entitled *Second Volume of the Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha: by the Licenciado (doctorate) Alonso Fernández de Avellaneda, of Tordesillas*, was published in [Tarragona](#) by an unidentified [Aragonese](#) who was an admirer of [Lope de Vega](#), rival of Cervantes.^[5] Avellaneda's identity has been the subject of many theories, but there is no consensus as to who he was. In its prologue, the author gratuitously insulted Cervantes,


who not surprisingly took offense and responded; the last half of Chapter LIX and most of the following chapters of Cervantes' *Segunda Parte* lend some insight into the effects upon him; Cervantes manages to work in some subtle digs at Avellaneda's own work, and in his preface to Part II, comes very near to criticizing Avellaneda directly.

In his introduction to *The Portable Cervantes*, [Samuel Putnam](#), a noted translator of Cervantes' novel, calls Avellaneda's version "one of the most disgraceful performances in history".^[6]

The second part of Cervantes' *Don Quixote*, finished as a direct result of the Avellaneda book, has come to be regarded by some literary critics^[7] as superior to the first part, because of its greater depth of characterization, its discussions, mostly between Quixote and Sancho, on diverse subjects, and its philosophical insights.

[\[edit\]](#) Other stories



 Don Quixote, his horse Rocinante and his squire Sancho Panza after an unsuccessful attack on a windmill. By [Gustave Doré](#)

Don Quixote, Part One contains a number of stories which do not directly involve the two main characters, but which are narrated by some of the [picaresque](#) figures encountered by the Don and Sancho during their travels. The longest and best known of these is "El Curioso Impertinente" (the impertinently curious man), found in Part One, Book Four. This story, read to a group of travelers at an inn, tells of a [Florentine](#) nobleman, Anselmo, who becomes obsessed with testing his wife's fidelity, and talks his close friend [Lothario](#) into attempting to seduce her, with disastrous results for all. In *Part Two*, the author acknowledges the criticism of his digressions in *Part One* and promises to concentrate the narrative on the central characters (although at one point he laments that his narrative muse has been constrained in this manner). Nevertheless, "Part Two" contains several back narratives related by peripheral characters.

Several abridged editions have been published which delete some or all of the extra tales in order to concentrate on the central narrative.^[8]

[\[edit\]](#) Style

[\[edit\]](#) Spelling and pronunciation

Cervantes wrote his work in [Old Castilian](#), the medieval form of the [Spanish language](#). In Old Castilian the letter *x* represented the sound written with *sh* in modern English, so the name was originally pronounced "[ki-SHOT-eh](#)" [ki'ʃote]. However as Old Castilian became modern Spanish, the pronunciation of the *sh* sound changed, and came to be pronounced with a [voiceless velar fricative](#) sound like the [Scottish](#) or [German](#) *ch* and today the Spanish pronunciation of "Quixote" is [ki-HO-teh](#) [ki'xote]. The original pronunciation is reflected in languages such as [Astur-Leonese](#), [Galician](#), [Catalan](#), [French](#), [Italian](#) and [Portuguese](#) that pronounce it with a "sh" or "ch" sound.

Today English speakers generally attempt something close to the modern Spanish pronunciation when saying *Quixote* (*Quijote*), as [dɒŋ ki:'houter], although the traditional English [spelling pronunciation](#) pronouncing the name with the value of the letter *x* in modern English is still sometimes used, resulting in /'kwɪksət/ or /'kwɪksout/. The traditional English rendering is preserved in the pronunciation of the adjectival form [quixotic](#), i.e., /kwɪk'soutɪk/ or /kwɪk'sɒtɪk/, the foolishly impractical pursuit of ideals, typically marked with rash and lofty romantic ideals.^[9]

[\[edit\]](#) Setting

Cervantes' story takes place on the plains of [La Mancha](#), specifically the [comarca](#) of [Campo de Montiel](#).

In a village of La Mancha, the name of which I have no desire to call to mind, there lived not long since one of those gentlemen that keep a lance in the lance-rack, an old buckler, a lean hack, and a greyhound for coursing.

—Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, Volume I, Chapter I

The location of the village to which Cervantes alludes in the opening sentence of *Don Quixote* has been the subject of debate since its publication over four centuries ago. Indeed, Cervantes deliberately omits the name of the village, giving an explanation in the final chapter:

Such was the end of the Ingenious Gentlemen of La Mancha, whose village Cide Hamete would not indicate precisely, in order to leave all the towns and villages of La Mancha to contend among themselves for the right to adopt him and claim him as a son, as the seven cities of Greece contended for Homer.

—Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, Volume II, Chapter 74

In 2004, a multidisciplinary team of academics from [Complutense University](#), led by Francisco Parra Luna, Manuel Fernández Nieto and Santiago Petschen Verdaguer, deduced that the village was that of [Villanueva de los Infantes](#).^[10] Their findings were published in a paper titled "'El Quijote' como un sistema de distancias/tiempos: hacia la localización del lugar de la Mancha", which was later published as a book: *El enigma resuelto del Quijote*. The result was replicated in two subsequent investigations: "*La determinación del lugar de la Mancha como problema estadístico*" and "The Kinematics of the Quixote and the Identity of the 'Place in La Mancha'".^{[11][12]}

[\[edit\]](#) Language

Because of its widespread influence, *Don Quixote* also helped cement the modern Spanish language. The opening sentence of the book created a classic Spanish cliché with the phrase "de cuyo nombre no quiero acordarme" ("whose name I do not wish to recall"): "En un lugar de la Mancha, de cuyo nombre no quiero acordarme, no hace mucho tiempo que vivía un hidalgo de los de lanza en astillero, adarga antigua, rocín flaco y galgo corredor." ("In a village of La Mancha, whose name I do not wish to recall, there lived, not very long ago, one of those gentlemen with a lance in the lance-rack, an ancient shield, a skinny old horse, and a fast greyhound.")

The novel's farcical elements make use of punning and similar verbal playfulness. Character-naming in *Don Quixote* makes ample figural use of contradiction, inversion, and irony, such as the names [Rocinante](#)^[13] (a reversal) and [Dulcinea](#) (an allusion to illusion), and the word *quixote* itself, possibly a pun on *quijada* (jaw) but certainly *cuixot* (Catalan: thighs), a reference to a horse's [rump](#).^[14] As a military term, the word *quijote* refers to [cuisses](#), part of a full suit of [plate armour](#) protecting the thighs. The Spanish suffix *-ote* denotes the augmentative—for example, *grande* means large, but *grandote* means extra large. Following this example, *Quixote* would suggest 'The Great Quijano', a play on words that makes much sense in light of the character's delusions of grandeur.

[\[edit\]](#) Publication



 Bronze statues of Don Quixote and Sancho Panza, at the *Plaza de España* in Madrid

In July 1604, Cervantes sold the rights of *El ingenioso hidalgo don Quixote de la Mancha* (known as *Don Quixote, Part I*) to the publisher-bookseller Francisco de Robles for an unknown sum. License to publish was granted in September, the printing was finished in

December, and the book came out on January 16, 1605.^{[15][16]} The novel was an immediate success. The majority of the 400 copies of the first [edition](#) were sent to the [New World](#), with the publisher hoping to get a better price in the Americas.^[17] Although most of them disappeared in a shipwreck near [La Havana](#), approximately 70 copies reached [Lima](#), from where they were sent to [Cuzco](#) in the heart of the defunct [Inca Empire](#).^[17]

No sooner was it in the hands of the public than preparations were made to issue derivative (pirated) editions. "Don Quixote" had been growing in favour, and its author's name was now known beyond the [Pyrenees](#). By August 1605 there were two Madrid editions, two published in Lisbon, and one in [Valencia](#). A second edition was produced with additional copyrights for [Aragon](#) and [Portugal](#), which publisher Francisco de Robles secured.^[18] Sale of these publishing rights deprived Cervantes of further financial profit on *Part One*. In 1607, an edition was printed in [Brussels](#). Robles, the Madrid publisher, found it necessary to meet demand with a third edition, a seventh publication in all, in 1608. Popularity of the book in Italy was such that a Milan bookseller issued an Italian edition in 1610. Yet another Brussels edition was called for in 1611.^[16]

In 1613, Cervantes published the *Novelas Ejemplares*, dedicated to the [Maecenas](#) of the day, the [Conde de Lemos](#). Eight and a half years after *Part One* had appeared, we get the first hint of a forthcoming *Segunda Parte* (Part Two). "You shall see shortly," Cervantes says, "the further exploits of Don Quixote and humours of Sancho Panza."^[19] *Don Quixote, Part Two*, published by the same press as its predecessor, appeared late in 1615, and quickly reprinted in Brussels and Valencia (1616) and Lisbon (1617). Part two capitalizes on the potential of the first while developing and diversifying the material without sacrificing familiarity. Many people agree that it is richer and more profound. Parts One and Two were published as one edition in Barcelona in 1617. Historically, Cervantes's work has been said to have "smiled [Spain's chivalry](#) away", suggesting that Don Quixote as a chivalric satire contributed to the demise of Spanish Chivalry.^[20]

[[edit](#)] English editions in translation



Don Quixote goes mad from his reading of books of chivalry. Engraving by [Gustave Doré](#).

There are many translations of the book, and it has been adapted many times in shortened versions. Many derivative editions were also being written at the time, as was the custom of envious or unscrupulous writers. Seven years after the *Parte Primera* appeared, *Don Quixote* had been translated into French, German, Italian, and English, with the first French translation of 'Part II' appearing in 1618, and the first English translation in 1620. One abridged adaptation is authored by Agustín Sánchez, which runs slightly over 150 pages, cutting away about 750 pages.^[21]^{[[dead link](#)]}

[Thomas Shelton](#)'s English translation of the *First Part* appeared in 1612. Shelton is a somewhat elusive figure: some claim Shelton was actually a friend of Cervantes, although there is no credible evidence to support this claim. Although Shelton's version is cherished by some, according to [John Ormsby](#) and [Samuel Putnam](#), it was far from satisfactory as a carrying over of Cervantes's text.^[18] Shelton's translation of the novel's *Second Part* appeared in 1620.

Near the end of the 17th century, [John Phillips](#), a nephew of poet [John Milton](#), published what is considered by Putnam the worst English translated version. The translation, as literary critics claim, was not based on Cervantes' text but mostly upon a French work by Filleau de Saint-Martin and upon notes which Thomas Shelton had written previously. Around 1700, a version by [Pierre Antoine Motteux](#) appeared. Ormsby considered this version "worse than worthless". What future translator Samuel Putnam called "the prevailing slapstick quality of this work, especially where [Sancho Panza](#) is involved, the obtrusion of the obscene where it is found in the original, and the slurring of difficulties through omissions or expanding upon the text" all made the Motteux version irresponsible. In 1742, the [Charles Jervas](#) translation appeared, posthumously. Through a printer's error, it came to be known, and is still known, as "the Jarvis translation". The most scholarly and accurate English translation of the novel up to that time, it has been criticized by some as being too stiff. Nevertheless, it became the most frequently reprinted translation of the novel until about 1885. Another 18th century translation into English was that of [Tobias Smollett](#), himself a novelist. Like the *Jarvis* translation, it continues to be reprinted today.

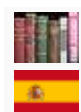
Most modern translators take as their model the 1885 translation by [John Ormsby](#). It is said that his translation was the most honest of all translations, without expansions upon the text or changing of the proverbs.

In 1922, Arvid Paulson and Clayton Edwards published a now-forgotten expurgated children's version printed under the title *The Story of Don Quixote* which has nevertheless recently been published on [Project Gutenberg](#). It retains as much of the text as it could while leaving out the risqué sections as well as those chapters that young readers might consider dull, and embellishes a great deal on Cervantes's original text (the title page actually gives credit to the two translators as if they were the authors, and leaves out any mention of Cervantes).^[22]

The most widely read English-language translations of the mid-20th century are by [Samuel Putnam](#) (1949), [J. M. Cohen](#) (1950; [Penguin Classics](#)), and [Walter Starkie](#) (1957). The last English translation of the novel in the 20th century was by [Burton Raffel](#), published in 1996. The 21st century has already seen two new translations of the novel into English—by [John D. Rutherford](#) and by [Edith Grossman](#). One *New York Times* reviewer called Grossman's translation a "major literary achievement"^[23] and another called it the "most transparent and least impeded among more than a dozen English translations going back to the 17th century."^[24]

In 2005, the year of the novel's 400th anniversary, Tom Lathrop published a new edition of the novel, based on a lifetime of specialized study of the novel and its history. Lathrop's edition includes a slightly modernized Spanish text of Cervantes' work with English annotations.

[\[edit\]](#) See also



[Novels portal](#)



[Spain portal](#)

- [Alonso Fernández de Avellaneda](#) – author of a spurious sequel to *Don Quixote*, which in turn is reference in the actual sequel
- [List of *Don Quixote* characters](#)
- [List of works influenced by *Don Quixote*](#) – including a gallery of paintings and illustrations
- [The 100 Best Books of All Time](#)
- [Tirant lo Blanc](#) – one of the chivalric novels frequently referenced by *Don Quixote*
- [Amadis de Gaula](#) – one of the chivalric novels found in the library of *Don Quixote*
- [António José da Silva](#) – writer of *Vida do Grande Dom Quixote de la Mancha e do Gordo Sancho Pança* (1733)
- [Belianis](#) – one of the chivalric novels found in the library of *Don Quixote*

[[edit](#)] References and sources

1. [^] ingenio ¹, *Real Academia Española*
2. [^] *Don Quijote de la Mancha*, Miguel de Cervantes, Edición de Florencio Sevilla Arroyo, Área 2002 p.161
3. [^] "Don Quixote" by Miguel de Cervantes, translated and annotated by Edith Grossman, p.272
4. [^] See chapter 2 of E. C. Graf's *Cervantes and Modernity*.
5. [^] D. Eisenberg, "Cervantes, Lope and Avellaneda", *Estudios cervantinos* (Barcelona: Sirmio, 1991), pp. 119–41.
6. [^] Cervantes, Miguel, [The Portable Cervantes](#), ed. Samuel Putnam (New York: Penguin, [1951] 1978), p. viii
7. [^] Putnam, Samuel (1976). *Introduction to The Portable Cervantes*. Harmondsworth: Penguin. pp. 14. [ISBN 0140150579](#).
8. [^] An example is *The Portable Cervantes* (New York: Viking Penguin, 1949), which contains an abridged version of the Samuel Putnam translation.
9. [^] ["Quixotic"](#). Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary. Retrieved 17 May 2010.
10. [^] ["To Quixote's village at the speed of a nag"](#). Times Online.
11. [^] (in Spanish) [\(PDF\) La determinación del lugar de la Mancha como problema estadístico](#). Valencia: Department of Statistics, [University of Malaga](#).
12. [^] [\(PDF\) The Kinematics of the Quixote and the Identity of the "Place in La Mancha"](#). Valencia: Department of Applied Mathematics, [University of Valencia](#). pp. 7.
13. [^] rocinante: deriv. of *rocín*, work horse; colloq., brusque labourer; rough, unkempt man. *Real Academia Española*.
14. [^] quijote^{1,2}: rump or haunch. *Real Academia Española*.
15. [^] Cahill, Hugh. ["Don Quixote"](#). [King's College London](#). Retrieved 2011-01-14.
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17. [^] ^a ^b Serge Gruzinski, teacher at the [EHESS](#) (July–August 2007). "Don Quichotte', best-seller mondial". *n°322. L'Histoire*. p. 30.
18. [^] ^a ^b J. Ormsby, ["About Cervantes and Don Quixote"](#)
19. [^] See also the introduction to Cervantes, Miguel de (1984) *Don Quixote*, Penguin p.18, for a discussion of Cervantes's statement in response to Avellaneda's attempt to write a sequel.
20. [^] Prestage. *Chivalry*. pp. 109.
21. [^] ["Catalogue library of the Cervantes Institute of Belgrade"](#). Retrieved 2007-05-26.
22. [^] <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/29468/29468-h/29468-h.htm>
23. [^] [By Carlos Fuentes. "Tilt" New York Times 2 November 2003](#). Accessed 2010-08-04

24. [^] ["Beholding Windmills and Wisdom From a New Vantage". *New York Times* 14 November 2003](#)

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- Bloom, Harold (Ed.) (2000) *Cervantes's Don Quixote (Modern Critical Interpretations)*. Chelsea House Publishers [ISBN 0791059227](#)
- D' Haen, Theo (Ed.) (2009) *International Don Quixote*. Editions Rodopi B.V. [ISBN 9042025832](#)
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- Graf, E. C. (2007) *Cervantes and Modernity: Four Essays on Don Quijote*. Bucknell University Press [ISBN 0-8387-5655-7](#)

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- ["One Master, Many Cervantes"](#), by [Ilan Stavans](#). A history of English translations. *Humanities*, September/October 2008. Volume 29, Number 5. Accessed 2010-08-04
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