

## The two main characters

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- **Don Quixote**, a Spanish gentleman of La Mancha Alonso Quijano (or Quesada, or Quijada), who believes himself and acts as a knight-errant as described in various medieval books of chivalry, riding his horse **Rocinante**.
- **Sancho Panza** (or Zancas), Don Quixote's squire. He is uneducated and unable to read, but he knows numerous proverbs and rides a donkey.

## Others

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- **Antonia**, Alonso Quijano's niece, a woman under twenty; she urges both the priest and the barber to burn all of Alonso's books
- **Antonio**, a goatherder, who plays a song for Don Quixote on the **rebec** (in Book I, Chapter 11)
- **Avellaneda**, author of the false Second Part of *Don Quixote* who is frequently referred to in Cervantes' second part.
- **Cardenio**, an honorable young man who dwells in misery and madness in **Sierra Morena**, driven there by the apparent infidelity of his beloved **Lucinda** and the treachery of Duke **Ferdinand** (Fernando). Shakespeare's lost play *The History of Cardenio* may have been based on his story.
- **Ferdinand** (Fernando), a young and reckless nobleman, who promises to marry **Dorothea**, but leaves her and instead takes **Lucinda** from Cardenio, but eventually repents, returns Lucinda to Cardenio and marries Dorothea.
- **Dorotea** (Dorothea), a modest young woman, whom Ferdinand promises to marry and then leaves. She remains loyal to Ferdinand despite his reckless behavior. Pretended to be Princess Micomicona to get Don Quixote to leave the mountains.
- **Cide Hamete Benengeli** is the fictional Moorish author created by Cervantes and listed as the chronicler of the adventures of **Don Quixote**. Cide is a title like *sir*, which means *My Lord*, Hamete is the Spanish version of the Arabic name Hamed, which means *he who praises*, and Benengeli is a comical invention of Cervantes that suggests *aubergine-eater* via the Spanish *berenjena* or aubergine, popularly considered to be the favorite food of the people of Toledo at the time of the novel.
- **Friston** the magician (El Sabio Frestón), an imaginary character who Quixote imagines as the thief of his books and the enchanter of the windmills.
- **Dulcinea of El Toboso**, the woman Don Quixote fancies his lady love; her real name is Aldonza Lorenzo
- **Ginés de Pasamonte** a.k.a. Ginesillo de Parapilla, a criminal freed by Don Quixote. He later reappears as **Maese Pedro**, a puppet-showman who claims that he can talk to his monkey.
- **Grisóstomo**, a shepherd who dies of a broken heart after his declaration of love is spurned by **Marcela**, a wealthy orphan girl who dresses as a shepherdess and lives in the woods to commune with nature, and whose beauty attracts dozens of suitors.
- **Ambrosio**, a shepherd, friend of Grisóstomo.
- **Vivaldo**, a hidalgo who saves Grisóstomo's poems of unrequited love from the fire
- **Juan Haldudo**, a peasant, and **Andres** (Andrés), his mistreated servant.
- **Maritornes**, a half-blind servant girl at the inn in which Quixote stayed in. She is unwittingly involved in a brawl in the middle of the night through a complex series of misunderstandings.
- **Montesinos** and **Durandarte**, heroes whom Quixote claims to have seen when he descended into a cave.
- **Nicholas the barber** (Maese Nicolás), Don Quixote's friend

- **Pedro Alonso**, a neighbor of Quixote.
- **Pedro Perez the priest**, who, along with Antonia, orders nearly all of Don Quixote's books burnt in hopes of curing him of his delusions (I:6)
- **Ricote**, a **Morisco** friend of Sancho, banned from Spain, but returned as a German pilgrim. Father of **Ana Félix**, a fervent Christian maid, who separately returns from Berbery to Spain.
- **Teresa** (also named **Juana** or **Joana**) **Panza** and **Sanchica**, wife and daughter of Sancho
- **Bachelor Sansón Carrasco**, Don Quixote's friend who jousts with him disguised as a rival knight, in an effort to get him to return home.
- **Don Sancho de Azpeitia**, a **Biscayane** squire who cuts part of Don Quixote's ear off in a sword fight (I:9)
- **Ruy Perez**, a Spanish sailor who was held captive by the moors and escaped back to Spain with the help of **Zoraida**, also called **Maria**, a Moorish young lady who decided to convert to Christianity.
- **Juan Pérez de Viedma**, the brother of Ruy Perez; **Clara de Viedma**, the daughter of Juan Pérez; **Don Luis**, a young man in love with Clara de Viedma
- **Tom Cecial** (Tomé Cecial), a neighbor of Sancho and the squire of Sansón Carrasco, when he is disguised as "The Knight of the Mirrors".
- **Don Diego de Miranda**, a learned hidalgo who hosts Quixote and Sancho at his home; **Don Lorenzo**, his son, an aspiring poet.
- **Altisidora**, a young woman in the court of the Duchess, who pretends that she loves Quixote.
- **Doña Rodríguez de Grijalba**, a **duenna** in the court of the Duchess; **Tosilos**, a **lackey** sent by the Duchess to fight with Quixote
- **Roque Guinart**, a fictional version of the Catalan bandit **Perot Rocaguinarda**.
- **Don Antonio Moreno**, Quixote's host in Barcelona.
- **Lothario**, **Anselmo**, **Camilla** and **Leonela** are characters in "The Ill-Advised Curiosity", a story embedded in the first volume of Quixote.

