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# **Don Quixote (Illustrated)**

Miguel de Cervantes



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## Don Quixote (Illustrated)

Miguel de Cervantes

#### Don Quixote (Illustrated) Miguel de Cervantes

Don Quixote (1880) fully titled The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha, is a novel written by Miguel de Cervantes, with circa 360 illustrations from Gustave Doré.

Miguel de Cervantes was born on September 29, 1547, in Alcala de Henares, Spain. At twenty-three he enlisted in the Spanish militia and in 1571 fought against the Turks in the battle of Lepanto, where a gunshot wound permanently crippled his left hand. He spent four more years at sea and then another five as a slave after being captured by Barbary pirates. Ransomed by his family, he returned to Madrid but his disability hampered him; it was in debtor's prison that he began to write Don Quixote. Cervantes wrote many other works, including poems and plays, but he remains best known as the author of Don Quixote. He died on April 23, 1616.

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 Earthy wit. He is met by the world as it is, initiating themes like intertextuality, realism, metatheatre and literary representation.

Don Quixote, first published in 1605, is considered the most influential work of literature from the Spanish Golden Age and the entire Spanish literary.

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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