

**Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research  
Tikrit University  
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English Department**



***“The Old Man and the Sea”***  
**Ernest Hemingway**

***Second Stage***

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***By***

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## **Types of Novels :**

Novels come in all styles imaginable, with every author bringing their own unique voice to the table. There are a handful of major subgenres that tend to make up a large share of the market, although there are any other genres (and mash-ups of genres) out there. A few of the major types of novels you might need to know about :

### **1- Mystery novels:**

Mystery novels revolve around a crime that must be solved , often a murder but not always . The traditional format will have a detective – either professional or amateur – as the protagonist ,surrounded by a group of characters who help solve the crime or are suspects. Over the course of the story , the detective will sift through clues , including false leads and red herring , to solve the case . Some of the best-known novels of all time fall into the mystery genre, including the Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys series ,Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes novels, and Agatha Christie's novels. Christie's *And Then There Were None* is the world's best-selling mystery novel.

### **2- Science Fiction and Fantasy :**

One of the more popular genres of novels is science fiction and fantasy, which both deal with speculative world building. The lines between the two are often blurred but in general science fiction tends to imagine a world that's different because of technology, while fantasy imagines a world with magic.

Early science fiction included the works of Jules Verne and continued on through George Orwell's seminal classics and such as *1984* ; contemporary science fiction is a highly popular genre. Some of the best-known novels in Western literature genre. are fantasy including the Lord

of the series, The Chronicles and Harry Potter; they owe their debt to European epic literature .

### **3- Horror / thriller novels :**

Thriller novels are occasionally combined with other genres; most often with mystery or science fiction. The defining characteristic is that these novels are often designed to induce a sense of fear suspense or psychological horror in the reader .

Early versions of this genre included The Count of Monte Cristo ( a revenge thriller)and Heart of Darkness (a psychological / horror thriller) More contemporary examples might be the novels of Stephen King .

### **4- Romance :**

Romance novels of the present day have some things in common with "romances" of the past: the idea of romantic love as an end goal, the occasional scandal, intense emotions at the center of it all, Today's romances, however, are more specifically focused on telling a story of a romance between characters. They often follow highly specific structures and are all but required to have an optimistic or "happy" resolution. Romance is currently the most popular novel genre in the United States .

### **5- Historical Fiction :**

Just like its name suggests, historical fiction is simply a fictional story that takes place at some real, past time in human history. Some instances of historical fiction involve fictional (or semi- fictional) stories about actual historical figures, while others insert wholly original characters into real-life events. Iconic works of historical fiction include Ivanhoe, A Tale of Two Cities, Gone with the Wind, and The Hunchback of Notre Dame .

## 6. Realist Fiction :

Realist fiction is, quite simply, fiction that eschews heightened genre or style to attempt to tell a story that “could” take place in the world as we know it. The focus is on representing things truthfully, without romanticization or artistic flourishes. Some of the best-known realist authors include Mark Twain, John Steinbeck, Honoré de Balzac, Anton Chekov, and George Eliot.

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*“The Old Man and the Sea”*

**Ernest Hemingway**

### **KEY FACTS:-**

**Full Title** *The Old Man and the Sea*

**Author** Ernest Hemingway

**Type Of Work:** Novella

**Genre** Parable; tragedy

**Language:** English

**Time And Place Written** 1951, Cuba

**Date Of First Publication** 1952

**Publisher** Scribner’s

**Narrator** The novella is narrated by an anonymous narrator.

**Point Of View** Sometimes the narrator describes the characters and events objectively, that is, as they would appear to an outside observer. However, the narrator frequently provides details about Santiago’s inner thoughts and dreams.

**Tone** Despite the narrator’s journalistic, matter-of-fact tone, his reverence for Santiago and his struggle is apparent. The text affirms its hero to a degree unusual even for Hemingway.

**Tense Past**

**Setting (Time)** Late 1940s

**Setting (Place)** A small fishing village near Havana, Cuba; the waters of the Gulf of Mexico

**Protagonist** Santiago

**Major Conflict** For three days, Santiago struggles against the greatest fish of his long career.

**Rising Action** After eighty-four successive days without catching a fish, Santiago promises his former assistant, Manolin, that he will go “far out” into the ocean. The marlin takes the bait, but Santiago is unable to reel him in, which leads to a three-day struggle between the fisherman and the fish.

**Climax** The marlin circles the skiff while Santiago slowly reels him in. Santiago nearly passes out from exhaustion but gathers enough strength to harpoon the marlin through the heart, causing him to lurch in an almost sexual climax of vitality before dying.

**Falling Action** Santiago sails back to shore with the marlin tied to his boat. Sharks follow the marlin’s trail of blood and destroy it. Santiago arrives home toting only the fish’s skeletal carcass. The village fishermen respect their formerly ridiculed peer, and Manolin pledges to return to fishing with Santiago. Santiago falls into a deep sleep and dreams of lions.

**Themes** The honor in struggle, defeat, and death; pride as the source of greatness and determination

**Motifs** Crucifixion imagery; life from death; the lions on the beach

**Symbols** The marlin; the shovel-nosed sharks

**Foreshadowing** Santiago’s insistence that he will sail out farther than ever before foreshadows his destruction; because the marlin is linked to Santiago, the marlin’s death foreshadows Santiago’s own destruction by the sharks.