Ray Bradbury

Biography

Ray Douglas Bradbury was born on August 22, 1920, in Waukegan, Illinois. His father, Leonard Spaulding Bradbury, worked as a telephone lineman. His mother was Esther Marie Moberg Bradbury. Bradbury had older twin brothers, Leonard and Samuel, who were born in 1916, and a younger sister, Elizabeth, born in 1926.2

In 1934, the Bradbury family drove across the country to Los Angeles, with young Ray piling out of their jalopy at every stop to plunder the local library in search of L. Frank Baum’s Oz books. In 1936, Bradbury joined a weekly Thursday-night conclave that would grow to attract such science-fiction legends as Robert A. Heinlein, Leigh Brackett, and future Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard.

In 1947, Ray Bradbury married Marguerite McClure. They had met the previous April in Fowler Brothers Bookstore, where she worked—and where at first she had him pegged for a shoplifter: “Once I figured out that he wasn't stealing books, that was it. I fell for him”.3

Ray Bradbury is best known for his highly imaginative science-fiction short stories and novels that blend social criticism with an awareness of the hazards of runaway technology. He published his first story in 1940 and was soon contributing widely to magazines. His first book of short stories, Dark Carnival (1947), was followed by The Martian Chronicles (1950), which is generally accounted a science-fiction classic in its depiction of materialistic Earthmen exploiting and corrupting an idyllic Martian civilization. Bradbury’s other important short-story collections include The Illustrated Man (1951) and The Golden Apples of the Sun (1953).

Bradbury’s novels include Fahrenheit 451 (1953; filmed 1966) and Dandelion Wine (1957). He wrote stage plays, television scripts, and several screenplays. In the 1970s, Bradbury wrote several volumes of poetry, and in the 1970s and ’80s he concentrated on writing children’s stories and crime fiction.

Bradbury’s short stories have been published in more than 700 anthologies. In 2007, the Pulitzer Prize Board awarded Bradbury a Special Citation for his distinguished career4.
Selected Materials Available at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina

Works by the Author

Print Books

Short Stories

BA Call Number: 808.838762 O (E)

BA Call Number: 133.4 Cro B (B1 -- Shadi Abdel Salam Collection)

BA Call Number: 813.0108 Bra R (B2 -- Special Collections -- Closed Stacks)

Novels

BA Call Number: 813.54 B7982 1976 (E)

Plays

BA Call Number: 812.54 B7982 (E)
Children’s Books

BA Call Number: 567.9 U471 (F1 -- Young People’s Library)

Book Introductions

BA Call Number: 028.9 P288 (B4)
E-Books

Short Stories

Bradbury, Ray. "Once Was a Year When All Was Noon". California History 63, no. 1, (Winter 1984): 6. E-article. JSTOR (Database).

“A Poem Written on Learning that Shakespeare and Cervantes Both Died on the Same Day”. Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. The Center for Ray Bradbury Studies. www.iupui.edu/~crbs/link4.html

Poems

Novels


Miscellaneous Writings
Works about Ray Bradbury

Print Books

BA Call Number: 813.54 R26315 (E)

E-Books


Articles


Web Resources

“Biography of Ray Bradbury (1920-)”. GradeSaver.

Bradburymedia: Reviewing the film, television, radio and theatre work of the leading American writer.
www.bradburymedia.co.uk


“Fahrenheit 451”. CliffsNotes.


Ray Bradbury.
Audiovisual Materials


“Back to the Future?: A Live Video-Conference with Ray Bradbury, facilitated in Miami by
Sam Weller”. Online video file. Florida Center for the Literary Arts.

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

“Fahrenheit 451: Radio Show”.

Read.
The Movie Fahrenheit 451

Audiovisual Materials

BA Call Number: DVD 833 (B3 -- Arts & Multimedia Library -- Closed Stacks)

Criticism of the Movie


