

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-01055-0 - Ernest Hemingway in Context

Edited by Debra A. Modellmog and Suzanne del Gizzo

Excerpt

[More information](#)

---

## *Biography and Life*

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-01055-0 - Ernest Hemingway in Context

Edited by Debra A. Modellmog and Suzanne del Gizzo

Excerpt

[More information](#)

---

CHAPTER I

*Chronology*

*Verna Kale*

<b>1896</b> October 1	Grace Hall, a classically trained singer, is married to Dr. Clarence Hemingway, a general practice physician. The couple settles in their hometown of Oak Park, Illinois, an affluent suburb of Chicago. The couple will have six children, Marcelline (1898), Ernest (1899), Ursula (1902), Madelaine “Sunny” (1904), Carol (1911), and Leicester (1915).
<b>1899</b> July 21	Ernest Miller Hemingway is born at home, weighing nine and a half pounds.
<b>1900</b> Summer	The family takes up residence in their new summer home at Bear Lake. The family calls the home “Windemere.”
<b>1902</b> July	On a fishing trip with his father, EH catches his first fish.
<b>1911</b> July 21	EH receives a 20-gauge shotgun from his paternal grandfather.
<b>1913–17</b>	EH attends high school, where he exhibits mediocre talent on the football team but excels as a contributor to the school paper and literary magazine.
<b>1914</b> June 28	Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria is assassinated, precipitating the diplomatic crisis that escalates into World War I with the July 28 Austro-Hungarian declaration of war on Serbia. Italy will enter the war in 1915.

<b>1917</b>	
October	EH takes a job as a reporter for the <i>Kansas City Star</i> .
<b>1918</b>	
May 21	Volunteering with the Red Cross as an ambulance driver, EH embarks for Italy.
July 8	Stationed near Fossalta on the Piave River, EH is struck by shrapnel from an Austrian shell. He is reportedly the first American wounded in Italy.
July 17	EH is admitted to a Red Cross hospital in Milan, where he will fall in love with American nurse Agnes von Kurowsky (1892–1984).
November 11	Germany, the last of the Central Powers to capitulate, signs an armistice with the Allies, signaling the end of the war.
<b>1919</b>	
January 4	EH sails for the United States.
March 7	Still stationed in Italy, Agnes writes that she has fallen in love with someone else. EH is heartbroken.
Summer	EH aspires to send stories to fiction editors at <i>The Saturday Evening Post</i> and other slicks. None will be accepted.
<b>1920</b>	
January 8	EH moves to Toronto and freelances for the <i>Toronto Star</i> .
Autumn	EH moves to Chicago and begins a relationship with St. Louis native Elizabeth Hadley Richardson (1891–1979). He becomes acquainted with writer Sherwood Anderson (1876–1941).
<b>1921</b>	
September 3	EH and Hadley are married in Horton Bay, Michigan.
December 8	The Hemingways embark for Paris, carrying letters of introduction from Anderson to Gertrude Stein (1874–1946), Sylvia Beach (1887–1962), and Ezra Pound (1885–1972).
<b>1922</b>	
January	The Hemingways take up residence in Paris.
Spring	With Pound’s encouragement, EH submits work to <i>The Dial</i> and <i>The Little Review</i> but is rejected. EH meets Stein and becomes a frequent borrower of Sylvia Beach’s lending library at Shakespeare and Company. He contributes pieces to the <i>Toronto Star</i> .

May	An experimental piece, “A Divine Gesture,” is published by the New Orleans-based little magazine <i>The Double Dealer</i> .
December	Hadley travels to Lausanne where EH is covering the Greco-Turkish peace conference. A valise containing all his works in progress is stolen at the Gare de Lyon in Paris. The manuscripts are never recovered.
<b>1923</b>	
January	Six poems by EH appear in Harriet Monroe’s <i>Poetry</i> magazine.
Spring	The spring number of <i>The Little Review</i> contains six vignettes by EH. He continues to place stories and poems throughout the 1920s as he establishes his reputation.
May 27	In Madrid, EH witnesses his first bullfight.
July	EH attends his first festival of San Fermín in Pamplona.
Summer	Robert McAlmon’s (1895–1956) Contact Publishing Company publishes EH’s first book, <i>TSTP</i> .
August 26	EH and Hadley leave for Toronto to await the birth of their first child. EH works full time at the <i>Star</i> .
October 10	Hadley gives birth to John Hadley Nicanor “Bumby” Hemingway.
<b>1924</b>	
January	The Hemingways return to France. EH commits himself fully to his literary career.
March	Bill Bird’s (1888–1963) Three Mountains Press puts out <i>iot</i> in a limited edition of 170.
<b>1925</b>	
February	EH receives word that <i>IOT</i> has been accepted for publication by Boni & Liveright.
Spring	EH meets <i>Vogue</i> writer Pauline Pfeiffer (1895–1951) in Paris.
June–July	EH attends the festival of St. Fermín with friends and begins work on <i>SAR</i> .
October	<i>IOT</i> is published by Boni & Liveright in an edition of 1,335.
December	Pauline joins the Hemingways in Austria and pursues a flirtation with EH; Boni & Liveright rejects <i>TOS</i> , EH’s parody of Anderson’s recent novel <i>Dark Laughter</i> .

**1926**

- February Scribner's editor, Maxwell Perkins (1884–1947), accepts *TOS*, to be followed by *SAR*. EH remains with Scribner's for the rest of his career.
- May 28 *TOS* is published.
- August The Hemingways separate.
- October 22 *SAR* is published.

**1927**

- March "The Killers" is published in *Scribner's Magazine* – EH's first short story in a major American magazine.
- April 21 The Hemingways' divorce is final.
- May 10 EH and Pauline are married in Paris and honeymoon in Le Grau-du-Roi.
- October 14 The short story collection *MWW* is published.

**1928**

- April The Hemingways arrive in Key West, Florida.
- June 28 Patrick Hemingway is born by Caesarean section in Kansas City, MO.
- December 6 Clarence Hemingway commits suicide.

**1929**

- Summer *FTA* is serialized in *Scribner's Magazine*. The magazine is banned in Boston on obscenity charges.
- September 27 *FTA* is published and becomes a best seller.

**1931**

- April Pauline's wealthy uncle helps the Hemingways purchase their Key West home.
- November 12 Gregory Hancock Hemingway is born in Kansas City.

**1932**

- Spring EH travels to Cuba, takes up marlin fishing, and revises proofs of *DIA*.
- September 23 *DIA* is published.

**1933**

- October 27 EH's short story collection *WTN* is published.
- December EH embarks on a two-month African safari with Pauline; the trip provides material for *GHOA*, "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber," and "Snows of Kilimanjaro."

<b>1934</b>	
Spring	With earnings from a series of “letters” to <i>Esquire</i> , EH makes a down payment on a fishing boat, the <i>Pilar</i> .
<b>1935</b>	
September	A hurricane kills hundreds of World War I veterans working in the Keys for the Civilian Conservation Corps. EH blames the government in “Who Murdered the Vets?,” published in <i>New Masses</i> .
October 25	<i>GHOA</i> is published to mixed reviews.
<b>1936</b>	
July 17	A rebel coup is staged against the democratically elected government of Spain, marking the beginning of the Spanish Civil War.
December	Vacationing with her family, author Martha Gellhorn (1908–98) meets EH at Sloppy Joe’s Bar in Key West.
<b>1937</b>	
March–May	Reporting for the North American Newspaper Alliance on the Spanish Civil War, EH also undertakes a film project with director Joris Ivens (1898–1989) to raise awareness in America for the Loyalist cause.
June 4	EH delivers a speech to a packed house at the American Writers’ Congress in New York. It is printed as “Fascism is a Lie” in <i>New Masses</i> .
Autumn	EH returns to Spain, where he works on his only full-length play, <i>The Fifth Column</i> . <i>THHN</i> is published in October.
<b>1938</b>	
April 7	In “The Time Now, The Place Spain,” published in <i>Ken</i> , EH argues for defending the Spanish Loyalists against Franco’s foreign allies to prevent a second world war.
October 14	Frustrated by the failure to bring <i>The Fifth Column</i> to Broadway, EH publishes it in <i>FC</i> .
<b>1939</b>	
March	Madrid falls to the Nationalists, followed by Valencia, effectively ending the Spanish Civil War. EH is alternately in Key West and Havana, working on <i>FWBT</i> .

8	K A L E
April	Though EH is married to Pauline, he and Martha rent a crumbling farmhouse, La Finca Vigía, in the village of San Francisco de Paula outside Havana.
September 1	Germany invades Poland, prompting France and England to declare war.
<b>1940</b>	
March 7	<i>The Fifth Column</i> , largely rewritten by a Hollywood screenwriter, opens on Broadway; it closes after only eighty-seven performances.
October	<i>FWBT</i> is published, the Book of the Month Club offers it as a selection, and the movie rights sell for a record-breaking sum.
November 21	His divorce from Pauline final, EH marries Martha in Cheyenne, Wyoming.
December	EH buys La Finca Vigía.
<b>1941</b>	
February–May	Martha travels to China for <i>Collier's</i> ; EH arranges a contract with <i>PM</i> magazine so he can join her, but it is a miserable “honeymoon.”
December 7	The Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, initiating the United States’ entry into World War II.
<b>1942</b>	
Summer	EH organizes “The Crook Factory,” a counterintelligence group formed to root out Nazi spies in Cuba. The following summer, “Operation Friendless” employs the <i>Pilar</i> to patrol the sea for U-boats; none are found.
<b>1943</b>	
Autumn	Martha, unsuccessful in convincing EH to join her in Europe to report on the war, leaves for England alone.
<b>1944</b>	
March	EH accepts an assignment as <i>Collier's</i> front-line correspondent, effectively demoting the less famous Martha and adding tension to their troubled relationship.
May	EH meets American journalist Mary Welsh Monks (1908–86) in London; they begin an affair. Martha leaves EH.
June 6	EH reports on the Normandy invasion from a landing craft.



Summer– Autumn	EH travels with the Royal Air Force and the U.S. 4th Infantry Division.
October– November	EH is questioned about bearing arms for the French Resistance, a violation of the terms of his noncombatant designation. Cleared of charges, he returns to his post, witnessing the Battle of Hürtgen Forest.
<b>1945</b>	
May 2	Mary joins EH in Cuba.
May 7	Germany surrenders to the Allies.
August 14	Japan agrees to the Allies’ terms of surrender, ending World War II.
December	EH and Martha divorce.
<b>1946</b>	
?	EH works on “the Land, Sea, and Air Book,” parts of which will become <i>ARIT</i> , <i>OMS</i> , and <i>IIS</i> , as well as the novel posthumously published as <i>GOE</i> .
March 14	EH and Mary marry.
<b>1948</b>	
December	On a trip to Italy, EH meets eighteen-year-old Adriana Ivancich, who will serve as inspiration for Renata in <i>ARIT</i> .
<b>1950</b>	
September 7	<i>ARIT</i> is published to mostly negative reviews.
<b>1952</b>	
March 6	EH grudgingly grants Philip Young permission to quote from his works in <i>Ernest Hemingway</i> (Rinehart), the first major critical study of EH.
September 1	<i>OMS</i> is published in <i>Life</i> in a print run of more than 5,000,000. Scribner’s publishes the novella in book form a week later to rapturous reviews.
<b>1953</b>	
May 4	<i>OMS</i> wins the 1952 Pulitzer Prize for literature.
September– January	The Hemingways go on safari in Africa.
<b>1954</b>	
January 23–4	EH is involved in two plane crashes in two days; newspapers erroneously report his death.
October 28	EH wins the Nobel Prize in literature.

<b>1957</b>	
January	EH rediscovers two trunks he had stored at the Paris Ritz Hotel in 1928, perhaps inspiring the sketches that will make up <i>MF</i> .
<b>1959</b>	
January 1	Fulgencio Batista (1901–73) goes into exile, relinquishing government control to Fidel Castro (b. 1926).
Spring	Concerned about the Cuban political situation, the Hemingways buy a home in Ketchum, Idaho.
<b>1960</b>	
January–May	EH works on a long piece for <i>Life</i> about the mano a mano competition of matadors Antonio Ordóñez and Luis Miguel Dominguín.
Autumn	Suffering from depression and episodes of paranoia, EH seeks treatment at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.
<b>1961</b>	
July 2	EH commits suicide at his Ketchum home; his death is initially reported as accidental.
<b>1964</b>	
May 5	<i>MF</i> , edited by Mary Hemingway and Harry Brague, is published.
<b>1966</b>	
March	Unable to halt publication of A. E. Hotchner’s (b. 1920) <i>Papa Hemingway</i> , which reveals EH’s death as a suicide, Mary breaks the story to the media herself.
<b>1970</b>	
October 6	<i>IIS</i> , edited by Mary Hemingway and Charles Scribner IV, is published.
<b>1980</b>	
July 18	The Hemingway Reading Room at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston opens, and the Hemingway Society holds its first conference.
<b>1981</b>	
Autumn	The first issue of <i>The Hemingway Review</i> (formerly <i>Hemingway notes</i> ) is published.