

MIGUEL DE CERVANTES:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUfegLttkRo>



Hello friends, I´m Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra,

I imagine you must know that I am one of the most famous writers in our history, but allow me to tell you about my complicated life. I was born in the middle of the XVI century in Alcala de Henares, a small village belonging to Madrid. My father was a humble surgeon while I, as a little boy began to write poems. When I was still young I injured a man with my sword and I had to flee to Italy so as to escape justice.

I signed up to the Spanish Armada and fought against the Turks in the Lepanto battle where a gunshot destroyed my left hand, rendering it useless. As from then I was nick named "the one handed from Lepanto"...

But my misfortunes didn't end there, when I was returning to Spain by boat, pirates attacked us and I was captured as a prisoner. They then took me to an African city, Argel, where I was imprisoned for five long years. When they finally freed me, as a result of a rescue operation, I eventually managed to get back to Spain.

Latter I was married and began to write plays, but my cursed bad luck continued and I was not able to make a living as a writer. I was imprisoned once again because of a money issue and it was during these months in jail where I began to write the play which has given me eternal fame, "The ingenious gentleman Don Quijote of the Mancha." In it I narrated Don Quijote´s adventures accompanied by his loyal squire Sancho Panza. Truth is, it did give me great glory and fame, but little else, as I lived the remainder of my days immersed in poverty.

Before saying farewell, I would like to give you a little advice, in spite of having constant bad luck, you should always fight for what you believe in and make a great effort with your responsibilitie. I, even though I generally had bad luck, managed to achieve glory doing what I loved most...writing and creating.