



Major Works of Herman Melville

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On Herman Melville:

Herman Melville (August 1, 1819 – September 28, 1891) was an American novelist, short story writer, and poet of the American Renaissance period best known for *Typee* (1846), a romantic account of his experiences in Polynesian life, and his whaling novel *Moby-Dick* (1851). His work was almost forgotten during his last thirty years. His writing draws on his experience at sea as a common sailor, exploration of literature and philosophy, and engagement in the contradictions of American society in a period of rapid change. He developed a complex, baroque style: the vocabulary is rich and original, a strong sense of rhythm infuses the elaborate sentences, the imagery is often mystical or ironic, and the abundance of allusion extends to Scripture, myth, philosophy, literature, and the visual arts.

Born in New York City as the third child of a merchant in French dry goods, Melville's formal education ended abruptly after his father died in 1832, leaving the family in financial straits. Melville briefly became a schoolteacher before he took to sea in 1839 as a common sailor on a merchant ship. In 1840 he signed aboard the whaler *Acushnet* for his first whaling voyage, but jumped ship in the Marquesas Islands. After further adventures, he returned to Boston in 1844. His first book, *Typee* (1845), a highly romanticized account of his life among Polynesians, became such a best-seller that he worked up a sequel, *Omoo* (1847). These successes encouraged him to marry Elizabeth Shaw, of a prominent Boston family, but were hard to sustain. His first novel not based on his own experiences, *Mardi* (1849), is a sea narrative that develops into a philosophical allegory, but was not well received. *Redburn* (1849), a story of life on a merchant ship, and his 1850 expose of harsh life aboard a Man-of-War, *White-Jacket* yielded warmer reviews but not financial security.

Melville's death from cardiovascular disease in 1891 subdued a reviving interest in his work. The centennial of his birth in 1919 became the starting point of the "Melville Revival". Critics discovered his work, scholars explored his life, his major novels and stories have become world classics, and his poetry has gradually attracted respect.

(Source: Wikipedia.org)

“Major Works of Herman Melville” contains:

- An aesthetic cover page
- A beginning click-able Table of Contents for all titles
- Inner click-able Tables of Contents for all individual books with multiple chapters
- Nicely organized chapters and text

Author's works in this collection include:

- TYPEE
- MARDI; AND, A VOYAGE THITHER
- REDBURN. HIS FIRST VOYAGE
- WHITE JACKET
- MOBY DICK
- PIERRE; OR THE AMBIGUITIES
- ISRAEL POTTER

- THE CONFIDENCE-MAN: HIS MASQUERADE
- BILLY BUDD, SAILOR
- BARTLEBY, THE SCRIVENER
- THE PIAZZA
- THE ENCANTADAS, OR ENCHANTED ISLES
- THE LIGHTNING-ROD MAN
- BENITO CERENO
- THE BELL-TOWER

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