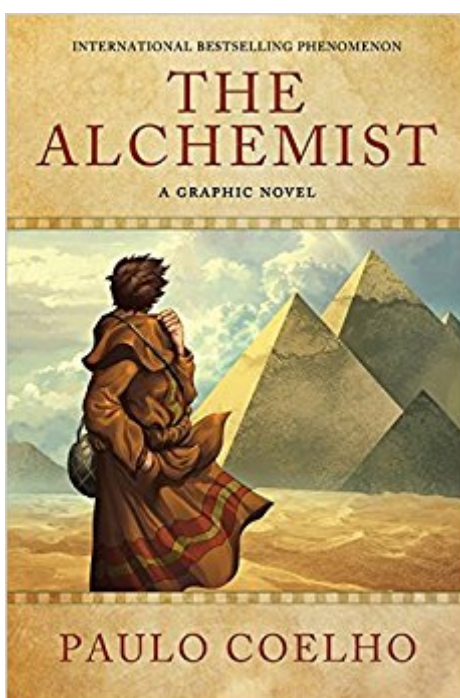


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# The Alchemist: A Graphic Novel (an Illustrated Interpretation Of The Alchemist)



## Synopsis

The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho continues to change the lives of its readers forever. With more than two million copies sold around the world, The Alchemist has established itself as a modern classic, universally admired. Paulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the magical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure as extravagant as any ever found. The story of the treasures Santiago finds along the way teaches us, as only a few stories can, about the essential wisdom of listening to our hearts, learning to read the omens strewn along life's path, and, above all, following our dreams. Acclaimed illustrator Daniel Sampere brings Paulo Coelho's classic to new life in this gorgeously illustrated graphic novel adaptation.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: HarperOne; Later Printing Used edition (November 23, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062024329

ISBN-13: 978-0062024329

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 11,061 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

Brazilian novelist Coelho's 1988 myth-laden story of the shepherd who follows his Personal Legend in spite of assorted travails is rendered into a richly colored and faithful sequential-art version. With Santiago, we see the glories, the mysteries, and the threats along his way from the Andalusian pasture to foreign cities to Egypt; experience his devotion to reading and his attraction to mysterious women; and watch as he reads omens with the help of magical stones and other artifacts given to him by the various wise men he meets. Although the landscapes, city crowds, and animals are gorgeously rendered, the faces can be jarring even in his youth, Santiago (and everyone else) has dark lines awkwardly scattered on his cheeks and forehead in lieu of expressive changes. Because facial close-ups are essential to our seeing Santiago and to what Santiago sees, this is disconcerting, but otherwise, this adaptation

provides a long-popular novel an interesting new life. --Francisca Goldsmith

“The Alchemist: A Graphic Novel reinterprets Paulo Coelho’s international best-seller with dramatic illustrations, offering readers a fresh take on the magical tale of a shepherd’s journey. (O, the Oprah Magazine) “The bright, vivid, sometimes even sexy (is that weird to say?) illustrations bring new life to the classic story and remind us why it’s one of the best-selling books of all time. (marieclaire.com) “A beautifully done story with gorgeous illustrations. What’s truly important about the story comes shining through in the dialogue as well as the images; the most important thing is to strive to accomplish your dreams. A beautiful story, well worth the time to read. (There’s a Book) “The look is glossy and warm, with handsomely chiseled heroes and buxom women. Coelho himself was the model for the King of Salem, one of the characters who helps guide the shepherd boy. (Los Angeles Times) “This modern classic, a celebrity...translates perfectly to the graphic-novel genre, enlivening the story of Santiago’s search for treasure from Spain to Tangier and across the Egyptian desert. (USA Today)

The Alchemist is a gripping narrative about a young Andalusian shepherd named Santiago and his journey to find the greatest treasure in the world. This charming story follows Santiago on his journey to Egypt, after having a recurring dream of finding treasure there. Santiago travels across great distances and encounters crazy adventures in his quest for gold. Little does he know that the ultimate treasure is actually found deep within. This dream was so prophetic that Santiago genuinely believed this was his ultimate goal in life. After deciding to travel to a Romani fortune-teller in a nearby town to discover its meaning, a gypsy woman tells him that there is a treasure in the Pyramids in Egypt. Towards the beginning of his journey, Santiago meets an old king, named Melchizedek, who advises him to sell his sheep in order to travel to Egypt. He also introduces the idea of a Personal Legend, stating that your Personal Legend, “is what you have always wanted to accomplish. Everyone, when they are young, knows what their Personal Legend is. The Alchemist Physical Cover Along the journey, Santiago meets an Englishman who is in search of an Alchemist and together they continue their search for treasure. As they travel through the Sahara desert, Santiago meets and falls in love with a beautiful Arabian woman named Fatima. After a brief period of time, Santiago asks Fatima to marry him, but she tells him that she will only marry him after he finds his treasures. Perplexed by this, Santiago later learns that true love will not stop one’s Personal Legend, and if it does, it is not true love. Eventually

Santiago meets a lone alchemist who teaches him about Personal Legends. He shares his wisdom that people want to find only the treasure of their Personal Legends but not the Personal Legend itself. The alchemist states, "Those who don't understand their Personal Legends will fail to comprehend their teachings. If you are looking for a book that will inspire courage, this is the one. No matter what your dream, goals or visions are, the universe will conspire to help you achieve the things you want, regardless of how insurmountable the task seems. You must live the life you truly desire to its fullest extent if you want to look back on a life having worth lived. The essential message is that treasure is more worthy than gold. Read more here: [...]"

I purchased and began reading this book 2 years ago and, for whatever reason, I couldn't get into it. I found it incredibly dull and tedious and finally gave up halfway through. A few weeks ago I took my mother to a dental appointment and opened my Kindle to see what I had available while I waited. I decided to give this book another try and started from the beginning, as I couldn't remember anything from what I read previously. I'm not sure what was different this time around, but I was completely engrossed and my 2 hour wait flew by! I continued to read whenever I found a chance and finished it within a few days. I now find myself constantly thinking of the story and relating it to my own life, as well as my friends and family. It's a short and very simple story, but definitely worth reading!

A classic read for the past 25 years, this account of a Santiago, a shepherd boy, who sets out on a journey to find answers to his questions about life, has inspired many readers. His quest is aided by a Gypsy woman, a King, and an Alchemist who provided both wisdom and assistance in his search for treasure and meaning. This fable/parable/myth follows a traditional trajectory that emphasizes the importance of learning to see the world as it really is, living in the moment, and pursuing one's dreams, despite the obstacles one encounters.

I love this little book. It is a short, easy read brimming with life lessons. The main character of this book can easily be replaced by any one of us and his life circumstances switched with ours and the lesson is still the same. We all have treasure waiting for us but along the way there are snags and hold-ups but are all perfectly necessary for our journey. I shared this book with my college aged nephew. I intend to give him a new copy every five years so he can see how much more he will understand about life as he grows older.

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