I'm not a robot

The Alchemist tells the story of a young shepherd named Santiago who is able to find a treasure beyond his wildest dreams. Along the way, he learns to listen to his heart and, more importantly, realizes that his dreams, or his Personal Legend, are not just his but part of the Soul of the Universe. Santiago is a humble shepherd whose desires are fewhe wants to be free to roam with his sheep, to have some wine in his wineskin and a book in his bag. Fate intervenes, however, in the form of the recurring dream of a great treasure hidden thousands of miles away at the base of the Egyptian Pyramids. When Santiago meets Melchizedek, a strange wise man who claims he is a king from a far-off land, he decides to seek his treasure. The next day, Santiago sells his sheep and embarks to Africa to pursue his dream.Upon arriving in Africa, though, it becomes apparent that things will not be as easy as he thought. The first day Santiago is in Tangiers, he is robbed and left completely alone, unable to speak a single word of Arabic. At first Santiago contemplates giving up and turning around. He remembers the words of the wise man, though, and decides to carry ongetting a job at a local crystal shop. After working at the crystal shop for a year, learning much about life and about his Personal Legend, Santiago earns enough money to buy a new flock of sheep and return home. At the last minute, though, Santiago decides to risk it all and join a caravan to Egypt. Once in the caravan, Santiago meets an Englishman who has come all the way to Africa to seek a renowned alchemist. As they travel through the desert, the Englishman tells Santiago about the secrets of alchemy. Santiago finds the Englishman's ideas to be very similar to Melchizedek's. They both speak of a Soul of the World to which we are all connected and of the necessity of following our heart's true desires or our Personal Legend. Santiago, however, prefers to learn these secrets by observing the world, while the Englishman prefers to learn from complex books. While they travel, they begin to hear rumors of a coming tribal war.When they finally arrive at the Al-Fayoum oasisthe home of the titular AlchemistSantiago meets a beautiful girl named Fatima with whom he immediately falls in love. He discovers that love, like the Personal Legend, comes directly from the Soul of the World. While walking in the desert, Santiago has a vision of an upcoming battle. He rushes back to warn the elders at the oasis and, when his vision is confirmed, they offer him a position as a counselor. Santiago considers staying at the oasis with Fatima, but the Alchemist finds Santiago and tells him that he will lead Santiago to his treasure. Once again on the move, the Alchemist teaches Santiago to listen to his heart. Hearts can be treacherous, but the best way to keep them from fooling you is to listen to them intently. Almost to the pyramids, Santiago and the Alchemist are taken prisoner by a warring tribe. The Alchemist tells the tribesmen that Santiago is a powerful magician who can turn himself into the wind. The tribesmen are impressed and will spare the lives of the men if Santiago can do it. The only problem is that Santiago has no idea what he is doing. After three days of meditating, Santiago uses his knowledge of the Soul of the World to ask the elements to help him. First he asks the desert, then he asks the wind, then he asks the sun and, finally, he asks the Soul of the World. Immediately, the wind whips up, and Santiago disappears and reappears on the other side of the camp. The Alchemist takes his leave of Santiago, who continues on to the Pyramids. Once there, Santiago is attacked by robbers. Asked what he is doing there, Santiago replies that he had a dream of a treasure buried at the base of the Pyramids. One of the robbers laughs at him, and says that he has had the exact same dream, except that in his the treasure was buried in Spain. Santiago realizes that the treasure was back in Spain the entire time. The story then jumps forward in time and finds Santiago digging a hole at the base of the tree where he had had his first dream. Sure enough, he finds a trunk full of goldenough for him and Fatima to live happily for a long time. The Alchemist, written by Paulo Coelho, is a novel that combines elements of mysticism, adventure, and spiritual allegory. The book follows the story of Santiago, a young Andalusian shepherd who dreams of a treasure in Egypt and embarks on a journey of self-discovery. Along the way, he meets diverse characters who guide him towards understanding his Personal Legend and the unity of the universe. Initially, Santiagos life is simple, revolving around the pastoral routine of tending to his sheep. However, his life takes a significant turn when he has a recurring dream about the treasure, which he cannot dismiss. This dream sets the stage for the story, as it propels Santiago to seek out a gypsy woman in a nearby town to interpret his vision. The gypsy woman tells Santiago that his dream is prophetic and that he must follow its guidance to discover the hidden treasure. As Santiago sets off on his journey, he sells his flock and heads towards Africa, driven by his dreams promise. His journey is fraught with challenges and setbacks. In North Africa, Santiago is robbed, leaving him destitute and far from his goal. Despite these challenges, Santiagos determination doesnt waver. He finds work with a crystal merchant in Tangier, where he learns valuable life lessons and saves enough money to continue his journey. This period is significant in the story as it represents Santiagos growth from a naive shepherd to a more worldly and experienced individual. The crystal merchant, though skeptical of Santiagos quest, plays a crucial role in his journey, teaching him about the importance of pursuing ones Personal Legend a central theme in the book. Santiagos journey then leads him to the Sahara Desert, where he joins a caravan traveling towards Egypt. It is here that he meets the Englishman, a fellow traveler who is obsessed with becoming an alchemist. Through their conversations, Santiago learns more about alchemy and the concept of a Universal Language that connects all of creation. This idea resonates deeply with Santiago, aligning with his own intuitive understanding of the world around him. The desert journey is symbolic, representing Santiagos internal journey towards self-discovery and the realization of his dreams. The most transformative part of Santiagos journey occurs when he meets the Alchemist, a mysterious figure who lives in an oasis in the desert. The Alchemist becomes Santiagos mentor, challenging and guiding him in the final stages of his quest. Under the Alchemists tutelage, Santiago learns to understand the essence of alchemynot just as a means to transform metals into gold, but as a metaphor for personal transformation. The Alchemist teaches Santiago to listen to his heart and to recognize the omens that the universe presents to him. This relationship is pivotal, as it helps Santiago to mature and to understand the deeper meaning of his journey. In the climax of the novel, Santiago reaches the Egyptian pyramids, where he finally understands the true location of the treasure he has been seeking. He realizes that the journey itself was the real treasure, providing him with wisdom, experience, and a deeper understanding of life. The physical treasure he eventually finds near a sycamore tree in an abandoned church back in Spain, where his journey began, is symbolic. It signifies that what we seek is often closer than we think, but it takes a journey of self-discovery to recognize it. In the heart of Andalusia, Spain, we meet Santiago, a young shepherd with an insatiable thirst for knowledge. A headstrong and determined dreamer, Santiagos story is a compelling journey from simplicity to the extraordinary. Raised to be a priest, he defies convention, leaving the seminary to embrace a life of exploration as a shepherd. His love for reading fuels his imagination, opening doors to worlds beyond the pastures. The pivotal moment in Santiagos life is his encounter with the enigmatic Melchizedek. This meeting, which begins with a conversation about a book, unlocks Santiagos potential and sets him on a path of spiritual and personal discovery. Under Melchizedeks guidance, Santiago learns to trust in omens and the natural world, embracing his Personal Legend. His journey through the desert, learning the universal language and delving into alchemy, epitomizes his transformation from a shepherd to a man in communion with the divine. The Alchemist, an enigmatic figure of ancient wisdom, lives in seclusion in the Al-Fayoum oasis. Known simply by his profession, he embodies the mystique and profound knowledge of alchemy. His age, rumored to be 200 years, and his ability to perform miraculous feats like turning lead into gold, shroud him in mystery. His first encounter with Santiago is dramatic and intense, filled with excitement and danger. As Santiago faces a prophecy of war, the Alchemist appears, a masked figure on horseback, exuding a sense of power and mystery. This meeting marks a significant turn in Santiagos journey, immersing him in a magical world of ancient secrets. Despite possessing extraordinary powers, the Alchemist chooses the role of a teacher over that of a wizard. His teachings, wrapped in riddles and abstractions, guide Santiago towards a path of experiential learning. In a narrative sparse with female characters, Fatima stands out as a central figure in Santiagos life. First seen fetching water from a well, she epitomizes the simplicity and duty-bound life of women in the oasis. Her character, largely perceived through Santiagos eyes, is defined by her beauty, loyalty, and the traditional role of a woman in her community. Rating: If youre on the hunt for a book that will take you on a mesmerizing and soul-stirring adventure, look no further than this book. This literary gem is like a hidden treasure waiting to be uncovered, and once you start reading, you wont be able to put it down! Well, I havent to be honest over the past few years. To be honest, The Alchemist is a story that transcends the boundaries of time and space, a true masterpiece of contemporary literature. Coelho creates a tale that is both enchanting and profound, making it a must-read for anyone seeking inspiration, purpose, or a touch of magic in their lives. At its core, this novel is a journey of self-discovery and following ones dreams. You might already know this but I am telling it again. The protagonist, Santiago, is a shepherd who embarks on a quest to find his Personal Legend, a term Coelho introduces as the true purpose and destiny of each individual. As Santiagos journey unfolds, readers are taken on a captivating adventure filled with mystical encounters, life lessons, and the power of belief. Coelhos writing is beautifully lyrical, and his storytelling is imbued with a sense of wonder that makes every page turn a delight. The characters he introduces along Santiagos path (not a lot to be honest) are richly developed, each contributing their own wisdom and unique perspective to his journey. The desert, the pyramids, and the stars in the night sky serve as more than just settings; they become characters themselves, guiding and challenging Santiago in the pursuit of his dreams. One of the books most compelling aspects is its ability to resonate with readers on a personal level. It encourages introspection and self-reflection, urging us to ask ourselves about our own dreams and the obstacles that hold us back. Coelhos message is clear: the universe conspires in our favor when we wholeheartedly pursue our dreams, and it is never too late to start. The Alchemist is not just a book; its a transformative experience. It inspires you to chase your dreams, believe in the extraordinary, and embrace the journey, no matter how challenging it may seem. Whether youre a seasoned reader or new to literature, this book is an absolute must-read. A Personal Legend, as described in The Alchemist, is ones destiny or lifes purpose. The story of Santiagos journey to find treasure near the Egyptian Pyramids is essentially a metaphor for pursuing ones dreams and aspirations. This pursuit is not just about achieving a specific goal but about self-discovery and personal growth. Coelho suggests that true fulfillment comes from following your heart and striving to realize your unique path in life. This journey often requires courage, as it may involve stepping out of comfort zones and confronting fears or societal expectations. The novel underscores that while following your Personal Legend may not always be easy, the rewards are profound, leading to a deeper understanding of oneself and the world. Throughout the novel, Santiago learns to recognize and interpret the omens and signs that the universe offers. This concept represents the idea of a Universal Language that connects all beings and things. Coelho uses this theme to encourage us to be more attuned to the world. This lesson highlights the importance of mindfulness and intuition. By paying attention to the subtle messages in our environment and listening to our inner voice, we can make choices that are in harmony with our true paths. This awareness can guide us in making decisions, big and small, and help navigate the complexities of life. The novel suggests that the world speaks to us in many ways, and learning to decipher this language is key to understanding our place in it. While Santiagos initial focus is on finding the physical treasure, he learns that the experiences, challenges, and people he encounters along the way are equally valuable. This lesson is about embracing the journey of life, with all its ups and downs, as a process of learning and growth. Coelho emphasizes that our dreams and goals push us to venture into the unknown, where we face trials and learn important life lessons. These experiences shape us, teaching resilience, empathy, and wisdom. The novel suggests that if we focus solely on the end goal, we may miss the richness of experiences along the way. It invites us to appreciate the present moment and recognize that often, the path to achieving our dreams is transformative in itself. And, when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it. This quote speaks to the theme of the novel, emphasizing the importance of pursuing ones dreams and the belief that the universe will aid in achieving them. Its the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting. This highlights the value of dreams and aspirations in adding excitement and purpose to life. There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure. This underscores the idea that fear, more than any external obstacle, is the biggest barrier to achieving ones dreams. When we love, we always strive to become better than we are. When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better too. This reflects on the transformative power of love, both for individuals and their surroundings. The secret of life, though, is to fall seven times and to get up eight times. This is a lesson about resilience and perseverance in the face of challenges. There is only one way to learn. Its through action. Everything you need to know you have learned through your journey. This quote emphasizes the value of experiential learning and the importance of lifes journey in gaining wisdom. People are capable, at any time in their lives, of doing what they dream of. This is an inspiring reminder that its never too late to pursue your dreams. When you cant go back, you have to worry only about the best way of moving forward. This quote speaks to the necessity of looking forward and making the best of your current circumstances. The fear of suffering is worse than the suffering itself. A profound observation about how often the anticipation of pain can be more paralyzing than the actual experience. Every blessing ignored becomes a curse. This suggests that not appreciating or acknowledging the good in our lives can have negative consequences. The Alchemist is a profound exploration of destiny, dreams, and the importance of listening to our hearts. It emphasizes that the journey towards achieving our dreams is as significant as the dreams themselves, and that personal transformation is the greatest treasure we can attain.The National Book Awards is given every year by the National Book Development Board (NBDB) and the Manila Critics Circle (MCC) to the best books written, designed, and published in the Philippines. Subscribing to a high level of integrity, a book written or edited by a member is ineligible to win a National Book Award. However, members of the MCC who publish books receive Members Awards.MCC is an organization of professional literary critics and newspaper columnists. The group started the prestigious awards in 1982.Starting 2008, the organization, administration and facilitation of the National Book Awards transferred from the MCC to the NBDB.Official website: French prize, created in 1970.Categories:- roman- roman policier- document Freedom's Child by 3.64 avg rating 1,687 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for Policier (2016) Je vous cris dans le noir by 4.20 avg rating 206 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle (2016) Mind of Winter by 3.31 avg rating 4,547 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for Roman (2014) Heading Out to Wonderful by 3.54 avg rating 8,381 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2013) Gone Girl by 4.14 avg rating 3,329,070 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2013) The Elimination: A survivor confronts the chief of the Khmer Rouge Death Camps by 4.12 avg rating 522 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for document (2013) The Keeper of Lost Causes (Department Q, #1) by really liked it 4.00 avg rating 85,146 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2012) Nada se opone a la noche by 4.33 avg rating 19,839 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2012) The Help by 4.46 avg rating 2,942,465 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2011) The Other Daughter by really liked it 4.00 avg rating 27,675 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2011) Zulu by 3.84 avg rating 1,223 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2010) The Genius by 3.60 avg rating 4,444 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2010) Ce que je sais de Vera Candida by 3.68 avg rating 396 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2010) Les dferlantes by 3.81 avg rating 1,079 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2009) Garden of love by 3.44 avg rating 149 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2008) Terre des oublis by 3.80 avg rating 693 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle (2007) Un secret by 3.61 avg rating 6,123 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2005) Passage du dsir (Ingrid et Lola, #1) by 3.26 avg rating 178 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2005) Grey Souls by 3.77 avg rating 5,476 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2004) Shutter Island by 4.13 avg rating 212,055 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2004) Tell No One by 4.06 avg rating 181,173 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2003) Have Mercy on Us All (Commissaire Adamsberg, #4) by 4.03 avg rating 7,786 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman policier (2002) L'vangile selon Pilate by 3.98 avg rating 4,444 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2001) Le Problme avec Jane by 3.25 avg rating 547 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (2000) Saga by 3.96 avg rating 2,058 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (1998) The Alchemist by 3.92 avg rating 3,386,946 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (1995) Fanny Stevenson: A Romance of Destiny by 4.08 avg rating 185 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for document (1994) Le Jour des fourmis (La Saga des Fourmis, #2) by 4.08 avg rating 5,583 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (1993) Sonate au clair de lune by 3.71 avg rating 7 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle (1992) De parte de la princesa muerta by 4.19 avg rating 4,800 ratings Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle for roman (1988) edit descriptions of this character In the Prologue, the alchemist reads a story about Narcissusa youth so fascinated by his own beautiful reflection that he falls into a lake and drowns. In this version of the story, the goddess of the forest encounters the lake in which Narcissus drowned. The lake is weeping, and the goddess assumes that the lake misses Narcissuss beauty. However, the lake reveals that, actually, its weeping because it misses being able to admire its own beautiful reflection in Narcissuss eyes. What a lovely story, the alchemist thinks. In Part One of the novel, Santiago passes the night with his flock of sheep in an abandoned church. That night, he has a recurring dream. When he wakes, he looks forward to the village he will reach in four days where, the year before, he met a girl, the daughter of a merchant. Meeting her made him wish, for the first time in his life, that he could remain in one place. Santiago loves to travel, and became a shepherd, rather than a priest as his family had wanted, because his father told him that, among poor folk, only shepherds had the opportunity to travel. A few days before reaching the merchants daughters village, Santiago encounters a fortune-teller, whom he hopes will be able to interpret his recurring dream. In the dream, a child transports Santiago to the Pyramids of Egypt and promises he will find hidden treasure there, but Santiago always wakes up just as the child is about to reveal it. After making Santiago promise to give her one-tenth of the treasure as payment, the fortuneteller interprets the dream to mean that if Santiago journeys to the pyramids, hell find hidden treasure. Annoyed that he could have come to this interpretation on his own, Santiago leaves, and soon sits down in the plaza to read his book. An old man sits down next to him and says that its an important book, but that it contains the worlds greatest lie: that we do not control what happens to us. The old man introduces himself as Melchizedek, the King of Salem, and adds that if Santiago gives him one-tenth of this sheep, he will tell Santiago how to find his treasure. Santiago wonders if the old man and the fortune-teller are working together to rob him, but gives up his suspicions when Melchizedek demonstrates knowledge of things about Santiagos life he couldnt possibly know. Melchizedek explains that Santiago has discovered his Personal Legend the thing a person has always wanted to accomplish. Each person knows what it is when he is young, but loses track of it as he ages. Melchizedek says that he appears to people in moments when they are about to give up on their Personal Legends. The next day, Santiago meets Melchizedek and gives him six sheep. He sells his other sheep to a friend who dreamed of becoming a shepherd. Melchizedek says that to find his treasure, Santiago will have to follow the omens God reveals to him. Melchizedek gives Santiago two stones, called Urim and Thummin, which can be used for fortune telling. But he cautions Santiago also to rely on his own decisions. Santiago arrives in Morocco, but quickly gets robbed and winds up sleeping in a marketplace. Eventually, Santiago wanders into a crystal shop and asks the crystal merchant for a job in exchange for something to eat. After Santiago cleans crystal all day, the merchant gives him dinner. Santiago is crushed when he learns that he would have to work for years to earn enough money to travel to the Pyramids, but he decides to work for the merchant in order to earn money to buy some sheep. As Part Two of the novel opens, Santiago is working for the crystal merchant. He wants to build a display case to draw more attention to the store, but the merchant resists. The merchant doesnt like change, and explains that he has always been an observant Muslim, but has never made a pilgrimage to Mecca. Though he could now, finally, afford the trip, he still puts it off because he fears not having something to look forward to in his future. He doesnt want to realize his dream; he just wants to dream. But he does give Santiago permission to build the display case. Business at the shop increases. Santiago is pleased that he is working toward his goal of acquiring an even larger flock of sheep. He has also earned to recognize omens: when he sees a man out of breath after climbing the hill to the shop, he realizes they should sell tea in the crystal they are selling. The merchant knows that this will change the nature of the business, but he feels he cannot resist the inevitable, or as he says maktub, meaning it is written. He sees Santiagos appearance in his life as both a blessing and a curse. Santiago saved his business, but also showed him what his business was capable of, meaning he can never again be content with the simple business he had. Soon Santiago has enough money to buy a large herd of sheep, but before doing so he happens upon Urim and Thummin in his old shepherds bag and decides instead to pursue his treasure. He suddenly feels tremendously happy, and finds a caravan crossing the desert. As he waits for the caravan to leave, Santiago meets an Englishman who tells him that there is a universal language understood by everybody. He says he is in search of that language, and hopes to find an alchemist in the desert who can teach him more. As the caravan travels to the desert oasis of Al-Fayoum, Santiago becomes friends with a camel driver who used to be a farmer before his land was flooded. The camel driver says that disaster taught him to understand that many people are afraid of losing what they have, but this fear is no longer relevant when you understand that human lives were written by the same hand that created the world. He also advises Santiago that if you can concentrate on the present, you'll be happy. Meanwhile, the Englishman tells Santiago of a common principle that connects all things the Soul of the World and lends Santiago some books about the Master Work of alchemy: an Emerald Tablet, on which was written the secret to creating the Philosophers Stone, which could turn lead into gold, and the Elixir of Life, which granted mortality. The caravan arrives safely at the oasis, which is the size of a large city. The oasis is neutral in the constant wars of the surrounding tribes, and no one can carry weapons there. Santiago helps the Englishman search for the alchemist, but with little luck. At one point, Santiago approaches a young woman to ask about the alchemist and suddenly he feels the Soul of the World. Immediately he realizes that the universal language is love. He meets with the woman, Fatima, day after day, and tells her of his quest for his treasure and how it has brought him to her. Eventually, Fatima tells Santiago that she has learned about omens from his stories, and that because of this learning she wants Santiago to continue toward his goal and pursue his dream. Fatima says "maktub," and tells Santiago that if they are really meant to be together, then he'll return to her one day. One day as he walks in the desert, Santiago sees a hawk attack another and has a vision of an army attacking the oasis. Santiago goes to the tribal chieftains of the oasis to warn them. The chieftains respond that the next day the men of the oasis will break the agreement of the oasis and carry arms if Santiagos warning proves true he will be rewarded; but if it does not, he will lose his life. Santiago leaves the chieftains tent upset, when suddenly a strange man on horseback confronts him. Santiago embraces the possibility of his own death and is not afraid. The stranger then reveals this was a test of Santiago's courage, which is essential when one wants to understand the Language of the World. Santiago has met the alchemist. The next day, Santiagos prophecy is fulfilled and the oasis is attacked, but the inhabitants of the oasis are ready to defend themselves. Santiago receives his reward: fifty pieces of gold. Soon after, the alchemist takes Santiago out into the desert to test whether he can find life in the desert. Santiago allows his horse to lead them, and the find a snake the alchemist agrees to guide Santiago across the desert. Santiago wants to stay at the oasis because of Fatima, but the alchemist explains that if he stays, he will be haunted by the loss of his opportunity to find his treasure. As they travel in the desert, the alchemist explains that the Emerald Tablet is a direct link to the Soul of the World. In the early times, everything about the Master Work could be written on the Emerald Tablet. But men rejected simple things. The alchemist directs Santiago back toward this simplicity, and says that Santiago should listen to his heart, because it came from the Soul of the World. Santiago practices listening to his heart, and comes to understand his hearts changes and contradictions, and that people are afraid to pursue their most important dreams because they know they will suffer if they dont succeed. Not long after, Santiago and the alchemist are taken prisoner by one of the warring tribes. Soon they are brought before the enemy chieftain, who thinks that theyre spies. The alchemist responds that Santiago is an alchemist who can turn himself into the wind, and says that if Santiago has not turned himself into the wind in three days time, the chieftain can kill them. The chieftain agrees. Once theyre alone, Santiago protests that he has no idea how to turn himself into the wind, but the alchemist responds that when a person is living out his Personal Legend, he has all the tools he needsthe only thing that could hold him back is the fear of failure. He adds that if Santiago does not succeed, then at least hell die while trying to realize his Personal Legend. On the first and second days, Santiago is at a loss. On the third day, the enemy chieftain has Santiago go up to a cliff above the enemy camp. Santiago appeals to the desert, the wind, and the sun to help him, but none of them are able. The sun recommends that Santiago speak directly to the hand that wrote all, though, and Santiago reaches through the Soul of the World and discovers the Soul of God. He sees the oneness between his own soul and the Soul of God and, because of this oneness, realizes that he has the ability to perform miracles. Santiago turns himself into the wind, creating a terrible windstorm. The tribesmen are terrified, but the alchemist is happy to have found such an ideal student, and the enemy chieftain is pleased to have witnessed the glory of Allah. The next day, Santiago and the alchemist leave the camp with an honor guard. Eventually they reach a Coptic monastery, where a monk welcomes them inside to rest. While there, the alchemist uses the Philosophers Stone to change lead into gold. He gives a quarter of the gold to the monk for his hospitality, a quarter to Santiago to repay him for the amount taken by the enemy chieftain, and quarter for himself. The final quarter he gives to the monk, saying that it is for Santiago if he ever needs it. The alchemist tells Santiago everyone on earth plays an important role, even if he doesn't know it. Then the alchemist bids Santiago farewell. Santiago rides alone through the desert, listening to his heart, which tells him that he will find his treasure at the place where he is brought to tears. At the top of a dune, Santiago sees the Egyptian pyramids before him. He falls to his knees and cries out in thanks to God for making him follow his Personal Legend. Remembering the words of his heart, Santiago digs in the place he fell to his knees crying. As he digs, several people approach Santiago. They are desperate refugees from the tribal wars, and they beat Santiago and take the gold given to him by the alchemist. When Santiago tells them he is looking for treasure at that place, the leader of the refugees says hes being stupid. The leader adds that two years earlier he himself had a recurring dream in which he saw an abandoned church that sheltered shepherds and sheep. The dream told him that if he dug at the roots of the tree growing through the center of the church, he would find a hidden treasure. But he never went in search of the treasure, because it was just a dream. After the refugees have left, Santiago laughs aloud, because now he knows the location of his treasure. In the Epilogue, Santiago reaches the abandoned church where his story began. He thinks of the strangeness of the path that God has led him on, but is grateful for the people he has met along the way. He soon uncovers a chest of gold and jewels. The wind begins to blow, and it brings with it a familiar scent of perfume. Santiago smiles and says, Im coming, Fatima. Paulo Coelho is the author of "The Alchemist", he was born in 1947 in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Being the author of 30 books that have sold over 320 million copies in 170 countries, he has become one of the most widely read authors in the world today. Paulo Coelho has been a United Nations Messenger of Peace since 2007 and this has allowed him to continue to promote intercultural dialogue and to focus on the needs of children. He is a member of the Brazilian Academy of Letters and the recipient of over 115 awards and honours, including the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the Grinzane Cavour Book Award and the Chevalier de lOrdre National de la Lgion dHonneur, to name a few.Other titles include The Pilgrimage, Brida, "The Supreme Gift", The Valkyries, By the River Piedra I Sat Down and Wept, Maktub, The Fifth Mountain, Manual of the Warrior of Light, Veronika Decides to Die, The Devil and Miss Prym, Stories for Parents, Children and Grandchildren, Eleven Minutes, The Zahir, Like the Flowing River, The Witch of Portobello, The Winner Stands Alone, Aleph, Manuscript Found in Accra, Adultery, The Spy, Hippie. Also Journey guided journal. premio Grinzane Cavour stato un premio letterario italiano fondato nel 1982 da don Francesco Meotto e portato al successo da Giuliano Soria. La premiazione si svolgeva nel castello di Grinzane Cavour, localit delle Langhe, in Piemonte.Lo scopo era quello di avvicinare i giovani alla lettura, e il sistema di voto era diviso in due fasi: una giuria di critici letterari selezionava gli autori finalisti (vincitori), tra i quali una giuria di studenti italiani e stranieri sceglieva poi il vincitore assoluto (supervincitore). Venivano inoltre assegnati premi specialistici, tra i quali quello alla carriera e quello per il miglior esordiente.Il premio Grinzane Cavour ha cessato ufficialmente di esistere il 31 marzo 2009 con la messa in liquidazione dell'omonima associazione a seguito dello scandalo che ha investito la gestione clientelare del Premio e i comportamenti illeciti del suo presidente, Giuliano Soria. I suoi beni sono stati acquisiti dalla Fondazione Bottari Lattes di Monforte d'Alba all'asta fallimentare Die Corine Internationaler Buchpreis, wie dieser Literaturpreis offiziell hie, wurde auf Initiative des Landesverbands Bayern im Brsenverein des D Die Corine Internationaler Buchpreis, wie dieser Literaturpreis offiziell hie, wurde auf Initiative des Landesverbands Bayern im Brsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels und unter der Schirmherrschaft des bayerischen Ministerprsidenten von 2001 bis 2011 verliehen. ...more Das Beste aus meinem Liebesleben by 3.80 avg rating 20 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Hrbuch (2011) Self Comes to Mind: Constructing the Conscious Brain by 3.97 avg rating 3,216 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Zukunftspreis (2011) How an Economy Grows and Why It Crashes by 4.15 avg rating 5,182 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Wirtschaftsbuch (2011) Dylan Thomas by 4.44 avg rating 86 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Bilderwelten (2011) When I Fell From the Sky by 3.74 avg rating 3,523 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Publikumspreis (2011) A Lie About My Father: A Memoir by 4.02 avg rating 311 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Belletristik (2011) The 10 PM Question by 3.79 avg rating 3,144 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Kinder- und Jugendbuch (2011) En la tierra del fuego by 3.90 avg rating 133 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Publikumspreis (2010) The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope by 4.07 avg rating 31,675 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for FOCUS Zukunftspreis (2010) Verteidigung des Liberalismus by 0.00 avg rating 0 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Wirtschaftsbuch (2010) The Leopard (Harry Hole, #8) by 4.10 avg rating 62,316 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Hrbuch (2010) Kokoschkins Reise by 3.29 avg rating 49 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Belletristik (2010) Paper Towns by 3.70 avg rating 1,455,693 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Kinder- und Jugendbuch (2010) Un lieu incertain (Commissaire Adamsberg, #8) by 3.88 avg rating 5,385 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Hrbuch (2009) blueprint for a safer planet by 3.81 avg rating 70 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Zukunftspreis (2009) Das Kapital. 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Eine kleine Geschichte des Grten by 3.46 avg rating 74 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Sachbuch (2008) Liebesbrand by liked it 3.00 avg rating 77 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Belletristik (2008) Ein Mann, ein Fjord! by 3.69 avg rating 195 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Hrbuch (2007) Tannd by 3.23 avg rating 3,601 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Weltbild Leserpreis (2007) Voyage aux pays du coton: Petit prcis de mondialisation by 3.74 avg rating 324 ratings Corine Internationaler Buchpreis for Wirtschaftsbuch (2007) edit descriptions of this character The Alchemist is a novel written in two parts and an epilogue. It revolves around an Andalusian shepherd named Santiago and his quest for his own Personal Legend, which takes him from his village to the pyramids of Egypt. In his travels he meets a series of characters who either directly help him or teach him a valuable lesson by example. Melchizedek and the alchemist become mentors, while the Englishman provides and example of what happens if you hope to acquire knowledge mainly from books, and the crystal merchant shows him the type of life one leads if one doesn't heed a Personal Legend. The Alchemist is set in a universe where every being has its own Personal Legend, and where the world has a soul, which is shared by everything, from living beings to rough matter. Santiago is a young shepherd from Andalusia and is happy about an upcoming trip to a town where he had been the previous year, as he had met a girl he got infatuated with. She is the daughter of a merchant who buys wool from him, a man with trust issues who demands Santiago shear his sheep in front of him in order to avoid any fraud. He sleeps in an abandoned church, where he has a recurring dream involving the sight of pyramids. When he explains it to a gypsy woman, she interprets it pretty straightforwardly, saying that he must indeed travel to Egypt to find a buried treasure. At first he is hesitant because he enjoys his life as a shepherd and he had to go against his parents will to pursue it, since they wanted him to become a priest. He then runs into an old man who is named Melchizedek, who explains the concept of Personal Legend, which is the personal fulfillment everyone is bound to pursue. It is "what you have always wanted to accomplish. Everyone, when they are young, knows what their Personal Legend is." He tells him he must listen to omens in order to find his treasure, and he gives him two magic stones, Urim and Thummim, which answer yes and no to the questions he cant find an answer to by himself. Santiago makes it to Tangier after selling his sheep, but once there, he is robbed of all his money by a man who had told him he could take him to the pyramids. This doesn't faze him too much, as he starts working for a crystal merchant, actually bolstering his employers business with his clever ideas. The crystal merchant used to have a Personal Legend himselfmaking a pilgrimage to Mecca, but he gave up on it. Once Santiago makes enough money, he is unsure what to do. Eleven months have passed, and he is unsure whether he should return to Andalusia to buy sheep with his earnings or proceed with his quest. He eventually joins a caravan to travel to the pyramids. There, he meets a fellow traveler, known as the Englishman, who dabbles in alchemy. He is headed to the Al-Fayoum oasis to meet an alchemist, as he hopes to learn how to turn any metal into gold. While traveling in the desert, Santiago learns how to get in touch with the Soul of the World. Wars are simmering in the desert, so the caravan remains at the oasis for the time being. Santiago decides to help the Englishman find the alchemist. Their source of information is Fatima, a girl he meets as she is collecting water from the well and with whom he promptly falls in love.He proposes marriage to her, and she consents, provided that he completes his quest. She is a desert woman who can read the omens, and knows that everybody has to leave before returning. After venturing out in the desert, Santiago has a vision, courtesy of two hawks attacking one another, of the oasis being attacked. Attacking an oasis is a violation of the rules of the desert, so he relates it to the chieftains, but they say that he will have to pay with his life if the oasis does not end up being attacked. Soon after this vision, he meets a stranger wearing black garbs sitting atop a white horse who reveals himself to be the alchemist. The oasis does get attacked, and thanks to Santiagos warning, the dwellers are able to defeat the raiders. This does not go unnoticed by the alchemist who, in turn, decides to mentor Santiago and to help him reach the pyramids. However, theyre soon captured by another group of warriors in the desert. The alchemist tells Santiago that, in order to progress with the trip, he should become the wind. Being more and more acquainted with the Soul of the World, Santiago concentrates on the desert and eventually manages to become the wind. This scares the captors, who promptly free both him and the alchemist. They make it to a monastery, where the alchemist turns some lead into gold and divides it. His journey stops here, as he has to return to the oasis, but Santiago proceeds, and eventually reaches the pyramids. He starts digging in the place he dreamt about finding his treasure, but is ambushed by raiders and takes a severe beating. One of the raiders, upon inquiring about what Santiago was doing there, derides him for his dream, mentioning that he had a dream about a treasure buried by an abandoned church in Spain, and that he was not stupid enough to pursue it. This gives Santiago the answer he was looking for. Once he returns to the church in Spain, he promptly digs up the treasure, remembers he owes a fraction of it to the gypsy woman, and decides to reunite with Fatima. Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. 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