

# Joseph Conrad



## Born

3 December, 1857,  
Berdychiv, part of  
Polish Ukraine

## Died

3 August 1924,  
Bishopsbourne, Kent,  
England

## FAMILY

- Father:** Apollo Korzeniowski, a language translator; he died when Conrad was 11.
- Mother:** Ewa Bobrowska, she died when Conrad was only 8.
- Uncle:** Tadasz Bobrowski  
He looked after Conrad when both his parents died.
- Siblings:** He was an only child.

## EDUCATION

- 1873-74** Boarding house for orphans in Lwów  
Although he did not finish secondary school, he was well-read and spoke Polish, French, English, German, Greek, Latin.

## WORK

- 1874-78** Worked on French ships in Marseilles, France
- 1878** Joined the British Merchant Navy, where he later became Captain
- 1878-94** Sailed all over the world
- 1890** Went to Belgian Congo
- 1894** Became a full-time writer

## LITERARY CAREER

**Major novels:** *Almayer's Folly* (1895), *Lord Jim* (1900), *Heart of Darkness* (1902), *Nostromo* (1904), *The Secret Agent* (1907), *Under Western Eyes* (1911), *Chance* (1913)

## RELATIONSHIPS

**Marriage:** Jessie George, 1896. They had two sons, John and Borys.

## INTERESTING FACTS

- His real name was Jozef Teodor Konrad Nalecz Korzeniowski.
- He read a lot of literature and learnt French at an early age.
- He had a passion for the sea and wanted to become a sailor.
- In 1886 he obtained British nationality.
- He influenced writers including T.S. Eliot, Graham Greene, Virginia Woolf, Thomas Mann, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and William Faulkner.