

The Alchemist

Paulo Coelho

The Alchemist is about Santiago, a young shepherd from Spain who keeps having a strange dream about treasure buried near the Egyptian pyramids. Convinced it means something, he decides to leave his familiar life behind and chase what he believes is his true purpose. Early on, he meets a mysterious old king named Melchizedek, who encourages him to follow his dream and trust the journey. But things don't go smoothly—when he arrives in Tangier, he gets robbed and loses everything. To survive, he works in a crystal shop, where he learns important lessons about patience, growth, and the value of hard work. Eventually, he joins a desert caravan and meets an Englishman searching for an alchemist, which leads him to more discoveries. In the oasis of Al-Fayoum, Santiago meets Fatima and falls in love, but he knows he has to keep going if he wants to complete his quest. He finally meets the alchemist, who teaches him to listen to his heart and recognize the deep connection between all things. After many challenges, Santiago reaches the pyramids—only to find out the treasure was actually back where his journey began. He returns home, finds the treasure, and realizes that everything he experienced along the way was just as valuable as the gold itself.