

Jose Saramago



By:

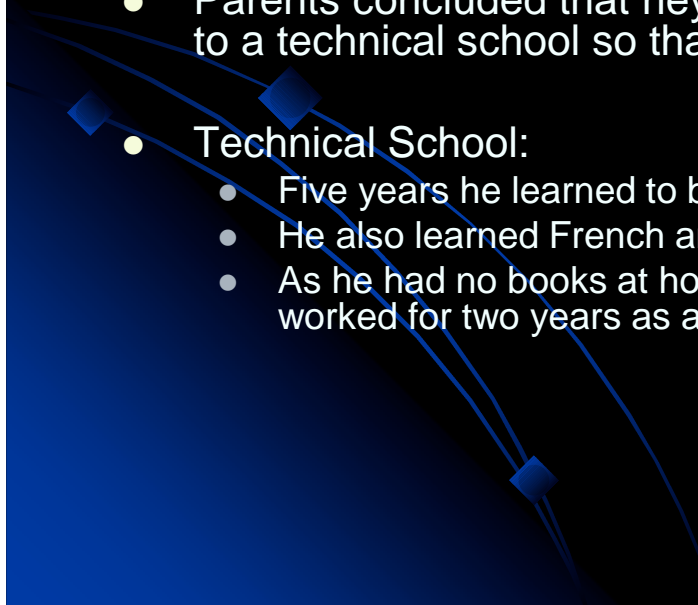
Rashid Salameh & Tim Dempsey

Sergei Panasenکو & Alex Lobodan-Ghita

Family Name

- Jose was born into a family of landless peasants.
- Jose de Sousa and Maria da Piedade were his parents.
- Jose de Sousa would have been his name had the Registrar not had his own idea to add the nickname by which his father's family was known in the village: Saramago.
- He was born on November 16, 1922, but birth documents show that he was born two days later.
- His family escaped fraud and from paying the fine for not having registered his birth at the proper legal time.

Education Background

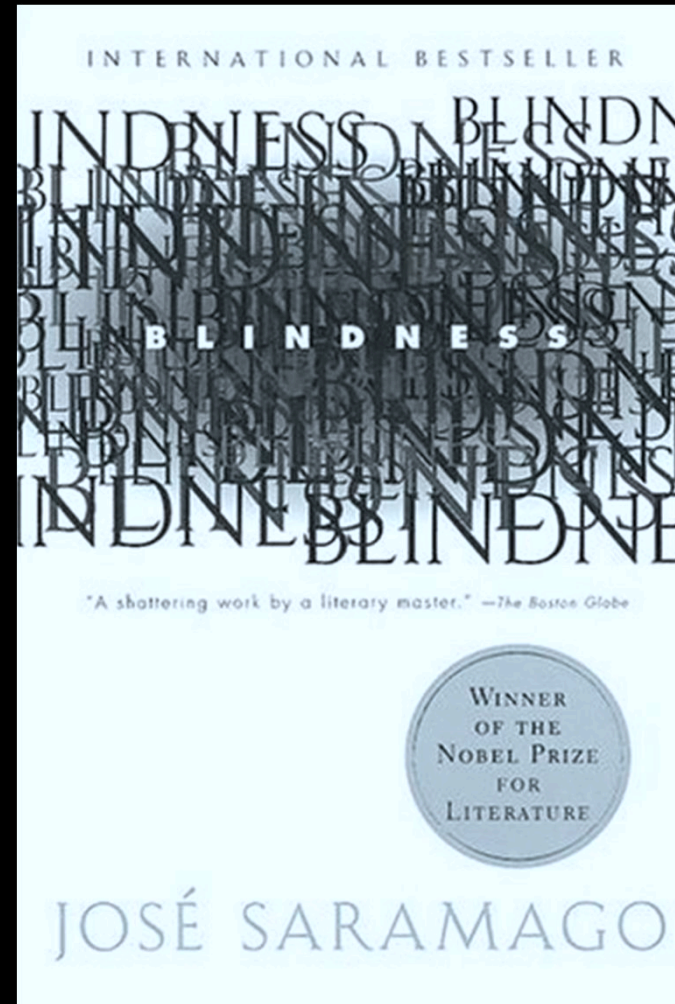
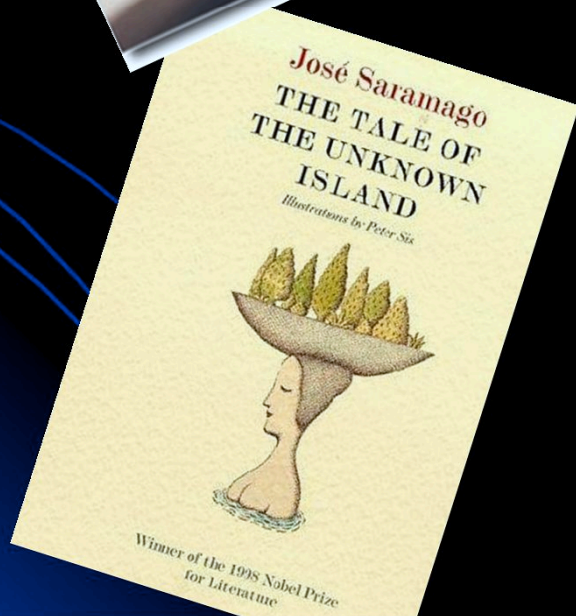
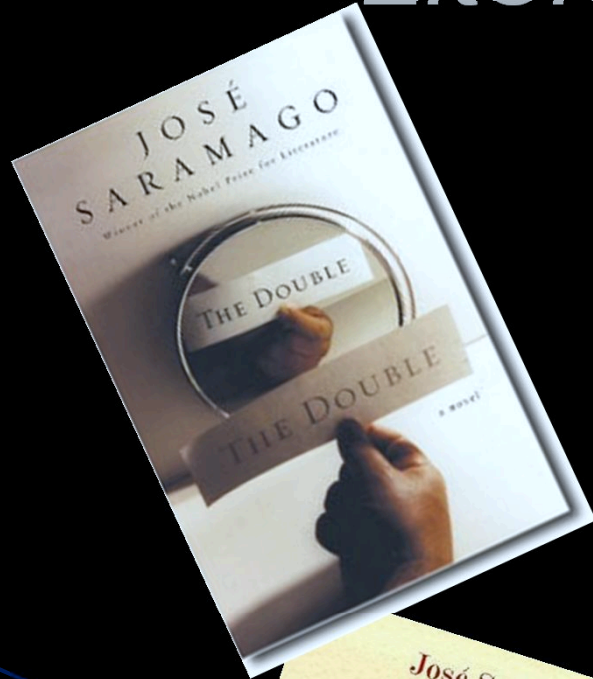
- Primary school:
 - In the second class he was writing with no spelling mistakes.
 - The third and fourth classes were done in a single year.
 - Grammar school:
 - Stayed two years and got excellent marks in the first year.
 - Not so good in the second.
 - He was liked by classmates and teachers.
 - Was elected treasurer of the Students' Union at the age of twelve.
 - Parents concluded that they could not keep him in the grammar school, and sent him to a technical school so that he would make money.
 - Technical School:
 - Five years he learned to be a mechanic.
 - He also learned French and took a course in a literature subject.
 - As he had no books at home and borrowed from a friend. After finishing the course, he worked for two years as a mechanic at a car repair shop.
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Home

- Azinhaga, a small village in the province of Ribatejo.
- It's on the right bank of the Almonda River, around a hundred kilometres north-east of Lisbon.



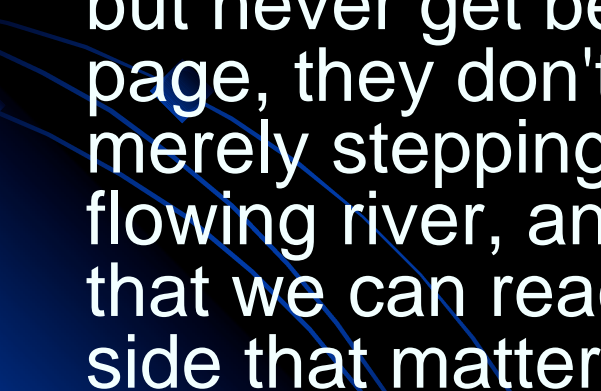
Literature of His



Works in English

- *Baltasar and Blimunda.*
- *The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis.*
- *The Gospel According to Jesus Christ*
- *Manual of Painting and Calligraphy*
- *The Stone Raft.*
- *The History of the Siege of Lisbon.*
- *Blindness*
- *All the Names*
- *The Tale of the Unknown Island*
- *Journey to Portugal : In Pursuit of Portugal's History and Culture*
- *The Cave*
- *The Double.*
- *Seeing*

Famous Quotes

- “The possibility of the impossible, dreams and illusions, are the subject of my novels.”
 - “A word lies, with the same word one can speak the truth, we are not what we say, we are true only if others believe us.”
 - “Some people spend their entire lives reading but never get beyond reading the words on the page, they don't understand that the words are merely stepping stones placed across a fast-flowing river, and the reason they're there is so that we can reach the farther shore, it's the other side that matters.”
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Literature Writing Style

- He was a Portuguese writer who combined myths, history of his own country, and surrealistic imagination into his work.
- Instead when the speaker changes Saramago capitalizes the first letter of the new speaker's clause.
- He used characters social titles, but not their names.
- Features long sentences, at times more than a half-page long.

Accomplishments

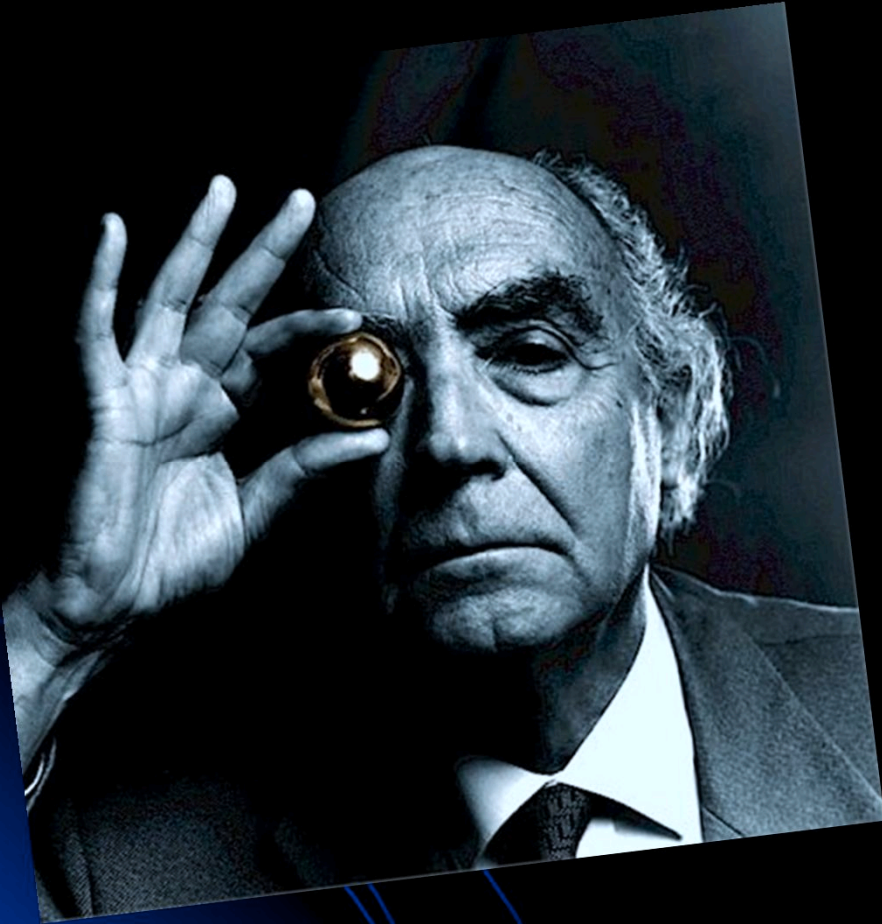
- Jose Saramago is receiving his Nobel Prize from the hands of His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at the Stockholm Concert Hall.
- 10 December 1998.



Censorship/Politics

- In 1991, *The Gospel According to Jesus Christ*, was censored by the Portuguese government for being offensive to people of the Catholic faith.
- Moved to the island of Lanzarote in the Canaries Islands.
- Has been a member of the Portuguese Communist Party since 1969, an atheist, and a self-described pessimist.
- He tends to deliver rather dull speeches denouncing the European Union or the International Monetary Fund.
- He managed to create a worldwide scandal when, on a tour of the West Bank, in 2002, he compared the situation in the Palestinian territories with "Auschwitz."

Creativity



- Blindness Trailer
- ENJOY!