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In Our Time - 1924 Edition Ernest Hemingway (1899 – 1961)

Read by: KevinS Language: English
 Length: 26 minutes Style: Solo
 Genre(s): Fiction, Short Fiction, Poetry

Product Formats and Options				
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The collection of stories and sketches that go by the title “in our time” has a convoluted publication history. Originally a series of six vignettes published by Ezra Pound in the 1923 edition of the *Little Review*. Hemingway added twelve more and published a collection of eighteen vignettes in Paris in 1924 under the title of in our time (with a lowercase title). [This audiobook is a reading of this edition.](#)

The book began in the summer of 1923, when Hemingway travelled to Spain and developed a passion for bullfighting. He was inspired to write five sketches about the subject and other short pieces during this time. Returning to Paris, he submitted the pieces to his friend Bruce Bird at Three Mountains Press, who put together a small book of thirty-one pages with lots of white space and an intentionally unconventional cover. Originally submitted without a title, Ezra Pound dubbed “Blank” the title. “*in our time*” was chosen as the title and comes from a line in the English *Book of Common Prayer*, “Give peace in our time, O Lord”. The work shows the distinctive Hemingway style of spare language and oblique depictions of emotion that he called his “theory of omission”, or “iceberg theory”. Hemingway scholar Milton Common has said that “the visual suddenness intensifies its narrative abruptness, heightens the shock of violence, and the chillingly matter-of-fact tongue”. In 1925 Hemingway submitted fourteen short stories with the vignettes interleaved between the stories to New York publishers Boni & Liveright, who published them as *In Our Time* (uppercase). This expanded version attracted further critical notice and established Hemingway as an important voice, with Edmund Wilson commenting that it was “of the first distinction”.

Ernest Miller Hemingway (July 21, 1899 – July 2, 1961) was a noted American author celebrated for his economical prose style who produced a notable body of works, many of which are considered classics. Following high school, he enlisted as an ambulance driver in Italy during World War I; his novel *A Farewell to Arms* (1929) draws on his experiences from this time. He returned to Europe as foreign correspondent in 1922, settling in Paris and falling in with a group of expatriates and modernist artists and writers, some of whom appear as fictional characters in his greatest novel, *The Sun Also Rises* (1926), which portrays a journey from Paris to Pamplona to watch the running of the bulls and bullfights. He returned from Europe in 1928 and settled in Key West, leaving in 1937 to cover the Spanish Civil War as a correspondent. His experiences there led to his most famous novel, *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1940). Returning in 1939, he split his time between a villa outside Havana during the winter and at Ketchum, Idaho during the summer. In 1951 he wrote the draft of *The Old Man and the Sea*, which he considered “the best I can write for ever for all my life”, and which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1952 and made him an international celebrity. He was in two near fatal plane crashes during a safari in Africa 1954 that left him in poor health and in great pain for the rest of his life. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954.