

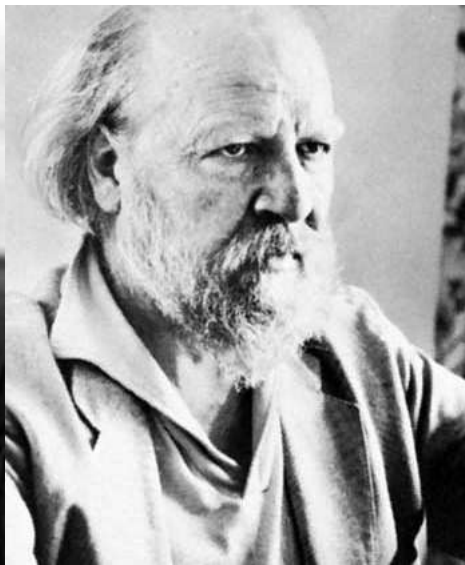


# Lord of the Flies

William Golding

# About the Author

- Name: William Golding
- Born in England on September 19, 1991
- Fought with the Royal Navy in WWII
- Participated in D-day
- WWII had a major impact on his views of humanity and the evil it was capable of
- His first and most popular novel was Lord of the Flies (1954)





# Summary

- *Lord of the Flies* is a story about a group of English schoolboys stranded on an island after their plane is shot down during war. The two main characters, Ralph and Piggy, try to set up a democracy towards the beginning of the book. Jack soon takes control of many of the characters and turns the island into a savage place. Many of the boys become obsessed with hunting and start a rumor about a “beast” on the island. The savage behavior continues as they mistakenly kill Simon, one of the younger boys, during a ritual. Jack eventually begins a manhunt for Ralph. While Ralph is fleeing from the madness he ends up running into officer who came to rescue them. He weeps for the loss of innocence at the ending of the book.



# Themes

- Sinful nature of man
- Illustrates the defects of human nature
- Golding believes men are inherently evil, which is evident when left alone
- Evil is best shown when the tribe is hunting Ralph at the end
- Piggy and Jack represent the two opposing ends of human nature





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# Key Words/Terms

- Microcosm – A small world that represents the entire human race and our nature.
- Allegory – A generalization of human existence made with fictional characters and actions
- Loss of Innocence – When a child, or innocent person, is exposed to the harsh realities of the world



# Title Translation

- “Beelzebub” Translates to Lord of the Flies
- Hebrew
- In many Christian works this name is used for a demon



# Ralph

- Ralph is the main character and definitely the most optimistic. He is ultimately chosen as the leader of the tribe. He fights with Jack the entire book, both trying to keep order.



# Piggy

- Piggy is the character in the book that represents order. Throughout the entire book he struggles to fit in with the other boys, because he is the only one who truly wants order. His glasses play a significant role throughout the entire book. They are used to make fires and show his clear view of how this society should be.





# Jack

- Jack begins the book with a display of savage behavior that progresses as the book goes along. He was the leader of his choir group, who eventually become hunters. He eventually loses his touch with society and overtakes Ralph's position as chief.

