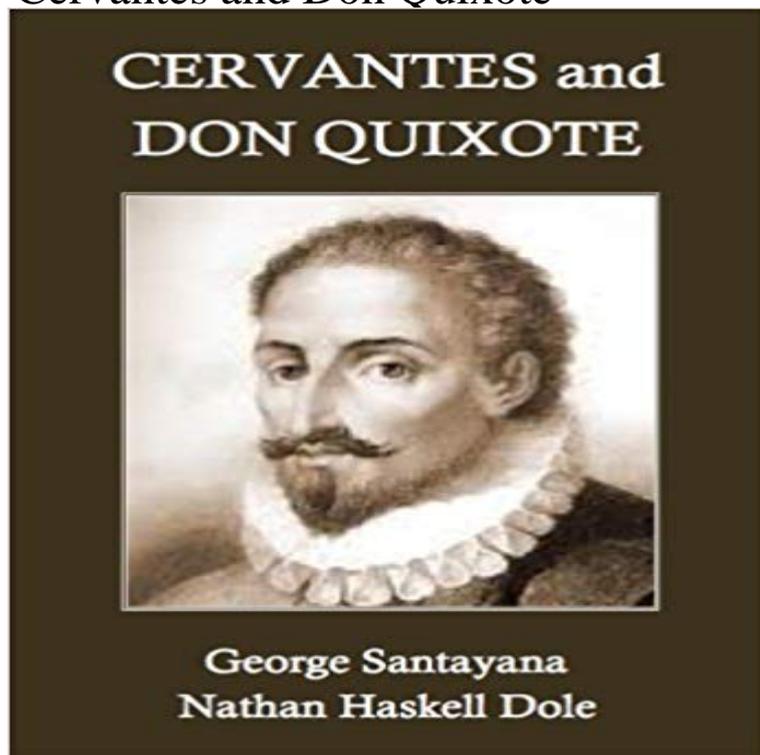


## Cervantes and Don Quixote



This Kindle edition, equivalent in length to a physical book of approximately 16 pages, consists of two parts. Part I, a biography of Cervantes, was originally published in 1897 in *A Library of the Worlds Best Literature*, Vol. 8. Part II, a highly condensed retelling of Cervantes best-known work, *Don Quixote*, was originally published in 1920 in *One Hundred Best Novels Condensed*, Vol. 3. Sample passages: (from Part I, the biography) [Cervantes] family was ancient but impoverished, and he was forced throughout his life to turn his hand to anything that could promise him a livelihood. His existence was a continuous series of experiments, vexations, and disappointments. He adopted at first the profession of arms, and followed his colors as a private soldier upon several foreign expeditions. He was long quartered in Italy; he fought at Lepanto against the Turks, where among other wounds he received one that maimed his left hand, to the greater glory, as he tells us, of his right; he was captured by Barbary pirates and remained for five years a slave in Algiers; he was ransomed, and returned to Spain only to find official favors and recognitions denied him; and finally, at the age of thirty-seven, he abandoned the army for literature. (from Part II, *Don Quixote*, condensed) On the plains of Montiel stood a score of big windmills. Don Quixote took them for outrageous giants and prepared to do battle against them, and, despite Sancho's protests that their huge arms were only vanes, he plunged the rowels into Rocinante's thin flanks and with couched lance dashed off to the encounter. The wind blew violently and the knight and his steed were whirled away into the field, where they lay motionless and as if dead; his lance was smashed to splinters. Sancho hastened to the aid of his master and found him unable to stir; but he was soon ready to go on again. About the Authors: George

Santayana (1863-1952) was a Spanish philosopher and writer. Other works include *The Sense of Beauty*, *The Realms of Being*, and *The Last Puritan*. Nathan Haskell Dole (1852-1935) was an American editor and author. Other works include *Young Folks History of Russia*, *A Score of Famous Composers*, and *Life of Count Tolstoi*.

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