

Topic Page: [Bowles, Paul, 1910–1999](#)

Definition: **Bowles** from *Collins English Dictionary*

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1 Paul. 1910–99, US novelist, short-story writer, and composer, living in Tangiers. His novels include *The Sheltering Sky* (1949) and *The Spider's House* (1955)

Summary Article: **Bowles, Paul**

From *The Columbia Encyclopedia*

1910–99, American writer and composer, b. New York City. He studied in Paris with Virgil Thomson and Aaron Copland and composed (1930s–40s) a number of modernist operas, ballets, song cycles, and orchestral and chamber pieces. From 1947 on he lived in Tangier, Morocco. Strongly individualistic and written with an austere lack of sentimentality, his fiction is frequently set in the Arab world and often traces the corruption of innocence and the psychic disintegration of “civilized man” in a savagely primitive environment. His works include the short-story collections *The Delicate Prey* (1950), *The Time of Friendship* (1967), *Collected Stories, 1939–1976* (1979), and *Unwelcome Words* (1988); and the novels *The Sheltering Sky* (1949), *Up above the World* (1966), and *In the Red Room* (1981). His 62 short stories were brought together in a 2001 collection. Bowles was also an accomplished travel writer, poet, and photographer.

See his autobiography, *Without Stopping* (1972);
biographies by C. Sawyer-Laucanno (1989) and M. Dillon (1998);
film biography, *Let it Come Down* (1999), by Baichwal, J. ;
In Touch: The Letters of Paul Bowles (1994), ed. by Miller, J. ;
Conversations with Paul Bowles (1993), ed. by Caponi, G. D. ;
study by R. F. Patterson (1986);
bibliography by J. Miller (1986).

His wife was **Jane Auer Bowles**, 1917–73, American writer, b. New York City. Original and idiosyncratic, her works often treat the conflict between the weak and the strong. They include the novel *Two Serious Ladies* (1943) and a play, *In the Summer House* (1954).

See her collected writings (2017, ed. by M. Dillon) and collected letters (1985, ed. by Dillon, M.);
biography by M. Dillon (1981).

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Bowles, Paul. (2018). In P. Lagasse, & Columbia University, *The Columbia encyclopedia* (8th ed.). New York, NY: Columbia University Press. Retrieved from



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Chicago

"Bowles, Paul." In *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, by Paul Lagasse, and Columbia University. 8th ed. Columbia University Press, 2018. https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/bowles_paul_1910

Harvard

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"Bowles, Paul." *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, Paul Lagasse, and Columbia University, Columbia University Press, 8th edition, 2018. *Credo Reference*, https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/bowles_paul_1910. Accessed 18 Oct. 2019.