

## 📖 Topic Page: [Capote, Truman, 1924-1984](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/capote_truman_1924_1984)

Definition: **Capote, Truman** from *Philip's Encyclopedia*

US writer. His works, typified by keen social observation and characters on the fringes of society, include the novella *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1958), the novel *The Grass Harp* (1951) and volumes of shorter pieces such as *Music for Chameleons* (1980). Capote claimed that *In Cold Blood* (1966) was the first non-fiction novel.

### Summary Article: **Capote, Truman**

From *The Columbia Encyclopedia*

(kăpō'tē), 1924–84, American author, b. New Orleans as Truman Streckfus Persons. During his lifetime, the witty, diminutive writer was a well-known public personage, hobnobbing with the rich and famous and frequently appearing in the popular media, before he lapsed into alcoholism in his final years. Capote's fiction reflects a private, imaginative world of narcissistic yet strangely innocent people. *Other Voices, Other Rooms* (1948), his first novel and a classic Southern Gothic, is the story of a young boy's painful search for identity. His other works include a gentle autobiographical novel, *The Grass Harp* (1951); a collection of short stories, *Tree of Night* (1949); the novella *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1958); a report of his trip to Russia with the cast of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, *The Muses Are Heard* (1956); the musical *House of Flowers* (1954); and two collections of nonfiction pieces, *The Dogs Bark* (1973) and *Music for Chameleons* (1980). In 1966, Capote published his “nonfiction novel,” *In Cold Blood*, a chilling account of the senseless, brutal murder of a Kansas family that is widely considered his finest work. Fragments of his last major book, the unfinished *Unanswered Prayers*, were collected in 1990. *The Complete Stories of Truman Capote* was published in 2004.

See Inge, N. T. , ed., *Truman Capote: Conversations* (1987);

Gobel, L. , *Conversations with Capote* (1985, repr. 2000);

Clarke, G. , ed., *Too Brief a Treat: The Letters of Truman Capote* (2004);

memoirs by D. Windham (1983), J. M. Brinnin (1986), and J. Dunphy (1987);

biographies by G. Clarke (1988), G. Plimpton (1997), and W. T. Schultz (2011);

studies by H. S. Garson (1980 and 1992), K. T. Reed (1981), J. J. and J. C. Waldmeir, ed. (1999),

and H. Bloom, ed. (2003).

### **APA**

### Chicago

### Harvard

### **MLA**

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Capote, Truman. (2018). In P. Lagasse, & Columbia University, *The Columbia encyclopedia* (8th ed.). New York, NY: Columbia University Press. Retrieved from [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/capote\\_truman\\_1924\\_1984](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/capote_truman_1924_1984)

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## Chicago

"Capote, Truman." In *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, by Paul Lagasse, and Columbia University. 8th ed. Columbia University Press, 2018. [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/capote\\_truman\\_1924\\_1984](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/capote_truman_1924_1984)

## Harvard

Capote, Truman. (2018). In P. Lagasse & Columbia University, *The Columbia encyclopedia*. (8th ed.). [Online]. New York: Columbia University Press. Available from: [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/capote\\_truman\\_1924\\_1984](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/capote_truman_1924_1984) [Accessed 14 October 2019].

## MLA

"Capote, Truman." *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, Paul Lagasse, and Columbia University, Columbia University Press, 8th edition, 2018. *Credo Reference*, [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/capote\\_truman\\_1924\\_1984](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/capote_truman_1924_1984). Accessed 14 Oct. 2019.