[Britannica Concise Encyclopedia:](http://www.answers.com/library/Britannica%2BConcise%2BEncyclopedia-cid-51838)

**Arthur Miller**

 (born Oct. 17, 1915, New York, N.Y., U.S. died Feb. 10, 2005, Roxbury, Conn.) U.S. playwright. He began writing plays while a student at the University of Michigan. His first important play, *All My Sons* (1947), was followed by his most famous work, *Death of a Salesman* (1949, Pulitzer Prize), the tragedy of a man destroyed by false values that are in large part the values of his society. Noted for combining social awareness with a searching concern for his characters' inner lives, Miller wrote many other plays, including *The Crucible* (1953), which uses a plot about the Salem witch trials to attack McCarthyism, *A View from the Bridge* (1955), *After the Fall* (1964), *The Last Yankee* (1992), and *Resurrection Blues* (2002). He also wrote short stories, essays, and the screenplay for *The Misfits* (1961), which starred his second wife, [Marilyn Monroe](http://www.answers.com/topic/marilyn-monroe).

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# Fun Arthur Miller Facts



By: [Jennifer Maughan](http://www.life123.com/author/jennifer_maughan)

There are many Arthur Miller facts out there that fans, even the most passionate fans of his work, probably don't know. With a career spanning more than six decades, Miller is one of the most well-respected literary talents of the 20th century, especially in the world of playwrighting. While Miller was a man with his high-profile moments, there's much that remained out of the spotlight.

**Early Years**

* Miller was born in 1915 in New York City.
* His parent's names were Isidore and Augusta Miller.
* His father ran a successful women's clothing store, but was illiterate.
* Miller's family lost nearly everything in the Stock Market Crash of 1929.
* In order to pay for his first year of college, Miller worked at an auto parts company for two years.
* Miller won the Avery Hopwood Award for young playwrights in 1936; he was still in college at the time.
* The University of Michigan is Miller's alma mater.
* His first Broadway play, The Man Who Had All the Luck, was a commercial failure and closed after only four performances.

**Writing Career**

* All My Sons (1947) became Miller's first success and earned him his first Tony Award.
* The Crucible (1953) was intended to be a statement against the McCarthy era and Communist fear.
* 1955's A View from a Bridge was considered one of Miller's best one-act plays; it was later modified to include two acts (1956).
* Among Miller's most prestigious awards, are Emmy Awards, Tony Awards and a Pulitzer Prize for Drama.
* Miller worked with a veritable who's who of Hollywood, including Paul Newman, Dustin Hoffman, Lauren Bacall, John Malkovich, Daniel Day-Lewis, Steve McQueen and Stacy Keach

**Personal Life**

* Miller was married three times: Mary Slattery, Marilyn Monroe and Inge Morath.
* The playwright and Monroe divorced less than two years before the famous actress died.
* He had four children, Jane and Robert with Slattery and Rebecca and Daniel with Morath.
* Miller's daughter Rebecca married Academy Award winning actor Daniel Day-Lewis.
* Miller's youngest son was born with Down Syndrome.
* He claimed to be a life-long atheist.
* Miller was found in contempt of court when he would not name suspected communists during Congressional hearings in 1957.

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