



Ship of Fools

By Katherine Anne Porter

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The story takes place in the summer of 1931, on board a cruise ship bound for Germany. Passengers include a Spanish noblewoman, a drunken German lawyer, an American divorcee, a pair of Mexican Catholic priests. This ship of fools is a crucible of intense experience, out of which everyone emerges forever changed. Rich in incident, passion, and treachery, the novel explores themes of nationalism, cultural and ethnic pride, and basic human frailty that are as relevant today as they were when the book was first published in 1962.

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Ship of Fools By Katherine Anne Porter Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

The title of this book is a translation from the German of *Das Narrenschiff*, a moral allegory by Sebastian Brant. The author read it in Basel in the summer of 1932 when she had still vividly in mind the impressions of her first voyage to Europe. She took for her own this simple almost universal image of the ship of this world on its voyage to eternity.

About the Author

Katherine Anne Porter (1890--1980) was a Pulitzer Prize-winning American journalist, essayist, short story writer, novelist, and political activist. She pulled herself up from a life of hardship, dislocation, and severe loss in rural Texas to become a major American author and one of the most compelling literary figures of the twentieth century. Her first and only novel, *Ship of Fools*, was published in 1962 and became the bestselling novel in America that year, bringing her national literary fame. In 1967 she was awarded the American Academy of Arts and Letters Gold Medal for Fiction.

Grace Conlin (1962-1997) was the recording name of Grainne Cassidy, an award-winning actress and acclaimed narrator. She was a member of the Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company in Washington, DC, and won a Helen Hayes Award in 1988 for her role in Woolly Mammoth's production of *Savage in Limbo*.

From [AudioFile](#)

Porter's passengers are extremely diverse in nationality, age, class, education and experience. Grace Conlin does a splendid job portraying them. S.G.B. (c)AudioFile, Portland, Maine

Users Review

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Veronica Roberts:

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