

# Ray Douglas Bradbury

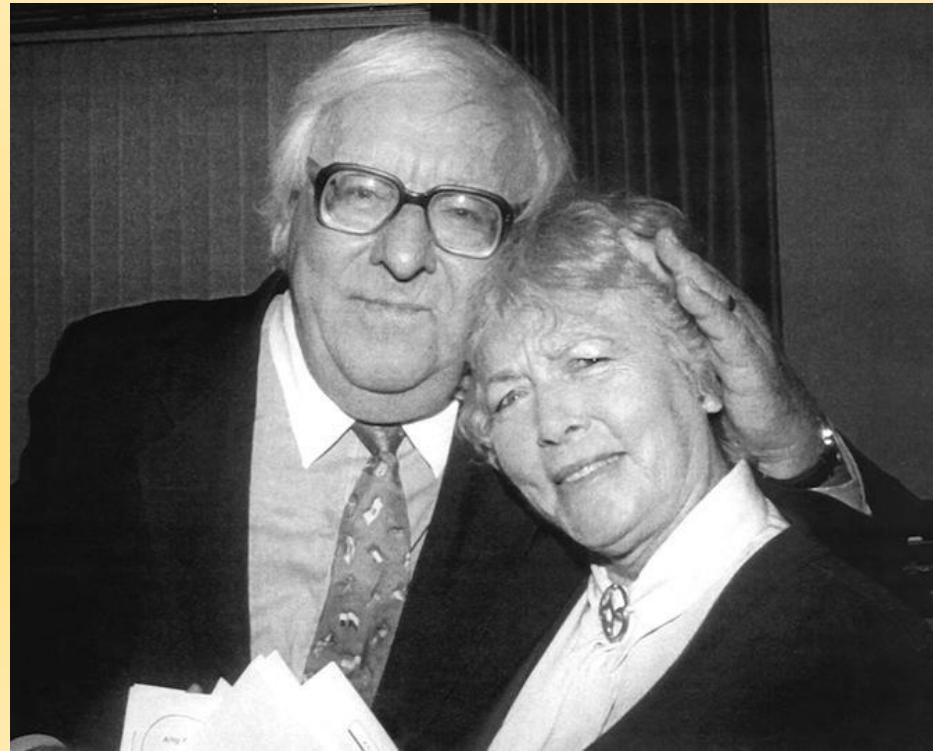
(1920-2012)





Bradbury was born on August 22, 1920 in Waukegan. In 1931, at the age of eleven, young Ray began writing his own stories. The country was going through the Great Depression, and sometimes Bradbury wrote on butcher paper. The Bradbury family moved to Los Angeles, California, in 1934. In Beverly Hills, he often visited the science fiction writer Bob Olsen as well as friendship while Bradbury was a teenager. They shared ideas and would keep in contact. Bradbury was related to the American Shakespeare scholar Douglas Spaulding. He was also descended from Mary Bradbury, who was tried at one of the Salem witch trials in 1692.

Ray Bradbury was married to Marguerite McClure. they had four daughters: Susan, Ramona, Bettina and Alexandra. Though he lived in Los Angeles, Bradbury never obtained a driver's license but relied on public transportation or his bicycle. He lived at home until he was twenty-seven and married. His wife of fifty-six years, Maggie, as she was affectionately called, was the only woman Bradbury ever date. Bradbury was a strong supporter of public library systems, and helped to raise money to prevent the closure of several in California due to budgetary cuts. He iterated from his past that "libraries raised me", and shunned colleges and universities, comparing his own lack of funds during the Depression with poor contemporary students.

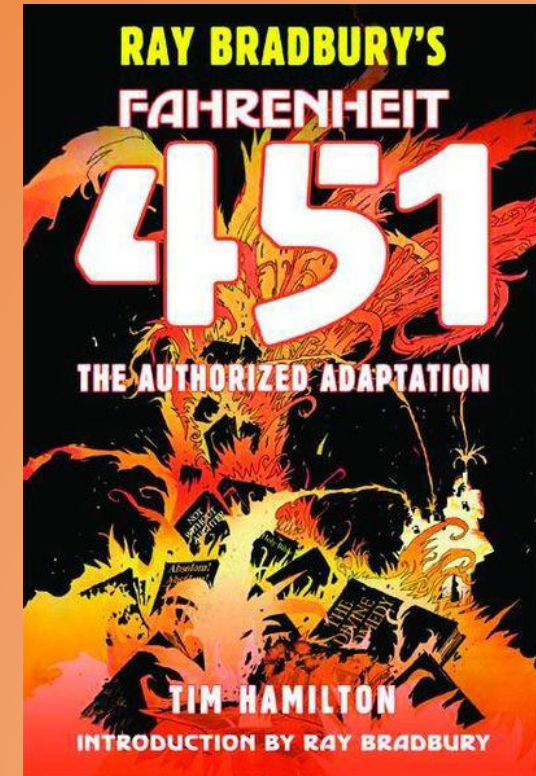


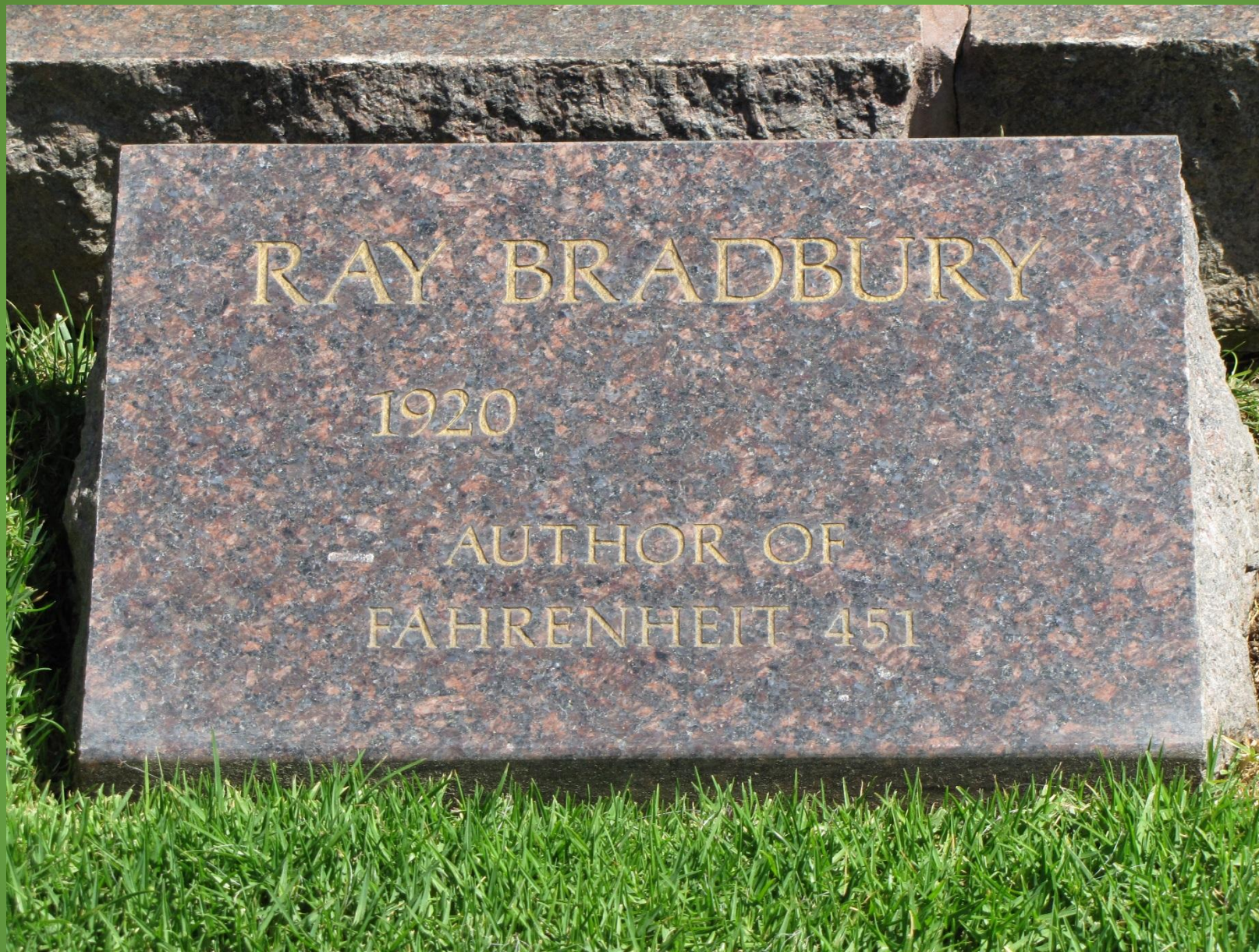
# Literature

Bradbury was a reader and an ironic writer throughout his youth. In 1932, one of Bradbury's earliest influences was Edgar Allan Poe. At age twelve, Bradbury began writing traditional horror stories and said he tried to imitate Poe until he was about eighteen. At the time, his favorites were also Edgar Rice Burroughs and Burroughs' John Carter of Mars series, as well as comic books. When he was seventeen, Bradbury read stories published in Astounding Science Fiction.

## The most famous Bradbury's books:

- Fahrenheit 451
- The Martian Chronicles(1950)
- The Illustrated Man(1951)
- Something Wicked This Way Comes(1961)





Bradbury died in Los Angeles, California, on June 5, 2012, at the age of 91, after a lengthy illness