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"Chasing Young Hemingstein"

I am an inveterate rabbit chaser. Because of a lifelong interest in the African continent - it's people, politics, animals and geography - it was not unusual that Marilyn and I were in Kenya in February 1988 participating in a medical conference. One weekend we had free time and since tours were available to Masai Mara, Abedare and Amboseli game-parks - take your choice - we chose Amboseli. Amboseli lay just above the border of Tanzania, about 4 hours south of Nairobi and 4,000 feet lower in altitude. It was also just 2 degrees off the equator. Beyond the border lay Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa's tallest peak, 19,700 feet high, snowcapped, an extinct volcano rising up out of a plain. As we drove into the park the temperature increased. Shimmering heat waves rose from the yellow dirt, creating the mirage of a lake. Towering cumulus clouds obscured the mountain summit but with an occasional glimpse of snow as they drifted past. As we drove on green meadows appeared on either side of the dirt road and herds of animals spotted the wide plain. There were ostrich, wildebeeste, zebra, various antelope, cape buffalo, tommy gazelle and more elephants than you can imagine. A small breeze blew up and as the sun started its descending arc in the West the clouds drifted away and blue skies backlit the rounded Kibo peak as it stood proud and pristine, aloof and condescending, majestic and supreme. Certainly it could be the throne of God gazing down on his lesser creatures. I remembered a phrase "somewhere in the snows of Kilimanjaro there lies the dried and frozen carcass of a leopard, no one has explained what the leopard was seeking at that altitude". It came back. From Hemingway. "The Snows of Kilimanjaro." I need to reread that. It will have more meaning now that we have actually seen the mountain. Three months later, long after having returned home and well recovered from the jet lag, the whole Kenya trip a rapidly fading memory, we were showing slides one night of animals and the mountain in the

background when my memory tickler kicked in. I soon located a book of 50 short stories by Hemingway which included *The Snows*, however I finished the entire book before realizing it. An even more interesting story about Africa was "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber". It told of a man's loss of courage in the face of eminent danger while on a big game hunt, his wife's loss of respect for him as a man and then his ultimate triumph over fear but with a jarring unexpected ending. Who was this writer, the man Ernest Hemingway? He obviously loved Africa, knew Africa and had been to Africa. His descriptions were too true to life to have been mere imagination or to have come from a casual observer. Perhaps other books and stories would tell me more about him. He won a Pulitzer prize for "The Old Man and the Sea" back 30 years ago as well as a Nobel prize for literature. He died in 1961 by his own hand after a mental illness. He lived in France after WWI, one of Gertrude Stein's so-called lost generation.

Next on the reading list was "The Sun Also Rises" followed by "A Farewell to Arms", "A Moveable Feast", "The Torrents of Spring", "The Fifth Column and Four Other Stories", "Death in the Afternoon", "For Whom the Bells Toll", "Across the River Into the Trees", "A Dangerous Summer", "The Garden of Eden", "To Have and Have Not" and a Biography by Carlos Baker. Although only a sampling, it gave a good cross section of his later works. Since Hemingway has been examined by many literary critics, it would be difficult to add anything new. Perhaps a digest of findings and a few opinions of my own after having read his works would be acceptable. More than any writer I have encountered his personal experiences in life along with the personalities of his friends and acquaintances and the events which happened to them appeared rather thinly disguised later on in his writings. It was even necessary for Scribners to place disclaimer in the front of several of his books, that the people represented were merely fictional and were not intended to describe any living person. His writing reflected and refracted his experiences with some element of autobiography present in practically everything he wrote. To me the younger Hemingway from 1918 to 1940 was a much more appealing

figure than the latter man from 1941 to 1961 after he had become famous, more impressed with himself, more dedicated to the economic side of writing, somewhat paranoid, even before his mental illness, and jealous of his position in American literature. There was little middle ground - he either liked you or hated you. If he hated you or had a fit of black anger, he was ready to fight in a moment, no matter the location or situation. Life was a battle, a tragedy, and only those who had been bloodied and shown courage in the process were worthy of his respect. A wounded ex-soldier was his brother, regardless of which side he had fought on. Ernest liked to hunt, fish, drink, box and make love. Bullfighting was an obsession and war exhilarating. Some have said that he was deathly afraid of fear itself and he strove to overcome it by placing himself in dangerous situations. On occasion he showed sheer bravado and often mixed fact with fiction after the events had transpired. However, under extreme stress he documented great bravery on more than one occasion. He was extremely sensitive to literary criticism and became quite paranoid about this. Ernest had a great deal of difficulty in relating to women, including his four wives - Hadley, Pauline, Martha and Mary, the latter three having displaced their predecessor after first having become his paramour. He never had a daughter but always wanted one. In later life he enjoyed the company of younger women, each of whom he referred to as daughter and like to be called by them "Pappa". He particularly disliked his mother whom he blamed for his father's suicide and ungallantly remarked "If an international alltime bitch contest were held, she would undoubtedly win the blue ribbon."

Hemingway appealed to men because he liked to do the things generally considered manly. He was an excellent shot and particularly adept at wing shooting but also could plug a nickel or penny in mid air with a .22 rifle. He frequently got doubles and triples and had a great shotgun collection. Not uncharacteristically his final act was to place the twin barrels of a favorite Boss .12 gauge shotgun against his forehead and pull both triggers. He loved to fish, both for fresh water trout and deep sea fishing but his greatest joy was fishing for marlin in the Caribbean where he spent many hours on his boat Pilar,

when living in Cuba and Key West or on frequent cruises out of Bimini. He enjoyed writing from a variety of locales and in addition to Paris, Spain, Italy, Switzerland and Austria, loved the American West, particularly Wyoming, Idaho and Montana. He owned homes in both Key West and later near Havana in Cuba. Another of his favorite spots was northern Michigan which was the site of the family farm and summer cottage. He was only 7 weeks old when the family first went to the great north woods and the family cottage on Walloon Lake near Petrosky, Michigan. The family odyssey took place each summer. In teenage years he ranged far and wide from the family compound all over northern Michigan and the upper peninsula, camping, canoeing and fishing as well as doing farm work. These experiences formed the basis for the Nick Adams stories in which Ernest appeared as Nick, his father as Doctor Adams and the various indians, farm workers, lumberjacks, waitresses and other characters as themselves.

Ernest Miller Hemingway was born in Oak Park, Illinois on 7-1-99, the second child and first son of Dr. Ed and Grace Hall Hemingway. His grandfathers had both fought in the Civil War and one brought back a Confederate mini ball as a permanent souvenir in his thigh. Oak Park was a suburb of Chicago, definitely upper middle class, with an excellent school system. A young architect by the name of Frank Lloyd Wright started his career there. Ernest was exposed to the arts by his mother who took her brood into Chicago for symphony concerts, the opera, plays and the Chicago Art Institute. Doctor Ed, a medical doctor, communicated his love of nature to Ernest and taught him how to hunt and fish, clean game and to shoot and handle a gun. Most of the memories he had of his father were those of the outdoors in Michigan. The Hemingway family were communicants at the Third Congregational Church in Oak Park where Grace was choir director. Ernest probably never established a firm relationship with his maker and although he became a Catholic to please his second wife, he later became hostile to the Roman church which had supported the Fascists during the Spanish Civil War.

Oak Park High school was blessed with an excellent English department and both Miss Fannie Biggs and Miss Margaret Dixon were outstanding teachers, the former in imaginative writing and the latter in the technical aspects. Ernest played cello in the school orchestra, took dancing lessons under protest, delivered a local weekly newspaper, and as a senior, lettered in football at tackle. His favorite nickname was Hemingstein without any antiSemitic connotations. Ernest was a weekly contributor to the school newspaper, the Trapeze, and often used Ring Lardner, a writer for the Chicago Tribune as his style model.

Following high school graduation in June 1917 Ernest showed no interest in college and wanted to go into the Army but could not pass the physical because of poor vision in the left eye. He was able to get a job as a cub reporter on the Kansas City Star at \$15.00 a week. An older writer advised him to write by writing and the best subjects were those drawn from his personal experience. Even then, Ernest had a passion for becoming a good writer and hoped that newspaper reporting would teach him to write with accuracy, immediacy and economy of phrase. The Star experience was a real education in all three. The associate city editor, Pete Wellington, took the novice writer under his wing and Ernest learned rapidly. The city beat to which he was assigned, the police station, train station and General Hospital, gave him good insight into the seamy side of life. The older writers were a source of information and he constantly quizzed them on the art and science of writing. With six months experience under his belt, Ernest wanted to go experience the war but, of course, he could not go into combat because of poor eyesight. Another young reporter, Ted Brumbeck had returned from France where he had served with the American Field Service driving Red Cross ambulances. In the spring they both signed up for the Red Cross Ambulance Corps and shipped out to Italy. The time was April 1918. The U.S. Marines had just taken Belleau Wood, Big Bertha was shelling Paris daily and the AEF was arriving in greater force in France to shore up the allied cause. After a week in the City of Lights they went by rail with a group of 150 Red Cross drivers through the Alps into Northern Italy to the Austro-Italian arena

of conflict. After a brief stop in Milano, the Section 4 drivers went on to the Dolomite Alps, north of Vicenza where they drove bulky Fiat ambulances with a large Red Cross on the top, up and down the hairpin turns of the mountains, evacuating the wounded. When Austrian pressure shifted to the Piave River valley north of Venice volunteers were needed to man the Red Cross canteens and Ernest transferred there eager to see action. After being in Italy for only 6 weeks and while carrying supplies to the men in the trenches, an Austrian projectile exploded nearby splattering Ernest with shrapnel and severely injuring two soldiers near him. While carrying one of them to safety on his back and despite his own wounds, he was struck by a machine gun slug in the left leg and knee but somehow managed to carry the man 500 yards to safety. He was evacuated to a field hospital near Treviso where some of the shrapnel was removed and then he was sent by a slow hospital train to Milano for hospitalization at a Red Cross hospital there manned by English and American nurses. While undergoing multiple surgeries on his knee and leg and convalescing, he fell in love with one of his nurses, Agnes Von Kurosky. It was his first love affair. The Chicago area newspapers carried news about the local boy who was also the first American injured in Italy. A more lasting result of his convalescence under relatively pleasant circumstances, was a taste of cognac, cigarettes and the European view of life so different from his white, Anglo-Saxon Protestant background in Illinois. He also encountered an Irishman named Chink Dorman-Smith, a veteran of 4 years combat duty with the British Army at an officers club. They philosophized about the meaning of life, the behavior of men under fire and personal courage, themes which would recur time and again in his future writings. They became lifelong friends. On returning home to Oak Park, Illinois, a war hero at age 19, he greatly matured and cut a dashing figure in his custom tailored Italian Army outfit with Sam Brown belt, cape and cane. The accommodation to civilian life was very difficult and he could not get along with his mother at all. A thinly disguised account of this was later listed in the short story "Soldier Home" in which he appeared as Krebs. The long distance love affair by letter was suddenly terminated when Agnes fell in love with an Italian officer. After a summer in Michigan with hunting, fishing and

recuperating from his war wounds, he and a young waitress apparently mutually seduced each other and true to form he later wrote about it in the short story "Up in Michigan". Among the summer dwellers there was a rich family from Toronto who invited Ernest to go to Toronto to serve as companion for their son. This led to an introduction to the Toronto Star. He hung around so often that the editor finally offered him a chance to write. After several pieces, Ed Cranston, the editor, gave him a byline and concluded that he could write in good, plain Anglo-Saxon English with humor, both prize attributes. Ernest contributed feature stories for the star for the next 6 years and continued to write for them when he went back to Michigan for the summer of 1920. It was then Hadley Richardson entered his life. She was 28, single and had a small patrimony. As a summer guest of a girlfriend, she was very much taken by the young writer and after 3 weeks in Michigan they continued to carry on a weekly correspondence. Ernest went to Chicago and stayed with bachelor friends where he obtained a job as a writer for the Cooperative Commonwealth, a slick paper monthly which paid a handsome \$40.00 a week. His friends were all aspirant writers and they worked during the day, pounded the typewriters at night and discussed writing at all hours. Sherwood Anderson often dropped by and talked about the expatriate group of writers in Paris. Meanwhile the romance bloomed with his trips to St. Louis and hers to Chicago. They finally were married in September. Sherwood Anderson and his wife returned from France after a visit and encouraged the newlyweds to go to Paris on the left bank for some serious writing. The rate of exchange was favorable and they could live on Hadley's patrimony and articles which Ernest contributed to the Toronto Star. Anderson wrote letters of introduction to his good friends Gertrude Stein, James Joyce and Ezra Pound. They were all established writers who wanted to help the younger writers get a start. The Hemingways were very excited and sailed to France by way of Spain. Their first apartment was on the fourth floor in the lower rent district with a music hall down below with racket which blared all night long. They led a fairly austere life. Ernest wrote in the mornings, often walked in the Luxembourg Gardens in the afternoons and visited with Stein, Joyce and Pound at night. They all helped with his writing and were happy to make constructive suggestions. He also became friends with

the foreign newspaper correspondent's delegation. Several of his articles were being published in the Toronto Star which added to their meager income. He was dispatched by the Star to cover an economic conference in Genoa and northern Italy where he saw the beginnings of Italian Communism and the rise of fascism. In Milano he interviewed the Italian editor of the Popolo de Italia, a man by the name of Benito Mussolini, leader of the Blackshirts. In addition to trips around France, the young couple also hiked through the Rhineland and Black Forrest and he wrote articles describing events in post war Germany. When violence erupted in the near East the Star ordered him to Constantinople to cover the Greco-Turkish conflict and after spending several weeks there fighting bed bugs, malaria and diarrhea, he gathered information to write movingly about the plight of the refugees. A peace conference in Lausanne followed and here he met Lincoln Stefens who critiqued his writing and William Ryall of the Manchester Guardian who gave him an in depth appraisal of the European political situation. When Hadley came for a visit she packed all of his writings except for three short stories in a valise but it was stolen in transit at the Gare de Lyon in Paris. It was a very bitter pill for him to swallow and Ernest was at a very low point in his career. He did happen to meet Edward O'Brian editor of "The Best Short Stories of 1923" who accepted "My Old Man" to be included in the collection. The Hemingways went to Cortino D'ampezzo where the sharp mountain air revived his creativity. Ernest worked hard on upgrading his declarative sentences to sharp, well written paragraphs, constantly re-writing, polishing and improving. The writer was gaining experience and expertise. Gertrude Stein recommended that he go to Spain to gather fresh material so he and Hadley went to Pamplona in Navarre near the Basque country. Hadley was very happy to escape the ghetto and enjoy the cool mountain air and trout streams. The Feast of St. Fermin was an annual celebration in July and attracted the best bulls and bravest bullfighters in Spain. It was a week of fireworks, feasting, religious parades, special masses, dancing, drinking and most of all bullfighting. The color, drama and fanfare of the experience made a lasting impression on Ernest and he became a real bullfighting aficionado. It was the first of 8 or 9 trips on the bullfighting circuit from Pamplona, Seville, Zaragoza, Valencia, Madrid and the other major arenas. After he went back to Paris for final polishing on his first exclusive monograph, "Three Stories and

Ten Poems", Hadley became pregnant and wanted her child to be born in the Western hemisphere. While Ernest covered several assignments for the Toronto Star in the U.S. and Canada, Hadley remained in Toronto and on October 10 John Nicanor Hemingway aka Mr. Bumby, was born, a healthy young man. Ernest rapidly grew restless, however, and had almost decided it was impossible to do newspaper work and still have energy left for serious writing. When he had prepared "In Our Time" his first collection of short stories, for printing, they returned to Paris where several important events occurred. Ford Maddox Ford moved to Paris to start the Transatlantic Review and Ezra Pound had recommended Ernest for the job of assistant editor. It was primarily to publish writings of American ex-patriots in Paris and to publicize them on both sides of the Atlantic. There were Thursday afternoon literary teas where the promising young writers would meet together, drink tea, discuss writing and get to know one another. At Sylvia Beach's Book Store he also met other young writers on the left bank like David Ogden Stewart and renewed his acquaintance with John Dos Passos whom he had first met in Italy where they were fellow ambulance drivers. Harold Loeb from Chicago, part of the Loeb and Gugenheim families became a friend. Ernest soon established a pattern of writing early in the morning before Mr. Bumby was up and in the afternoon boxed, played tennis, watched 6 day bike races and attended the horse races. He was now 25 and wanted desperately not to be a good writer but a great one. He kept filling up a series of blue notebooks with sketches, sentences and beginnings. Because of the damp cold of Paris in the late Fall they went to the Austrian Alps to a small Tirol village called Schruns. Hadley skied and practiced piano, Mr. Bumby had a great time cavorting in the snow with various nannies while Ernest grew a black beard, joined the local poker group, skied and wrote. The mountain air was invigorating and, indeed, always seemed to be a good stimulus for writing. He also was in the process of selling some of his short stories. In one memorable 24 hour period he drew an ace to fill a royal flush in spades and the next morning received a cable that "In Our Times" had been selected by an American publisher. It was a delightful time but also one which portended the future. First he met Kitty and Pauline Pfeiffer, daughters of an Arkansas land baron and recent college graduates. Pauline was the Paris editor of Vogue. She was small, dark and beautiful and unimpressed with the uncouth Mr. Hemingway. Secondly, Max Perkins,

an editor of Scribners wrote him on the recommendation of Scott Fitzgerald, whom he had never met and later the association with Scribners proved to be lifelong with Max being an extremely able editor and advisor. Thirdly, he met Lady Duff Twysden, an attractive English woman with a companion named Pat Guthrie, a dissipated Scott. Fourthly, at the Dingo Bar he met Scott Fitzgerald for the first time. Ernest read and liked "The Great Gatsby" and they became close friends through the years although neither Ernest nor Zelda felt comfortable with one another. Ernest's short stories increased in length and at last he decided to embark on a novel. It would be called "Along with Youth" but after 27 pages he laid it aside in June 1925. However, the seed for "Farewell to Arms" was planted and would lie dormant for 4 years. The next annual trip to Spain was both a disaster and opportunity. The ex-patriate crew from Paris including Loeb, Smith, Duff, Pat, Ernest and Hadley went but there was tremendous conflict among the group members themselves. A new fighter named Cayetano Ordonez had been promoted from novillero that Spring and was the star of the circuit. After the Feast at Pamplona the Hemingways followed to Madrid and the Corrida de la Prinsa for more Ordonez. An idea formed in Ernest's head, Ordonez would be the hero of a new novel which would be entitled "Fiesta". The main characters were Jake Barnes, an aspirant writer, while Duff became Lady Bret Ashley, Loeb became Robert Cohn and the rest of the group at Pamplona were also mentioned, very thinly disguised. Ernest stayed in Spain and worked harder than ever before in his life. "The Sun Also Rises" was aborning. Finally he wrote "The End" in Paris Sept. 21, 1925 and only a title remains. In October "In Our Time" was published in the states with mostly excellent reviews. Ernest then turned to satire and in a rather vicious attack on Sherwood Anderson's "Dark Laughter" entitled "The Torrents of Spring" lambasted and lampooned his former friends writing. All the group in Paris objected, especially Gertrude Stein. Only Pauline Pfeffier praised the book. She was now Hadley's best friend and had changed her opinion of Ernest from turned off to impressed. Before long she was desperately in love with Ernest. The Hemingways moved to Austria for a winter of skiing and Pauline followed. Ernest continued to work on his rewriting of the Sun and also changed publishers from Liverwright to Scribners when Liverwright refused to publish "The Torrents of Spring", the lampoon on Sherwood Anderson, since they were also Sherwood's publisher. Ernest needed to go to

New York to work out the details with Max Perkins and Scribner and Pauline went with him from Austria back to Paris. Ernest did go to New York via Paris but stayed with Pauline on both ends of the trip, while Hadley and Mr. Bumby remained in Austria. They had become emotionally and physically entangled and very much in love. The group in Paris, the Archibald McLeashes, Scotts Fitzgerald and others met at Cap D'Antibes on the Riviera and the ubiquitous Pauline Pfeffier again came along to join the greater family group. It was a rather awkward situation with two women in love with the same man. This theme later came out in a posthumously published work "The Garden of Eden". It was inevitable that a separation and divorce would take place, which it did in April. In October "The Sun Also Rises" was completed and sent on to Scribners. On publication it was acclaimed in widely varying ways in the U.S. The majority were eulogistic but some were highly critical. The Paris group immediately recognized the leading characters and those pictured in unfavorable light were generally very resentful. Duff Twysden was furious at first but later stated that her only quib was that she had not, in fact, slept with the bloody bullfighter as mentioned in the novel. Ernest's parents were displeased with his mother being very outspoken. The book, however, firmly established him as a man of letters and a valuable commercial commodity for Scribners. After the divorce with Hadley became final he married Pauline Pfeffier under Catholic auspices. Ernest had been baptized by a Catholic priest in Italy, presumably the Rite of Extreme Unction, and dated his Catholic experience to that time but he never actively participated. His next publication "Men Without Women" was a collection of short stories and appeared in October. Pauline became pregnant and wanted to bear her child in the U.S. and plans were made to return stateside. Ernest had a series of unfortunate accidents and, indeed, was plagued by accidents all his lifetime. In March the idea resurfaced about a book on his war experiences in 1918. John dos Passos recommended Key West, Florida as a great place to go and write so Ernest began his contact with that city on the Keys, meeting many other people there who would later appear in other works. Joe Russell who ran Sloppy Joe's Bar and Charles Thompson, a like minded sportsman, became his fishing buddies. Piggott, Arkansas proved to be a rather dull place in July so they moved to Kansas City where Patrick Hemingway was born by C-section. Ernest grew restive and taking his young wife and son

back to Arkansas, departed to Wyoming for a session of trout fishing and writing. At the end of August the first draft was finished on his novel. He planned on returning to Key West for a re-write and decided the book would be called "A Farewell to Arms". It appeared first in Scribners Magazine in serial form before being published in hard back. With summer in Europe, fall in Wyoming and winter in Key West more short stories flowed from his pen. A second son, Gregory, was born to Pauline. In 1932 his treatise and encyclopedia on bullfighting, "Death in the Afternoon" was received with mixed reviews. Ernest had now become rather combative and defensive about critical reviews of his work and threatened punitive action against any adverse reviewers. For a lifetime he was subject to a red/black temper which violently exploded. An automobile accident in Wyoming resulted in the fracture of his right arm and leg and required almost a year for full recovery. Even in the hospital, however, he gathered more material for a short story, "The Gambler, the Nun and the Radio".

Ernest next looked to Africa and a hunting safari. They would go to Kenya and Tanganyika and engage Phillip Percival, a famous white hunter there, to guide them, Marlin fishing, which had become another obsession gave further background for "Islands in the Stream" and later on "The Old Man and the Sea" and "To Have and Have Not". Finally, in December 1934 Pauline, Ernest and Charles Thompson went with Percival, assistant hunter Ben Fouri, Droopy and M'Cola, gun bearers, heading Southwest from Machachos in Kenya past Arusha in Tanzania and on to the Serengetti plain and Ngoragora crater where literally millions of animals grazed with an accompanying group of predatory lions and leopards. The hunting was excellent and both Ernest and Pauline bagged lions. Charles Thompson, however, always seemed to get the biggest trophy. After 3 weeks Hemingway fell prey to the African's revenge, amoebic dysentery and had to be air evacuated in an open cockpit two seater biplane piloted by Fatty Pearson, a famous bush pilot. On the flight to Nairobi they had a fantastic view of Kilimanjaro. If you want a good description of the flight, read the concluding page of the Snows. While undergoing treatment and recuperating, Ernest wrote a story for the new American magazine, Esquire, for which he would be a regular contributor. It was to be the male equivalent of Vogue. He also had a cable from Cosmopolitan which offered him \$5,000 for

his short story "One Trip Across", a fine sum in those days. After returning from the hunt in a much better frame of mind, Ernest enjoyed evening campfire chats with Percival, listening to anecdotes about hunting and rehashing the days events. Bravery and cowardice came up again and again. With much more material for reflection and later on writing, evolved from these fireside discussions.

Back at Key West Ernest wangled an advance from Esquire and ordered a 38 foot fishing boat with twin screws and a diesel engine, to be named Pilar, his nickname for Pauline. It was his pride and joy and he combined daily fishing with writing. His literary friends came and went to Key West frequently and many other people curious to meet the rapidly becoming famous writer also dropped in on his doorstep. His peripatetic friend, John Dos Passos came for a visit as did Scotts Fitzgerald and his editor Maxwell Perkins. Fishing was only fair that year but in November he finished his book on Africa entitled "The Green Hills of Africa" which was deemed inferior to "The Sun Also Rises" and "A Farewell to Arms". He also continued writing on the Harry Morgan trilogy which was published in segmental form and later jacketed as "To Have and Have Not". He also wrote a short story about a writer dying from gangrene in Africa with flashbacks to Michigan, Paris, Constantinople, Austria and Wyoming, tentatively to be called "A Budding Friendship" but its new name "The Snows of Kilimanjaro" proved to be infinitely superior. While combining the Morgan trilogy in Key West Ernest met an attractive young Bryn Mahr graduate, Martha Gellhorn, who was an aspirant writer and, indeed, had published two books. She stayed on Key West after her family left, almost living at the Hemingway home. Pauline must have felt that history was repeating itself, and it actually did. The Spanish Civil War had just started and Ernest felt deep compassion and affection for the Spanish people, particularly on the loyalist side. He developed a great dislike for fascism after meeting Mussolini and followed the events which were taking place in Europe. Dos Passos, Archibald McLeash and Lillian Hellman, along with Ernest formed a corporation to make a propaganda film to be directed by a Dutch communist. Although many of Ernest's writing friends had pink leanings he was strictly a humanitarian and refused to go in their direction. He felt the only government a writer could not function under was fascism. Hemingway left for

Spain under the employment of North American Newspaper Alliance as a war correspondent but also went to make a documentary film to be shown all over the U.S. He felt that General Franco backed by Hitler and Mussolini was waging a total war against the Spanish people themselves and that the loyalists, although strongly supported and directed by the Russian communists were more sympathetic. After finally managing to arrange a visa, he was able to get to Madrid which was under blockade by the rebels and check in with the Bureau of Censorship to establish his credentials. Franco was daily shelling central Madrid from Garabitis Hill, both day and night. The children of Madrid had been evacuated. Ernest wormed his way into the Russian headquarters at the Gaylord Hotel through contacts with the Pravda reporter and was impressed by the lavish lifestyle there as compared with that of the ordinary Spaniard under seige. He became a frequent visitor and knew personally the top echelon of command. The Hotel Florida was the correspondents headquarters where they stayed at night, after going out during the week on battlefield tours. The hotel was frequently shaken by shelling at night and had a safe basement bomb shelter. There were many internationals in Spain fighting and the 11th and 12th international brigades ^{has German communists} who had fought with the Kaiser, ^{they} became his favorite outfits. There were many Americans there also. After 45 days in Spain and much film footage recorded he returned home to the U.S. by Paris to edit the film and planned to use the proceeds to buy ambulances for the loyalist cause.

In the summer of 1937 Ernest returned to Spain and found the loyalist cause was faltering. Many of his former friends and acquaintances had been killed, Bilbo and Northwest Spain had fallen. The rebels were still beseiging Madrid and, in fact, Franco held 2/3 of Spain. The Italian and German fascist governments contributed air, ground and artillery support. A trip to Zaragoza with Martha, with whom he had started cohabiting, at least demonstrated a few victories. When a lull in the fighting occurred he started to work on a three act play based in Madrid with the hero, Phillip Rawlings, a correspondent and undercover secret agent, who was a dead ringer for Ernest. He drank, fought, got into trouble and asserted his manhood. The lady reporter, Dorothy Bridges, was an exact duplicate of Martha Gellhorn. A liver ailment, probably too much booze and not enough food, caused him to

head home for Key West but after 4 months recovery he was back to the war zone. Martha Gellhorn was with him again and Pauline became extremely suspicious. The war went steadily downhill for the loyalists and finally in the Fall of 1938 Ernest himself pulled out, carrying with him a body of information and experiences for future use. A formal separation from Pauline followed and after a brief return to stateside, he went to Cuba in early 1939 to write short stories but a novel on the war was commanding his attention. On March 1 he began his story. Martha soon joined him and another chapter followed in his domestic life. A visit to Sun Valley, Idaho followed with work in the morning and fishing and hunting in the afternoon. By October he was on Chapter 18 and working smoothly. Martha left for Finland to cover the Russian-Finish War and when she returned 3 months later he was on Chapter 24. The hero, Robert Jordan, was the image of Robert Merryman of the 15th International Brigade, a former college professor at California. In April 1940 after thumbing through the Bible and Oxford Book of English prose for 2 days he found a passage by John Donne with the statement "any man's death diminishes me because I am involved in mankind and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee". Catchy titles were a real asset.

On July 13 he had Lt. Robert Jordan lying under a tree awaiting the arrival of Lt. Berendo as the book ended. For two more weeks he worked on an epilog but found that it was unnecessary. The work was finished and the word was soon out that Hemingway had another blockbuster. It was accepted by the book of the month club with a first printing of 100,000 copies and would also appear in hardback at Scribners. There were also negotiations with MGM about making a film.

Thus ends the first 23 years of Ernest Hemingway's career as an author, sportsman, boxer, traveler and man of the world. He was an outgoing, reclusive, friendly, paranoid, generous, overbearing contradiction, but when all was said and done he will be remembered as a spellbinding story teller, a real man of action and true to his own code of honor, different though it might be.