

“Language fits over experience like a straight-jacket.”

– WILLIAM GOLDING



## William Golding

Born in Cornwall, England on September 19, 1911, William Golding was a British author, poet, and playwright who is best known for his groundbreaking novel *Lord of the Flies*. From a young age, Golding was fond of writing and storytelling, eventually studying English literature at Oxford University. During the 1930s, Golding taught English and philosophy at an all-boys school, an experience that directly inspired *Lord of the Flies*. His allegorical studies of the conflict between humankind's primal and rational nature used throughout his work led critics to consider him a "dark optimist." Golding was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1983 and knighted in 1988, five years before his death.

