



RACHEL CARSON

1907-1964, UNITED STATES

Marine biologist, science writer and environmentalist known for her book *Silent Spring*.

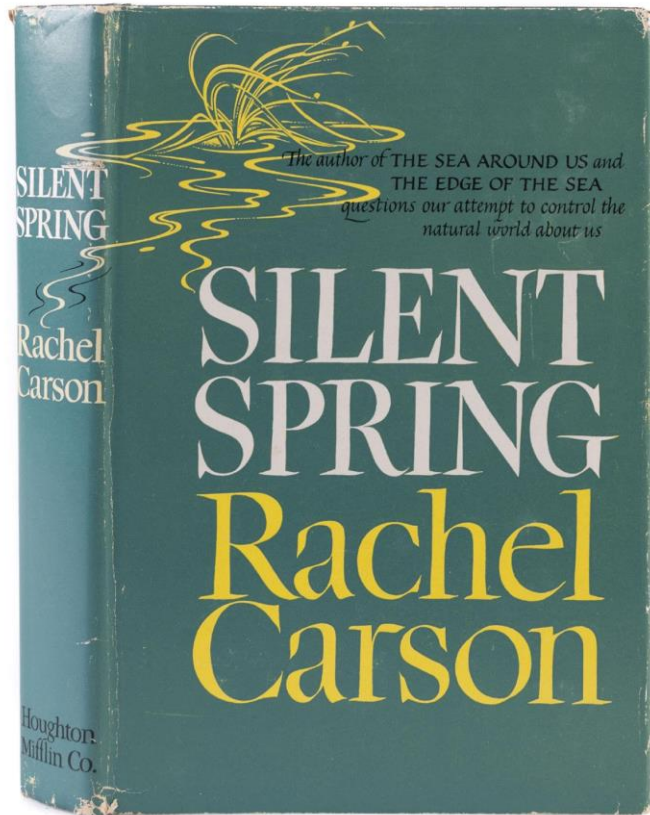
As pioneer nature writer, she wrote about marine biology, ecology and pesticides. Her books and activism raised important questions about environmental issues, and had a powerful impact on the environmental movement. For example, her writings led to the USA nationwide ban on DDT and other pesticides, and to the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Carson was awarded with the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Jimmy Carter.

HERSTORY

Rachel began writing stories very young and had her first book published at the age of 10.

SILENT SPRING



Rachel Carson. (2002). *Silent Spring*.

Widely considered the most important environmental book of the 20th century.

The overarching theme of *Silent Spring* is the powerful effect of humans on the natural world.

Humans are poisoning the biosphere through the massive use of chemicals aimed at pest and disease control.

Pesticides have detrimental effects on the environment because their effects are rarely limited to the target pests. They also enter food webs and threaten bird and fish populations, and even humans.

RELEVANT CONTRIBUTIONS

Carson, R. (1941). Under the Sea Wind. Simon & Schuster, Penguin Group.

Carson, R. (1951). The Sea Around Us, Oxford University Press.

Carson, R. (1955). The Edge of the Sea, Houghton Mifflin.

Carson, R. (1965). Silent Spring, Houghton Mifflin.

Carson, R. (1965). The Sense of Wonder, HarperCollins,

Carson, R. (1995). Always, Rachel: The Letters of Rachel Carson and Dorothy Freeman 1952–1964 An Intimate Portrait of a Remarkable Friendship, Beacon Press, ISBN 0-8070-7010-6 edited by Martha Freeman (granddaughter of Dorothy Freeman)

LOOKING
FOR MORE?

You can find more information about her story and research at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rachel_Carson

Lost Woods: The Discovered Writing of Rachel Carson, Beacon Press, 1998,
ISBN 0-8070-8547-2