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Gulliver's Travels Author Info Swift was dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin when his novel came out. Since in this book he wrote about and often harpooned-prominent political figures, he published the book anonymously. While most readers were trying like mad to find out who the author was. Swift's close friends had fun keeping the secret. London was stunned with thoughts about the author's identity, as well as those of some of his characters. Swift's dying years were a torment.

He suffered awful bouts of dizziness, nausea, deafness, and mental incapacity. In fact, Swift's harshest critics tried to discredit the Travels on the grounds that the author was mad when he wrote it. But he wasn't.

The Travels were published in 1726- and Part IV, which raised the most controversy, was written before Part III- and Swift didn't enter a mental institution until 1742. He died in 1745. The Plot Gulliver's Travels is the story about Lemuel Gulliver as he travels to the strange lands of Lilliput, Brobdingnag, the kingdom of Laputa, and the land of the Houyhnhnms.

In Lilliput people are six inches high, and Gulliver, in comparison, is a giant, or a Man-Mountain, as the little people call him. Gulliver becomes involved with the domestic problems of the Lilliputian government. The government made to deal with Gulliver. The document outlines the terms of his freedom. One of these terms is that Gulliver must help the Lilliputians in their war against Blefuscu . Gulliver steals the enemy's fleet and takes it across the harbor back to Lilliput. For a short time he's a hero.

But Gulliver intervenes in the peace talks, and gets a more profitable treaty for the Blefuscuans than they would have had gotten. After that it's  
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downhill for Gulliver. When he pee's onto a fire at the palace and there by saves the royal chambers, he is put on trial for disobeying a law prohibiting public urination. This and some other charges against Gulliver result in a conviction of high treason, punishable by blinding. Gulliver doesn't feel like having that done so he escapes to Blefuscu.

Part II, which takes place in the land of Brobdingnag. This time Gulliver is extremely small compared to the giant Brobdingnagians. After a short time as a working freak. Gulliver is rescued by the king and queen and lives a life of comfort. He spends much of his time learning the language and talking with the king about life in England. The king turns out to be as a fair, merciful ruler and a very sympathetic and humane man. Gulliver, in comparison seems petty, vindictive, and cruel like the Lilliputians. One day while on an walk with the king and queen, Gulliver's box/house is kidnapped by a bird with him inside and dropped in the sea, and is then recovered by an English ship.

Gulliver stays in England a while with his family then goes back to sea. In Part III, where Gulliver goes to the flying island of Laputa and some of its colonies nearby. His first stop is Laputa, where the people have one eye turned inward and one eye turned up to the sky. They're thinking always of their own thoughts (inward) and of other issues like mathematics, astronomy and music (upward).

They're so focused they need flappers to hit them self's on the ear to let them know someone is talking to them. The Laputans are so distracted from everyday life that they're barely aware of their wives. Because the Laputans

are bossy rulers of their colonies, and because they pay little attention to Gulliver, he gets sick of them and goes on to the island of Balnibarbi.

There Gulliver becomes friendly with Count Munodi, who is the only one on the island who lives in a nice well-built house and whose lands yield crops. The other people engaged in scientific research and do everything according to the most sophisticated way possible. Therefore their houses are in ruins and their land are the same way. Gulliver visits the Academy of the Projectors to learn more about them, and witnesses a series of totally useless, wasteful experiments.

In Luggnagg Gulliver meets the Struldbrugs, a race of people who are immortal.