Jack Kerouac was an American novelist. Read this biography to know more about his life. Jack Kerouac was a novelist who had broken all literary conventions and traditions. He was popularly known literary iconoclast and is placed beside literary stalwarts like William S. Burroughs and Allen Ginsberg. Kerouac is also regarded as the pioneer of The Beat Generation which was a group of writers who became prominent during the post World War II in America. The Beat Generation of writers (of which Kerouac was a leading figure) inspired next generation writers like Ken Kesey, Bob Dylan, Richard Brautigan, Thomas Pynchon, Lester Bangs, Tom Robbins, Will Clarke, Haruki Murakami.
Memory Babe: A Critical Biography of Jack Kerouac by Gerald Nicosia is an in-depth biography of Jack Kerouac. With Memory Babe (a childhood nickname honoring Kerouac's feats of memory), Gerald Nicosia gives us a complete biography of Jack Kerouac—an honest, discriminating and, above all, compassionate assessment. This edition is enhanced by many rare photographs never before published. 

Kerouac is said to have coined the term Beat Generation when he suggested he and his friends were beaten down in frustration at the difficulty of individual expression at a time when artists were intent on conforming. On another occasion, Kerouac said beat was derived from the word beatific, suggesting the Beats had earned intellectual grace through the purity of their lives. Whatever the origin, the Beat Generation and all it stood for was reflected in Kerouac's next novel, On the Road. The book's subject was a fictionalized Neal Cassady and the friendship they shared.

— Cite this article
Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography.