



Ernest Lawrence Thayer

Ernest Lawrence Thayer was born on August 14, 1863, in Lawrence, Massachusetts, to a wealthy family. He attended private schools as a boy, then studied philosophy at Harvard University. He was the editor and president of *Lampoon*, a Harvard literary magazine. After graduating, he moved to San Francisco and worked for the *San Francisco Examiner* writing humorous columns and poetry.

Thayer left San Francisco due to poor health and moved back to Massachusetts. He continued to write poetry, however, for several newspapers around the country. He is most famous for "Casey at the Bat," which is considered the most well-known baseball poem. The poem became so popular that it was made into a short film in 1914. Thayer remained ill for the rest of his life and did little writing, but he enjoyed reciting his famous poems for friends. He died in 1940.