

BOOK STUFF

#47 'Once you read a book you care about, some part of it is always with you.' Louis L'amour

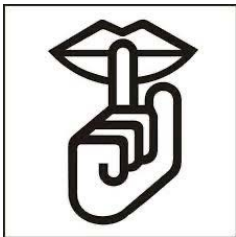


This is #50 – lets celebrate! Our fortnightly handout that we started during lockdown has turned #50. We send it to all our libraries so it can be copied and made available in the library and on the wings. We hope you've seen it around and enjoy it.

The numbers game

Fill in the blanks and give yourself extra points for the authors

1. ___ Shades of Grey
2. A Tale of ___ Cities
3. Around the World in ___ Days
4. Catch - ___
5. ___ Dalmatians
6. The Sign of ___
7. The ___ Musketeers
8. ___ Night
9. ___ Men in a Boat
10. Slaughterhouse ___



How many words is best?

Here are three stories: in 6 words, 50 words and 100 words. Which works best and why?

1. 'I saw and I stayed quiet.' Cassiopeia16

2. After the Forest Caught Fire

Bears descend from burnt mountains into town. Starving, they only want our garbage. Men on corners shout: 'Garbage now, next our jobs!' Bears preparing taxes, scanning groceries. Why not? You befriend two, take them to eat Filet-o-Fish. They lick their enormous claws clean. Full-bellied, they doze, dream memories of green. JSP Jacobs

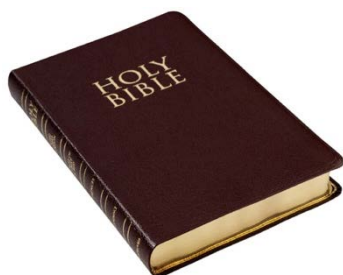
3. What Do Those Characters Want?

Well, I will tell you. They want to know why some characters get long stories while others get Micro, Sudden, Flash. Why some characters get cities or towns, streets, homes with dog houses and dogs that howl I the night. Why those homes have rooms that matter, dining rooms where plates are broken or someone opens an aged Bordeaux, bedrooms where lust gives way to murder or love. They want scenes awash in backstory, then the rush of rapids, steep falls, or floods. They want it to lead to something else. But not in a Flash. Pamela Painter

Choose a theme – maybe 'numbers'? or 'family'? or 'something lost'?– and try to write three stories around it, one of each length. Which one is hardest and why?

A 50s quiz

11. There are 50 states in the United States. Eight of them begin with the letter M. How many can you name?
12. Which of the following became the 50th state to be admitted to the United States: Hawaii, Arizona, New Mexico, Alaska
13. Of which metal is 50 the atomic number?
14. Which of these books of the Bible has 50 chapters: Exodus, Genesis, Leviticus, Numbers
15. In 1998 Martin McGartland, a former member of the IRA, published a book about his decision to inform the British security services about the IRA's activities. What was the book called: *Fifty Dead Men Walking*, *The £50 Informer*, *Fifty Pieces of Silver*, *The £50 Tout*
16. Which of these rock musicians died at the age of 50: Paul Weller, Joe Strummer, Johnny Rotten
17. Who wrote and sang '50 Ways to Leave Your Lover'?
18. What is the Roman Numeral for 50: MD, VI, C, L
19. 'Book 'em Danno' was a phrase used repeatedly in a 1970s tv police drama. Which one: Precinct 50, Hawaii 5-0, Car 54 Where Are You?
20. Published in 1950, what is the name of the first book in CS Lewis's fantasy series featuring the Pevensy children?



A poem to puzzle over

I saw no Way—The Heavens were stitched—
I felt the Columns close—
The Earth reversed her Hemispheres—
I touched the Universe—

And back it slid—and I alone—
A Speck upon a Ball—
Went out upon Circumference—
Beyond the Dip of Bell—

Emily Dickinson



Answers

1. Fifty, EL James
2. Two, Charles Dickens
3. Eighty, Jules Verne
4. 22, Joseph Heller
5. 101, Dodie Smith
6. Four, Arthur Conan Doyle
7. Three, Alexandre Dumas
8. Twelfth, William Shakespeare
9. Three, Jerome K Jerome
10. Five, Kurt Vonnegut
11. Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Missouri, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Minnesota, Maine
12. Hawaii in 1959
13. Tin
14. Genesis
15. Fifty Dead Men Walking
16. Joe Strummer, lead singer of The Clash
17. Paul Simon
18. L
19. Hawaii 5-0
20. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*



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