

Festivus 2015
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At the climax of this novel, its heroine tells a story about how she was savagely beaten up as a child before Kayla Blevins lent her a sweater and told her “Wear it home. it’ll look like a dress.” She tells that story after surrounding her head with a garbage bag full of air and racing to a mysterious box with a strange symbol on it. The setting of this novel is almost completely incinerated by a fireball when meth cook “Chef” Bushey sets off a series of explosives after being confronted by police. The townspeople in this novel split into two camps: one following corrupt car dealer Jim (*) Rennie, and one supporting journalist Julia Shumway and ex-soldier Dale Barbara. It takes place in Chester’s Mill, Maine, which becomes increasingly violent after being isolated from the outside world. For 10 points, name this Stephen King novel about a town surrounded by an invisible force field.

ANSWER: Under the Dome

A character in this novel describes how he was corrupted by Sir George Gresham at college and became a card-sharper before reforming and living a solitary life on Mazard Hill. Each section of this novel begins with an introductory chapter outlining aspects of human nature, such as “A Crust for the Critics.” Its ninth and tenth books take place at an inn in Upton, where its main character goes after preventing Northerton from assaulting the wife of Captain (*) Waters. This novel’s heroine travels to London to seek the protection of Lady Bellaston to prevent her father from forcing her to marry her neighbor Blifil. Its title character is brought up on the estate of Squire Allworthy, and eventually marries Sophia Western. For 10 points, name this comic novel about a “foundling” written by Henry Fielding.

ANSWER: Tom Jones

Two major characters in this novel both construct remarkably elaborate wooden boxes containing secret drawers which conceal important documents. One of those characters flees to America after killing Arthur Wiatte, the malevolent brother of his guardian Mrs. Lorimer. In its most famous passage, its main character drinks the blood of a panther after killing it with a tomahawk in a dark cave. This novel’s title character becomes suspicious of Clithero while attempting to solve the murder of his friend (*) Waldegrave. It was published in 1799 while its author was finishing the second part of *Arthur Mervyn*. For 10 points, name this Charles Brockden Brown novel about a troubled sleepwalker.

ANSWER: Edgar Huntly, Or, *Memoirs of a Sleep-Walker*

In one of this author’s stories, the Duke of Scaw causes havoc by replacing all politicians with lookalike angels. In another of his stories, Harvey and Eleanor Bope buy models of municipal buildings and figures like John Stuart Mill for their sons to play with, only for their sons to use them to simulate warfare. This author of “Ministers of Grace” and “The (*) Toys of Peace” also wrote a story in which Clovis tries to give J. P. Huddle the title treatment by convincing him that his house will be the site of a massacre. He wrote a story about a young lady who terrifies Framton Nuttel by saying that her aunt calls to relatives who died going hunting through the title aperture. For 10 points, name this British author of “The Unrest Cure” and “The Open Window.”

ANSWER: Saki [or H. H. Munro]

A group of sailors in this novel sings “Who’s the little rodent that’s getting more than me? F-U-C-K-E-Y, Y-O-U-S-E.” A chapter of this novel ends with the dancer Melanie L’Heuremaudit not wearing a special chastity device onstage, causing her to be impaled and killed by a giant metal pole. Another of its chapters graphically describes how Schoenmaker performs a nose job on Esther Harvitz, the roommate of Rachel Owlglass. It ends with its major characters traveling to (*) Malta in the company of Paola Maijstral, who gives another character a manuscript containing the “confessions” of her father Fausto. This novel is divided into chapters following characters like Pappy Hod and Pig Bodine and chapters about Stencil’s search for the mysterious title figure. For 10 points, name this first novel by Thomas Pynchon.

ANSWER: V.

This author repeated the refrain “They don’t come by ones. They don’t come by twos. But they come by tens” in a poem protesting injustice narrated by Old Lem. This author wrote a riff on the song “Frankie and Johnny” in which Frankie is a halfwit who seduces Johnny and laughs after her father lynches him. One of this author’s recurring characters goes to Atlanta and learns that white people passed laws preventing blacks

from laughing outside unless they laugh in a telephone booth. That character also appears in a poem where St. Peter sends him to hell, only for him to realize that hell looks an awful lot like the Deep South. He edited the anthology *The Negro Caravan*, and first gained fame after publishing *Southern Road* in 1932. For 15 points, name this amazing African-American poet who created the character Slim Greer.

ANSWER: Sterling Brown

The author of this book secretly dug up Thomas Paine's corpse and planned to smuggle it from America to England, resulting in the loss of Paine's remains. In *England and the English*, Edward Bulwer-Lytton caricatured the author of this book as "William Muscle." This book lambasts interest on the national debt as "dead weight," and repeatedly mocks authorities who believe that the English population is increasing. It often discusses the benefits provided by its author's instructional manual (*) *Cottage Economy*. Serialized in the *Political Register* from 1822 to 1826, it consists of short essays that begin by describing the beauty of nature before attacking Pitt and Canning. For 10 points, name this bestselling collection of writings by William Cobbett about his travels through the English countryside.

ANSWER: Rural Rides

In *The Nightmare of Reason*, Ernst Pawel often quotes this piece of writing to explain aspects of its author's childhood. It describes how its author's sisters Elli and Ottla succeeded in leaving the orbit of its addressee, which it calls a man of "health, appetite, loudness of voice, eloquence, self-satisfaction, worldly dominance, endurance, presence of mind, knowledge of human nature." This text discusses a memory of its author calling for water and then being traumatized at being taken outside in his undershirt. It accuses its addressee of leaving him completely unprepared to deal with sexuality, and was prompted by the dissolution of its author's engagement to (*) Felice Bauer. Critics often use this piece of writing to analyze its author's short story "The Judgment." For 10 points, name this letter explaining its author's fear of his relative Hermann.

ANSWER: Franz Kafka's letter to his father Hermann

The first chapter of Karen Fang's *Romantic Writing and the Empire of Signs* uses this essay as an example of the combination of consumerism and imperialism in the Victorian era. A character in this essay reminisces about "pleasant walks to Enfield, and Potter's Bar, and Waltham" and the pleasure of eating strawberries when they were a rare treat. That character, the author's cousin Bridget, contrasts those simple pleasures of the days when they were "not quite so rich" with the multitude of ways that wealth has diminished their lives. This essay opens by describing "those little, lawless, azure-tinctured grotesques" that float about, "uncircumscribed by any element," on the title (*) objects. It begins with its author stating "I have an almost feminine partiality" for the title objects. Published in the *Essays of Elia*, for 10 points, name this essay by Charles Lamb about some exotic dishes.

ANSWER: "Old China"

At the climax of this novel, the antagonist disguises himself as a scared boy named Jed, who is defeated by being hugged and loved until he disappears. Its prologue notes that it takes place during "the October week when [its protagonists] grew up, and were never so young anymore...." Those characters are terrified when a balloon rises over their houses at night and marks their roofs with silver paint. In homage to Melville, it begins with a lightning-rod salesman arriving in (*) Green Town, Illinois. A character in this novel carves a crescent moon representing his smile on a wax bullet, causing the death of the Dust Witch. Its main characters, Jim Nightshade and Will Holloway, are tempted by a merry-go-round that can add or subtract years from a person's life after the arrival of Cooger and Dark's sinister carnival. For 10 points, name this Ray Bradbury novel whose title finishes a line from *Macbeth*.

ANSWER: Something Wicked This Way Comes

A scene in this film introduces Miss Redneck New Jersey, who sits down on a massive throne before being hit in the face with a pie. Another scene simulates an orgy between one man and a group of beautiful women on "Lucky Airlines." Its main narrative, which is shot in black and white, features two midgets playing the President and his wife, who have a threesome with a photographer. The surname of Don Cheadle's character in *Boogie Nights* comes from this film, whose title character is played by Arnold Johnson. This movie's title character decides not take money from companies selling cigarettes, war toys, or alcohol after renaming his

organization Truth and Soul, Inc. For 10 points, name this independent 1969 movie directed by (*) Robert Downey, Sr about a black man who becomes the head of an ad agency.

ANSWER: *Putney Swope*