**Subselects**

Subselects are another form of join. Instead of one large query, you’re inserting the results of a second query, called the child query, into the original, or parent query. This is similar to the command substitution in shell scripts you learned about in [Chapter 12](ch12.html#ch12), “[Shell Scripting](ch12.html#ch12).”

As a simple example, one can retrieve the author IDs where the author’s name is Sean with a simple query:

[**Click here to view code image**](ch13_images.html#p385pro03a)

sqlite> **SELECT id FROM author WHERE first\_name = "Sean";**  
id  
-----------------------------------  
1

Those results can be injected into another query, such as to find all the books written by that author:

[**Click here to view code image**](ch13_images.html#p385pro04a)

sqlite> **SELECT title FROM book**  
**WHERE author\_id**  
   **IN (SELECT id FROM author WHERE first\_name = "Sean");**  
title  
-----------------------------------  
Wireless All In One For Dummies  
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The subselects are enclosed in parentheses and usually given as an argument to a **WHERE column IN** clause. The subselect must return only one column; otherwise, you might get an error like this:

[**Click here to view code image**](ch13_images.html#p386pro01a)

Error: only a single result allowed for a SELECT that is part of an  
expression