

Reading@PMGHS

“Reading gives us some place to go when we have to stay where we are”
Mason Cooley, 1927-2002

POETRY PIE

These are the Hands
by Michael Rosen

These are the hands
That touch us first
Feel your head
Find the pulse
And make your bed.

These are the hands
That tap your back
Test the skin
Hold your arm
Wheel the bin
Change the bulb
Fix the drip
Pour the jug
Replace your hip.

These are the hands
That fill the bath
Mop the floor
Flick the switch
Soothe the sore
Burn the swabs
Give us a job
Throw out sharps
Design the lab.

And these are the hands
That stop the leaks
Empty the pan
Wipe the pipes
Carry the can
Clamp the veins
Make the cast
Log the dose
And touch us last.

Written for the 60th
anniversary of the NHS

BOOK TRIVIA

Fahrenheit 451 is a dystopian novel by American writer Ray Bradbury, first published in 1953. Often regarded as one of his best works, the novel presents a future American society where books are outlawed and "firemen" burn any that are found.

The book was named after the temperature that paper burns. Ray Bradbury called a local fire station to ask and he was put on hold while the firemen burned a book and then reported back the temperature.

OPENING LINES

(answers at bottom of the page)

1. From which classic dystopian novel:
'It was a bright cold day in April and the clocks were striking thirteen.'
2. From which Charles Dickens novel about the French Revolution:
"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way."
3. From the first of a series that has sold more than 500 million copies:
'Mr. and Mrs. Dursley of number four, Privet Drive, were proud to say that they were perfectly normal, thank you very much.'

Can you match these opening lines to their Shakespeare plays?
A 'When shall we three meet again, in thunder lightning or in rain?'
B 'Two households, both alike in dignity / In fair Verona where we lay our scene'
C 'Who's there?'
D 'Now is the winter of our discontent / Made glorious summer by this son of York'

Answers
1 1984 by George Orwell
2 A Tale of Two Cities
3 Harry Potter by JK Rowling
A Macbeth
B Romeo and Juliet
C Hamlet
D Richard III

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