



LOVE AT ALL AGES, 1959

Moyer Bell, 2001

(Hazel Bell, 2017)

CHAPTER 1

page 2 **The Anglo-Bengalee Disinterested Loan and Life Assurance Company** is established by Montague Tigg in **Dickens's** *Martin Chuzzlewit*.

p.3 **Snip, snap**, snout, this tale's told out. – Ending to some fairy tales.

p.4 **Sibyl** was a priestess of Apollo who prophesied.

pp. 4-5 **Sylvia** and **Dr. Ford** become emotionally involved at the end of *The Demon in the House*. AT wrote to Margaret Bird in March 1960: 'I had already—to my horror—realised how old everyone is now—including Sylvia Gould'.

p.5 William Pitt, 1st Earl of **Chatham**, 1708-78, English statesman

William **Pitt**, 1759-1806, twice Prime Minister

Edmund **Burke**, 1729-97, British statesman

The Palace of Westminster, the medieval royal palace used as the home of the **British parliament**, was largely **destroyed by fire** on 16 October 1834.

Gothic architecture is a style of architecture that flourished in Europe during the high and late medieval period. Its characteristics include the pointed arch, the ribbed vault and the flying buttress.

The **Gordon Riots** of 1780 began as an anti-Catholic protest in London against the Papists Act of 1778. The protest evolved into riots and looting.

p.6 “A book about Queen Victoria's Coronation by someone with a name like Turtle” – an in-chuckle. Mrs Gould is referring to Thirkell's own *Coronation Summer*, published 1939.

George Knox is “hurt because no one recognized his apt quotation” – I can't either.

Grow old along with me! / The best is yet to be, / The last of life, for which the first was made: – opening lines of “Rabbi Ben Ezra” by Robert Browning

p.7 **Sputnik 1** was the first artificial Earth satellite. The Soviet Union launched it into an elliptical low Earth orbit on 4 October 1957.

p.8 “I have said that poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings: it takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquillity.”

– William Wordsworth in *Preface to Lyrical Ballads*, 1800

p.9 **Peter Pan** is a character created by novelist and playwright J. M. Barrie (1860–1937). He is a free-spirited and mischievous young boy who can fly and never grows up.

p.10 Jesus said unto him, No man, **having put his hand to the plough**, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God. – *Luke 9.62*

But **exhort one another** daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. – *Hebrews 3,13*

A Complete Concordance to the Holy Scriptures, generally known as **Cruden's Concordance**, is a concordance of the King James Bible that was created by Alexander Cruden (1699–1770).

p.12 George Sampson first courted Bella Wilfer, then transferred his attentions to her sister Lavinia, in Dickens's *Our Mutual Friend*.

Brave New World – Words spoken by Miranda at the end of *The Tempest*, Shakespeare. Also used, ironically, as title of novel by Aldous Huxley, 1932

p.13 ‘When Mrs F's Aunt lived at Hendon Barnes's gander was stolen by tinkers’
– from Dickens, *Martin Chuzzlewit*

The *Almanach de Gotha* was a directory of Europe's royalty and higher nobility.

p.17 The Franks were the earliest of all the Germanic invaders to fix themselves in the Roman province of Gaul. When their King, Clovis was told of the way Jesus suffered death on the cross, he grasped his battle-ax fiercely and exclaimed: "If I had been there with my Franks I would have revenged his wrongs!"

– Can this be the historical episode of which George is speaking?

p.18 But let my due feet never fail / To walk the studious cloister's pale, / And love the high embowed roof, / With antique pillars massy proof, / And **storied windows richly dight, / Casting a dim religious light.**

– from “Il Penseroso” by John Milton

Moab is my **wash pot**; over Edom will I **cast** out my **shoe**. – Psalm 60.8

Bluebeard – a French folktale character who lived in a sinister castle

p.20 I don't think any of these artists and artworks are real?

Panurge is one of the principal characters in *Gargantua and Pantagruel* by François Rabelais. He is an exceedingly crafty knave, libertine, and coward.

Woolcott Jefferson Van Dryven married Betty Dean.

p.22 **Simony** is the act of selling church offices and roles.

p.23 “Younger than she are **happy mothers made**” – Paris in *Romeo and Juliet* Act I scene 2

p.26 you, at such times seeing me, never shall— / With arms encumbered thus, or this headshake, / Or by pronouncing of some doubtful phrase, / As “Well, well, we know,” or “We **could an if we would**,” / Or “If we list to speak,” or “There be an if they might,” / Or such ambiguous giving out—to note / That you know aught of me. – *Hamlet* Act I scene 5

p.27 Mrs **Gamp** is the midwife in Dickens’s *Martin Chuzzlewit*.

Why dost thou converse with ... that **roasted Manningtree ox** with the **pudding in his belly**...? – *Henry IV Part 1* Act II scene 4

Manningtree is a town in Essex, noted for its Whitsun fair, where an ox was roasted whole.

p.28 “Often she thinks, Were this wild thing wedded, / More love would I have and much less care” – from “Love in a Valley” by George Meredith (1828-1909)

CHAPTER 2

p.31 A **heave offering** is a kind of offering. The word is generally used in the positive sense of an offering to God.

p.33 **Lucina** – title of Juno as patroness of child-bearing and new-born infants

p.36 **Balliol** and **Oriel** are both colleges of Oxford University.
Alfred **Lammle** and **Fascination Fledgeby** – in Dickens’s *Our Mutual Friend*

p.37 **Dido** and **Aeneas** – in Virgil’s *Aeneid*

p.39 John **Constable** 1776-1837, English landscape painter
De mortuis nil nisi bonum – say nothing but good about the dead

p.44 "And as Jesus passed forth from thence, He saw a man sitting at **the receipt of custom**, named Matthew; and He saith unto him, Follow me." – Matthew 9.9

p.46 **Tony**’s adventure with the **pram** happens in *The Demon in the House*.

p.48 Ay, now am I in Arden; the more fool I; **when I was at home, I was in a better place**. – **Touchstone** in Shakespeare’s *As You Like It* Act II scene 4

p.50 "**Frankie and Johnny**" is a traditional American popular song telling the story of a woman, Frankie, who finds that her man Johnny was making love to another woman and shoots him dead.

p.51 **Br'er Fox** is a fictional character from the *Uncle Remus* folktales adapted and compiled by Joel Chandler Harris.

The **Battle of Fort Sumter** (April 12–14, 1861) was the bombardment of Fort Sumter near Charleston, South Carolina by the Confederate States Army, and the return gunfire and subsequent surrender by the United States Army that started the **American Civil War**.

"**All Quiet Along the Potomac Tonight**" is a poem by American writer Ethel Lynn Beers, first published in 1861.

- p.52 Sir John Everett **Millais** 1829-96, English painter
- p.53 Is she kind as she is fair? / For **beauty lives with kindness**:
 – from poem, “Silvia”, in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* by William Shakespeare
Brave New World – Words spoken by Miranda at the end of *The Tempest*,
 Shakespeare. Also used, ironically, as title of novel by Aldous Huxley, 1932
HE that is down **need fear no fall**;
 He that is low, no pride; – song by John Bunyan (1628-88)
- p.55 In England, patrilineal ultimogeniture (i.e., inheritance by the youngest surviving male child) is known as **Borough English**, after its former practice in various ancient **English boroughs**.

Robinson Crusoe, novel by Daniel Defoe, 1719

CHAPTER 3

- p.63 **Time** travels in diverse paces with diverse persons. I’ll tell you who time ambles withal, who time trots withal, **who time gallops** withal, and who he stands still withal. – **Rosalind** in *As You Like It* Act III scene 2
- Time, like an **ever-rolling stream**, / Bears all its sons away.
 – from hymn by Isaac Watts
- p.64 **Tare and Tret** is the arithmetical rule used for calculating the net weight of goods by subtracting the tare and the tret from the gross weight. **Tare** is an allowance made from the gross weight of goods for the box, bag or other wrapping in which the goods are packed. **Tret** is an allowance of 4 lb. in every 104 lb. of weight, made as compensation for loss by waste.
- “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; 25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed **tares** among the wheat and went his way.” – *Matthew* 13.24
- p.65 *The Ingoldsby Legends* by R. H. Barham, 1837
- p.66 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, **from whence cometh my help**. – *Psalms* 121
- p.67 *A Group of Noble Dames* short stories by Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)
- p.68 **Sir John Franklin** 1786-1847, British explorer
 “Everything is **Peaches Down in Georgia**” – song by Grant Clarke, 1918
- p.69 “The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the **Monstrous Regiment** of Women” is a polemical work by the Scottish reformer John **Knox**, published in 1558.
- p.70 *The Heir of Redclyffe* by Charlotte M. **Yonge**, 1853
- p.71 **bear your body more seeming, Audrey** – Touchstone in *As You Like It* Act V scene 4
- p.73 **George Borrow**, 1803-81, wrote several books about **gypsies**.

- p.74 **hectic** is a medical term meaning face flushed with fever – as explained on pages 260-1.
- p.76 "See on their glowing **cheeks / Heavenly the flush! – Ah, So the silence was! / so was the hush!**"
– lines at the end of *Bacchanalia; or, The New Age* by Matthew Arnold
Bartlett's Familiar Quotations is an American reference work that is the longest-lived and most widely distributed collection of **quotations**. The book was first issued in 1855.
- p.79 **Cherry Ripe** is an English **song** with words by Robert Herrick (1591–1674) and music by Charles Edward Horn (1786–1849).
My Willie stands on board of a timbo / And where to find him I do not know / But for seven long years I am constantly waiting / For to cross **the Bay of Biscay O**
- THE DEATH OF NELSON** Recitative: O'er Nelson's tomb, with silent grief oppress'd,/Britannia mourn'd her hero, now at rest; / But those bright laurels ne'er shall fade with years,/ Whose leaves are water'd by a nation's tears.
- Horatio **Nelson**, Viscount Nelson, 1758-1805, English naval officer
- pp.80-1 The Mertons dined with the Pomfrets, and Ludovic sang in Aubrey Clover's production, in *What Did It Mean?* (1954). **Coronation Summer** would have been the perfect title for that book, which is centred on celebrations of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, but AT had already used that title in 1939 for a book about the coronation of Queen Victoria.
- p.81 "The husband listens and sings. But the wife remembers."
– I can't trace the original which is being parodied.
- "Oh, I am a **cook and a captain bold**, / And the mate of the *Nancy* brig, / And a bo'sun tight, and a midshipmite, / And the crew of the captain's gig."
– from "The Yarn of the 'Nancy Bell'" in the *Bab Ballads* by Sir William Schwenck Gilbert, 1869
- pp.81-2 Dukes with the lovely maiden dealt, / **DUKE BAILEY** and **DUKE HUMPHY**, / Who ate her winkles till they felt / Exceedingly uncomfy.
– from "**The Periwinkle Girl**" in the *Bab Ballads* by W. S. Gilbert
- p.82 The Diana of Versailles is a marble statue of the Greek goddess Artemis, also known as Diana à la Biche, **Diane Chasseresse** ("Diana Huntress"), Artemis of the Chase, and Artemis with the Hind.
- p.83 There would be doubt, hesitation and pain, / Forced praise on our part—the glimmer of twilight, / **Never glad confident morning again!**
– from "The Lost Leader" by Robert Browning
Giles Foster first visited Pomfret Towers and met Sally Wicklow in *Pomfret Towers*.
- p.84 Je t'attraperai bien, dit-il. Et **voici comme**. – from "L'OURS ET L'AMATEUR DES JARDINS" by Jean de La Fontaine

you, at such times seeing me, never shall— / With arms encumbered thus, or this headshake, / Or by pronouncing of some doubtful phrase, / As "Well, well, we

know,” or “We **could an if we would**,” / Or “If we list to speak,” or “There be an if they might,” / Or such ambiguous giving out—to note / That you know aught of me. – *Hamlet* Act I scene 5

Genesis first book of the Old Testament
Anthony Trollope 1815-82, English novelist

p.85 Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. – *Ecclesiastes* 12.6

Thy hand, great Anarch! lets the curtain fall, / And universal darkness buries all.
– last lines of *The Dunciad* by Alexander Pope
Mrs Proudie – Bishop Proudie’s wife in Trollope’s Barchester series

p.86 *canard* is the French word both for a **duck** and a false report.

Mrs Gamp is the nurse/midwife in Dickens’s *Martin Chuzzlewit*.

CHAPTER 4

p.87 No, good mother. Here’s **metal more attractive**. – *Hamlet* Act III scene 2

p.88 *Famous and Decisive Battles of the World – The Essence of History for 2500 Years* by Charles King, 1899

p.90 Oh, who will smoke my meerschaum pipe When I am far away?
– from *Song-book Of The Commandery Of The State Of Pennsylvania* -

p.91 George **Crabbe**, 1754-1832, wrote “The Village”, painting a grim picture of rural poverty.

Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,
Their homely joys, and destiny obscure;
Nor Grandeur hear with a disdainful smile
The short and simple annals of the poor.
– from *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard* by Thomas Gray (1716-71)

Alfred **Mantalini** in Dickens’s *Nicholas Nickleby* refers to “a **dem'd moist, unpleasant** body”.

p.92 "**Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit-Bag**, and Smile, Smile, **Smile**" is a World War I marching song, published in 1915 in London, written by George Henry Powell under the pseudonym of "George Asaf".—
A **British Warm** is a type of woollen overcoat based on the greatcoats worn by British Army officers in the First World War.

p.93 And the LORD spake unto the fish, and it vomited out **Jonah** upon the dry land.
– *Jonah* 2.6

lepper, Irish, not to be confused with leper – what does this mean?

p.94 **Randolph Caldecott**, 1846-86, illustrated books for children.

Mrs. Mary Blaize – An Elegy on the Glory of her Sex: R. Caldecott's Picture Books, 1885

- p.95 *laudator temporis acti* – a praiser of past times, from Horace’s Odes
 Earth and sea bear England **witness if he lied** who said it.
 – from “England, An Ode” by Algernon Swinburne
Slough of Despond – from *Pilgrim’s Progress* by John Bunyan
- p.100 That I, the son of a dear father murder’d,/ Prompted to my revenge by heaven and
 hell,/ Must, like a whore, **unpack my heart with words,** / And **fall a-cursing, like a
 very drab,** / **A scullion!** – *Hamlet* Act II scene 2
- When Jack Tars growl, I believe they growl with a big big D—
 But the strongest oath of the **Hot Cross Bun was a mild "Dear me!"**
 – from “The Bumboat Woman’s Story” in the *Bab Ballads* by W. S. Gilbert
- p.101 **Eye of newt and toe of frog, ... Root of hemlock digg’d i’ the dark**
 – the witches in *Macbeth* Act IV scene 1
- Wackford Squeers, schoolmaster of Dotheboys Hall in Dickens’s *Nicholas
 Nickleby***
Rosa Dartle from Dickens’s *David Copperfield*
Ivanhoe by Sir Walter **Scott**, 1819
- p.102 “The Facts in the Case of M. Valdemar” short story by **Edgar Allan Poe**, 1809-49
- p.103 **Old Mother Slipper Slopper** from “The Fox”, a traditional English folk song
 In 390 BC Juno's geese on the **Capitol** warned **Rome** of the Gallic attack.
- p.104 In Sheridan's *The Critic, or A Tragedy Rehearsed*, a preposterous tragedy called
The Spanish Armada is presented by the author, Mr Puff. The characters include
 Elizabeth I's chief minister who is supposedly too weighed down with affairs of state
 to communicate with anything but a portentous **nod**.
- p.105 *Alea jacta est* – the die is cast. Attributed to Julius Caesar in 49 BC as he led his
 army across the Rubicon river in Northern Italy.
- pp.106-7 "Where wicked youths in crowds are stowed / He shall unquestioned rule, /
 And have the run of Hackney Road / Reformatory School!"
 – last verse of “The Two Ogres” in the *Bab Ballads* by W. S. Gilbert
- pp.108-9 **drab baulo, dukkerin** – Romany terms
- p.109 A **Gorgio** is the gypsy name for a non-gypsy
- p.111 **Archimedes** Greek mathematician born c. 287 BC. By displacing water in his
 bath he discovered the principle of **specific gravity** (relative density).
Euclid c.300 BC, Greek mathematician, compiled *Elements*, a collection of
 postulates, rules, theorems and problems which form the basis of Euclidean
 geometry.

CHAPTER 5

- p.114 **Jaufré Rudel**, born in the 12TH century in Blaye, was an Aquitan troubadour. He
 wrote love songs in which he sings of "courtly love," that is to say, love impossible
 and hopeless.

p.119 The Dale twins are christened in *County Chronicle*.

p.120

Ah, **past the plunge of plummet,**
In seas I cannot sound,
My heart and soul and senses,
World without end, are drowned.

– from “A Shropshire Lad” by A. E. Housman

p.121 “Everything is **Peaches Down in Georgia**” – song by Grant Clarke, 1918

p.123 James Graham restores the **fish-feeding bell** in *County Chronicle*.

p.127 Of all the girls that are so smart,/ There's none like pretty Sally! / **She is the darling of my heart, / And she lives in our alley!**

– song by Henry Carey (1687? - 1743)

That which hath made them drunk hath **made me bold.** – **Lady Macbeth** in *Macbeth*
Act II scene 2

The die had been cast. – see above, p.105

p.128 An *éminence grise* is a powerful decision-maker or adviser who operates "behind the scenes" or in a non-public or unofficial capacity.

Look not thou upon the wine when it is red ... Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. – *Proverbs* 23.31-33.

A VERY subtle joke by Lord William!

p.129 **le mot juste** "The right word" in French. Coined by 19th-century novelist Gustave Flaubert, who often spent weeks looking for the right word to use.

p.132 “The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the **Monstruous Regiment** of Women” is a polemical work by the Scottish reformer John **Knox**, published in 1558.

p.133 Why dost thou converse with ... that **roasted Manningtree ox** with the **pudding in his belly...?** – *Henry IV Part I* Act II scene 4

Manningtree is a town in Essex, noted for its Whitsun fair, where an ox was roasted whole.

In the spring of 1812, the British army under Sir Arthur Wellesley, Earl of Wellington, had driven the French from Portugal. With Napoleon obsessed by the invasion of Russia, Wellington turned toward Spain. The way was barred by two fortresses, Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz. When Ciudad Rodrigo collapsed after a short siege, Wellington prepared to break the fortress **of Badajoz.**

The sack of Troy as recounted in Homer’s *Iliad*.

Who trusted God was love indeed / And love Creation’s final law—/
Tho’ **Nature, red in tooth and claw** / With ravine, shriek’d against his creed—
– from *In Memoriam* by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

p.134 A **philippic** is a fiery, damning speech, or tirade.

p.135 English Civil War, 1642–1651

I have become **all things to all men**, that I might by all means save some.

– *1 Corinthians* 9.19

"He was a man that had **the root of the matter in him**; but he was one of the most troublesome pilgrims that ever I met with in all my days."

– from *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan

p.137 Royal Botanic Gardens, **Kew**, Richmond, south London

other literary references on that page all self-explanatory?

CHAPTER 6

p.140 note copied from relusions for *Before Lunch*:

Princess Louisa Christina of Cobalt-Hatz (sometimes Herz)-**Reinigen** appears also in *ESR* p.246, *Three Score* pp. 12, 42, *JC* p.167. Cobalt= Coburg – HT suggests a play on Windsor & Newton watercolours. Queen Victoria's mother was a Princess of Leiningen, while Queen Adelaide was a Princess of Saxe-Meiningen; Reinigen means "cleaning", hertz means "heart", hatz means "hounding", or is it just supposed to be "hats"? Jo March, of course, smartened up old hats by painting them...!

p.141 **Juliana Starter** talks constantly of Kornog in **Before Lunch**.

Julia Margaret **Cameron** 1815-79, photographer

The **Thin Red Line** (Battle of Balaclava), an 1854 military action during the Crimean War, with the British soldiers in red uniforms.

Nous avons changé tout cela – We have changed all that. from *Le Médecin malgré lui* by Molière (1666), Act ii, scene 6.

p.142 **Mary Thorne** in Trollope's novel, *Doctor Thorne*, 1858

Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy, 1891

p.143 That Air and Harmony of Shape express,/ Fine **by Degrees, and beautifully less**.

– from "Henry and Emma" by Matthew Prior, 1774

p.144 **Augustus Moddle** in Charles Dickens's *Martin Chuzzlewit*

le mot juste "The right word" in French. Coined by 19th-century novelist

Gustave Flaubert, who often spent weeks looking for the right word to use.

p.145 **Pliny the Elder**, 23-79 AD, Roman scholar

The **Dickens Fellowship**, founded in 1902, is a worldwide association of people who share an interest in the life and works of Charles Dickens.

p.146 **The Mitre** is an inn in Oxford.

p.147 **Dorothea** marries **Casaubon** in *Middlemarch* by George Eliot, 1871

p.149 "**All Quiet Along the Potomac Tonight**" is a poem by American writer Ethel Lynn Beers, 1861.

Under the bludgeonings of chance

My head is bloody, **but unbowed**.

– from "Invictus" by W. E. Henley (1849-1903)

p.154 The king's daughter is **all glorious within**: her clothing is of wrought gold.
– *Psalm* 45.1

Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, **and the halt, and the blind.** – *Luke* 14.21

Forty years on, growing older and older, / **Shorter in wind, as in memory long,** / Feeble of foot, and rheumatic of shoulder, / What will it help you that once you were strong? – song written by Edward Ernest Bowen and John Farmer in 1872.

Battle of Waterloo 1815; **Battle of Ramillies** 1706; **Senlac** – a hill in Sussex, site of the Battle of Hastings, 1066

Jephthah came to Mizpeh unto his house, and, behold, his **daughter** came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances. – *Judges* 11.34

p.155 **Nunc Dimittis** Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace.

p.156 James McNeill Whistler claimed that once when he uttered a witticism, Oscar Wilde said “I wish I had said that”. Whistler replied, **‘You will, Oscar, you will’**.
Gentles, perchance you wonder at this show. / But wonder on, **till truth make all things plain.** – *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* Act V scene 1

p.157

And slowly answer’d Arthur from the barge:
“The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils himself in many ways,
Lest **one good custom should corrupt** the world.
– from *The Passing of Arthur* by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

p.158 When learning’s triumph o’er her bar’brous foes / First reared the stage, immortal Shakespeare rose; ... Existence saw him spurn her bounded reign, / **And panting Time toiled after him in vain.**
– “Prologue at the Opening of Theatre in Drury Lane” by Samuel Johnson, 1709-84

p.159 **Echos du temps passé** collection of songs by Jean-Baptiste Weckerlin, 1821-1910

p.160 Far from the madding crowd’s ignoble strife
They kept **the noiseless tenor of their way.**
– from *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard* by Thomas Gray

"Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of **Core.**" – *Jude* 11

So they gat up from the tabernacle of **Korah, Dathan, and Abiram**, on every side: and Dathan and Abiram came out, and stood in the door of their tents, and their wives, and their sons, and their little children. – *Numbers* 16.27

Jude the Obscure, novel by **Thomas Hardy**, 1896

p.162 What seest thou else / **In the dark backward and abysm of time?**
– Prospero in *The Tempest* Act I scene 2

p.163 This passage occurs in *Private Enterprise*:
“Yes, damn it, I shall,” said Mr. Birkett. “And there I shall sit in my damned comfortable house, like Cicero in his retirement at Tusculum, working away at the **Analects of Procrastinator**, and wondering all the

time if you are handling the Masters' Common Room properly.”

– and in *County Chronicle*:

[Mr. Birkett] was well-known to fall into a kind of author's frenzy while working on the **Analects of Procrastinator** ...

– but no one has yet managed to trace them.

Could it be a Thirkellian joke? Anecdotes about putting things off, delaying?

No idea who is supposed to have written a book about them and declined a knighthood.

The **Rohans** :

Louis de Rohan (1635-1674)

Guy-Auguste de Rohan-Chabot (1683-1760).

Louis Rene Edouard, Prince of Rohan, 1734-1803

Duc I do not deign / King I can not / Prince of Bretagne / De Rohan I am.

« It would be the reply of vexation that the Vicomte de Rohan would have made when he was offered the title of Duke ("King, then, Duke no deign, Rohan am").

Indeed it was, before the birth of Louis XIII heir presumptive of the crown of Navarre. To calm his spite, King Henry IV gave him the title of Duke, whom he finally accepted. The true motto of the Rohan is "A plus", which can be translated as "always higher". » – I don't know to which of the Rohans this refers.

- p.164 In Xanadu did Kubla Khan / A stately pleasure-dome decree: / Where Alph, the sacred river, ran / Through **caverns measureless to man** / Down to a sunless sea.
– by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

The **Arundel** Society Collection of chromolithographs of masterpieces of European art was created by the Arundel Society between the years 1848 and 1897.

St Ursula was a princess who, at the request of her father King Dionotus of Dumnonia in south-west Britain, set sail to join her future husband, the pagan governor **Conan Meriadoc** of Armorica, along with 11,000 virginal handmaidens.

- p.165 The **Medici** Society Ltd, founded in 1908, publishes Open Edition **Prints**.

CHAPTER 7

- pp.167, 171 Noel's fascination with Peggy Arbuthnot is recorded in *Private Enterprise*.

- p.168 For Mercy has a human heart, / Pity a human face, / And Love, **the human form divine**, / And Peace, the human dress. – William Blake (1757-1827)

“**Maud** is not seventeen, But she is tall and stately.”

– *Maud* by Alfred Lord Tennyson.

- p.170 **William Barnes**, 1801-86, collected *Poems of Rural Life in the Dorset Dialect* (1844)

But **beauty vanishes; beauty passes**; /However rare rare it be; /And when I crumble, who will remember / This lady of the West Country?

– Walter de la Mare (1873-1956)

a generation that knew not **Joseph** – *Exodus* chapter 1

Mr Wopsle plays **Hamlet** in Dickens's *Great Expectations*.

- p.171 Mrs Gamp is the nurse/midwife in Dickens's *Martin Chuzzlewit*.
The title *Sonnets from the Portuguese* was given because “the Portuguese” was Robert Browning's pet name for Elizabeth, because of her olive skin.

- p.172 Cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war!
– from Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* Act III scene 1

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee, / **Casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea.** – hymn

p.173 Mrs Fanny Dombey, **first wife of Mr Dombey**, according to his sister did not **make an effort** in giving birth to Paul, and consequently died. – *Dombey and Son*

p.174 Again, AT shows growing sensitivity to cold.
St. Francis referred to his body as **Brother Ass**.

p.177 All memories of events in *What Did It Mean?* See note to pages 80-1.
She never told her love, / But let concealment, like a worm i' the bud, /
Feed on her damask cheek. – Viola in **Twelfth Night** Act II scene 4

As sweet, and musical, / As bright **Apollo's lute, strung with his hair**
– Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost* Act IV scene 3

p.178 Thus I **stand like** a Turk with his doxies all round.
– from *The Beggar's Opera* by John Gay, 1728
Garrick Between Tragedy and Comedy is a portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds, 1760

p.179 **HMS Birkenhead** was wrecked on 26 February 1852. There were not enough
serviceable lifeboats for all the passengers.
The Raft of the Medusa painted by Théodore Géricault, 1819
Why does Lady Pomfret seem to reprove Noel Merton?

p.180 **Woodstock**, novel by Sir Walter Scott, 1651
Jonah and the whale – *Jonah* chapters 1 and 2.
It vomited out Jonah upon the dry land – *Jonah* 2.6

Down she came and found a boat / Beneath a willow left afloat, / She loosed the
chain, and down she lay; / The broad stream bore her far away, / **The Lady of
Shalott.** – by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

p.183 **Miss Betsy Trotwood** in Dickens's *David Copperfield*

p.186 The **Vox humana** (Latin for "human voice") is a short-resonator reed stop on the
pipe organ, so named because of its supposed resemblance to the human voice.
The **oboe stop** is a single-rank reed stop used as both a solo stop and a chorus reed,
widely used in French romantic organ music.

p.190 L--D! said my mother, what is all this **story** about?-/ **A COCK and a BULL**, said
Yorick – And one of the best of its kind, I ever heard.
– The last lines of *Tristram Shandy* by Laurence Sterne, 1759
Rottingdean – autobiography again, childhood holidays at Rottingdean, Sussex

p.191 'You needn't, Oscar, you needn't' – see above, p.156
Echos du temps passé collection of songs by Jean-Baptiste Weckerlin, 1821-
1910
Lord Burleigh's nod see above page 104.

p.192 music as divine mathematics – a specific quotation?

p.193 — Ah! so the silence was! / **So** was the **hush!** – see above, p.76
Max Beerbohm 1872-1956, English writer and caricaturist

CHAPTER 8

- p.195 Then all for Women, Paining, Riming, Drinking, / Besides ten thousand freaks that died in thinking. – from *Absalom and Achitophel* by John Dryden, 1681
Sally Pomfret first came to stay at Pomfret Towers in *Pomfret Towers*.
- p.197 Lupin Pooter in *The Diary of a Nobody* by George and Weedon Grossmith, 1892
“**Etiquette**” in the *Bab Ballads* by Sir William Schwenck Gilbert, 1869
- p.198 **Ruth and Tom Pinch** in Dickens’s *Martin Chuzzlewit*
Lord Stoke gives Edith Graham the pearls he had offered to Edith Thorne in *Never Too Late*.
- p.200 So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. That is why it was called **Babel**—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. – *Genesis* 11.9
- p.203 **Stokey Hole** – see *The Demon in the House*
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn novel by **Mark Twain**, 1884
Thomas Hardy 1840-1928, novelist and poet
- p.205 **Weltschmerz** German, a feeling of melancholy and world-weariness.
- p.206 *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* by Edward **Gibbon**, published 1776-1788
Ferdinand **Gregorovius** wrote the 8-volume *History of the City of Rome in the Middle Ages* (1859–1872)
- p.207 Marcel **Proust** wrote the 12-volume *À la recherche du temps perdu* 1913
Thrift, thrift, Horatio! The funeral baked meats / Did coldly furnish forth the marriage tables. – *Hamlet* Act I scene 2
Mr Micawber’s advice in Dickens’s *David Copperfield*
- p.208 “**May God have mercy upon your soul**” is a phrase used within courts in various legal systems by judges pronouncing a sentence of death.
“**I pity his ignorance and despise him.**” – is indeed spoken by **Fanny Squeers** in *Nicholas Nickleby* by Charles Dickens.
Ivan Sergeyevich **Turgenev** 1818-83, Russian author.
The **Dickens Fellowship**, founded in 1902, is a worldwide association of people who share an interest in the life and works of Charles Dickens.
Thirkell frequently refers to the “**snipe-flights**” of Laura’s conversation, after the zigzag flight of the snipe.
- p.209 The Middle and **Inner Temple** are two of the four Inns of Court, or Honourable Societies of Barristers.
A Queen's Counsel (postnominal **Q.C.**), or King's Counsel (postnominal **K.C.**) during the reign of a king, is an eminent lawyer (mostly barristers).
Sarah **Margaret Fuller** Ossoli (810–50), commonly known as **Margaret Fuller**, was an American journalist, critic, and women's rights advocate.
Thomas **Carlyle**, 1795-1881, British man of letters.
The slang use of “**beak**” for a magistrate or justice of the peace has not been satisfactorily explained. The earlier meaning, which lasted down to the beginning of the 19th century, was “watchman” or “constable.” According to *Slang and its Analogues* (J. S. Farmer and W. E. Henley, 1890), the first example of its later use is

in the name of "the Blind Beak," which was given to Henry Fielding's half-brother, Sir John Fielding (about 1750). Thomas Harman, in *Caveat or Warening for commensursitors*, 1573, explains harmans beck as "counstable," harman being the word for the stocks. Attempts have been made to connect "beak" in this connexion with the Old English beag, a gold torque or collar, worn as a symbol of authority, but this could only be plausible on the assumption that "magistrate" was the earlier significance of the word.

p.210 **Captain Hawdon and Lady Dedlock** – in Dickens's **Bleak House**

Euclid c.300 BC, Greek mathematician, compiled *Elements*, a collection of postulates, rules, theorems and problems which form the basis of Euclidean geometry.

Hawfinch – I am baffled.

pp.210-11 **Gordian knot** – Giles is becoming very like the young Tony Morland.

p.216 **Do right and fear no man** – c1450 *Proverbs of Good Counsel in Book of Precedence* ?

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn novel by Mark Twain, 1884

p.218 **Roedean School** is an independent day and boarding school on the outskirts of Brighton, East Sussex. Connection with nuns, Huguenots?

Or **Mayfield School** (formerly convent) in East Sussex, a restored medieval bishop's palace?

p.220 **Euterpe** the muse of lyric poetry

CHAPTER 9

p.222 Moab is my **washpot**; over Edom will I cast out my **shoe**. – Psalm 60.8

p.223 Young Blight made a great show of fetching from his desk a long thin manuscript volume with a brown paper cover, and running his finger down the day's appointments, murmuring, 'Mr Aggs, Mr Baggs, Mr Caggs, Mr Daggs, Mr Faggs, Mr Gaggs, Mr Boffin. – from Dickens's *Our Mutual Friend*

p.224 AT shows a close eye for current and period **fashions**.
novel published 1959 – a reference to **computers**!

p.225 **Jennifer Gorman** was despised by Clarissa Graham and Mrs Grantley in *The Old Bank House* (1949), but now has become a nice English girl, *bien élevée*.

p.226 The **Almanach de Gotha** was a directory of Europe's royalty and higher nobility, also including the major governmental, military and diplomatic corps.

p.228 Now the Dowager's conversation resembles a "**snipe-flight**", after the zigzag flight of the snipe, as we are so often told that Laura Morland's does .

p.230 **Sir Walter Scott** 1771-1832, Scottish author

p.233 **Oscar Wilde** 1854-1900, British author
William Holman Hunt 1827-1910, British painter

p.234 **Aesop** fl. 6th cent. BC, author of Greek fables

Catullus 84-54 BC, Latin poet

The **Death of Chatterton** – an oil painting by the English Pre-Raphaelite painter Henry Wallis, 1856

p.235 *The Last of England* – painting by Ford Madox Brown, 1855

Henry Kingsley 1830-76, wrote *Geoffrey Hamlyn* and *The Hillyars and the Burtons*, novels set in Australia which Alfred Deakin (Prime Minister of Australia 1903-10) called “A Charter of Australia”.

Charles Kingsley 1819-75 wrote *The Water-Babies*.

p.236 **suttee** is an obsolete Hindu funeral custom whereby a widow immolates herself on her husband's pyre or commits suicide in another fashion shortly after her husband's death.

p.237 Catullus 84 is a humorous poem about a man named Arrius, who insisted on placing the "h" sound in his words in order to sound more Greek, and thus more educated. Catullus loathed this and wrote this poem to express his deep dislike of this ploy.

p.239 *Mulier cum non olet* ... actually means “A woman smells best with no smell”. Very tactful of Mr. Oriel, and clever of AT!

p.240 *Wake Up and Dream* is a musical revue of 1929 with a book by John Hastings Turner and music and lyrics by Cole Porter and others.

CHAPTER 10

p.246 **Jean Baptiste Cavaletto** – Dickens's *Little Dorrit*

p.248 **Empedocles** c490–30 b.c, was a Greek philosopher and statesman who was reputed to have committed suicide by throwing himself into the volcano, Mount Etna. Mathew Arnold wrote a long poem on the subject.

you, seeing me, never shall— / With arms encumbered thus, or this headshake, / Or by pronouncing of some doubtful phrase, / As “Well, well, we know,” or “We **could an if we would**,” / Or “If we list to speak,” or “There be an if they might,” / Or such ambiguous giving out—to note / That you know aught of me. – *Hamlet* Act I scene 5

p.251 Just the place for a Snark! I have said it thrice: / **What I tell you three times is true.** – from *The Hunting of the Snark* (1874) by Lewis Carroll

p.252 **Sara** giving birth at **ninety** – *Genesis* chapter 17

p.260 **hectic** see also page 74

p.261 William Lindsay Windus painted a picture, “**Too Late**” in 1858.
Malvolio the steward in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*

p.263 We're just two little girls from Littlerock / We lived on the wrong side of the tracks – opening lines of song sung by Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell in the 1963 film, **Gentlemen Prefer Blondes**

p.264 **Woolcott Jefferson Van Dryven** married Betty Dean.

p.266 George Gordon, 6th Baron **Byron**, 1788-1824, had a club foot.

p.267 The Ziegfeld **Follies** were conceived and mounted by Florenz Ziegfeld. The first **Follies** was produced in 1907 at the roof theatre Jardin de Paris.

The Sun's rim dips; / the stars rush out: **At one stride comes the dark;**
– from *Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by **S. T. Coleridge**

p.268 **obiter dicta** an opinion given incidentally

p.269 **Miss Betsy Trotwood** in Dickens's *David Copperfield*

CHAPTER 11

p.276 events in *What Did It Mean?* again.

p.278 **laudator temporis acti** – a praiser of past times, from Horace's Odes, as page 78

Quintus **Horatius Flaccus** 65-8 BC, Roman poet and satirist

p.279 **et patati et patata** and so on, and so forth, etcetera
Mlle **Chiendent** – dogtooth; may also mean hangover
Fräulein **Katzenjammer** – hangover. Subtle linguistic jokes again!

p.280 Gotthold **Lessing** 1729-81, German author
Pierre **Corneille** 1606-84, French dramatist
Johann Wolfgang von **Goethe** 1749-1832, German author
Die Wahlverwandtschaften is a novel by Goethe, 1809.
Heinrich **Heine** 1797-1856, German poet

p.282 Rudyard **Kipling** 1865-1936, English author
"A Code of Morals" by Kipling includes the lines:
For clear as summer lightning-flare, the husband's warning ran: –
"Don't dance or ride with General Bangs – a most immoral man."

p.284 **Burke's Landed Gentry** provides a detailed listing of families once holding or who continue to own large estates of land; first published in 3 volumes 1833–35, updated and re-issued frequently.

Debrett's is a specialist publisher, founded in 1769 with the publication of the first edition of *The New Peerage*. Debrett's is published under the name *Debrett's Peerage & Baronetage*, a book which includes a short history of the family of each titleholder.

"He was a man that had **the root of the matter in him**; but he was one of the most troublesome pilgrims that ever I met with in all my days." – from *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan

p.286 **Brightness falls from the air;**
Queens have died young and fair;
– from "In Time of Pestilence" by Thomas Nashe, 1593

p.287 **Les grands jets d'eau sveltes parmi les marbres** – from "Clair de Lune" by Paul Verlaine (1844-96), 1869.

Charles **Baudelaire** 1821-67, French Symbolist poet
"Clair de lune", ("Moonlight") Op. 46 No 2, is a song by Gabriel **Fauré** (1845-1924), composed in 1887 to words by Paul Verlaine.
Claude **Debussy** 1862-1918, French composer
'Entbehren sollst du - sollst entbehren — Thou shalt forego, shalt do without.' – from *Faust* by Goethe

p.289 *Ivanhoe* novel by Sir Walter Scott, 1819
Wamba the Witless – character in *Ivanhoe*

CHAPTER 12

p.291 **Guido Strelsa** is also reported to have been turned out of every gambling hell in Europe in *Pomfret Towers*.
Professor Milward is the young historian at Pomfret Towers house party.

Guy Barton says, "Mother [Susan Barton] had three letters about her last book, one from **Professor Marston**, and one from **Cardinal Boccafiume**, and one from **the Duke of Monte Cristo**" in *Pomfret Towers* (where the same lines about Prof. Marston's monumental footnote-comprising books appear).

p.292 **Sherlock Holmes** the detective apparently falls to his death in **The Reichenbach Falls** a waterfall in Switzerland, at the the end of "The Final Problem" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1893), but the author was persuaded to bring him back to life for more stories.
canard is the French word both for a **duck** and a false report (as on page 86).
Sentimental Tommy – novel by **J. M. Barrie**, 1896

p.293 Cardinal Thomas Wolsey (1473-1530) was reputed when chancellor to speak thus to his secretary: "**Ego et meus rex**, his Majesty and I, command you ..."
Rider Haggard 1856-1925, English novelist
Marie Corelli 1855-1924, novelist
Andrew Lang 1844-1912

p.294 George **Morland** 1763-1804, English landscape painter

p.296 events in *Pomfret Towers* again

p.300 "Heureux qui meurt ici" – poem by Jean Richepin (1849-1926)
Symbolism was a late nineteenth-century art movement in poetry, literature and other arts.

p.303 **Harriette Wilson** (1786–1845) was a celebrated British Regency courtesan, about whom AT wrote *The Fortunes of Harriette* (1936).

p.306 **Boreas** – the North Wind
Time travels in diverse paces with diverse persons. I'll tell you who time ambles withal, who time trots withal, **who time gallops** withal, and who he stands still withal. – **Rosalind** in *As You Like It* Act III scene 2

p.307 The *Count of Monte Cristo* is an adventure novel by French author Alexandre Dumas (père), 1844

p.308 **Josiah Crawley** travels with **Farmer Mangle** in *The Last Chronicle of Barset* by Anthony Trollope (1867)

