

# Book Buzz

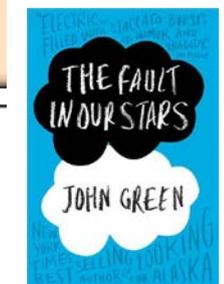


Arden's Library Newsletter – Issue 28

April 2016

**7D** have won again! Congratulations to **Rhianna Mason** who was the first name drawn from the responses to the last competition.

**John Green:** New York Times bestselling author of *Looking for Alaska*, *An Abundance of Katherines*, *Paper Towns*, and *The Fault in Our Stars*. He is also the co-author, with David Levithan, of *Will Grayson, Will Grayson*.



## Q. What is your writing process?

A. I usually get up in the morning and write for four hours, and then I eat lunch, and then in the afternoon I do web and youtube and businessy stuff for five hours. My work day is eight AM to six PM with an hour for lunch. I don't always stick to this schedule—I travel a lot and some days I have to do non-writing stuff all day. But I am pretty good about the schedule.

## Q. Where do you get your ideas for your books?

A. Well, my books don't have capital-i Ideas, really. I don't have ideas that hit like a ton of bricks out of nowhere, like BAM! Write a book about a wizard school! Or, Bam! Vampires in Suburbia! The ideas for my books come from lower case-i ideas. Looking for Alaska began, really, in thinking about whether there was meaning to suffering, and how one can reconcile one's self to a world where suffering is so unjustly distributed. Paper Towns began with thinking about our fascination with manic pixie dream girls and our relentless mis-imagining of each other. Then little ideas will come along and link up to other little ideas and then in a few short years, I have a book. I would love to have a high-concept book idea fall out of the sky and hit me one day, but it hasn't happened yet.

## Q. How do you feel about your books after you're done writing them?

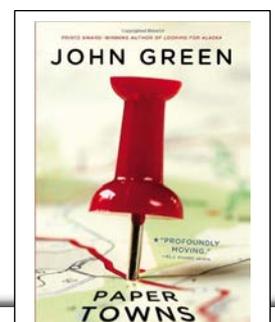
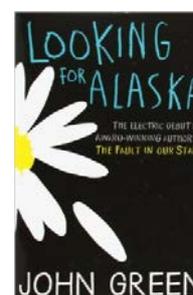
A. It varies. I am usually pretty disappointed with the book when I finally turn in the last draft and I worry a lot that no one will like it and that I've failed and that I haven't lived up to the story. Then when it comes out there's a weird adjustment and I find myself really protective of the book and increasingly proud of it. Then after a while it settles into ambivalence for me, to be totally honest. I still feel proud of the books I've written, but they also feel very 'finished' to me. They belong to their readers now, which is a great thing—because the books are more powerful in the hands of my readers than they could ever be in my hands.

## Q. Have you ever felt, midway through a book, that you didn't have any more ideas and you wouldn't be able to finish writing it?

A. Oh yeah all the time. And sometimes I don't finish the book—or at least not for a long time. That's always a bit depressing, but I don't think it's wasted time—even if you end up not finishing the story. You were learning something as a writer that you needed to learn. The difficult thing is figuring out when a story really SHOULD be abandoned, and when it's just the mid-story blues—which I think happens to every book.

## Q. What books would you recommend for a young adult?

A. There are so many. The Book Thief. How I Live Now. The First Part Last. Feed. The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation. 13 Little Blue Envelopes. White Cat (and sequels). Every Day. I could go on for weeks.



## Classics Conundrum:

Which of these famous authors wrote the following classic book? Put the right letter in each box.

Author	Correct letter	Title	Letter
Charlotte Bronte		The Iliad	A
Geoffrey Chaucer		The Three Musketeers	B
Agatha Christie		Far From the Madding Crowd	C
Roald Dahl		nineteen Eighty-Four	D
Charles Dickens		Winnie the Pooh	E
Alexander Dumas		The Lord of the Rings	F
F Scott Fitzgerald		Death on the Nile	G
Thomas Hardy		Gulliver's Travels	H
Homer		Jane Eyre	I
Rudyard Kipling		The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	J
A A Milne		Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	K
George Orwell		War and Peace	L
George Bernard Shaw		The Canterbury Tales	M
Johnathan Swift		The Great Gatsby	N
J R R Tolkien		The History of Mr Polly	O
Leo Tolstoy		Great Expectations	P
Mark Twain		The Jungle Book	Q
H G Wells		Pygmalion	R

**Fiction quiz:** just highlight or circle the answer

**1. Who is the Headmaster of Hogwarts?**

Snape    Hermione    Voldemort    Dumbledore

**2. What is Horrid Henry's class teacher know as?**

Miss Battleaxe    Mrs Codbottom    Mrs Crabapple    Mr Nosey

**3. From which school can you catch the 'cheese touch'?**

Wimpy State    Westmore Middle School    Brie Academy    East Coast High

**4. Which Young Bond novel starts with an Eton schoolmaster being kidnapped?**

Double or Die    Blood Fever    Hurricane Gold    Eton Mess

**5. In Andy Stanton's Mr Gum books, Saint Pterodactyl's School for the Poor is run by who or what?**

A re-animated fossilised reptile wearing a large hat    A Lemon Meringue Pie

A Gingerbread Man    An Octopus

**6. What school did Percy Jackson attend in his sixth grade?**

Bellair    Yancy Academy    Lightning High    Driftwood Manor

**7. In David Walliams's Billionaire Boy, Joe transfers to the local comprehensive in order to feel more like a normal boy. How does his father ruin the illusion?**

He hires a personal chef for Joe as the school canteen food is so horrible

He makes sure Joe is accompanied by a bodyguard

He brings Joe's homework to school by private helicopter

He builds a Disney theme park in the school playground so that Joe won't be bored at breaktimes

**8. In Malorie Blackman's Noughts and Crosses, what is the name of the school that both Sephy and Callum attend?**

Heathcroft High    Crosstown College    Naughty Academy    Chivers Boarding School

**9. In the Brilliant World of Tom Gates, what is the name of the clever girl Tom sits next to when his teacher moves him to the front of the class?**

Abby Partridge    Alice Potter    Hermione Granger    Amy Porter

**10. Of which primary school is the fearsome Miss Trunchbull head in Matilda?**

Springflower School    Crunchem Hall Primary School    Grimsville Grove    Meadows Academy

Once completed, please return your answers to the Library by Wednesday 25 May 2016

NAME: ..... Form: .....