

A book that inspired a common phrase or idiom



Category Description

Books that inspired common words, phrases, or idioms that are used by society. Examples: 'Big Brother' from 1984 or 'A catch 22' from Catch-22. Famous quotes do not apply to this category.

Fiction and Non-Fiction

- Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll "Go down the rabbit hole"
- Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes "Pot calling the kettle black"
- David Copperfield by Charles Dickens "Gives you the creeps"
- The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club by Charles Dickens "Devil may care"
- The Three Musketeers by Alexandre Dumas "All for one and one for all"
- The Beautiful and Damned by F. Scott Fitzgerald "I'll be there with bells on"
- Neuromancer by William Gibson "Cyberspace"
- A Pair of Blue Eyes by Thomas Hardy "Cliffhanger"
- The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne "Scarlet letter"
- Catch-22 by Joseph Heller "Catch-22"
- Cabbages and Kings by O. Henry "Banana republic"
- Ulysses by James Joyce "Get on one's nerves"
- The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling "Law of the jungle"
- The Coming Race by Edward Bulwer Lytton "Pursuit of the almighty dollar"
- 1984 by George Orwell "Big Brother"
- The Antiquary by Sir Walter Scott "Give the cold shoulder"
- Ivanhoe by Sir Walter Scott "Caught red-handed"
- Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck "Live off the fat of the land"
- The Kellys and the O'Kellys by Anthony Trollope "Can't do something to save your life"
- The Time Machine by H.G. Wells "Time machine"
- Toward the Radical Center: A Karel Capek Reader (R.U.R.) by Karel Capek "Robot"
- The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer "Busy as a bee" and "Love is blind"
- Death in the Afternoon by Ernest Hemingway "Moment of truth"
- Paradise Lost by John Milton "Pandemonium"
- Utopia by Thomas More "Utopia"
- As You Like It by William Shakespeare "Forever and a day"
- Hamlet by William Shakespeare "A method to their madness"
- Henry IV, Part 2 by William Shakespeare "Dead as a doornail"
- Othello by William Shakespeare "Wear my heart upon my sleeve"
- Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare "Wild goose chase"
- The Taming of the Shrew by William Shakespeare "Break the ice"
- Men Explain Things to Me: Facts Didn't Get in Their Way by Rebecca Solnit "Mansplaining"
- Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift "Yahoo"
- Radical Chic and Mau-Mauing the Flak Catchers by Tom Wolfe "Catching flak"
- The Right Stuff by Tom Wolfe "Pushing the envelope"