

## ***Woman in Mind Glossary***

*Consistent with the philosophy of both Goethe and Emerson, that originality is essentially a matter of reassembling elements drawn from other sources, this glossary was created by and culled from various print and online sources by Susan Myer Siltan, sometimes with a bit of whimsy and liberty of opinion.*

**Key:** EU=that Union; UK=United Kingdom; US=United States

### **ACT I**

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**P. 1** (*Note: throughout this document, the page number headings refer to pages in the Samuel French edition of the script*)

**GP:** A medical practitioner in the UK who is fully registered to provide general medical services to a specific group of patients or “list”, either in partnership with other GPs, as a salaried GP in a group, or as a single practitioner, though the latter is not found as often. GPs may also provide inpatient care in community hospitals.

When the patient’s condition requires treatment beyond general practice, a GP will refer them to a consultant, or hospital specialist. GPs in the UK are not directly employed by the NHS (National Health Service), but are instead independent contractors with the NHS.

Dr. Bill Windsor is in partnership with Dr. Burgess, who is the Gannet’s family physician.

### **P. 2**

**“Right as Rain”:** In good order or good health; satisfactory. According to the *American Heritage Idioms Dictionary*, it was first recorded in 1894 and “the allusion in the simile is unclear”. It goes on to speculate that the expression likely originated in Britain, where rainy weather is a common occurrence, supporting its position with a quote by William Lyon Phelps, who wrote, “The expression ‘right as rain’ must have been invented by an Englishman.” Phelps (January 2, 1865–August 21, 1943) was an American author, scholar and critic. A Yale professor, he taught the first university course on the modern novel. He was a renowned speaker who drew large crowds.

### **P. 3**

**“Back in a tick”:** In UK informal usage, a tick is a moment. The idiom is used to reassure someone that one will return or be ready very soon. It likely derives from the regular, short and sharp sound a clock makes, usually one for every second of time that passes.

Ayckbourn’s *Henceforward*, produced two years after *Woman In Mind*, and another play from his admitted “dark” (but still funny) period, has a robot character in the second act, Zooey, who often repeats the phrase, “back in just a tick” as she prepares to exit for a brief time.

**P. 4**

**Chaps:** In UK informal usage, chaps are men or boys. Andy is addressing his daughter, Lucy, and his brother-in-law, Tony, and seems to be using the word in the way an American might say “guys” or “you guys” when addressing a group with both genders. My sense is that his use of the word acknowledges their posh status – they are not ordinary chaps.



These are the sort of chaps who'd inhabit Andy, Tony, and Lucy's world

**Champers:** In UK informal usage, champers is short for champagne.

**Vintage:** refers to wine that is not made in weak years, or years with poor climactic conditions for growing. All grapes used to make vintage wine are harvested in the same year.

Susan later identifies the vintage champagne to which Tony refers as Dom Pérignon, a prestige cuvee, or the best Champagne that a house or grower makes. Ed McCarthy of the *Wine Enthusiast* writes that prestige cuvees are usually vintage Champagnes, but a few houses – such as Krug with its Grande Cuvee and Laurent-Perrier with its Grand Siècle – make their prestige cuvees as non-vintage. “They prefer the term ‘multi-vintage’, he says.

McCarthy adds that “Prestige cuvees are made from the finest and costliest grapes from the best vineyards – usually vineyards that have been rated grand cru or premier cru by the CIVC, Champagne's regulatory board. Prestige cuvees are also aged longer in producers' cellars before they're released (from five to eight years) than other Champagnes (non-vintage Champagnes are aged about

three years and standard vintage Champagnes are aged four to five years). Non-vintage Champagnes are aged about three years and standard vintage Champagnes are aged four to five years.”

For more information, please look at the definition of “Dom Pérignon” on pages 3-5 of this glossary, as well as the definition of “Dom Pérignon. Vintage nineteen seventy-eight” on pages 7-9.

**Tin bath:** a bathtub made from galvanized iron; less commonly, a bath and/or a hipbath made of tin.

This will amuse you: the World Tin Bath Championship was started in 1971 and takes place annually in the UK, in the frigid waters of Castletown Harbour on the Isle of Man. It has nearly a hundred competitors and thousands of spectators.



A competitor in the World Tin Bath Championship

A curious usage of the words “tin bath” is in Cockney Rhyming Slang, which is a specialized form of slang used in the East of London. It is a dialect wherein words are replaced by phrases that rhyme. For example, “north and south” is substituted for “mouth”. “Believe” becomes “Adam and Eve”. Sometimes, the last word is dropped, making it quite difficult to understand unless you are familiar with it. “Tin bath”, which means “laugh”, is normally used as a complete phrase, although, as with many phrases where both words are used, it can be shortened. Using these examples, you might hear someone say, “Would you Adam and Eve the tin bath that just came out of his north and south?”

## P. 5

**Dom Perignon:** a brand of French vintage Champagne and the prestige champagne produced by the Champagne house Moët & Chandon. It is always a vintage champagne, which means that it is not made in weak years, and all grapes used to make the wine were harvested in the same year. It is named after Dom Pérignon (1638–1715), a monk and cellar master at the Benedictine abbey in Hautvillers. He was an important quality pioneer for Champagne wine but

who, contrary to popular myths, did not discover the champagne method for making sparkling wines. Rather, his efforts influenced the development of sparkling wines as the main style of production in Champagne, which occurred progressively in the 19th century, more than a century after Dom Pérignon's death.



Of the four main methods of sparkling wine production, the champagne method or *méthode champenoise*, exclusively produces its effervescence by secondary fermentation in the bottle. As the name suggests, the process is used in the Champagne region of France to produce the sparkling wine known as Champagne. Champagne producers have successfully lobbied the U to restrict the use of that term within the EU to wines produced from their region. Thus, wines from elsewhere cannot use the term "*méthode champenoise*" on products sold in the EU, and instead the term "traditional method" (*méthode traditionnelle*) or the local language equivalent will be used. Products made outside the EU may print "*méthode champenoise*" on their labels even if made outside of France.

After primary fermentation, blending ("*assemblage*" in Champagne) and bottling, a second alcoholic fermentation occurs in the bottle.

*Méthode champenoise* is always employed in the making of Dom Pérignon. Although known as the Champagne method and associated with the name of Dom Pérignon in the late seventeenth century, this method of bottle fermentation was already used in Limoux, southwestern France, since 1531 for the production of *Blanquette de Limoux*.

Dom Pérignon was the first prestige *cuvée* Champagne introduced. The first vintage of Dom Pérignon was 1921 and was only released for sale in 1936.

The specific vintage of Dom Pérignon that Susan's second family is drinking is discussed on pages 7-98 of this glossary, in the definition of "Dom Pérignon. Vintage nineteen seventy-eight".

You can read more about Dom Pérignon here: that  
[http://www.vinography.com/archives/2010/07/moet\\_chandons\\_dom\\_perignon\\_cha.html](http://www.vinography.com/archives/2010/07/moet_chandons_dom_perignon_cha.html)

**Lapsang Souchong:** Lapsang souchong is a black tea, originally from the Wuyi region of the Fujian province of China. It's famous for its smoky aroma and flavor, derived from giving the finished tea some extra drying over a smoking pine fire to impart a sweet, clean smoky flavor. Some tea drinkers find Lapsang souchong's taste far too smoky, but the more refined examples are often more mellow.

## **Lapsang Souchong** / 正山小種

The first black tea made in the world. The origin of Earl Grey tea ... Lapsang Souchong has many histories behind it.



Lapsang souchong from the original source has become increasingly expensive, as Wuyi is a small area and the demand for this variety of tea has grown. It is grown outside of Wuyi – notably in Formosa. The Formosan variety is said to have a stronger flavor and aroma, the most extreme being tarry souchong, which is smoked, as the name implies, over burning pine tar.

According to some sources, Lapsang souchong is the first black tea in history.

“Lapsang” refers to the smoking process; “souchong” refers to the fourth and fifth leaves of the tea plant, further away from the more highly prized bud, or pekoe, of the tea plant. Souchong leaves are coarser than the leaves closer to the bud, and have fewer aromatic compounds. Therefore, smoking provides a way to create a marketable product from these less desirable leaves.

According to Wikipedia, Lapsang souchong has a high reputation outside China; it is viewed as “tea for Westerners” inside China. It was a favorite of Winston Churchill.

This link provides pronunciation:

<http://www.howjsay.com/index.php?word=lapsang%20souchong>

My sense is that Tony doesn't so much compare Lapsang souchong with Dom Pérignon, but enjoys juxtaposing the melodic quality of the words.

## P. 6

**Ten a penny:** an idiom in the UK, it denotes something so common as to be practically worthless. The US equivalent would be "a dime a dozen".

**Liquid paraffin:** Bill says he spilled liquid paraffin on his sleeve, presumably as part of his medical practice. According to British Pharmacopoeia, in the UK medicinal liquid paraffin, also known as paraffinum liquidum, is a very highly refined mineral oil used for medical purposes.

The term paraffinum perliquidum is sometimes used to denote light liquid paraffin. Conversely, the term paraffinum subliquidum is sometimes used to denote a thicker – more viscous and/or oily – mineral oil.

Liquid paraffin can also be used in combination with magnesium as an osmotic laxative, sold under trade names, one of which is Mil-Par. What is an osmotic laxative? No way am I defining that. You're on your own.

Liquid paraffin is considered to have a limited usefulness as an occasional laxative, for absolutely disgusting reasons that I've chosen not to discuss. You're on your own here too.

## P. 7

**"She can be very strange. She's Cornish, I believe".** Susan is talking to Bill about her imagined cook, inferring her strangeness is related to her place of birth. Bill, by pointing out that her accent sounds like South London, tacitly accepts the notion. I found evidence that there is indeed an underlying attitude among many English that the Cornish are strange. Here are two examples:

In the English blogspot *Village Photos*, the author explains a lack of communication with his readers: "I've spent the last week learning how weird Cornwall is". <http://viewbar.blogspot.com/2007/07/cornwall-is-strange-place.html> He cautions would-be tourists that, "whilst this county can offer an enjoyable week away from home, it is a strange place." He cites their accent, prevailing distrust of strangers, and perplexing proliferation of Saint Piran's flags, the local flag of Kernow, which is Cornish for Cornwall. He writes, "This flag is everywhere, dangling from windows, on tea towels and flying from car aerials as if there were a major football tournament taking place. This mass flag-waving is somewhat unnerving to the outsider. It makes you assume that the Cornish folk are forming some mass separatist group looking to succeed from the UK." He also noted "an unnerving amount of road-kill".



Sophie Thomset, who is Cornish herself, writes in the popular UK online magazine *Sabotage Times*, <http://sabotagetimes.com/travel/terrorists-poverty-darkie-day-the-hidden-side-of-cornwall> “the big toe of England [Cornwall] is the butt of a never-ending joke. Jibes about inbreeding are so relentless that in 2010 the Cornish branch of the Celtic League campaigned for it to be made illegal for the media to mock the Cornish on grounds of our restricted gene pool. In other words, they wanted it to become a racist offence to call a Cornishman an ‘inbred’. The proposal fell on its arse on the grounds that the Cornish don’t technically exist as a race, but a better reason would have been sheer outlandish hypocrisy. Cornwall crying for help on grounds of racial discrimination is beyond hilarious.”

## P. 9

**Wallflowers:** in the UK, a wallflower is a pleasant smelling garden plant that has yellow, orange, or brown flowers that grow in groups. In British gardens, they flower once the days start to shorten from July onwards.

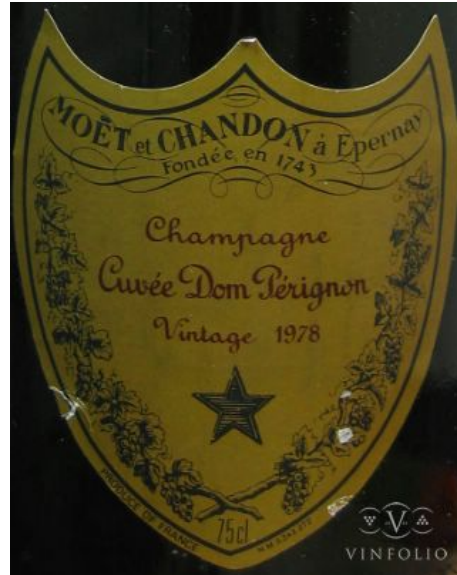


The wallflowers are the ones, um, up against the wall.

If you are so inclined, here’s an article about wallflowers from *The Daily Mail*: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/gardening/article-1312920/Wallflowers-add-magnificent-splash-colour-gardens-drabbest-corners.html>

**Dom Pérignon. Vintage nineteen seventy-eight:** My husband is an oenophile (try saying that six times in a row, blindfolded and standing on one foot) and showed me the books in his wine library that had information about this vintage that I couldn’t find online. His favorite champagne is Dom Pérignon, but he doesn’t have the 1978 vintage in his cellar, nor did he ever drink it.

1978 was not considered a vintage year in the Champagne region of France because of poor growing conditions, which persisted from 1977's damp and dismal growing season. However, there was a bright and sunny September in the Champagne and Bordeaux regions, which meant that some houses were able to have at least a partial harvest. Moët & Chandon was one of them. They were able to make a vintage Dom Pérignon in 1978 by delaying their harvest of Pinot Noir until October 9 and Chardonnay until October 11. The grapes had to undergo a very strict selection, making for a smaller production than usual.



*Woman in Mind* was first produced in 1985. Prestige cuvees are aged longer in producers' cellars – some five to eight years before they're released – than other Champagnes. Therefore, drinking a Prestige cuvee like Dom Pérignon 1978 seven years after it was bottled would be considered drinking it in its “youth”. In 1985, the Dom Pérignon 1978 would probably have only just been made available for sale. (I searched in vain for the actual release date.) Educated wine drinkers would most likely wait to drink it, as it's advised to hold onto prestige cuvees for about 15 years from the vintage date before popping the cork. For optimum drinking pleasure, good vintages should age for up to 20 years or more. 1978 was not a notable vintage, and – as you'll find as you read on – it was actually a non-vintage year for most houses. (The distinction between vintage and non-vintage wine is explained in the definition of “Vintage” on pages 2 and 3 of this glossary.)

Why Dom Pérignon and why the 1978 vintage? Dom Pérignon is one of the finest champagnes one can buy, and champagne is a drink that is largely used for special occasions. Dom Pérignon would definitely be an optimal choice for a special occasion, given its regard. So, for Susan's imaginary family to be quaffing the stuff at 11 in the morning on an ordinary day while they play tennis shows



that champagne, even a Dom Pérignon, is a part of their everyday, carefree, golden-hued existence. They can afford to be cavalier, both materially and spiritually, in direct contrast to the way Susan truly lives.

The 1978 vintage Dom Pérignon is an interesting choice for the playwright. 1978 wasn't an outstanding year for wines; in fact, for wine aficionados, 1978 could be considered a dog of a year with suspect issue. My guess is that Ayckbourn's intent was for Susan to bandy a vintage year of no consequence about rather than the year of a notable, outstanding vintage, thereby illustrating that she had no real present or former proximity to the society she imagined for herself.

**Holiday:** "Holiday" is used idiomatically in the UK as we use "vacation" in the US. One is "on holiday" in the UK as one is "on vacation" in the US. A holiday in the UK, like in the US, is a legal day off, but being "on" holiday means being on vacation. A holiday won't necessarily include an actual holiday, although it might.

**Fortnight:** a unit of time equal to 14 days or two weeks. The word stems from the Old English "fēowertyne niht", which means "fourteen nights". Fortnight and fortnightly are commonly used words in the English-speaking world, largely because wages, salaries and social security benefits in many English-speaking countries are paid on a fortnightly basis. However, in North America, the term is used rarely outside of some Canadian regions and insular traditional communities, such as the Amish, in the US. Instead, Canadian and US payroll systems use the term "biweekly" when they refer to pay periods every two weeks.

## P. 11

**Tablet:** the tablet to which Gerald refers is what we'd call a pill in the US, a small disk or cylinder of a compressed solid substance, typically a measured amount of a medicine or drug.

**Catalogue:** Gerald is using the term simultaneously with two of its meanings, one as a complete list of items (with a strong emphasis on "complete"), which is typically alphabetized or in other systematic order. The other is a series of unwelcome or unpleasant things.

**"The trivial round, the common task, will furnish all we need to ask ..." and "... how can you believe anybody who rhymes 'road' with 'God':** The first phrase comes from "New Every Morning Is the Love," a Christian devotional poem and hymn. Gerald is quoting from it, and Susan is criticizing it. (I gotta say, she has a point.)

The poem originally came from a book, *The Christian Year*, which was written by John Keble (1792–1866) an English churchman and poet. The book first appeared under anonymous authorship in 1827, although Keble was soon

identified. Contemporary Victorian scholar Michael Wheeler calls *The Christian Year* “simply the most popular volume of verse in the nineteenth century”.

*The Christian Year* opens with morning and evening prayers, inspired by passages from Luke and Lamentations. “New Every Morning Is the Love” is one of the morning prayers. Keble’s inspiration was Lamentations 3, verses 22-23, which read: “Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness”.

The words to the verse, with Gerald’s passage highlighted in blue and Susan’s in yellow, are:

New every morning is the love  
Our waking and uprising prove;  
Through sleep and darkness safely brought,  
Restored to life and power and thought.

New mercies each returning day  
Hover around us while we pray;  
New perils past, new sins forgiven,  
New thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.

If, on our daily course, our mind  
Be set to hallow all we find,  
New treasures still of countless price  
God will provide for sacrifice.

Old friends, old scenes will lovelier be  
As more of heaven in each we see;  
Some softening gleam of love and prayer  
Shall dawn on every cross and care.

The trivial round, the common task  
Will furnish all we need to ask  
Room to deny ourselves, a road  
To bring us daily nearer God.

Only, O Lord, in Thy dear love,  
Fit us for perfect rest above;  
And help us this and every day,  
To live more nearly as we pray.

Prepare us, Lord, in your dear love  
for perfect rest with you above,  
and help us, this and every day,  
to grow more like you as we pray.

According to the *Psalter Hymnal Handbook*, 1988, the verse is usually sung to what was once a popular chant tune in the Roman Catholic Mass, “Melcombe”, composed earlier by Samuel Webbe (1740–1816), a London cabinet-maker and organist. The tune title refers to Melcombe Regis, the northern part of Weymouth in Dorsetshire, England, made famous through frequent visits by King George III (1738-1820). Many of Keble’s verses have been set to song and appear in popular collections of Hymns for Public Worship. Many Protestant Hymnals contain the hymn.

I found the verse included within a set of Anglican morning prayers:

[https://www.awakentoprayer.org/Morning\\_Prayer\\_Anglican.html](https://www.awakentoprayer.org/Morning_Prayer_Anglican.html)

A page with several versions of the hymn can be found here:

[https://mp3skull.to/mp3/new\\_every\\_morning\\_new\\_every\\_morning.html](https://mp3skull.to/mp3/new_every_morning_new_every_morning.html)

Back to Lamentations 3, the derivative of the verse. Lamentations was written by the prophet Jeremiah, who bears the distinction of being a major figure in three faiths: Jewish, Islamic and Christian. In Lamentations 3, he recounts the many horrible persecutions, hardships and sufferings sent by God to test his endurance and faith. In verses 19-23, he writes,

I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall.  
I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me.  
Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:  
Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions  
never fail.  
They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

According to Susan and much to her consternation, Gerald manages to trot out the verses from “New Every Morning Is the Love” whenever she, or the two of them, run into a trying situation. He tells her that “they’re words that have provided comfort to several generations”, but Susan is having none of that. She insists, “The point is it’s not true. They don’t. Furnish. All we need to ask. Not on their own”. Unlike Gerald, John Keble and Jeremiah, Susan doesn’t take comfort and satisfaction in duty, and doesn’t seem to believe any more – assuming she once did – that afflictions will work towards good. She doesn’t see God providing for her sacrifice of the life she desired, and she has no interest in accepting, like Gerald does, the affliction God has given her as a means of salvation. She takes it upon herself to “furnish” her own antidote for her misery.

## P. 12

**Up his street:** if something is “up your street” in the UK, it’s the type of thing that you are interested in, suited for, capable of, or that you enjoy doing. In the US, the equivalent would be “up your alley”.

**“Specialist in matters unseen:** for Gerald, a cleric, this is an apt job description.

**P. 13**

**Bonhomie:** meaning cheerful friendliness and geniality, its use originated in the late 18th century, deriving from the French "bon homme", meaning good fellow.

Its UK pronunciation can be found here:

<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/pronunciation/british/bonhomie>

**P. 14**

**Could do with a tidy:** in this application, a tidy would be to make everything ordered and arranged in the right place

**P. 15**

**Rail crash of nineteen fifty-nine:** Although there were, sadly, eight rail crashes in the UK in 1959, only one was fatal. On November 4, 1959, a runaway freight train collided with a light engine in West Sleekburn, Northumberland. Two people were killed.

A report on the collision in the *Railways Archive* describes the accident: "An Up coal train, without vacuum brakes, which had been accepted under the Warning Arrangement in the Absolute Block Regulations up to the home signal protecting the junction at West Sleekburn, was unable to stop on the falling gradient. It ran slowly past the signal to collide head-on with a Down coal train which was travelling at a good speed over the junction to the branch line under clear signals. Both engines capsized and I regret to report that [the Driver] and [the Fireman] of the Down train were killed. Their deaths must have been instantaneous. The driver and fireman of the Up train suffered from shock."

**P. 16**

**Hedgerow:** a line of different types of bushes and small trees growing very close together, especially between fields or along the sides of roads in the countryside.

Hedgelink (<http://www.hedgelink.org.uk>), a website devoted entirely to the UK's hedgerows, states: "The UK is rightly known throughout the world for its rich and varied patterns of hedgerows, a part of our cultural and landscape heritage which ranks alongside great cathedrals, quaint villages and spectacular coastlines."

Hedgerows are valued for their benefit to wildlife and the landscape, as well as the major role they have in preventing soil loss and reducing pollution. They have potential to regulate water supply and to reduce flooding, and may even have a role to play in taking greenhouse gases out of circulation through carbon storage, if they are allowed to expand in size.

Hedgerows also give shelter and food to small animals. Below are photographs of nuts and berries that grow in hedgerows:



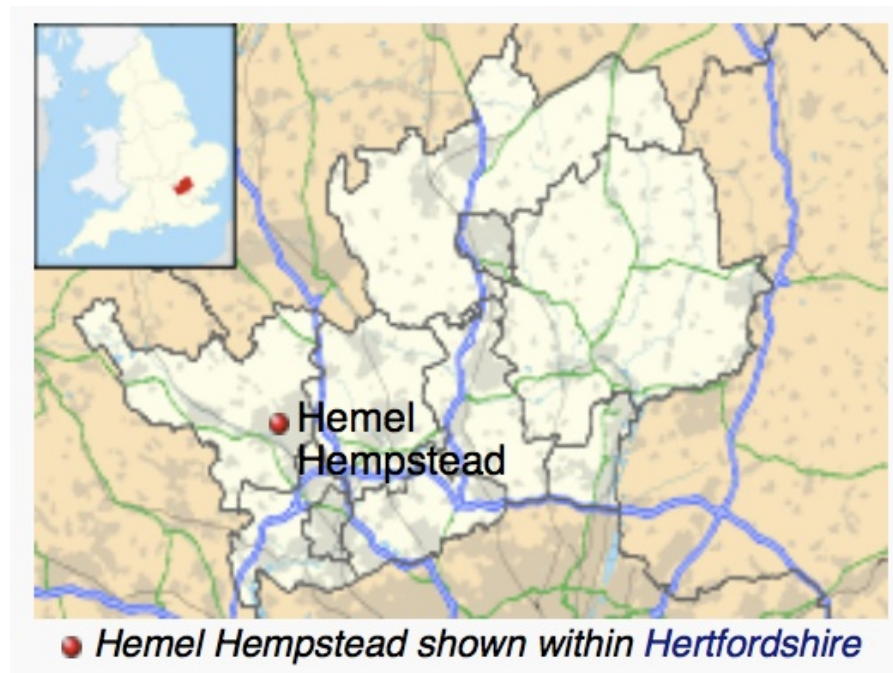
Hazelnuts starting to ripen



Berries growing in the hedgerow

Susan suggests her son forage in the hedgerow for nuts and berries, and drink rainwater, proving that despite her bump on the head, her sarcasm is still in fine form.

**Hemel Hempstead:** a large new town, or planned community, in Hertfordshire in the East of England, 24 miles northwest of London and part of the Greater London Urban Area. It has the advantage of proximity both to the Hertfordshire countryside and to Central London.



**Silent Order:** monastic orders whose members have taken a vow of silence as an essential rule of their institute. Monastic silence is more highly developed in the Roman Catholic faith than in Protestantism, but it is not limited to Catholicism. The practice has a corresponding manifestation in the Orthodox church, which teaches that silence is a means to access the deity, to develop self-



knowledge, or to live more harmoniously. The vow of silence is known as Mauna in Hinduism, Jainism, and Buddhism. In Indian religions, religious silence is called Mauna and the name for a sage is muni, which translates as “silent one”.

Examples of silent orders are the Benedictines, Cistercians (discussed in the next glossary item), Trappists, Carthusians, Carmelites, Camaldolese, Dominicans, Discalced Carmelites, Hieronymites, Baladites, Basilians and Pauline Fathers.

According to Wikipedia, the practice of silence is observed during different parts of the day; practitioners talk when they need to but maintain a sense of silence or a sense of prayer when talking. The rules of silence apply to both vowed practitioners and non-vowed guests. Religious recommendations of silence as an established practice do not deprecate speech when it is thoughtful and considerate of commonly held values. Andrew March of the Benedictine order spoke to NPR about the contemplative life, explaining that practitioners “can listen to substantive speech for hours while five minutes of garrulous speech is too much.” He said that “silence can include what is more aptly characterized as quietness”, i.e. speaking in low vocal tones. “Silence is not an absence of words or thoughts – it is a positive and substantive reality.”

*Ida*, which won the 2015 Academy Award for Foreign Language Film, centers its story around a young novice who is told by her prioress to leave the convent of contemplatives in order to visit her one surviving relative. The film is characterized by broad silences and long pauses; it has no soundtrack. When its director, Paweł Pawlikowski, accepted the Oscar, he said he made a film in black and white “about the need for silence, withdrawal from the world and contemplation”. A.O. Scott of the New York Times remarked how the film achieves a “quiet grandeur, an intimation of divine presence.” Art imitating the contemplative life.

**Cistercians:** Cistercians are religious of the Order of Cîteaux, a Benedictine reform, established at Cîteaux in 1098 by St. Robert, Abbot of Molesme, in the Diocese of Langres, for the purpose of restoring the literal observance of the Rule of St. Benedict. The name comes from the French Cistercium, now Cîteaux, which was the original home of the order.

Their rapid growth and establishment of monasteries all over the world led to a Golden Age from 1134-1342, when the order thrived. However, the order suffered a decline from 1342-1790, when the large number of monasteries, often situated in the most widely distant countries, were left without the jurisdiction of the leaders from the Cîteaux flagship. The lack of oversight led to decadence as well as dissension among the superiors, who began to adapt their own set of governance. This led to separation from Cîteaux.

The Congregation of Strict Observance, which resulted from reform efforts, was established in 1615, and in 1663, became solidified by Abbot de Rancé, who

introduced the Strict Observance into the Abbey of La Trappe (hence the name Trappists), adding other severe practices to it.

The abbeys that did not respond to the reforms of Abbot de Rancé formed an observance, which in 1664, Pope Alexander VII dubbed *Common* Observance, in order to distinguish it from the *Strict* Observance. In reality, it differed only in the use of meat and similar articles of food three times a week, which contradicted the rule of perpetual abstinence from the early days.

In 1892 Pope Leo sought to bring all the Cistercian houses back together into one order, but pastoral responsibilities and national loyalties made it impossible for the Common Observance houses, which were divided into many national congregations, to unite with the Strict Observance, which were at that time largely French and had opted for the strict monastic heritage of the Cistercian founders. So, the Pope recognized two Cistercian Orders, which today are called the Order of Citeaux and the Cistercian Order of the Strict Observance.

The monks are, to this day, still divided into these two observances, the Strict Observance, or O.C.S.O. (Ordo Cisterciensis Stricteris Observantiae), whose adherents are known popularly as Trappists, and the Common Observance or O. Cist., who are known as Cistercians.

**Trappist:** As described above, Trappists are the Cistercian Order of the Strict Observance, a reform schism.



Modern Trappist Monks (the guys in the white robes)

As mentioned above, in 1664 Pope Alexander VII recognized two observances

within the Cistercian Order, the Common and the Strict, who are sometimes called the "abstinents" because of their fidelity to St. Benedict's prohibition of the use of flesh meat in the monastic diet. Later, Armand Jean de Rancé, an abbot who had undergone a conversion after a life of considerable wealth, added even stricter observances. In his Abbey of Notre Dame de la Grande Trappe, he renewed the practice of monastic enclosure, silence, and manual labor, expressing a spirit of apartness from all worldliness and a dedication to prayer and penance. The Abbey of Notre Dame de la Grande Trappe bears the distinction of being the only community that escaped complete destruction and dispersion at the hands of the French Revolution.

The Trappists expanded into Belgium, England, Italy and the United States, establishing Saint Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts, which continues to flourish today. The Trappists remain devoted to strict observance of the vow of silence.

#### P. 17

**Public school:** public schools are private schools in the UK. The term describes a group of older, more expensive and exclusive fee-paying private independent schools in the UK, particularly in England. Public schools enroll children aged 13 through 18.

**Fifteen stone:** one stone is 14 lbs., so 15 stone is 210 lbs.

**Sod:** not in the least a polite term, it's an insult that is used for a particularly unpleasant or difficult person. It's short for "sodomite", and its first known use was in 1818.

**Hark at (that poor little dog):** asking someone to "hark at" in the UK is exhorting them to listen. It derives from "hearken", or to give heed to. In the US, we'd say, "D'ya hear that poor little dog?" or "Would'ya listen to that poor little dog?"

#### P. 19

**Legless:** UK slang for intoxicated; drunk

**Summer pudding:** From Wiki: In the UK and the Commonwealth countries, pudding can be used to describe both sweet and savory dishes. However, unless qualified, the term in everyday usage typically denotes a dessert; in the UK, "pudding" is used as synonym for a dessert course.

In this usage, Lucy is saying that her father is making a seasonal summer dessert.

**Slog:** in this usage, it's a UK informal term that means to work hard over a long period, especially doing work that is difficult or boring.

**Last Sunday in the *Observer*:** The *Observer* is a Sunday newspaper published in the UK. Its editorial slant on most issues is social liberal or social democratic, as are its sister papers *The Guardian*, a daily, and *The Guardian Weekly*. Their parent company, Guardian Media Group Limited, acquired the paper in 1993. The *Observer* was first published in 1791, and is the world's oldest Sunday newspaper. It often cites British political viewpoints, mostly controversial in nature.

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**Omelette aux fines herbes:** the French translation is “omelet with the fine herbs”, fines herbes being mixed herbs used in cooking, especially fresh herbs chopped as a flavoring for omelets. The use of “omelette” originated in France in 1605-15. Earlier use was “amelette”, a metathetic form of “alemette”, which is a variant of “alemelle”, which literally means “thin plate”, a variant of the Old French “lemelle”. The omelet resembles a thin plate before it is folded over, usually in thirds.



Yum!

Though the omelette aux fines herbes is originally a French dish, to stay in the UK, here's Jamie Oliver's recipe for one omelet: (<http://www.jamieoliver.com/magazine/recipes-view.php?title=omelette-aux-fines-herbes>), which calls for two eggs at room temperature, a small handful of chopped mixed herbs, such as chives, tarragon, chervil and parsley, and a large knob of butter.

**Gatecrashing:** the same in the UK as it is in the US, it's attending or entering a social function without an invitation, a theater without a ticket, and so on.

## P. 22

**Sleeping draught:** UK terminology, now dated, for a drink or drug intended to induce sleep.

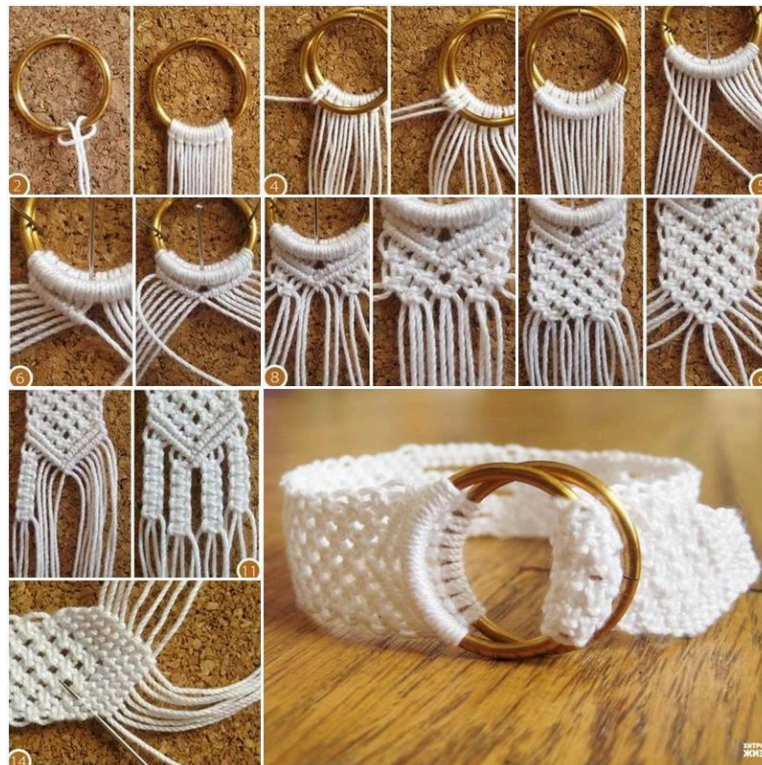
The UK pronunciation is the first one:

[http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/us/definition/english/draught\\_1](http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/us/definition/english/draught_1)

**Sounds a cracker:** Bill is saying here that Gerald's book sounds like a "cracker", which is informal in the UK for a person or thing that is very good or has a special exciting quality.

## P. 23

**Macramé ... the old knotted string bit:** Macramé is the art of joining pieces of string together in knots to form a decorative pattern, or something that's made this way.



Knots used to make a Macramé belt

Poor Bill. His wife introduced him to macramé and gave him the spare bedroom, where he spends most of the night "unpicking his knots". Hm. Freud called knitting a substitute for masturbation. Macramé. Knitting. Macramé. Knitting. Not a whole lotta difference there, don'tcha think?

**Marsala:** a wine from Sicily, which is fortified in the manner of Port, Madeira and Sherry, with brandy or neutral grape spirit from regional grapes. It is



commonly used to create rich caramelized sauces; Veal and Chicken Marsala are often found on Italian restaurant menus. Both dry and sweet Marsala are used for cooking. Dry Marsala is typically used for savory entrées where it adds a nutty flavor and caramelization to beef tenderloin, mushrooms, turkey and the aforementioned veal. Sweet Marsala is typically used to make very sweet and viscous sauces. It's commonly found in desserts such as zabaglione and main dishes with chicken or pork loin.

Marsala wine is split up into different styles based on the type of grapes used – white or mostly red – and the winemaking method. Most Marsala made for cooking is Fino (or Fine) Marsala, which is actually the lowest quality level of the wine.

Marsala can be made dry and fine enough for sipping, like Sherry or Madeira, with which it shares some striking taste similarities. It pairs well with some hard-to-match foods such as asparagus, Brussels sprouts and chocolate.

**Good health:** Cheers/good health is a universal toast, used in many countries and languages as a brief toast when a more elaborate one isn't called for. It's spoken in unison as the glass of spirits is raised. In the US, we would more commonly say "to your health". Here's a list of how the toast is said in dozens of countries: <http://www.omniglot.com/language/phrases/cheers.htm>

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**Sect:** there are different kinds of sects, as Gerald points out, some religious, some not. A sect can be a body of persons adhering to a particular religious faith or a religious denomination; a group regarded as heretical or as deviating from a generally accepted religious tradition; a Christian denomination characterized by insistence on strict qualifications for membership, as distinguished from the more inclusive groups called churches; or any group, party, or faction united by a specific doctrine or under a doctrinal leader.

In this application, Rick's sect is as Gerald describes, not strictly religious in the conventional sense but brought together by more philosophical beliefs.

The word derives from the Middle English "secte", to follow, and the Latin "secta", meaning something to follow; pathway, course of conduct, and/or school of thought. "Secta" is probably a noun derivative of "sectārī", which means to pursue and/or accompany. Sect's first usage was 1300-50.

**"It's all to do with this group's somewhat over-emphatic reading of Matthew Chapter Ten, I suspect. Verses thirty-six and thirty-seven -- "... and a man's foes shall they be they of his own household ..." et cetera. Or again, Mark Chapter Three verses thirty-one to thirty-five ---:** Matthew 10: 36-37 in the King James version of the Bible quotes Jesus as saying: "and a man's enemies will be those of his own household. He who loves father or mother more

than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.”

The King James version of Mark 3: 31-35 recounts this story about Jesus: “Then His brothers and His mother came, and standing outside they sent to Him, calling Him. And a multitude was sitting around Him; and they said to Him, ‘Look, Your mother and Your brothers are outside seeking You.’ But He answered them, saying, ‘Who is My mother, or My brothers?’ And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, ‘Here are My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother.’”

The Gannet’s son, Rick, practices a selective vow of silence with his parents, and writes to Gerald, but not to Susan. Gerald knows well how the zealous can go overboard and be far too literal in their interpretation of scripture. His charitable assessment, that Rick’s sect is “somewhat over-emphatic”, may feel dismissive to Susan of the pain her son’s choice is causing her.

## P. 26

**Guy’s:** Guy’s is Guy’s Campus, a campus of King's College London, which is known informally as King's or KCL and was formerly styled as King's College, London. King's College London is a public research university located in London, UK, and a founding college of the federal University of London.

Guy's Campus is situated close to London Bridge and the Shard on the South Bank of the Thames. It is home to the School of Biomedical Sciences, the Dental Institute, and the School of Medicine, aka Guy's, King's and St Thomas' School of Medicine (GKT). In addition to being the medical school of King's College London, GKT is also one of the United Hospitals. The school has campuses at three institutions in London: Guy's Hospital in Southwark, and King's College Hospital and St Thomas' Hospital in Lambeth.

The medical school as a whole is the largest in Europe. Caroline, Bill’s daughter, would have to be quite clever to gain admission as it is highly selective, receiving more applications for medicine than any other UK medical school. In 2014, the school was ranked 19th in the world by the QS University Rankings, which ranks medical schools. The school is ranked 30th in the UK by the Complete University Guide 2015.

Guy's Hospital was established in 1726 in the London Borough of Southwark by Thomas Guy, a wealthy bookseller and a governor of the nearby St Thomas' Hospital.

On May 24, 2014, I took the photo below while walking to the Shard in London. I thought it was funny because it suggested that the hospital was only for guys. Little did I know I’d be including it in this glossary a year later.



A sign outside Guy's Hospital in Southwark

**Cambridge:** The University of Cambridge is a collegiate public research university in Cambridge, England. Founded in 1209, Cambridge is the second-oldest university in the English-speaking world and the world's fourth-oldest surviving university. The University of Cambridge has 31 colleges, founded between the 13th and 20th centuries.

Cambridge is regularly placed among the world's best universities in different university rankings. It is highly prestigious and very selective.

Cambridge has many notable alumni. In Music, which Bill's daughter, Katie, will be studying, it has graduated world-renown composers, some of today's leading instrumentalists and conductors, and members of contemporary bands including Radiohead and Procol Harum. It's known primarily for its choral music; each Christmas Eve, BBC radio and television broadcasts *The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* by the Choir of King's College, Cambridge. The festival has existed since 1918, and the radio broadcast has been a national Christmas tradition since it was first transmitted in 1928. The radio broadcast is carried worldwide by the BBC World Service and is also syndicated to hundreds of radio stations in the US. The first television broadcast of the festival was in 1954.



The Great Court of King's College, Cambridge

Katie would likely be studying Music at King's College. She is a rare talent to have received a scholarship at such a prestigious university.

**As thick as six bricks:** "As thick as a brick" is a slang phrase used in the UK and elsewhere, to describe someone who is very stupid or dense, like a rock or a brick. The expressions "dumb as a brick" and "dumb as a rock" are also used to describe someone who is not very bright.

When Bill says his daughters are "thick as six bricks ... like their parents", he is overcompensating for having made the Gannets miserable by talking about his obviously brilliant daughters. He's saying they are not only dense, but dense six times over. Self-deprecation is an English trait, and "blowing one's own trumpet" is quite disapproved in the culture.

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**Hall cupboard:** this could either be a built-in hall closet with a door or a freestanding piece of furniture with a door or doors, behind which is space for storing things, usually on shelves. Gerald says he hid in the hall cupboard, so I'm thinking it's probably a closet and not a free-standing cupboard.

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**Hoovered it up:** to hoover is to vacuum. In the US, we'd say "vacuumed it up". "Hoovered" comes from the Hoover Company, who manufactured a brand of vacuum cleaners. Hoover started out as an American floor care manufacturer based in North Canton, Ohio. It also established a major base in the UK and for most of the early-and-mid-20th century, it dominated the electric vacuum cleaner industry there, to the point where the "Hoover" brand name became synonymous with vacuum cleaners and vacuuming across the UK and Ireland. Hoover UK/Europe split from Hoover U.S. in 1993 and was acquired by Candy, a company based in Brugherio, Italy. It currently uses the same Hoover logo.

