

6. A book you would write if you had all the resources

Best get my doctoral thesis out of the way first before I start thinking about writing novels... but of the books I read over the past 12 months, I would have *liked* to have written *Wolf Hall* (Hilary Mantel), *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet* (David Mitchell) and *Seeing Stars* (Simon Armitage).

7. An author you completely avoid/hate/won't read

This is probably sacrilege (never speak ill of the dead), but I can't help thinking 'pompous so-and-so' whenever I read something by Harry Mulisch. I have tried, honest!

8. An author that you will read whatever they put out

Roddy Doyle (because of his great sense of humour) and Toni Morrison (because she can make you feel compassion).

9. An unpopular/unknown book that you believe should be a bestseller

The White Family by Maggie Gee, because there is no 'black or white' in this novel, that is to say: people who are very likeable can be horrible sometimes, and people who are not as sympathetic may surprise you too. And sometimes the characters in the novel reflect on their own character traits and actions, which in turn makes you think about your own...

(source: <http://bookluv.tumblr.com/post/554260199/30-day-book-challenge-is-here-please-reblog>)

Mysteries of Anatomy

Where can a man buy a cap for his knee,
Or the key to a lock of his hair?
Can his eyes be called an academy
Because there are pupils there?

Is the crown of your head where jewels are found?
Who travels the bridge of your nose?
If you wanted to shingle the roof of your mouth,
Would you use the nails on your toes?

Can you sit in the shade of the palm of your hand,
Or beat on the drum of your ear?
Can the calf in your leg eat the corn off your toe?
Then why not grow corn on the ear?

Can the crook in your elbow be sent to jail?
If so, just what did he do?
How can you sharpen your shoulder blades?
I'll be darned if I know – do you?

<http://users.tinyonline.co.uk/gswithenbank/funnyeng.htm>