



# 'Of the week' Sheet

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Week:

A

## Thought of the Week

"In the spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours."

- *Mark Twain*

## Word of the Week

**Unstinting** (Adjective)

**Definition:** Generous and giving without restraint, eg of time, support, resources etc

**Usage:** 'She gave everyone she knew the gift of generous and unstinting friendship'

**Etymology:** 'Unstinting' uses the root word *stint* meaning 'ungenerous' (in this context). *Stint* comes from Old English *stynten*, 'to make blunt', from Proto-Germanic *stintana*, 'to make short' (possibly from as long ago as 500 BCE).

## Poem of the Week

### *Morning Light*

I sit there under the stars that glow,  
Pondering, wondering, wandering  
The sky weighs down on my mind,  
As heavy as marble, but not as low,  
as the thoughts that swirl around my head,  
Dark as obsidian, chaotic as the storm,  
That hit me, oh so long ago,

I close my eyes,  
Remembering a happier time,  
Where every thought didn't sting,  
Every breath didn't have me racked with pain,  
My eyes didn't prick.  
And only one thing comes to mind,  
A person,  
A lifeboat in a raging sea,  
I remember the feeling when she walked into a room,  
Warm as the sun above, kind everlastingly.

That warm feeling rushes into me,  
And as my eyelids open,  
I smile as she walks towards me,  
And vanishes, her laugh on the breeze.  
I wonder if she is with me,  
The sun starts to rise,  
And I rise with it.  
It's warm, not as warm as her though,  
She was my morning light.  
She still is

## Thinking Challenge of the Week

You may enter, but you may not come in,  
I have space, but no room,  
I have keys, but open no lock.  
What am I?



## Feminist of the Week

**Alice Oseman, UK**  
Screenwriter



An award-winning author, illustrator and screenwriter, Alice Oseman is the creator of a bestselling graphic novel for young adults, *Heartstopper*. She has also turned the LGBTQ+ coming-of-age story into an Emmy award-winning television adaptation for Netflix. Oseman has written every episode and been involved at every stage, from casting to music. She is the author of several other novels for young adults, including *Radio Silence*, *Loveless* and *Solitaire*, which was published when she was only 19. Her books have won, been shortlisted or nominated for a number of awards, including the YA Book Prize, the Inky Awards, the Carnegie Medal, and the Goodreads Choice Awards.

## Fact of the Week

**Europeans were scared of eating tomatoes when they were introduced**



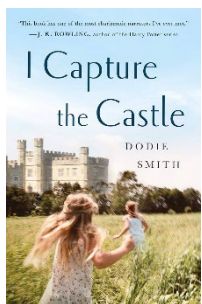
Scholars think Hernán Cortés brought the seeds in 1519 with the intent of the fruits being used ornamentally in gardens. By the 1700s, aristocrats started eating tomatoes, but they were convinced the fruits were poisonous because people would die after eating them. In reality, the acidity from the tomatoes brought out the lead in their pewter plates, and they actually died of lead poisoning.

## Book of the Week

**Title: I Capture the Castle**

**Author: Dodie Smith**

**Summary:** Seventeen-year-old Cassandra Mortmain and her family may live in a ramshackle old English castle, but



that's about as romantic as her life gets. While her beautiful older sister, Rose, longs to live in a Jane Austen novel, Cassandra knows that meeting an eligible man to marry isn't in either of their futures when their home is crumbling, and they have to sell their furniture for food. So, Cassandra instead strives to hone her writing skills in her journals. Until one day when their new landlords move in, which include two (very handsome) sons, and the lives of the Mortmain sisters change forever.

Through Cassandra's sharply funny, yet poignant, journal entries, she chronicles the great changes that take place within the castle's walls, and her own first descent into love. By the time she pens her final entry, she has "captured the castle" – and the heart of the reader – in one of literature's

most enchanting novels.

## Female Scientist of the Week

**Dame Clare Philomena Grey DBE FRS** is Geoffrey Moorhouse Gibson Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge. Grey uses nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy to study and optimize batteries. She also made major contributions to the development of lithium-air batteries. Grey is co-founder of Nyobolt, a company which specializes in niobium-based batteries. She was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) in the 2022 Birthday Honours for services to science.



**Thinking Challenge Answer:** A computer