

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Casey at the Bat

(excerpt)

by Ernest Lawrence Thayer

The outlook wasn't brilliant for the Mudville nine that day  
The score stood four to two with but one inning more to play  
And then when Cooney died at first and Barrows did the same  
A sickly silence fell upon the patrons of the game

A straggling few got up to go in deep despair  
The rest clung to that hope which springs eternal in the human breast  
They thought if only Casey could get but a whack at that  
We'd put up even money now with Casey at the bat

But Flynn preceded Casey as did also Jimmy Blake  
And the former was a lulu and the latter was a cake  
So upon that stricken multitude grim melancholy sat  
For there seemed but little chance of Casey's getting to the bat

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# The Gettysburg Address

by Abraham Lincoln

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation conceived in Liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal

Now we are engaged in a great civil war testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure We are met on a great battle-field of that war We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this

But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate we cannot consecrate we cannot hallow this ground The brave men living and dead who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract The world will little note nor long remember what we say here but it can never forget what they did here It is for us the living rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people by the people for the people shall not perish from the earth

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# Inaugural Address

(excerpt)

by John F. Kennedy

In the long history of the world only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger I do not shrink from this responsibility I welcome it I do not believe that any of us would exchange places with any other people or any other generation The energy the faith the devotion which we bring to this endeavor will light our country and all who serve it And the glow from that fire can truly light the world

And so my fellow Americans ask not what your country can do for you ask what you can do for your country

My fellow citizens of the world ask not what America will do for you but what together we can do for the freedom of man

Finally whether you are citizens of America or citizens of the world ask of us here the same high standards of strength and sacrifice which we ask of you With a good conscience our only sure reward with history the final judge of our deeds let us go forth to lead the land we love asking His blessing and His help but knowing that here on earth God's work must truly be our own

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# Paul Revere's Ride

(excerpt)

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Listen my children and you shall hear  
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere  
On the eighteenth of April in Seventy-Five  
Hardly a man is now alive  
Who remembers that famous day and year

He said to his friend "If the British march  
By land or sea from the town to-night  
Hang a lantern aloft in the belfry arch  
Of the North Church tower as a signal light  
One if by land and two if by sea  
And I on the opposite shore will be  
Ready to ride and spread the alarm  
Through every Middlesex village and farm  
For the country folk to be up and to arm"

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# Hansel and Gretel

(excerpt)

by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm

Next to a great forest there lived a poor woodcutter with his wife and his two children. The boy's name was Hansel and the girl's name was Gretel. He had but little to eat and once when a great famine came to the land he could no longer provide even their daily bread.

One evening as he was lying in bed worrying about his problems he sighed and said to his wife "What is to become of us? How can we feed our children when we have nothing for ourselves?"

"Man do you know what?" answered the woman "Early tomorrow morning we will take the two children out into the thickest part of the woods make a fire for them and give each of them a little piece of bread then leave them by themselves and go off to our work. They will not find their way back home and we will be rid of them."

"No woman" said the man "I will not do that. How could I bring myself to abandon my own children alone in the woods? Wild animals would soon come and tear them to pieces."

"Oh you fool" she said "then all four of us will starve. All you can do is to plane the boards for our coffins." And she gave him no peace until he agreed.

"But I do feel sorry for the poor children" said the man.

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