John B. MacDonald is known for his use of colors in his book titles, for example, *Darker Than Amber*, *Empty Copper Sea*, *Green Ripper*, and *Turquoise Lament*, to name but a few. If there is an author who uses numbers in titles, I don’t know who it is and hope that you will let me know who it is that I am missing. Looking back on books I have read over the past thirty-four years, I notice that in addition to colors, personal names, and so on, there were about thirty titles with numbers in them, not counting dates and not counting ordinal numbers. Can you identify the books and authors using the clues below? They are listed in the order in which I read them. Some were better than others; some were even worth rereading.

1. **Elizabeth Taylor** starred in the film version of this book. The author wrote about a part of society that is still alien to me but fascinating nonetheless. He was extremely popular in the 1950s and early 1960s. If I am not mistaken, the title may be a telephone exchange. I was going to insert clues about Alberto Moravia’s *Two Adolescents* but decided that it would be too obscure. Has anyone out there read it, too?

2. Here is a gimme so you will get at least one correct answer. You should know the name of this book and author when I tell you that the action takes place in Warsaw during World War II. I believe that this book was also turned into a film.

3. Number three also takes place in Europe but 150 years (give or take a few years) earlier. It isn’t the best book I have ever read but it isn’t the worst book, either.

4. Finally, a book by a Nobel prize winner. I read this book while in jump school at Fort Benning, Georgia. This man’s situation made austere paratrooper life seem like paradise by comparison. I later got to see and hear this author speak to a group at Stanford in front of the Hoover Tower in 1975 or 76.

5. The author of this book wrote a fairly cynical sequel to a novel that became a catch-word. It is not necessary to have read the original to read (notice that I didn’t say enjoy) the sequel. I finished it and then started to worry that I had become literarily what the leather-jacketed patient (Steve Martin?) was to dentistry in *The Little Shop of Horrors*. I didn’t enjoy it but I read it anyway.

6. Think of one of the most famous books in American literature (it is non-fiction) and then think of his experiment as a communal experience. If you are a child of the sixties you will probably have read this. Power to the people!

7. The landmark kiss-and-tell sports book, it is tame by today’s standards or lack thereof. Two of the main characters (this is also non-fiction) are no longer with us; both dying from alcohol-related causes.

8. Name the author and either of his two books featuring this rugged British hero and having a number in the title. First appearing in 1915 in a popular British magazine, one of these stories became a bestseller and later was used as the basis of a motion picture. Here is what The British Weekly had to say about the story: “We have everything here that can be wished — an excellent cipher story, with one or two points of novelty, a murder, a big subterranean business, a flight in a stolen motor-car, a monoplane floating with deadly intent, a

*continued on page 92*
Radical candidate, and all the rest. Not all the rest, for the woman has not yet appeared on the scene. But nobody must miss the tale." This hero went on in subsequent novels, to earn a knighthood becoming Sir R.H. The last of the R.H. books was written by the governor of one of the British commonwealths, who lived from 1875 to 1940. This prolific author published his first novel before he went to Oxford where he served as Librarian of the Oxford Union in 1898. Happily, these books and several others by our author are still in print and are still fun to read.

9. The number in this title alludes to a famous sleuth. The author is not particularly well-known and, if memory serves me, it is a book that is fun to read but not especially memorable except for the title. Was it made into a movie or a television show? I think it might have been but that is not a clue. How can I say more without giving the book away?

10. Another famous figure in this non-fiction work. At least I think it is non-fiction. Why can't I remember? Am I suppressing something? An address perhaps? Too much Viennese coffee can cause temporary loss of memory.

Now that I have compiled this puzzle it occurs to me that you will probably need an online public access catalog with keyword searching to get some of these answers. I suggest that you use the OCLC online union catalog for comprehensiveness. Actually, some of you may be able to get most of these without leaving your chair. Number ten could be a stumper but if you analyze it carefully you will no doubt find the correct answer.

ANSWERS TO LAST ISSUE'S QUIZ

A. **THE LOG FROM THE SEA OF CORTEZ** by John Steinbeck.
This book is still in print and still highly readable. Steinbeck includes a long passage on his theory of life, the non-teleological as opposed to the teleological, but he is most successful when he is describing the group of men living deliberately on a fishing boat collecting marine specimens. Steinbeck also appreciates that coastline of Mexico along the Gulf of California, including La Paz. This is a part of Mexico we never hear about, but is it still there almost fifty years later? And I wonder if Steinbeck was influenced by *Walden*, a book that he surely was familiar with.

B. **WALDEN** by Henry David Thoreau.
Also in print, this American classic is the ideal that other writers aim for. I have admired this book and its author since high school but the real beauty of *Walden* was not available to me at that age, although I got the message then, too. Backslider that I am, I need to re-read this handbook, or parts of it, from time to time to keep me on the straight and narrow.

C. **CASUALS OF THE SEA** by William McFee.
A lot of the action in this book takes place in London and its environs but the sea is central to the theme of the book and to its orientation to life. In this, it parallels the books above, but it is a work of fiction, one of those novels of truth that can help us set our moral compass as we try to steer a steady course. I don't think this book is in print any longer but it was issued by the Modern Library in 1931 and can occasionally be found tucked away on a dusty shelf in some used bookstore, an appropriate place for it, actually. For in the book, the protagonist is awakened to life's promise by secondhand books and the bookseller who urged the young man to read.

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**Juris Libris**


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**Internal Union Governance**