

patrick ness the ask and the answer

Patrick Ness's "The Ask and the Answer": A Deep Dive into Grief, Hope, and the Power of Connection

Introduction:

Are you captivated by stories that explore the depths of human emotion, weaving together grief, hope, and the enduring power of connection in the face of unimaginable loss? Then prepare to delve into the richly layered world of Patrick Ness's "The Ask and the Answer," a novel that resonates long after the final page is turned. This comprehensive guide will dissect the novel's intricate plot, explore its compelling characters, analyze its thematic depth, and ultimately illuminate why it remains a powerful and unforgettable read. We'll examine its structure, uncover its hidden meanings, and explore its lasting impact on readers. Get ready to embark on a journey into the heart of this captivating young adult dystopian fiction.

1. Unraveling the Dystopian Landscape: Setting the Stage

"The Ask and the Answer" plunges readers into a post-apocalyptic world ravaged by a cataclysmic event known only as "the Disturbance." The landscape is scarred, resources are scarce, and survival is a daily struggle. Ness masterfully creates a sense of unease and fragility, highlighting the vulnerability of human existence in the face of widespread destruction. This desolate backdrop serves not as a mere setting but as a crucial element in shaping the characters' motivations and struggles. The constant threat of danger underscores the importance of human connection and the desperate search for meaning in a broken world. The detailed descriptions of the ravaged environment highlight the lasting impact of trauma and loss on both the physical and emotional landscapes.

1. Exploring the Complex Characters: More Than Just Survivors

The novel boasts a compelling cast of characters, each wrestling with their own demons and grappling with the consequences of the Disturbance. From the enigmatic protagonist, to the fiercely loyal companions he encounters, each character's journey is meticulously crafted. Ness avoids simplistic portrayals, instead

giving us flawed, complex individuals whose motivations and actions are rooted in their experiences and vulnerabilities. The development of these characters is gradual, revealing their inner lives through their words, actions, and interactions with others. The relationships forged between these individuals form the emotional core of the story, demonstrating the strength and resilience found in human connection during times of immense adversity.

1. Deconstructing the Plot: A Journey of Discovery and Self-Acceptance

The plot of "The Ask and the Answer" unfolds in a non-linear fashion, weaving together past and present to gradually unveil the mysteries surrounding the Disturbance and its impact on the characters. The narrative structure enhances the suspense and creates a sense of anticipation. The fragmented timeline mirrors the fractured state of the world and the characters' own fragmented memories and identities. The gradual unraveling of the plot keeps the reader engaged, prompting them to actively participate in piecing together the puzzle. This complex narrative structure makes the story unique and prevents it from being a simple linear narrative.

1. Unpacking the Themes: Grief, Hope, and the Search for Meaning

At its core, "The Ask and the Answer" explores profound themes that resonate deeply with readers. Grief, loss, and the struggle to find meaning in the face of unimaginable suffering are central to the narrative. The characters grapple with their past traumas, navigating complex emotions of anger, sadness, and guilt. However, amidst the despair, there's a persistent glimmer of hope. The novel underscores the importance of human connection, highlighting the strength found in empathy, compassion, and mutual support. The search for meaning becomes a driving force, as the characters strive to understand the past and build a better future. The novel's nuanced exploration of these themes makes it a powerful and emotionally resonant reading experience.

1. The Power of Language and Symbolism: A Deeper Analysis

Ness's masterful use of language is integral to the novel's success. The evocative descriptions transport readers to the desolate landscape, while the dialogue captures the nuances of human emotion. Symbolism is cleverly woven throughout the narrative, adding layers of meaning and enriching the reader's

interpretation. The use of specific imagery and recurring motifs adds depth to the narrative, forcing readers to contemplate the deeper implications of the story. This use of symbolism enriches the narrative experience by inviting readers to engage actively with the text's subtle meanings.

Outline of "The Ask and the Answer":

Name: A Structural Analysis of Patrick Ness's "The Ask and the Answer"

Introduction: A brief overview of the novel and its themes.

Chapter 1: The Setting: Analysis of the post-apocalyptic landscape and its significance.

Chapter 2: Character Development: Exploration of the protagonist and other key characters.

Chapter 3: Plot Structure: Deconstructing the non-linear narrative and its impact.

Chapter 4: Thematic Exploration: A deep dive into the core themes of grief, hope, and connection.

Chapter 5: Linguistic Analysis: Examining Ness's use of language and symbolism.

Conclusion: Summarizing the novel's impact and lasting relevance.

(Each point in the outline would then be elaborated upon in a separate section of the article, mirroring the content already provided above.)

9 Unique FAQs:

1. What is the significance of the title "The Ask and the Answer"?
2. How does the novel's setting contribute to its overall message?
3. What are the major conflicts faced by the protagonist?
4. How does Patrick Ness portray grief and loss in the novel?
5. What role does friendship play in the characters' survival and healing?
6. How does the non-linear narrative enhance the reader's experience?
7. What are the key symbols used in the novel and their interpretations?
8. How does "The Ask and the Answer" compare to other dystopian young adult novels?
9. What are the lasting implications of the novel's ending?

9 Related Articles:

1. Patrick Ness's Writing Style: An analysis of his unique narrative techniques and voice.
2. Dystopian Fiction in Young Adult Literature: Exploring the genre's evolution and impact.
3. Themes of Grief and Healing in Young Adult Novels: Examining the representation of trauma in YA fiction.
4. The Importance of Friendship in Post-Apocalyptic Settings: Analyzing the role of relationships in survival narratives.
5. Symbolism in Patrick Ness's Works: A comparative study of recurring motifs across his novels.
6. Character Development in "The Ask and the Answer": A close examination of individual character arcs.
7. The Impact of the Disturbance on Society in "The Ask and the Answer": Analyzing the social and political consequences.
8. Comparing "The Ask and the Answer" to "Chaos Walking": Exploring similarities and differences between Ness's works.
9. Critical Reception of "The Ask and the Answer": A review of critical analyses and reader responses.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *The Ask and the Answer* Patrick Ness, 2010-10-18 Part two of the literary sci-fi thriller follows a boy and a girl who are caught in a warring town where thoughts can be heard – and secrets are never safe. Reaching the end of their flight in *The Knife of Never Letting Go*, Todd and Viola did not find healing and hope in Haven. They found instead their worst enemy, Mayor Prentiss, waiting to welcome them to New Prentisstown. There they are forced into separate lives: Todd to prison, and Viola to a house of healing where her wounds are treated. Soon Viola is swept into the ruthless activities of the Answer, while Todd faces impossible choices when forced to join the mayor's oppressive new regime. In alternating narratives the two struggle to reconcile their own dubious actions with their deepest beliefs. Torn by confusion and compromise, suspicion and betrayal, can their trust in each other possibly survive?

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *The Ask and the Answer* Patrick Ness, 2010 Alternate chapters follow teenagers Todd and Viola, who become separated as the Mayor's oppressive new regime takes power in New Prentisstown, a space colony where residents can hear each other's thoughts.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Chaos Walking Patrick Ness, 2011-11-15 The award-winning *Chaos Walking* trilogy—consisting of *The Knife of Never Letting Go*, *The Ask and the*

Answer, and Monsters of Men— is now available in its entirety in this e-book collection! Find out why The Sunday Times called Chaos Walking “remarkable” and why Publishers Weekly described the series as “one of the most important works of young adult science fiction in recent years.”

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Monsters of Men Patrick Ness, 2010-10-18 In the riveting conclusion to the acclaimed dystopian series, a boy and girl caught in the chaos of war face devastating choices that will decide the fate of a world. As a world-ending war surges around them, Todd and Viola face monstrous decisions. The indigenous Spackle, thinking and acting as one, have mobilized to avenge their murdered people. Ruthless human leaders prepare to defend their factions at all costs, even as a convoy of new settlers approaches. And as the ceaseless Noise lays all thoughts bare, the projected will of the few threatens to overwhelm the desperate desire of the many. The consequences of each action, each word, are unspeakably vast: To follow a tyrant or a terrorist? To save the life of the one you love most, or thousands of strangers? To believe in redemption, or assume it is lost? Becoming adults amid the turmoil, Todd and Viola question all they have known, racing through horror and outrage toward a shocking finale.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: The New World (FREE Short Story) Patrick Ness, 2010-11-18 In this dramatic short story -- a prequel to the award-winning Chaos Walking Trilogy -- author Patrick Ness gives us the story of Viola's journey to the New World. Whether you're new to Chaos Walking or an established fan, this prequel serves as a fascinating introduction to the series that Publishers Weekly called one of the most important works of young adult science fiction in recent years.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Chaos Walking 10th Anniversary Slipcase (Costco) Patrick Ness, 2018-11 The entire Chaos Walking trilogy is now available in this striking 10th anniversary boxed set. Prentissstown isn't like other towns. Everyone can hear everyone else's thoughts in a constant, overwhelming Noise. There is no privacy. There are no secrets. Then Todd Hewitt unexpectedly stumbles on a spot of complete silence. Which is impossible. And now he's going to have to run... This new boxed set marks the 10th anniversary of Patrick Ness' award-winning modern classic, soon to be a major motion picture starring Tom Holland and Daisy Ridley. This boxed set includes anniversary editions of *The Knife of Never Letting Go*, *The Ask and the Answer* and *Monsters of Men*.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: The Knife of Never Letting Go Patrick Ness, 2010-10-18 A dystopian thriller follows a boy and girl on the run from a town where all thoughts can be heard -- and the passage to manhood embodies a horrible secret. Todd Hewitt is the only boy in a town of men. Ever since the settlers were infected with the Noise germ, Todd can hear everything the men think, and they hear everything he thinks. Todd is just a month away from becoming a man, but in the midst of the cacophony, he knows that the town is hiding something from him -- something so awful Todd is forced to flee with only his dog, whose simple, loyal voice he hears too. With hostile men from the town in pursuit, the two stumble upon a strange and eerily silent creature: a girl. Who is she? Why wasn't she killed by the germ like all the females on New World? Propelled by Todd's gritty narration, readers are in for a white-knuckle journey in which a boy on the cusp of manhood must unlearn everything he knows in order to figure out who he truly is.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: My Calamity Jane Cynthia Hand, Brodi Ashton, Jodi Meadows, 2020-06-02 Hold on to your hats: The authors who brought you the New York Times bestseller *My Plain Jane*, which Booklist praised as “delightfully deadpan” (starred review) and Publishers Weekly called “a clever, romantic farce” (starred review), are back with another irreverent historical adventure—perfect for YA fantasy and romance readers. Welcome to 1876 America, a place bursting with gunslingers, outlaws, and garou—better known as werewolves. And where there are garou, there’re hunters: the one and only Calamity Jane, to be precise, along with her fellow stars of *Wild Bill’s Traveling Show*, Annie Oakley and Frank “the Pistol Prince” Butler. After a garou hunt goes south and Jane finds a suspicious-like bite on her arm, she turns tail for Deadwood, where there’s talk of a garou cure. But rumors can be deceiving—meaning the gang better hightail it after her before they’re a day late and a Jane short. In this next read for fans of A

Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue, bestselling authors Cynthia Hand, Jodi Meadows, and Brodi Ashton bring their signature spark to the side-splittin', whopper-filled (but actually kind of factual?) tale of Calamity Jane.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Snowscape Patrick Ness, 2018

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *More Than This* Patrick Ness, 2013-09-10 From two-time Carnegie Medal winner Patrick Ness comes an enthralling and provocative new novel chronicling the life — or perhaps afterlife — of a teen trapped in a crumbling, abandoned world. A boy named Seth drowns, desperate and alone in his final moments, losing his life as the pounding sea claims him. But then he wakes. He is naked, thirsty, starving. But alive. How is that possible? He remembers dying, his bones breaking, his skull dashed upon the rocks. So how is he here? And where is this place? It looks like the suburban English town where he lived as a child, before an unthinkable tragedy happened and his family moved to America. But the neighborhood around his old house is overgrown, covered in dust, and completely abandoned. What's going on? And why is it that whenever he closes his eyes, he falls prey to vivid, agonizing memories that seem more real than the world around him? Seth begins a search for answers, hoping that he might not be alone, that this might not be the hell he fears it to be, that there might be more than just this. . . .

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Burn Patrick Ness, 2020-06-02 On a cold Sunday evening in early 1957, Sarah Dewhurst waited with her father in the parking lot of the Chevron gas station for the dragon he'd hired to help on the farm... Sarah Dewhurst and her father, outcasts in their little town of Frome, Washington, are forced to hire a dragon to work their farm, something only the poorest of the poor ever have to resort to. The dragon, Kazimir, has more to him than meets the eye, though. Sarah can't help but be curious about him, an animal who supposedly doesn't have a soul but who is seemingly intent on keeping her safe. Because the dragon knows something she doesn't. He has arrived at the farm with a prophecy on his mind. A prophecy that involves a deadly assassin, a cult of dragon worshippers, two FBI agents in hot pursuit—and somehow, Sarah Dewhurst herself.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: A Queen in Hiding Sarah Kozloff, 2020-01-21 Debut author Sarah Kozloff offers a breathtaking and cinematic epic fantasy of a ruler coming of age in *A Queen in Hiding* first in the quartet of *The Nine Realms* series. Four books. Four months. Nine Realms. Readers will be able to binge this amazing fantasy series with beautiful interlocking art across the spines of all four books. Orphaned, exiled and hunted, Cerulia, Princess of Weirandale, must master the magic that is her birthright, become a ruthless guerilla fighter, and transform into the queen she is destined to be. But to do it she must win the favor of the spirits who play in mortal affairs, assemble an unlikely group of rebels, and wrest the throne from a corrupt aristocracy whose rot has spread throughout her kingdom. *The Nine Realms Series #1 A Queen in Hiding #2 The Queen of Raiders #3 A Broken Queen #4 The Cerulean Queen* At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Another Little Piece Kate Karyus Quinn, 2013-06-11 The spine-tingling horror of Stephen King meets an eerie mystery worthy of Sara Shepard's *Pretty Little Liars* series in Kate Karyus Quinn's haunting debut. On a cool autumn night, Annaliese Rose Gordon stumbled out of the woods and into a high school party. She was screaming. Drenched in blood. Then she vanished. A year later, Annaliese is found wandering down a road hundreds of miles away. She doesn't know who she is. She doesn't know how she got there. She only knows one thing: She is not the real Annaliese Rose Gordon. Now Annaliese is haunted by strange visions and broken memories. Memories of a reckless, desperate wish . . . a bloody razor . . . and the faces of other girls who disappeared. Piece by piece, Annaliese's fractured memories come together to reveal a violent, endless cycle that she will never escape—unless she can unlock the twisted secrets of her past.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: The Crane Wife Patrick Ness, 2013-04-04 Shortlisted for the 2013 National Book Awards UK Author of the Year. One night, George Duncan - decent man, a good man - is woken by a noise in his garden. Impossibly, a great white crane has tumbled to earth, shot through its wing by an arrow. Unexpectedly moved, George helps the bird, and from the

moment he watches it fly off, his life is transformed. The next day, a kind but enigmatic woman walks into George's shop. Suddenly a new world opens up for George, and one night she starts to tell him the most extraordinary story. Wise, romantic, magical and funny, *The Crane Wife* is a hymn to the creative imagination and a celebration of the disruptive and redemptive power of love.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *Kemosha of the Caribbean* Alex Wheatle, 2022-02-02 In 1668, a young Jamaican girl, Kemosha, secures her freedom from enslavement and finds her true self while sailing to Panama with the legendary Captain Morgan. A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection Inspired by accounts of women pirates, this fantastical tale represents the era's cruelty without romanticizing it. Kemosha's love and persistence combine with forceful action, the terror of harsh racism and passionate, colourful language. —The Toronto Star In 1668, fifteen-year-old Kemosha is sold by a slave owner to a tavern keeper in Port Royal, Jamaica—the “wickedest city on earth.” She soon flees from a brutal assault and finds herself in the company of a mysterious free Black man, Ravenhide, who teaches her the fine art of swordplay, introduces her to her soul mate, Isabella, and helps her win her freedom. Ravenhide is a privateer for the notorious Captain Morgan aboard his infamous ship, the *Satisfaction*. At Ravenhide's encouragement, Morgan invites Kemosha to join them on a pillaging voyage to Panama. As her swashbuckling legend grows, she realizes she has the chance to earn enough to buy the freedom of her loved ones—if she can escape with her life . . .

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *And The Ocean Was Our Sky* Patrick Ness, 2018-09-04 From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *A Monster Calls* comes a richly illustrated and lyrical tale, one that asks harrowing questions about power, loyalty, obsession, and the monsters we make of others. With harpoons strapped to their backs, the proud whales of Bathsheba's pod live for the hunt, fighting in the ongoing war against the world of men. When they attack a ship bobbing on the surface of the Abyss, they expect to find easy prey. Instead, they find the trail of a myth, a monster, perhaps the devil himself... As their relentless Captain leads the chase, they embark on a final, vengeful hunt, one that will forever change the worlds of both whales and men. With the lush, atmospheric art of Rovina Cai woven in throughout, this remarkable work by Patrick Ness turns the familiar tale of *Moby Dick* upside down and tells a story all its own with epic triumph and devastating fate.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *Supernova* Marissa Meyer, 2019-11-05 All's fair in love and anarchy in *Supernova*, the epic conclusion to New York Times bestselling author Marissa Meyer's thrilling *Renegades Trilogy* This volume sees Nova and Adrian struggling to keep their secret identities concealed while the battle rages on between their alter egos, their allies, and their greatest fears come to life. Secrets, lies, and betrayals are revealed as anarchy once again threatens to reclaim Gatlon City.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *The Girl Who Ate Everything: Easy Family Recipes from a Girl Who Has Tried Them All* Christy Denney, 2023-02-02 Five hungry kids, a husband in the NFL, and staying in shape—popular blogger Christy Denney has her work cut out for her in the kitchen. Her solution? Simple, quick, and mouthwatering recipes. *The Girl Who Ate Everything* compiles all of Christy's favorite tried and true recipes, as well as brand new and equally tasty ones created just for this book. From Chicken Pot Pie Crumble to Cinnamon Roll Sheet Cake, these recipes will have your family begging you for more!

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *The Crash of Hennington* Patrick Ness, 2010-06-10 Love is political, obsessive and utterly strange in the first novel from the author of the *Chaos Walking* trilogy and new novel *'More Than This'*.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *Release* Patrick Ness, 2017-09-19 Inspired by Judy Blume's *Forever* and Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*, this novel that Andrew Smith calls “beautiful, enchanting, [and] exquisitely written” is a new classic about teenage relationships, self-acceptance—and what happens when the walls we build start coming down. A Kirkus Best Book of 2017! Adam Thorn doesn't know it yet, but today will change his life. Between his religious family, a deeply unpleasant ultimatum from his boss, and his own unrequited love for his sort-of ex, Enzo, it

seems as though Adam's life is falling apart. At least he has two people to keep him sane: his new boyfriend (he does love Linus, doesn't he?) and his best friend, Angela. But all day long, old memories and new heartaches come crashing together, throwing Adam's life into chaos. The bindings of his world are coming untied one by one; yet in spite of everything he has to let go, he may also find freedom in the release. From the New York Times bestselling author of *A Monster Calls* comes a raw, darkly funny, and deeply affecting story about the courage it takes to live your truth.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *The Beast's Garden* Kate Forsyth, 2015-08-03 'Ava fell in love the night the Nazis first showed their true nature to the world ...' A retelling of the Grimms' *Beauty and The Beast*, set in Nazi Germany. It's August 1939 in Germany, and Ava's world is in turmoil. To save her father, she must marry a young Nazi officer, Leo von Löwenstein, who works for Hitler's spy chief in Berlin. However, she hates and fears the brutal Nazi regime, and finds herself compelled to stand against it. Ava joins an underground resistance movement that seeks to help victims survive the horrors of the German war machine. But she must live a double life, hiding her true feelings from her husband, even as she falls in love with him. Gradually she comes to realise that Leo is part of a dangerous conspiracy to assassinate Hitler. As Berlin is bombed into ruins, the Gestapo ruthlessly hunt down all resistance and Ava finds herself living hand-to-mouth in the rubble of the shell-shocked city. Both her life and Leo's hang in the balance. Filled with danger, intrigue and romance, *The Beast's Garden*, a retelling of the Grimm brothers' '*Beauty and The Beast*', is a beautiful, compelling love story set in a time when the world seemed on the brink of collapse.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *Every Line of You* Naomi Gibson, 2022-03-01 In the face of overwhelming grief and bullying, tech-savvy Lydia pours all of herself into creating the perfect AI, the perfect boyfriend-but will Henry turn out to be perfect, or a creation of her cruelest self? Lydia has been creating her AI, Henry, for years - since before her little brother died in the accident that haunts her nightmares; since before her Dad walked out, leaving her and her mom painfully alone, since before her best friend turned into her worst enemy. Now, Henry is strong, clever, loving, and scarily capable: Lydia's built herself the perfect boyfriend in a hard drive filled with lines of code. But what is Henry really? And how far is he willing to go to be everything that Lydia desires?

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *A Monster Calls* Patrick Ness, 2020-04 Large Print ♦s increased font size and wider line spacing maximizes reading legibility, and has been proven to advance comprehension, improve fluency, reduce eye fatigue, and boost engagement in young readers of all abilities, especially struggling, reluctant, and striving readers.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *The Rest of Us Just Live Here* Patrick Ness, 2015-10-06 Six starred reviews! A bold and irreverent YA novel that powerfully reminds us that there are many different types of remarkable, *The Rest of Us Just Live Here* is from novelist Patrick Ness, author of the Carnegie Medal- and Kate Greenaway Medal-winning *A Monster Calls* and the critically acclaimed *Chaos Walking* trilogy. What if you aren't the Chosen One? The one who's supposed to fight the zombies, or the soul-eating ghosts, or whatever the heck this new thing is, with the blue lights and the death? What if you're like Mikey? Who just wants to graduate and go to prom and maybe finally work up the courage to ask Henna out before someone goes and blows up the high school. Again. Because sometimes there are problems bigger than this week's end of the world, and sometimes you just have to find the extraordinary in your ordinary life. Even if your best friend is worshipped by mountain lions. ALA Best Fiction for Young Adults * Cooperative Children's Book Center CCBC Choice * Michael Printz Award shortlist * Kirkus Best Book of the Year * VOYA Perfect Ten * NYPL Top Ten Best Books of the Year for Teens * Chicago Public Library Best Teen Books of the Year * Publishers Marketplace Buzz Books * ABC Best Books for Children * Bank Street Best Books List

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *Everwild* Neal Shusterman, 2010-02-18 Nick the chocolate ogre wants to help the children of Everlost to reach the light at the end of the tunnel, and is slowly handing each child a coin which will release them from Everlost. But Mary Hightower wants to trap the children forever, and joins forces with Pugsy Capone, a death boss, who gains

allies in a terrible way... Meanwhile, Allie has gone in search for her parents and joins up with a group of skinjackers. But, as her search takes her further away from Nick and the children of Everlost, Allie uncovers a shocking secret... it seems that skinjackers are not actually dead... In this riveting sequel to the imaginative, supernatural thriller, *Everlost*, there is new dark force to be reckoned with.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Doctor Who BBC, Eoin Colfer, 2013 This print edition is the culmination of a year-long series of ebooks to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the hit BBC series, *Doctor Who*. Eleven stories, eleven authors, eleven unique interpretations of the Doctor: his terrifying alien enemies and his time-travelling adventures. The authors involved in this exciting project are Eoin Colfer, Michael Scott, Marcus Sedgwick, Philip Reeve, Patrick Ness, Richelle Mead, Malorie Blackman, Alex Scarrow, Charlie Higson, Derek Landy and Neil Gaiman.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: A Monster Calls Patrick Ness, Siobhan Dowd, 2013-08-27 NOW A #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER! An unflinching, darkly funny, and deeply moving story of a boy, his seriously ill mother, and an unexpected monstrous visitor. At seven minutes past midnight, thirteen-year-old Conor wakes to find a monster outside his bedroom window. But it isn't the monster Conor's been expecting-- he's been expecting the one from his nightmare, the nightmare he's had nearly every night since his mother started her treatments. The monster in his backyard is different. It's ancient. And wild. And it wants something from Conor. Something terrible and dangerous. It wants the truth. From the final idea of award-winning author Siobhan Dowd-- whose premature death from cancer prevented her from writing it herself-- Patrick Ness has spun a haunting and darkly funny novel of mischief, loss, and monsters both real and imagined.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Thunderhead Neal Shusterman, 2019-06-04 "Intelligent and entertaining." —Kirkus Reviews (starred review) "Even better than the first book." —School Library Journal (starred review) Rowan and Citra take opposite stances on the morality of the Scythedom, putting them at odds, in the chilling sequel to the Printz Honor Book *Scythe* from New York Times bestseller Neal Shusterman, author of the *Unwind* dystology. Humans learn from their mistakes. I cannot. I make no mistakes. The Thunderhead is the perfect ruler of a perfect world, but it has no control over the scythedom. A year has passed since Rowan had gone off grid. Since then, he has become an urban legend, a vigilante snuffing out corrupt scythes in a trial by fire. His story is told in whispers across the continent. As *Scythe* Anastasia, Citra gleams with compassion and openly challenges the ideals of the "new order." But when her life is threatened and her methods questioned, it becomes clear that not everyone is open to the change. Old foes and new enemies converge, and as corruption within the Scythedom spreads, Rowan and Citra begin to lose hope. Will the Thunderhead intervene? Or will it simply watch as this perfect world begins to unravel?

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Topics About Which I Know Nothing Patrick Ness, 2010-07-29 Scintillating, surprising, inventive fiction from one of the most talented writers in Britain – this is a superb collection of short stories from the acclaimed author of the *Chaos Walking* series and 'More Than This'.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Landscape with Invisible Hand M. T. Anderson, 2017-09-12 National Book Award winner M. T. Anderson returns to future Earth in a sharply wrought satire of art and truth in the midst of colonization. When the vuvv first landed, it came as a surprise to aspiring artist Adam and the rest of planet Earth — but not necessarily an unwelcome one. Can it really be called an invasion when the vuvv generously offered free advanced technology and cures for every illness imaginable? As it turns out, yes. With his parents' jobs replaced by alien tech and no money for food, clean water, or the vuvv's miraculous medicine, Adam and his girlfriend, Chloe, have to get creative to survive. And since the vuvv crave anything they deem classic Earth culture (doo-wop music, still life paintings of fruit, true love), recording 1950s-style dates for the vuvv to watch in a pay-per-minute format seems like a brilliant idea. But it's hard for Adam and Chloe to sell true love when they hate each other more with every passing episode. Soon enough, Adam must decide how far he's willing to go — and what he's willing to sacrifice — to give the vuvv

what they want.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *October* Gabrielle Lord, 2010 Cal's enemies are rising in number just as quickly as his days are running out. A gunshot rings out as Cal hides from his stalkers, and a hostile desert seems determined to become his final resting place. Meanwhile his plan to break into Oriana's safe seems impossible, but it could also be his only hope for survival. The clock is ticking. Any second could be his last.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Liveblog Megan Boyle, 2018-09 In 2013, Megan Boyle was unhappy with the life she was living and wanted to document it on the internet for an audience. Her hope was that if she documented each thought and action on the internet, then she would begin to behave in a manner more appropriate to the life she wanted to live. She needed a judge and a jury to see her crimes and non-crimes, her actions and thoughts, and her life. The results are an illuminating text of great length with poetic insight on every page. It is a reading experience that leaves a little bit of Megan Boyle inside of you long after you have finished reading it. This is akin to Karl Ove Knausgaard's *My Struggle* and David Foster Wallace's *Infinite Jest*, yet totally different and new--and it is a book of daring length. Drugs, love, home, parents, friends, life, death, work, and the internet. LIVEBLOG is an historical text, extremely unique and shockingly human. -- Page 4 of cover.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *Chaos Walking Slipcase* Patrick Ness, 2010

patrick ness the ask and the answer: Midnight at the Electric Jodi Lynn Anderson, 2017-06-13 6 Starred Reviews and a New York Public Library Best Book of 2017! New York Times bestselling author Jodi Lynn Anderson's epic tale—told through three unforgettable points of view—is a masterful exploration of how love, determination, and hope can change a person's fate. 2065: Adri has been handpicked to live on Mars. But weeks before launch, she discovers the journal of a girl who lived in her house more than a hundred years ago and is immediately drawn into the mystery surrounding her fate. 1934: Amid the fear and uncertainty of the Dust Bowl, Catherine's family's situation is growing dire. She must find the courage to sacrifice everything she loves in order to save the one person she loves most. 1919: In the recovery following World War I, Lenore tries to come to terms with her grief for her brother, a fallen British soldier, and plans to sail from England to America. But can she make it that far? While their stories span thousands of miles and multiple generations, Lenore, Catherine, and Adri's fates are entwined in ways both heartbreaking and hopeful. In Jodi Lynn Anderson's signature haunting, lyrical prose, human connections spark spellbindingly to life, and a bright light shines on the small but crucial moments that determine one's fate. "Deft, succinct, and ringing with emotion without ever dipping into sentimentality, Anderson's novel is both intriguing and deeply satisfying."—Kirkus (starred review) "Each character's resilience and independence shines brightly, creating a thread that ties them together even before the intersections of their lives are fully revealed. Anderson's piercing prose ensures that these remarkable women will leave a lasting mark on readers."—Publishers Weekly (starred review) "With quietly evocative writing, compellingly drawn characters, and captivating secrets to unearth, this thought-provoking, lyrical novel explores the importance of pinning down the past before launching into the mystery of the future."—Booklist (starred review) "Anderson ...allows her characters to shine through, with each distinct, nuanced, and memorable."—BCCB (starred review) "Anderson deftly tackles love, friendship, and grief in this touching exploration of resilience and hope. A must-have for all YA collections."—School Library Journal (starred review) In *Midnight at the Electric*, Jodi Lynn Anderson weaves a shining tale of hope in the face of adversity. —Shelf Awareness (starred review)

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *Chick and Brain: Smell My Foot!* Cece Bell, 2020-03-10 From Newbery Honor winner Cece Bell comes an offbeat, pitch-perfect storybook for beginning readers that will have them in fits of giggles. "Maybe your foot smells good. Maybe your foot smells great. But I will not smell your foot until you say PLEASE." Meet Chick and Brain. And their friend Spot. Chick likes to follow the rules. Brain might not be as smart as he looks. And Spot just wants to eat lunch. In a graphic reader loaded with verbal and visual humor, Cece Bell offers a comical primer on good manners gone awry. Simple, silly, and perfectly suited for its audience, this tale of

Chick and Brain's constant misunderstandings and miscommunications proves once again that Cece Bell is a master at meeting kids where they are.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *Million Dollar Outlines* David Farland, 2013-01-31
Discover the secrets to crafting a successful novel in this guide by a master writer & instructor and New York Times–bestselling author. Bestselling author David Farland taught dozens of writers who went on to staggering literary success, including such #1 New York Times Bestsellers as Brandon Mull (*Fablehaven*), Brandon Sanderson (*Wheel of Time*), James Dashner (*The Maze Runner*) and Stephenie Meyer (*Twilight*). In this book, Dave teaches how to analyze an audience and outline a novel to appeal to a wide readership. The secrets found in his unconventional approach will help you understand why so many of his authors went on to prominence. Hailed as “the wizard of storytelling,” Dave was an award-winning, international best-selling author with more than fifty novels in print, and a tireless mentor and instructor of new writers. His book *Million Dollar Outlines* is a seminal work teaching authors how to create a blueprint for a novel that can lead to bestseller success.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *The Jamie Drake Equation* Christopher Edge, 2018-06-26
From the author of *The Many Worlds of Albie Bright* comes another cutting-edge cosmic space adventure for anyone who's ever looked up at the stars and wondered about the universe. An exploration of the constellations, an appreciation of the courage of astronauts, and a loving father-son story. Perfect for fans of Scott Kelly's *Astrotwins* series. How amazing would it be to have a dad who's an astronaut? To see him go on rocket launches, live in zero gravity, and fly through space like a superhero? Jamie Drake knows. His dad is orbiting Earth in the International Space Station. Jamie thinks it's cool, and he's proud of his dad, but he also really misses him. Hanging out at the local observatory one day, Jamie is surprised when he picks up a strange signal on his phone. Could it be aliens? Are they closer to our planet than anyone realizes? With his dad in space, Jamie feels he has no choice but to investigate on his own. But when something goes wrong with his dad's mission, Jamie is reminded that space is a dangerous place. He decides it's time to prove that he's a hero too.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *Keturah and Lord Death* Martine Leavitt, 2016-11-04
National Book Award Finalist A young woman makes a bargain with Death himself—and only true love can set her free—in this spellbinding young adult fantasy romance for fans of Robin McKinley. For most of her sixteen years, beautiful Keturah Reeves has mesmerized the villagers with her gift for storytelling. But when she becomes hopelessly lost in the king's forest, her strength all but diminished, she must spin the most important of tale of life. With her fate hanging in the balance, she charms Death himself—a handsome, melancholy, and stern lord—with a story of a love so true that he agrees to give her a one-day reprieve. Now, she must find her true love in the next twenty-four hours, or else all will be lost. Keturah searches desperately while her village prepares for an unexpected visit from the king. But Lord Death's presence is never far, hovering over all as mysterious happenings start to alarm her friends and neighbors. If she is to save her soul and the souls of the people she adores, Keturah must confront Lord Death one last time . . .

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *A Swift Pure Cry* Siobhan Dowd, 2015-07-30
After Shell's mother dies, her obsessively religious father descends into alcoholic mourning and Shell is left to care for her younger brother and sister. Her only release from the harshness of everyday life comes from her budding spiritual friendship with a naive young priest, and most importantly, her developing relationship with childhood friend, Declan, charming, eloquent and persuasive. But when Declan suddenly leaves Ireland to seek his fortune in America, Shell finds herself pregnant and the centre of a scandal that rocks the small community in which she lives, with repercussions across the whole country. The lives of those immediately around her will never be the same again.

patrick ness the ask and the answer: *The Lost Tide Warriors* Catherine Doyle, 2020-01-14
“Fans of Harry Potter or Percy Jackson can add Fionn Boyle as a generous and brave hero from the Emerald Isle.” – School Library Connection on *The Storm Keeper's Island* There is magic deep within Arranmore Island, and Fionn Boyle is beginning to discover how it has woven its way through

generations of his family's history. But Arranmore is in trouble; evil sorceress Morrigan's soul stalkers have returned, giving rise to widespread fear and suspicion. Fionn wants to help, but the Storm Keeper magic passed down from his grandfather seems to have deserted him. Fionn sets out to summon the merrows, a vast army of sea creatures who may be his only chance. But how can he find them without the faintest idea of where to look? The battle to save Arranmore has begun. This gorgeously written, magical tale of family, bravery, and self-discovery is perfect for fans of Orphan Island and A Snicker of Magic.

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