**Love’s Reward**

**10 Popular film stars never nominated for an Academy Award: Lauren Bacall, Tallulah Bankhead, John Barrymore, Joseph Cotten, W. C. Fields, Boris Karloff, Peter Lorre, Myrna Loy, Ida Lupino, and Marilyn Monroe. *(Wallace/Wallechinsky, in The Book of Lists #2, p. 191)***

**Although many people say “America the Beautiful” should be the U.S. national anthem, few people know who wrote it. It was written by a woman who was an English teacher at Wellesley College – Katherine Lee Bates. Bates wrote “America the Beautiful” in 1911 after a visit to Pikes Peak in Colorado, and although the song is famous and well-loved, its author – Katherine Lee Bates – is hardly remembered today. *(Charles Reichblum, in Knowledge in a Nutshell, p. 91)***
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**More than 13,000 houses, 87 churches, and in all about 80 percent of the city went up in flames during the Great Fire of London in 1666. The great architect Christopher Wren thereafter devoted his life and his talent to rebuilding the city which, or course, didn't appreciate his work until after he was gone. After fifty years of work under six kings and queens, in fact, the crown dismissed him from his post of Surveyor-General. Today's London reveres his memory properly. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 249)***

**Twelve** architects **spent most of their lives working on the construction of St. Peter's Church, in Rome. Most of them never lived to see the church completed. (Timothy T. Fullerton, in Triviata, p. 41)**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Ah Bing was a Chinese gardener who worked patiently and precisely at his craft in the United States. Didn't leave much when he died, except his name. He gave that, according to an expert on edibles, to the sort of cherry we call Bing. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Businessmen who died before their companies made signature products:**
**G. Bayer -- died before company made aspirin.**
**C. Swanson -- died before it made TV dinners.**
**R. French -- died before it made mustard.**
**W. Boeing -- died before it made a commercial jet.**
**P. L. Lance -- died before it made peanut butter crackers.**
**T. Armstrong -- died before it made linoleum. *(World Features Syndicate)***

**My wife asked me to help one of our neighbors, a young mother whose sailor husband was at sea. Her car had to have something called a freeze plug replaced -- a job that took two days. Then I discovered the battery was dead and the starter was shot, so I fixed those too. Days later I proudly handed the woman her keys saying, “Now your car is good for many more miles.” “Thanks,” she said. “All I care is it runs long enough to make it to the dealer. I'm trading it in tomorrow.” *(George T. Marshall, in Reader's Digest)***

**The work of an unknown good man is like a vein of water flowing hidden underground, secretly making the ground greener. *(Thomas Carlyle)***

**Never pay a compliment as though you expected a receipt. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**When the Civil War ended in 1865, returning Confederate troops found their farms in ruin, their credit gone, and no mules or plows to put in new crops. *(The World Almanac of the USA, p. 39)***

**Disappointing earnings:**
**Matthew Brady -- no profit from Civil War photos.**
**Ballpoint pen inventor -- made no money from it.**
**Thermos inventor -- made no money from it.**
**Henry Shrapnel -- no profit from Shrapnel shell.**
**Video game “Pong" inventor -- made no money from it. *(World Features Syndicate)***

**Six popular TV stars who never won an Emmy: Jackie Gleason, Gracie Allen, Larry Hagman, James Arness, Desi Arnaz, and Andy Griffith. *(World Features Syndicate)***

**We in the West were not a waiting people. And many of our great explorers -- Vasco da Gama, Ferdinand Magellan, Francis Drake and James Cook -- died on their voyages. Our civilizations profited immensely from their adventures. *(Malcolm McConnell, in Reader's Digest)***

**In 1776 Robert Morris served in the Continental Congress as a representative from Pennsylvania. He became a signer of the Declaration of Independence and was charged with heading Congress's finance committee. Soon, with money borrowed, begged for, and taken from his own wallet, Morris was funding the American Revolution. In 1798 Morris was arrested and thrown in debtors prison. After more than three years of imprisonment, 68-year-old Morris was released. He died five years later in poverty and obscurity. The patriot upon whom the heroes of popular history depended, the financier who kept the Continental army in the field out of his own wallet and with his private credit, the speculator who once owned more land than any man in America, was quietly buried in a Philadelphia churchyard. *(Uncle John's Surpremely Satisfying Bathroom Reader, p. 166)***

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**Contractor James Marshall found gold flakes (an original is in the National Museum of American History)) in the tailrace of a sawmill he was building for John Sutter near Coloma, California, January 24, 1848. When word spread, gold-seeking “forty-niners” raised California’s nonnative population from 14,000 to 100,000 in two years. Marshall died penniless in 1885, and Sutter, his men gone prospecting and his land full of squatters, went bankrupt. He died in 1880, at 77. *(Alison McLean, in Smithsonian magazine)***

**It took half a year for word to reach the Atlantic coast that gold had been discovered in California. The discovery was made in 1848, but John Augustus Sutter and James Marshall tried to keep it a secret. It wasn’t until President Polk, in December 1848, announced the discovery that the gold rush of ‘49 began. Neither of the men who started the Gold Rush of ‘49, Sutter and Marshall, discovered any gold worth mentioning, and both died poor men. *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 16 & 18)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Charles Goodyear died broke. So who got al the money he earned from the tires he made? He never made any tires. Nor did the company he founded, until 28 years after he died. *(L. M., Boyd)***

**6 groups that never won a Grammy: The Beach Boys, The Doors, The Who, The Grateful Dead, The Rolling Stones, and Creedence Clearwater Revival. *(Long Beach, CA Press-Telegram)***

**Mildred and Patty Hill, two school teachers in Lexington, Kentucky, wrote the music for “Happy Birthday to You” in 1893. They originally called the song “Good Morning to You” for a classroom greeting. Later, they changed the words and the title to “Happy Birthday to You” – and the song became world famous. It’s possibly the most widely sung song in the world today, but its two creators – Mildred and Patty Hill – are pretty much forgotten. *(Charles Reichblum, in Knowledge in a Nutshell, p. 81)***

**Most people never heard of a man who should be one of the great heroes of America. Caesar Rodney rode eighty miles on horseback to resolve a deadlock in the Delaware delegation, and thus enable the Second Continental Congress to vote for independence. Had he not made it on time, the vote would have been indecisive. So here's to Rodney, the one man who triggered the birth of a nation. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 241)***

**Bankruptcy clouded the evening of his life. Thomas Jefferson returned in 1809 to Monticello with hands as clean as they were empty. He had a worldwide reputation which attracted crowds of company to devour what was left of private property wasted by a lifelong devotion to his country. He finally sold his precious library to Congress for $23,950 to help pay his debts, and it formed the basis for the Library of Congress. *(Sarah N. Randolph, in The Domestic Life of Thomas Jefferson)***

**Many nominations, no golden statuettes:**
**l. The Color Purple -- 11 nominations, no Oscars.**
**2. Peyton Place -- 9 nominations, no wins.**
**3. Quo Vadis? -- 8 nominations, zero.**
**4. The Caine Mutiny -- 7 nominations, zero.**
**5. Cat on a Hot Tin Roof -- 6 nominations, zero. *(Hollywood Reporter Book of Box Office Hits)***

**Because he felt such an important tool should be public property, English chemist John Walker never patented his invention – matches. (Noel Botham, in The Amazing Book of Useless Information, p. 151)**

**One day in 1760 in a remote corner of Spain, a 14-year-old peasant boy amused himself by drawing pictures with a lump of charcoal on the side of a barn. A passing monk, saying his breviary as he walked up the lonely country road, spotted the drawings, talked to the boy, took him in tow, sent him to school, had him apprenticed to a leading artist and then faded out of the picture. We don’t know who that wise and generous monk was, but we know the name of the boy. It was Francisco Goya. He became one of the great masters. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 47)***

**Clement C. Moore was a teacher of classical languages. In the course of his career, he published a Hebrew dictionary and was a major benefactor of the General Theological Seminary in New York City. But it is not for the seminary or his dictionary that he is remembered. It is for a set of verses dashed off in 1822 in an hour of yuletide inspiration – verses that he stuffed away as if of no importance. The magic lines begin: “’Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house. . . .” They never brought Moore a penny, but they did bring him immortality. *(Dale Turner, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Abraham Lincoln, as many of you know, was assassinated by a man named John Wilkes Booth. While escaping after shooting the president, John Wilkes Booth broke his leg. The doctor who gave medical aid to John Wilkes Booth’s broken leg was Dr. Samuel A. Mudd. Dr. Mudd did not know that Booth had shot the president when he set his leg. Still, Mudd was sentenced to life in prison because he had helped an assassin. After four years, he was released from jail, but still many people hated him -- even though he did not know what Booth had done. The rest of his life he received harsh treatment and was hounded by both the government and nearly everyone who knew him. *(Dynamic Preaching)***

**Florence Nightingale served only two years of her life nursing soldiers. She was so weakened by a fever contracted during her service in the Crimean War that she spent the last fifty years of her life as an invalid. *(Isaac Asimov's Book of Facts, p. 234)***

**Seven stars with no Oscar nominations: Lauren Bacall, Glenn Ford, Marilyn Monroe, Peter Lorre, Joseph Cotton, Myrna Loy, and Betty Grable. *(World Features Syndicate)***

**French painter Paul Gauguin gave up the respectable life of a Parisian stockbroker to live the romantic life of an artist in Tahiti. There he painted some of the greatest works of all time -- but not of his time. Gauguin's work was rejected by the art world, and he died in poverty. *(Bob Fenster, in They Did What!?, p. 186)***

**I was in New Orleans with friends when one of them, author Bern Keating, showed us the apartment he had once occupied in the French Quarter. On the front of the building was a plaque identifying it as the former home of William Faulkner. “Faulkner was a dear friend of mine,” Keating told us, “and when I found I was going to live in New Orleans for a while, I did some research and found out he had lived here. I was able to move into the apartment.” Keating said he then convinced the local historical society that the apartment was a former Faulkner residence and got the plaque installed. “When the landlady saw it,” Keating said, “she doubled the rent and I had to move out.” *(John Sinor, in San Diego Tribune)***

**By law, the Postal Service may not set new rates to make a profit. Our rates are set for us to break even. Unlike most other government organizations, the Postal Service does not receive tax money for its operations. In fact, by the end of this year, we will have taken on $8 billion in new costs from the Federal Government in the last decade. *(U.S. Postal Service bulletin, June, 1994)***

**Quakers, strong fighters against slavery, included Thomas Garrett, who helped more than 2,000 people reach freedom. The U.S. Supreme Court fined him most of his money for helping slaves, but that didn't stop him.**
***(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***

**Rembrandt was one of the hardest working of the great masters, and we are indeed fortunate to have today over 500 of his paintings, 300 etchings, and more than 1,500 drawings. His “Aristotle Contemplating the Bust of Homer” was the first painting to sell for more than $2,000,000. Rembrandt died broke. A friend had to come up with the price of the burial. It came to $5.20. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 43)***

**In Los Angeles, a man trying to save a family in a burning building was critically injured when he was gunned down by a neighbor who thought he was an intruder. *(Bill Flick)***

**Nobody had much to say about the death in 1958 of Henry F. Phillips. He was not famous, not personally. You know his name, though. He invented the Phillips screwdriver. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The female wall spider dies before her young get out of the cocoon. Their first big meal after they emerge is what's left of her. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The Taj Mahal in Agra, India, was built as a tribute to Shah Jahan’s third wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who died in childbirth. After it was completed, the Shah (1592-1666) was deposed and imprisoned by his son, Aurangzeb, who forced his father to live out the rest of his life in a cell – one that offered a view of his majestic creation. *(Harry Bright & Jakob Anser, in Are You Kidding Me?, p. 94)***

**Alexander Graham Bell applied for the patent on the telephone three days before he got it to work. Had Bell waited until he had a working model, Elisha Gray, who filed a patent application the same day, would have been awarded the patent. But the telephone system used today is technically more like that described in Gray’s patent. (Noel Botham, in The Amazing Book of Useless Information, p. 152)**

**George Washington always returned his salary as president. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 161)***

**What inventors earned:**

**Ballpoint pen inventor – earned nothing**

**Pond’s cold cream inventor – earned nothing**

**Shrapnel inventor – earned nothing. *(World Features Syndicate)***

**Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin before he had ever seen cotton or a cotton seed. Although his invention revolutionized the industry – he lost money on it. *(Ripley’s Believe It or Not!: Weird Inventions & Discoveries, p. 83)***

**World Wide Web, 1989: Created by English physicist Tim Berners-Lee while working for the European Centre for Nuclear Research in Switzerland. He needed to get information into computers scattered across the world; he defined the system, wrote the software, then passed it onto the world, for nothing. Thanks, Tim. *Hunter Davies’ Book of Lists, p. 105)***

**A dice game played by a wealthy Canadian couple aboard their boat proved so popular that they asked Edwin Lowe (of Bingo fame) if he would make up some samples for them to give as gifts. Lowe was so impressed with their “Yacht Game” that he offered to buy the rights. They agreed, sacrificing all future royalties for a few free copies of the game – a game Lowe manufactured and sold with great success under the catchier name Yahtzee. (David Hoffman, in Little-Known Facts about Well-Known Stuff, p. 70)**

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