

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI



1475

➡ March 6: The second of five brothers, [Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni](#) was born at Caprese, in Tuscany, to Francesca Neri and Ludovico di Leonardo di Buonarotto Simoni, who wrote: “Today March 6, 1475, a child of the male sex has been born to me and I have named him Michelangelo. He was born on Monday between 4 and 5 in the morning, at Caprese, where I am the Podestà.” His father’s family had for several generations been small-scale bankers in Firenze but had in his father’s case failed to maintain its status. The father had only occasional government jobs and at the time of Michelangelo’s birth was administrator of this small dependent town. A few months later, however, the family would return to its permanent residence in Firenze. Like his father Michelangelo would always consider himself to be a “son of Firenze.”

1488

➡ [Michelangelo](#)’s father, at this point a minor Florentine official with connections to the ruling Medici family, placed his son in the workshop of the painter Domenico Ghirlandaio. It was a step downward, to become a mere artist, a sort of artisan, and Michelangelo had been apprenticed only relatively late, the age of at 13. He was, however, being apprenticed to the city’s most prominent painter, for a three-year term.

1489

➡ Allegedly with nothing more to learn from the painter to which he had been apprenticed in the previous year, [Michelangelo](#) went to study at the sculpture school in the Medici gardens and shortly thereafter was invited into the household of Lorenzo de’ Medici, the Magnificent. There he would have an opportunity to converse with the younger Medici, two of whom later became popes (Leo X and Clement VII). He also would become acquainted with such humanists as Marsilio Ficino and the poet Angelo Poliziano, frequent visitors to the Medici court.



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1491

 In about this year the young [Michelangelo](#) carved his “Madonna of the Stairs.”

- 1446 The Vatican library founded at Rome.
The sea breaks in at Dort in Holland, and drowns 100,000 people.
- 1453 Constantinople taken by the Turks, which ends the eastern empire, 1123 years from its dedication by Constantine the Great, and 2206 years from the foundation of Rome.
- 1454 The university of Glasgow, in Scotland, founded.
- 1460 Engraving and etching in copper invented.
- 1477 The university of Aberdeen, in Scotland, founded.
- 1483 Richard the III. king of England, and last of the Plantagenets, is defeated, and killed at the battle of Bosworth, by Henry (Tudor) VII. which puts an end to the civil wars between the houses of York and Lancaster, after a contest of thirty years, and the loss of 100,000 men.
- 1486 Henry establishes fifty yeomen of the guards, the first standing army.
- 1489 Maps and sea-charts first brought to England by Barth. Columbus.
- 1491 William Grocyn publicly teaches the Greek language at Oxford.
The Moors, hitherto a formidable enemy to the native Spaniards, are entirely subdued by Ferdinand, and become subjects to that prince on certain conditions, which are ill observed by the Spaniards, whose clergy employ the powers of the inquisition, with all its tortures; and in 1609, near one million of the Moors are driven from Spain to the opposite coast of Africa, from whence they originally came.
- 1492 America first discovered by Columbus, a Genoese, in the service of Spain.
- 1494 Algebra first known in Europe.
- 1497 The Portuguese first sail to the East Indies, by the Cape of Good Hope.
South America discovered by Americus Vesputius, from whom it has its name.
- 1499 North America ditto, for Henry VII. by Cabot.



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1492



At about this point, the young [Michelangelo](#)'s low relief in marble, "Battle of the Centaurs," now at the Casa Buonarroti in Florence.

In this year Leonardo da Vinci prepared an enormous clay model for his bronze "Gran Cavalho" (that would never be cast because first the bronze would be diverted in 1494 to make cannon to defend Milan from the invading French forces under Charles VIII, and then this clay model would be used for target practice by invading French troops in 1499).







THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI


PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

 April 8: Lorenzo de Medici, the magnificent Florentine ruler, [Michelangelo](#)'s patron, died.

1494

 When the Medici were temporarily expelled from Firenze [Michelangelo](#) fled to Bologna and was hired there to complete the work of a recently deceased sculptor on the tomb and shrine of St. Dominic by carving three more small figures.


1495

 [Michelangelo](#) completed his work on the tomb and shrine of St. Dominic in Bologna.


1496

 In Rome during this year and the following one, [Michelangelo](#) carved his "Bacchus."

1497

 [Michelangelo](#) completed his "Bacchus."

1498

 [Michelangelo](#) was commissioned to do a *pietà*, the one that is now in St. Peter's Basilica.

Leonardo Da Vinci finished his Last Supper.

The Italian religious reformer Girolamo Savonarola was burnt at the stake as a heretic in Firenze.

Charles VIII of France died (he was succeeded by his cousin Louis XII, Duke of Orleans).



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1501

➡ August 4: After several years of political confusion, a republic was once again proclaimed in Florence. The order established over the following four years received the unconditional support of [Michelangelo](#).

➡ August 16: The Arte della Lana or Wool Guild, responsible for the maintenance and ornamentation of the Cathedral of Florence, commissioned [Michelangelo](#) to sculpt a “[David](#)” (the famous 5¹/₂-meter statue now in the Accademia of Florence). For this statue, to save costs, Michelangelo would recycle a damaged block of stone that about four decades earlier had been left unfinished. Meanwhile, over the succeeding five years, he would be creating various Madonnas for private homes.

1504

➡ September: The “[David](#)” had been polished and oiled, and was placed on display. Townspeople threw rocks at it. This task completed, [Michelangelo](#) agreed to paint a huge mural for the city hall of Florence, to form a pair with another mural that had just been begun by Leonardo da Vinci.





THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1505

➡ Michelangelo began carving a “St. Matthew” on a project for a set of twelve Apostles for the cathedral in Florence, of which only this statue would ever even be begun. Pope Julius II called him to Rome. The Swiss Guard, which is to say, the papal guard of the Vatican in Rome made up all and only of tall Swiss males, was being formed. The privates would not be allowed to marry, a detail of their life at the Vatican which would prove intriguing to Michelangelo (although some would tell you that the artist designed their colorful uniform, there is no reason to suppose that the artist ever took any interest in the clothes they had on).

Gonzalo Fernández de Córdoba y Aguilar became Viceroy of Naples.

In about this year Amerigo Vespucci got married with Maria Cerezo.

Giovanni Battista Ramusio became secretary to Venice’s ambassador to France, Alvise Mocenigo. He would begin to compile intelligence reports from travelers, and translate them into Italian.

1508

➡ April: Michelangelo was summoned to Rome by Pope Julius II, to work on the decorations for his tomb, then to work on a statue of the pope himself to be put up in the newly conquered city of Bologna (the citizens would defeat the papal army and pull down this colossal bronze), and finally to paint twelve figures of apostles and some incidental decorations for the ceiling mural of the Sistine Chapel. Michelangelo was eventually acquire *carte blanche* on this project and by October 31, 1512 would have painted more than 300 figures.

➡ May: Michelangelo began to make the preparatory designs for the Sistine ceiling. It would not be until the fall that he would begin the actual painting (it must have been dreadfully hot up there, lying on his back just under that ceiling), calling on the assistance of Giuliano Bugiardini, Aristotele da Sangallo, and his old friend Francesco Granacci, along with a number of laborers. However the work would not proceed as the master wished and he would soon fire all of his assistants, remove what had already been painted and, between the end of 1508 and January 1509, recommence the enterprise on his own. Condivi recalls that “as a result of having painted for so long a time, keeping his eyes fixed on the ceiling, he saw little when he looked down; if he had to read a letter or some other small thing, he was obliged to hold it above his head.” Extremely jealous of his work, he refused to show it to anyone but the pope, though the latter was always insisting that he finish it quickly, and often climbed the scaffolding to see how the fresco was proceeding (the pressure on the artist was such that he would uncover it during August 1511, even before it was finished).



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN


1510

 Pope Julius II absolved Venice.

Leonardo da Vinci designed a horizontal water wheel (we now call this device a turbine).


During this year and the following one there would be a hiatus in [Michelangelo](#)'s painting of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, due to the Vatican having stopped paying its bills. Hey, guys, I don't do this sort of thingie for free.

1512

 October 31: The Sistine Chapel ceiling was complete. [Michelangelo](#) had painted over 300 figures.

 November 1: [Michelangelo](#)'s paintings on the Sistine Chapel ceiling were 1st exhibited to the public.

1513

 Pope Julius II died. Giovanni di Lorenzo de' Medici of Florence became Pope Leo X.

The House of Fugger secured the right to sell papal indulgences in Germany.

Correggio discovered chiaroscuro.

Niccolò Machiavelli wrote the [Italian](#) comedy *LA MANDRAGOLA*.

[Michelangelo](#) began the three-year project of carving his "Moses."

In response to an appeal by the Lateran Council, Nicolas Copernicus compiled a proposal for the reform of the calendar and sent it to [Rome](#).

ASTRONOMY




THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI


PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1516

 Nicolas Copernicus was promoted to be the administrator of his Chapter's property, performing his duties from Olsztyn.

Giuliano, of the Medici family, died and the family needed a place to put him. (What do you do for a family that has everything? –You build them a container to put it all in.)

1526

 Nicolas Copernicus assisted Bernard Wapowski, the King's Secretary, in the mapping of the kingdom of Poland and of the grand duchy of Lithuania.

With the Medici driven out, Florence proclaimed itself a republic for the last time.




THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1527

 This was a poor harvest year in Europe.

The Medici were expelled from Florence. The left arm of [Michelangelo](#)'s "[David](#)" was struck with a bench during a riot, and broken into three pieces (it would be reattached but the seams still show).



[Michelangelo](#) completed the marble interior of the Medici family chapel devoted to the memory of their dear departed youths Giuliano and Lorenzo.

Baldassare Castiglione wrote *IL CORTEGIANO*, on courtly manners.

Paracelsus lectured on medicine at the University of Padua.

With the sack of Rome, Pope Clement was put to ignominious flight — and so Florence revolted against the Medici and restored its traditional republic.

A fateful date for Anglican religion. King Henry VIII began the divorce proceedings against his wife



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:


MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

Catherine, which would radically divorce London from Rome.




1528

 Nicolas Copernicus worked on the final draft of his treatise on the minting of money. During this year and the following one, he would be serving as chancellor of his Chapter.

Pope Clement VII ordered that Florence be surrounded by the same German mercenary soldiers who had put the city of Rome to fire and sword in the previous year. [Michelangelo](#) was forced to stop working on all the projects he had under way. The new government of Florence asked him to prepare plans for defense against the assault.

1529

 January 10, day: [Michelangelo](#) became a member of the Nove della Milizia, the nine-man body in charge of Florence's defense, in the capacity of an expert on fortifications. He prepared the plans for the defense of the hill of San Miniato and succeeded in protecting the campanile of the Romanesque church by the ingenious device of covering it completely with mattresses. Believing that invasion by the troops that had surrounded Florence was imminent, Michelangelo decided to flee to Venice. Exiled at first by the republic as a traitor, he would later be allowed to reenter to the city. With the return of the Medici, he would be granted a pardon by Clement VII and would be able to resume work on the Medici Chapel and Laurentian Library.



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1530

→ Florence was taken by imperial troops. Alessandro de Medici became a hereditary duke. Charles V was crowned Holy Roman Emperor and King of Italy by Pope Clement VII at Bologna. This was the last imperial coronation conducted by a pope.

Due to a change in popes, at about this point [Benvenuto Cellini](#) was able to return from Naples to Rome. However, he would fall afoul of one member of Pope Paul III's illegitimate brood, Pietro Alvisi Farnese, and would need to flee to [Florence](#) and Venice.



1534

→ Pope Clement VI died and Cardinal Alessandro Farnese was elected Pope Paul III.

[Michelangelo](#) left Florence for the last time, though he always would hope to return to finish the projects he had been forced to leave incomplete. He would pass the rest of his life in Rome. He returned after a quarter century to fresco painting, executing a "Last Judgment" on the end wall of the Sistine Chapel for Pope Paul III.



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1541

→ Michelangelo finished The Last Judgment, the largest fresco of the Renaissance. Christ, with a clap of thunder, puts into motion the inevitable separation, with the saved ascending on the left side of the painting and the damned descending on the right into a Dantesque hell. As was his custom, Michelangelo portrayed all the figures nude, but prudish draperies were added by another artist (who was dubbed the “breeches-maker”) a decade later, as the cultural climate became more conservative. Michelangelo painted his own image in the flayed skin of St. Bartholomew.

After many revisions, Nicolas Copernicus delivered to Georg Joachim von Lauchen, AKA Rheticus, professor of mathematics at Wittenberg, for publication, the manuscript of his *DE REVOLUTIONIBUS ORBIUM COELESTIUM*.

ASTRONOMY

1546

→ Girolamo Tracastoro, in his *DE MORBIS CONTAGIOSIS*, was the first to suggest the contagious nature of tuberculosis: “the seeds of contagion remain in such bodies as articles of clothing and bedsheets used by the infected.”

Michelangelo’s crowning achievement as an architect was his work at St. Peter’s Basilica, where he was made chief architect in this year. The building was being constructed according to Donato Bramante’s plan, but Michelangelo ultimately became responsible for the altar end of the building on the exterior and for the final form of its dome.

DATE: Writing in his notebook that would come to be known as the “Leicester Codex,” Michelangelo noted that actually there was no theory of fossil formation, in existence at that time, which could account for the known facts. The theory of sudden flooding, in a Biblical “Noah’s Ark” event, could not account for the fact that cockle fossils were to be found in sand deposits many miles inland, for by observation these cockles could burrow through sand at the rate of only a few inches a day. The theory of influences, likewise, could not account for the fact that although sometimes the two halves of a bivalve shell are found in position next to one another, most often they are found separate, or in assorted fragments. neither of these accredited theories of the period could account for the existence of fossil tracks of crawling and burrowing sealife. What was the explanation for the inland buried fossils and their buried tracks? — Leonardo favored an analogical theory, that the human body was a microcosm of the universe as a macrocosm. The trapped inland fossils constituted, for him, direct evidence that the earth recirculated its materials in the same manner in which the human body was known to recirculate its materials.

[T]he same cause that keeps the blood at the top of a man’s head keeps water at the summit of the mountains.



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1564

➡ January: About a month before [Michelangelo](#)'s death, the assembly of the Council of Trent decided to "amend" the nude figures of the Last Judgment fresco.

At about this point, also, somebody elaborated on the message being sent by [Michelangelo](#)'s "[David](#)," by attiring the statue in a metal loincloth of 28 fig leaves.



➡ February 18: [Michelangelo](#) died in Caprese, [Italy](#).

1810

➡ Somebody had the bright idea of giving [Michelangelo](#)'s "[David](#)" a wax job.



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1835

➡ February 5, Thursday: Having completed his introductory lecture “Tests of Great Men” at Boston’s Masonic Temple for the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, [Waldo Emerson](#) began the substance of his new “Biography” series of lectures with an account of [Michael Angelo](#) Buonaroti: on succeeding Thursdays he would deal with Martin Luther, [John Milton](#), Friend [George Fox](#), and [Edmund Burke](#).



➡ March 5, Thursday: [Waldo Emerson](#) completed the 1st delivery of his “Biography” series of lectures for the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge at Boston’s Masonic Temple, an offering of [Michael Angelo](#) Buonaroti, Martin Luther, [John Milton](#), Friend [George Fox](#), and [Edmund Burke](#) on successive Thursdays.



➡ November 4: [Waldo Emerson](#) lectured at the Concord Lyceum on: [Michael Angelo](#) Buonaroti.

BIOGRAPHY

1843

➡ The wax coating on [Michelangelo](#)’s “[David](#),” which had been applied in 1810, was stripped off by Aristodemo Costolli using, of all things, hydrochloric acid. Now there isn’t a millimeter of surface on this statue which is original.



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

WALDEN: All our Concord waters have two colors at least, one when viewed at a distance, and another, more proper, close at hand. The first depends more on the light, and follows the sky. In clear weather, in summer, they appear blue at a little distance, especially if agitated, and at a great distance all appear alike. In stormy weather they are sometimes of a dark slate color. The sea, however, is said to be blue one day and green another without any perceptible change in the atmosphere. I have seen our river, when, the landscape being covered with snow, both water and ice were almost as green as grass. Some consider blue "to be the color of pure water, whether liquid or solid." But, looking directly down into our waters from a boat, they are seen to be of very different colors. Walden is blue at one time and green at another, even from the same point of view. Lying between the earth and the heavens, it partakes of the color of both. Viewed from a hill-top it reflects the color of the sky, but near at hand it is of a yellowish tint next the shore where you can see the sand, then a light green, which gradually deepens to a uniform dark green in the body of the pond. In some lights, viewed even from a hill-top, it is of a vivid green next the shore. Some have referred this to the reflection of the verdure; but it is equally green there against the railroad sand-bank, and in the spring, before the leaves are expanded, and it may be simply the result of the prevailing blue mixed with the yellow of the sand. Such is the color of its iris. This is that portion, also, where in the spring, the ice being warmed by the heat of the sun reflected from the bottom, and also transmitted through the earth, melts first and forms a narrow canal about the still frozen middle. Like the rest of our waters, when much agitated, in clear weather, so that the surface of the waves may reflect the sky at the right angle, or because there is more light mixed with it, it appears at a little distance of a darker blue than the sky itself; and at such a time, being on its surface, and looking with divided vision, so as to see the reflection, I have discerned a matchless and indescribable light blue, such as watered or changeable silks and sword blades suggest, more cerulean than the sky itself, alternating with the original dark green on the opposite sides of the waves, which last appeared but muddy in comparison. It is a vitreous greenish blue, as I remember it, like those patches of the winter sky seen through cloud vistas in the west before sundown. Yet a single glass of its water held up to the light is as colorless as an equal quantity of air. It is well known that a large plate of glass will have a green tint, owing, as the makers say, to its "body," but a small piece of the same will be colorless. How large a body of Walden water would be required to reflect a green tint I have never proved. The water of our river is black or a very dark brown to one looking directly down on it, and, like that of most ponds, imparts to the body of one bathing in it a yellowish tinge; but this water is of such crystalline purity that the body of the bather appears of an alabaster whiteness, still more unnatural, which, as the limbs are magnified and distorted withal, produces a monstrous effect, making fit studies for a Michael Angelo.

PEOPLE OF
WALDEN

MICHELANGELO
JAMES D. FORBES



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1861

 February: [Waldo Emerson](#) to his journal:

I often say to young writers & speakers, that their best masters are their faultfinding brothers & sisters at home, who will not spare them, but be sure to pick & cavil, & tell the odious truth. It is smooth mediocrity, weary elegance, surface finish of our voluminous stock-writers, or respectable artists, which easy times & a dull public call out, without any salient genius, with an indigence of all grand design, of all direct power. A hundred statesmen, historians, painters, & small poets, are thus made: but Burns, & Carlyle, & Bettine, and Michel Angelo, & Thoreau were pupils in a rougher school.

MICHELANGELO



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

1869

→ April: Volume II of LITTLE WOMEN, OR, MEG, JO, BETH AND AMY by [Louisa May Alcott](#) was published by Roberts Brothers of Boston. Submitting to the judgment of her publishers, the author allowed the “amateurish” sketches made by her sister Abby May Alcott (the “Amy March” character) to be replaced by the work of the



then well-known illustrator Hammatt Billings:

If ‘genius is eternal patience,’ as Michael Angelo affirms, Amy certainly had some claim to the divine attribute, for she persevered in spite of all obstacles, failures, and discouragements, firmly believing that in time she should do something worthy to be called ‘high art.’

THE ALCOTT FAMILY
MICHELANGELO



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

Alcott cited her hero Wendell Phillips the anti-slavery orator full of grace:¹

W HATEVER his motive might have been, Laurie studied to some purpose that year, for he graduated with honor, and gave the Latin oration with the grace of a Phillips and the eloquence of a Demosthenes, so his friends said. They were all there, his grandfather — oh, so proud — Mr. and Mrs. March, John and Meg, Jo and Beth, and all exulted over him with the sincere admiration which boys make light of at the time, but fail to win from the world by any after-triumphs.



1. We may note in passing that Louisa's character "Laurie" was not a depiction of Wendell Phillips. He was not a depiction of Waldo Emerson either, although the author had suffered a rather serious crush on Emerson in her teen years, writing him love letters which, she would later acknowledge, she'd had the good judgment not to post. Perhaps Louisa didn't allow Jo to marry because she so closely modeled this point-of-view character on herself — and as a young woman she had averred that she'd "rather be a literary spinster and paddle my own canoe." Though many men have stepped forward to claim that they were "Laurie," when the author was asked about this she replied that the character had been a composite of two young men she had known. One of these, Alfred Whitman, had been a member of the Concord Dramatic Union founded by Louisa and others in the mid-1850s with whom she had continued to correspond long term, and the other had been Ladislav Wisniewski, a young Polish man with whom she had shared a brief romance while she had been on tour in Europe as companion to an invalid woman. (In "My Boys," a sketch published late in her life, Louisa would identify only Wisniewski.)



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

Note that Alcott described a particular one of Amy's painting pigments as being [tomato](#)-colored:

From fire to oil was a natural transition for burnt fingers, and Amy fell to painting with undiminished ardor. An artist friend fitted her out with his cast-off palettes, brushes, and colors, and she daubed away, producing pastoral and marine views such as were never seen on land or sea. Her monstrosities in the way of cattle would have taken prizes at an agricultural fair, and the perilous pitching of her vessels would have produced sea-sickness in the most nautical observer, if the utter disregard to all known rules of ship building and rigging had not convulsed him with laughter at the first glance. Swarthy boys and dark-eyed Madonnas, staring at you from one corner of the studio, did not suggest Murillo; oily brown shadows of faces with a lurid streak in the wrong place, meant Rembrandt; buxom ladies and dropiscal infants, Rubens; and Turner appeared in tempests of blue thunder, orange lightning, brown rain, and purple clouds, with a tomato-colored splash in the middle, which might be the sun or a bouy, a sailor's shirt or a king's robe, as the spectator pleased.

The name deployed in Chapter 27 of LITTLE WOMEN, "Mrs. S.L.A.N.G. Northbury," was modeled by [Louisa](#)



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

on the name of the serial novelist of the 1850s, Mrs. E.D.E.N. Southworth:

... Pausing to turn a page, the lad saw her looking and, with boyish good-nature offered half his paper, saying bluntly, “Want to read it? That’s a first-rate story.”

Jo accepted it with a smile, for she had never outgrown her liking for lads, and soon found herself involved in the usual labyrinth of love, mystery, and murder, — for the story belonged to that class of light literature in which the passions have a holiday, and when the author’s invention fails, a grand catastrophe clears the stage of one-half the *dramatis personæ*, leaving the other half to exult over their downfall.

“Prime, isn’t it?” asked the boy, as her eye went down the last paragraph of her portion.

“I think you and I could do most as well as that if we tried,” returned Jo, amused at his admiration of the trash.

“I should think I was a pretty lucky chap if I could. She makes a good living out of such stories, they say;” and he pointed to the name of Mrs. S.L.A.N.G. Northbury, under the title of the tale.

“Do you know her?” asked Jo, with sudden interest.

“No, but I read all her pieces, and I know a fellow who works in the office where this paper is printed.”

“Do you say she makes a good living out of stories like this?”
And Jo looked more respectfully at the agitated group and thickly-sprinkled exclamation points that adorned the page.

“Guess she does! She knows just what folks like, and gets paid well for writing it.”

THE

TI



1873

➡ [Michelangelo](#)'s "[David](#)" was taken indoors.

1991

➡ [Piero Cannata](#) took a hammer and knocked one of the toes off the left foot of [Michelangelo](#)'s "[David](#)."

1995

➡ In Israel, President Yitzhak Rabin was murdered.

The city of Jerusalem declined a full-scale copy of [Michelangelo](#)'s "[David](#)" when informed that the private parts were not to be covered over.





THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN


2003

 [Michelangelo](#)'s "[David](#)" took a bath.

 COPYRIGHT NOTICE: In addition to the property of others, such as extensive quotations and reproductions of images, this "read-only" computer file contains a great deal of special work product of Austin Meredith, copyright ©2012. Access to these interim materials will eventually be offered for a fee in order to recoup some of the costs of preparation. My hypercontext button invention which, instead of creating a hypertext leap through hyperspace –resulting in navigation problems– allows for an utter alteration of the context within which one is experiencing a specific content already being viewed, is claimed as proprietary to Austin Meredith – and therefore freely available for use by all. Limited permission to copy such files, or any material from such files, must be obtained in advance in writing from the "Stack of the Artist of Kouroo" Project, 20 Miles Avenue, Providence RI 02906. Please contact the project at <Kouroo@brown.edu>.

"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



Prepared: November 16, 2012



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

ARRGH AUTOMATED RESEARCH REPORT

GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, upon someone's request we have pulled it out of the hat of a pirate that has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (depicted above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of data modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture. This is data mining. To respond to such a request for information, we merely push a button.



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN

Commonly, the first output of the program has obvious deficiencies and so we need to go back into the data modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and do a recompile of the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process which you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place your requests with <Kouroo@brown.edu>.
Arrgh.



THE PEOPLE OF WALDEN:

MICHELANGELO BUONAROTTI

PEOPLE MENTIONED IN WALDEN