BEST NOVEL OPENINGS

“It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.”

*1984 by George Orwell*

"My name was Salmon, like the fish; first name Susie. I was fourteen when I was murdered on December 6, 1973." *The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold*

"Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way."

*Anna Karenina Leo Tolstoy*

"In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since." *The Great Gatsby F. Scott Fitzgerald.*

“There was a boy named Milo who didn't know what to do with himself – not just sometimes, but always.” *Juster, Norton. The Phantom Tollbooth*

"Not every thirteen-year-old girl is accused of murder, brought to trial, and found guilty. But I was just such a girl, and my story is worth relating even if it did happen years ago." *Avi. The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle.*

“I never had a brain until Freak came along and let me borrow his for

awhile, and that’s the truth, the whole truth. The unvanquished truth is how Freak would say it…” *Philbrick, Rodman. Freak the Mighty.*

It was a wrong number that started it, the telephone ringing three times in the dead of night, and the voice on the other end asking for someone he was not.

*Paul Auster, City of Glass*

All this happened, more or less. *Kurt Vonnegut, Slaughterhouse-Five*

It was a dark and stormy night; the rain fell in torrents, except at occasional intervals, when it was checked by a violent gust of wind which swept up the streets (for it is in London that our scene lies), rattling along the house-tops, and fiercely agitating the scanty flame of the lamps that struggled against the darkness. *Edward George Bulwer-Lytton, Paul Clifford (1830)*

*Terrible Government Exam Introductions*

A. Positive connections with older generations allows people to enrich their lives in ways nothing else can. Positive connections can allow people to avoid certain hardships as well as make better decisions. Elderly people can offer advice and insight that is more useful than that found anywhere else.

B. It was a long walk up the hill to where my Great Grandmother had just moved. I was reluctant walking up that hill because I wasn’t sure as to whether I would like what I saw when I got to the top of it.