

A Street Cat Named Bob by James Bowen – Chapters 7–13 (to be discussed on March 5)

Chapter 7 – The Two Musketeers

1. How did having Bob change James' attitude?
2. What did the gang of boys do to start a fight with James and Bob? How did James get them to move on?
3. How did Bob normally react to dogs? How did he react when the Staffordshire tried to take his biscuits? What did that reveal about Bob?
4. Bob liked to play with bottle caps and such. What "play thing" amused him for almost an hour? How did he play with it?
5. What are some reasons that cats lick themselves?
6. Besides licking, what was a favorite pastime for Bob?

Chapter 8 – Making it Official

7. What does James decide to do at Islington Green? How was Bob different from the other cats there?
8. How did Bob react to the procedure? How did James deal with it?
9. How did James "clean up his act"?

Chapter 9 – The Escape Artist

10. What words did James learn while busking with Bob?
11. Who started hassling James? What did he do as a result?
12. Who at the Ripley's Museum made Bob uncomfortable? What happened?
13. Where did James find Bob?

Chapter 10 – Santa Paws

14. What did Bob do when he was scared by the performers on stilts?
15. What gifts did Bob receive?
16. Explain the pun, "It gave new meaning to the word 'catwalk'".
17. Who came regularly to visit Bob? What did she bring him? Explain the pun 'Santa Paws'.

18. When the woman gave Bob a stocking, what did it prompt James to do? How did he do it?

#### Chapter 11 – Mistaken Identity

19. What changed in 2008?

20. What was “the straw that broke the camel’s back”? What was fortunate for Bob that day?

21. What had James done in the past to support his drug habit?

22. What crime was James accused of?

23. What happened at the police station?

24. With what crime was James charged? What was his punishment?

#### Chapter 12 – Number 683

25. How was James’ arrest a “blessing in disguise”?

26. Why couldn’t James get an IT job?

27. James applied for a job selling the *Big Issue* Magazine. He had done that in the past. How is this time different?

28. What “red tape” was required to get the sales job?

29. What did James convince the badge maker to do?

30. How does the magazine selling business work?

31. What location was James assigned to for his trial pitch? How did he feel about that?

32. What was James’ “secret weapon”? How did he make his first sale?

33. What happened when the ticket attendant finally spotted James?

#### Chapter 13 – Pitch Perfect

34. How was selling magazines a good step for James?

35. How successful was James financially with the *Big Issue*? How did he feel about the job?

36. Describe James’ encounter with the American cowboy? How about the couple in evening dress?

37. How did James get along with the other magazine vendors?

Many of the chapter titles are puns. If time permits, discuss the meaning of them.