

## Corrections to 'Mr Slaughterboard' (pp.65–94)

Peake wrote this text in a notebook with lined pages. Inside the front cover he noted his address as: Trinity College Hotel, Chestnut Walk, Stratford on Avon, Warwickshire. Later (corresponding to page 80, last paragraph) there's the word 'Wales' in the margin, which suggests that he began writing while visiting Maeve Gilmore's sister, who lived in Stratford, and continued during his (only recorded) visit to Wales over Whitsun weekend in 1937. The writing is fluent, with relatively few erasures and revisions, so much so that some early pages look like fair copy. However, the handwriting is small and spidery, not always easy to read. It is possible that some passages were written while riding in a train, which would explain momentary jerkiness in the script.

There are three words I have not been able to decipher. On page 91, towards the end of the first paragraph of Chapter 3, there's the passage about how 'the heart beats a millionth part the quicker than at sea'. The original text has 'a millionth part the quicker & a millionth part the ??? than at sea'. On page 92, line 11, the *Conger Eel* is impaled on a needle of rock in mid-ocean like a ??? beetle. The second word could be 'bound' or (less probably) 'board'.

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| <p style="text-align: right;">page 65</p> <p>18 <i>for</i> man <i>read</i> don</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 66</p> <p>27 <i>for</i> extremely <i>read</i> exactly</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 67</p> <p>24 <i>for</i> cheerful <i>read</i> dreadful</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 71</p> <p>12 <i>for</i> good <i>read</i> aged</p> <p>20 <i>for</i> is one <i>read</i> is but one</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 72</p> <p>2 <i>for</i> wave <i>read</i> mane</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 73</p> <p>3 <i>after</i> utter <i>insert</i> &amp; appalling</p> <p>14 <i>for</i> livid <i>read</i> lurid</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 74</p> <p>3 <i>for</i> slowly repeating <i>read</i> repeating slowly</p> <p>26 <i>after</i> compare <i>insert</i> , do you think,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 75</p> <p>2 <i>for</i> empirical <i>read</i> empyreal</p> <p>5 <i>for</i> having vanished, <i>read</i> have vanished, and</p> <p>13 <i>for</i> brains, <i>read</i> brains of</p> <p>30 <i>after</i> as if <i>insert</i> their minds</p> <p>31 <i>delete</i> they</p> <p>38 <i>after</i> walk <i>insert</i> was</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 76</p> <p>7 <i>for</i> Mr <i>read</i> the</p> <p>9 <i>for</i> bowl <i>read</i> bore</p> <p>12 <i>for</i> where <i>read</i> whose</p> <p>12 <i>after</i> and <i>insert</i> highest</p> <p>19 <i>for</i> ingenious. The <i>read</i> ingenious, the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 77</p> <p>1 <i>for</i> murder, battle <i>read</i> battle, murder</p> <p>5 <i>for</i> Bloodseye <i>read</i> Bloodeye</p> <p>6 <i>for</i> forever <i>read</i> for ever</p> <p>13 <i>for</i> his <i>read</i> the</p> <p>18 <i>for</i> Bloodseye <i>read</i> Bloodeye</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">page 78</p> <p>3 <i>for</i> an <i>read</i> a super-trained</p> <p>26 <i>for</i> outcrop, blue-veined, <i>read</i> outcrop of blue-veined quartz</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 79</p> <p>2 <i>after</i> within <i>insert</i> the bowels of</p> <p>10 <i>after</i> white <i>insert</i> silk</p> <p>18 <i>for</i> silence <i>read</i> stillness</p> <p>19 <i>for</i> monstrous <i>read</i> monotonous</p> <p>26 <i>for</i> accompanied <i>read</i> followed</p> <p>36 <i>for</i> Bloodseye <i>read</i> Bloodeye</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 80</p> <p>5/6 <i>for</i> the other <i>read</i> another</p> <p>15 <i>for</i> with <i>read</i> which would aggravate</p> <p>16 <i>for</i> struggle <i>read</i> struggles</p> <p>17 <i>for</i> [...] <i>read</i> survive</p> <p>28 <i>before</i> china <i>insert</i> eggshell</p> <p>34 <i>for</i> hulk <i>read</i> hull</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 81</p> <p>1 <i>before</i> appearance <i>insert</i> inappropriate</p> <p>16 <i>after</i> his <i>insert</i> insular</p> <p>23 <i>for</i> the telescope <i>read</i> his telescope</p> <p>30 <i>for</i> shoulders <i>read</i> shoulder</p> <p>35 <i>for</i> Muslim <i>read</i> Muslin</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 82</p> <p>7 <i>after</i> neck. <i>start new paragraph</i></p> <p>18 <i>for</i> his <i>read</i> him</p> <p>28 <i>for</i> small. <i>read</i> small, very small.</p> <p>37 <i>for</i> hull <i>read</i> hill</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 83</p> <p>8 <i>after</i> dismay. <i>start new paragraph</i></p> <p>17 <i>after</i> weird <i>insert</i> raft</p> <p>19 <i>for</i> scragle'm <i>read</i> scrangle'm</p> <p>20 <i>after</i> Scrunch'm <i>insert</i> bones</p> <p>29 <i>for</i> were <i>read</i> never</p> <p>32 <i>for</i> vice of <i>read</i> vice. Of</p> |
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- 34 *for* Eel; *read* Eel,  
page 84
- 2 *for* analysis *read* analyses
- 17 *for* scene *read* shore
- 27 *for* house *read* horse  
page 85
- 1 *for* carrion-like *read* cannon-like
- 8 *after* spectacle *insert* pure and simple
- 22 *after* the lot of you *insert* here
- 24 *for* slug *read* sling  
page 86
- 17 *for* Fifthly – *read* Fifthly:
- 22 *after* read of *insert* them  
page 88
- 1 *for* instinctively *read* involuntarily
- 10 *for* snort *read* snout
- 24 *for* knew *read* would know  
page 89
- 22 *for* overweaning *read* overweening
- 32 *for* crew. *read* crew,  
page 90
- 32 *for* Bloodseye *read* Bloodeye  
page 91
- 9 *for* heart *read* breast
- 31 *for* tremendous *read* treacherous  
page 92
- 9 *after* awestruck *insert* love for the
- 11/12 *for* in his *read* on his
- 12 *for* battle *read* bathe
- 25 *after* her *insert* rocky
- 35 *before* save that *insert* anything in fact,  
page 93
- 10 *for* now *read* now, item
- 15 *after* form *insert* of a couple
- 18 *for* keep *read* keel
- 30 *for* was *read* were
- 32 *for* Bloodseye *read* Bloodeye  
page 94
- 18 *for* night *read* sight