

# The Shades of Grey Cheat Sheet

Who's who and what's what in Jasper Fforde's New Book, 'Shades of Grey'

**Eddie Russett:** The hero of our story. Until arriving in East Carmine an unremarkable drone of the collective with only thoughts of marrying into the upwardly-mobile Oxblood family. Eddie can see a reasonable amount of red. Life changes for ever when he meets Jane, a Grey with a revolutionary zeal and a rethouseé nose.

**The Colortocracy:** The system of hierarchy by which the world is run. Based on the color you can see, those that can see most Purple are Head Prefect, and the pecking order runs downwards through the Spectrum. Next powerful are Blues, then Green, Yellow, Orange and Red. The monochromatic Greys have the least rights of all.

**The 'Something That Happened':** Dramatic event that occurred in the distant and unknowable past. Followed shortly by the 'Epiphany' and the beginning of the New Order.

**The Previous:** The name given to the untold millions of people who once lived in the land known now as Chromatacia.

**The Ishihara:** The Color test taken at age twenty that determines one's Color perception and thus social standing and career. Infallible and never repeated.

**George Stanton deMauve:** The Head Prefect of East Carmine, deMauve is Purple and eager for his daughter to retain the family's hue and thus perpetuate the deMauve dynastic Head Prefecture. Fair but firm, his hobby is collecting pencils.



Spot the deliberate mistake

**The Yateveo:** A carnivorous tree once used for defense against Riffraff, but now feral so can take a respectable citizen as easily as a worthless one. Lightning quick, the Yateveo has been known to catch a deer at full speed. Victims are digested slowly in the central bulb over a period of weeks. Unpleasant.

**National Color:** The body who look after the collection of scrap color and the manufacture of universally visible colors. Although you might not be able to see a natural Yellow, you will be able to see a synthetic one. At added cost, of course.

**The Grid:** Colloquial term for the Color Feed Pipes that pump univisual Hue to the grass, trees and flowers growing in municipal gardens throughout the land.

**Civic Duty:** An hour spent every day conducting work for the good of the community.

**Lincoln:** One of the seven shades that have been banned, due to excessive abuse. Staring at Lincoln imbues a euphoric sense upon the viewer. Too much Lincoln can result in cortex damage, excess giggling, and death.

**Jane Grey:** A member of East Carmine's large Grey contingent, she has 800 negative merits and is up for re-boot next Monday. A valued member of the Greyzone, she has a revolutionary agenda quite out of step with the Rules and wholly against the notion of quite sustainability. Attractive and headstrong, she dislikes anyone mentioning that she has a cute nose. Jabez Lemon-Skye commented on it once, and she tore off one of his eyebrows. Has attempted to kill Eddie Russett several times.

**Flak-Tower:** Large towers of unknown origin and purpose that dot the landscape.

**Violet deMauve:** Daughter of Head Prefect deMauve. A pushy, highly precocious girl who has to be good at everything, the deMauve Dynasty rests on her shoulders. She is at the bluey end of purple at present and needs to find a strong red husband to ensure her progeny assumes the mantle of Head Prefect upon her own death or retirement.

**Merits:** All citizens can win or lose merits for good or aberrant behaviour. Merits can be swapped for privileges, and a loss of merits leads to re-education at Reboot.

**Tommo Cinnabar:** A low red perceptor, Tommo runs many scams in East Carmine that includes but is not limited to: Wangling extra helpings at dinner, avoiding Civic Duty, dealing in illegally held hue, Lincoln and Artifice. He also runs the local 'Youknow' brokerage, and charges a very reasonable 10%.

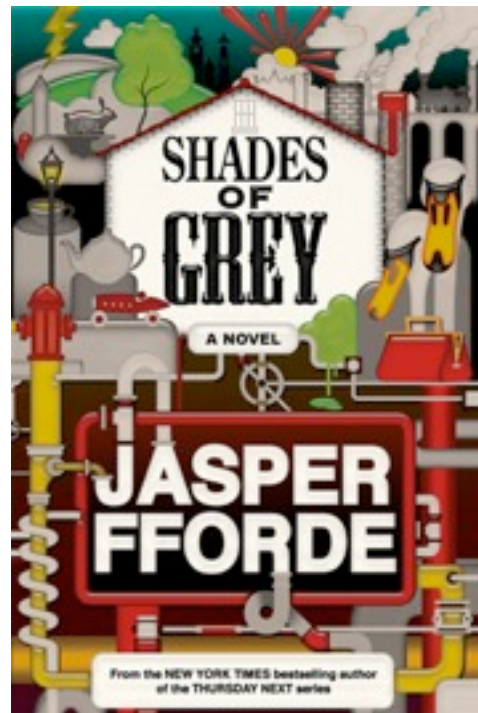
**Reboot:** An education centre for those deemed to have strayed from the path of communal good conduct. It is situated just Outside Emerald City, close to New leaf College

**Homing Slugs:** Slug-racing has become a popular, if unexciting pastime. Because slugs maintain their homing instinct from one generation to the next, the distant progeny of the original slug might be the eventual winner. The taxonomic barcode to be seen on every slug avoids confusion over which slug is which.

**The Vermeer:** A painting by Johannes Vermeer, kept in the Greyzone, and although viewing is free, an appointment is considered wise. As part of the 'Great Dispersal', works of art are distributed fairly across the Collective. Rusty Hill has a Carravagio.

**Perpetulite:** An Organoplastoid self-maintaining building compound, used mostly for roads before the Something that Happened, and now, although barely used, is still there. Intelligent and with a powerful memory, Perpetulite draws organic nutrients from the air and soil to maintain its rigid agenda. Also used in Flak-Towers and other pre-epiphanic architecture.

**Spoons:** Nobody knows why there are so few spoons, nor why the Rules forbid any more being made. Spoons have become extremely valuable, and are generally kept on the person to avoid theft.



## **Shades of Grey by Jasper Fforde Now available!**