

Thank You, Jackie Robinson

By Barbara Cohen

Characters:

Sam Greene- Main character, middle-class 10 year old Jewish boy who loved the Brooklyn Dodgers
Davy - Sam's best friend, a cook at his mother's inn, 60 year old black man who also loved the Dodgers
Sara Greene - Sam's older sister who always had her nose in a book
Fran and Rosy Greene - Sam's two little sisters
Mickey and Al - two other Dodger fans at Sam's school
Mr. Mannheim - a customer at the inn who dated Sam's mother and took Sam to his first night game
Henrietta - Davy's daughter, Dodger fan
Elliot - Henrietta's husband, Giants fan
Mr. Cranach - dated Sam's mother but left Sam alone
Red Barber - Dodgers announcer

Questions:

1. How did Sam listen to the Dodger games? On a portable radio that his aunt had given him
2. What caused Sam to develop a tic in his left eye in 1959? The Dodgers were in a playoff with the Giants for the pennant
3. Where did Sam live? In his mother's Inn outside of Winter Hill, New Jersey
4. Who made breakfast for Sam and his sisters? His sister Sara
5. How did Sam meet Davy? He saw Davy slicing apples for pie in the Inn's kitchen and Davy offered him one
6. What kind of lessons does Sam think Davy should give Sara? Cooking lessons
7. Why did Davy come to work in Winter Hill, New Jersey? So he could live with his daughter
8. Who first brought up the idea of Sam going to a Dodger game? Henrietta
9. What was Sam's favorite kind of sandwich? Egg salad
10. In the first Dodger game Sam went to, what was one of the "bad things" Jackie Robinson had to put up with? Ralph Macgruder slid into him with his spikes up
11. Why didn't Sam like going to Dodger games with Mr. Mannheim? He left before the game was over
12. Which ball park was so far away that Davy had to share the driving with Elliott and Henrietta? Pittsburgh
13. Where did Sam's mother want him to go the summer he was 12 that Sara talked her out of? Boy Scout camp
14. What did Davy make for breakfast on Sunday mornings? Pancakes
15. Did the Dodgers win or lose the last game that Sam and Davy saw together? They won
16. Who told Sam about Davy's heart attack? Sam's mother
17. Where did Sam's mother tell him about Davy's heart attack? Down by the stream that ran through his grandmother's meadow
18. How did Sam get Sara to give him a dollar? He tried to con her into believing he would read her book and if he didn't like it, she had to pay him a dollar. However, he eventually just told her that he needed the money and would explain why later.
19. How much money did Sam take out of the safe to get Davy's present? \$3.50
20. What did Sam bring to eat the day he went to get Davy's present? A couple of egg salad sandwiches
21. Why did the usher at Ebbets Field yell at Sam? He told him to get off the dugout roof
22. Which ballplayer finally paid attention to Sam? Jackie Robinson
23. When Jackie Robinson offered Sam a ball autographed by all the Dodgers, what additional request did Sam also have? That the ball be one that Jackie actually hit
24. Where did Sam get the pen that he used to have the ball autographed? From a Coke vendor
25. Whose idea was it to let Sam give the ball to Davy? Elliott

26. What was Elliott wearing when they went to the hospital to give Davy the ball? Davy's chef uniform
27. How did Elliott sneak Sam into the hospital? In a laundry basket
28. What is an "Old Gold Special"? If someone catches a home run ball, he can bring it to the dugout and have all the players autograph it for him.
29. What was the hardest part for Sam about Davy's wake? Looking at Davy's body
30. What did Sam say when he saw Davy's body? That's not Davy
31. What did Sam do after he came home from Davy's funeral? Threw a tennis ball against the ceiling, then listened to the Dodger game

In which book....

Is there a sister who always has her nose in a book?

Does a boy ride his bike to the hospital?

Does a boy refuse to go to Boy Scout camp?

Does a boy not have \$1 to buy a pen?

Does a boy buy a baseball for \$1.65?