

24. Which of the following is most likely to appear next?
- ① The needs of mental factors
 - ② The second step to seek happiness
 - ③ The natural law accepted in Buddhism
 - ④ The internal changes that occur afterwards

(25-27)

Think of each million years since the beginning of the universe as a page in a book. Today that bookshelf of the Universe would hold 30 volumes of 450 pages each. The first 21 volumes would have nothing in them about life. Both DNA sequence and fossil evidence agree that the informational molecule DNA would have been born some time in volume 21, because archeobacteria, the first form of life, would appear in the sea in volume 22.

Bacteria would continue to be the only shape life took for volume 23 and 24 as well, though the ones emerging in volume 24 would change the planet's atmosphere to one rich oxygen by bacterial photosynthesis. Big-celled forms of life like paramecia and diatoms would appear for the first time in volume 25. Living things made of many big cells would appear in volume 27. Animals would remain in the seas where life had begun until the first forms of animal life that appeared on land, the first tetrapods, march on shore at the end of volume 29.

Dinosaurs would appear in the middle of volume 30. They would for the most part be wiped out by an asteroid on page 385. Only the last 65 pages of the last volume would have anything to say of significance about mammals like the cat. The last ancestor of both us and our nearest living relative, the chimp, would have lived and died only page 443 of the most recent volume, 17 million years ago. From that ancestor many other ancestral hominoid species would follow, each coming and going in the last 10 pages.

On the last tenth of the last page of that last volume humans would have a note about our emergence in Africa. And then, somewhere toward the last sentence would be the emergence of language, texts, and, in that mental world, thoughts and imaginary creatures like Alice in Wonderland.

25. According to the passage, which of the following is true?
- ① Dinosaurs did not appear in the last volume.
 - ② The emergence of the land from sea is described at the end of volume 29.
 - ③ Bacteria began to change the planet's atmosphere at the end of volume 24.
 - ④ It is in volume 29 that the first forms of animal life appeared on land.

26. Why does the author compare the history universe to the books in thirty volumes?
- ① To present the prevailing cosmological model for the universe
 - ② To explain how short the histories of living things and humans are
 - ③ To show the thirty important phases of the evolution of the universe
 - ④ To give an example of how the universe is begun and formed

27. Which of the following is most likely to be inferred from the passage?
- ① Both DNA sequence and fossil evidence provide a piece of information on bacterial photosynthesis.
 - ② Paramecium is one of the early forms of animal life.
 - ③ The last ancestor of the cat and dinosaurs lived together for a moment.
 - ④ Alice in Wonderland has something to do with our ancestral hominoid species.

(28-30)

Raymond Carver made poetry out of the prosaic. One critic wrote that he "revealed the strangeness concealed behind the banal," but what he really did was capture the wonderful idiosyncrasies of human behavior, the idiosyncrasies that exist amid the randomness of life's experiences. And human behavior, filled with all its mystery and inspiration, has always fascinated me.

I look at all of Carver's work as just one story, for his stories are all occurrences, all about things that just happen to people and cause their lives to take a turn. Maybe the bottom falls out. Maybe they have a near-miss with disaster. Maybe they just have to go on, knowing things they don't really want to know about one another. They're more about what you don't know rather than what you do know, and the reader fills in the gaps, while recognizing the undercurrents.

In formulating the mosaic of the film *Short Cuts*, which is based on these nine stories and the poem "Lemonade," I've tried to do the same thing—to give the audience one look. But the film could go on for ever, because it's like life—lifting the roof off the Weathers' home and seeing Stormy decimate his furniture with a skillsaw, then lifting off another roof, the Kaisers', or the Wymans', or the Shepherds', and seeing some different behavior.

We've taken liberties with Carver's work: characters have crossed over from one story to another; they connect by various linking devices; names may have changed. And though some purists and Carver fans may be upset, this film has been a serious

collaboration between the actors, my co-writer Frank Barhydt, and the Carver material in this collection.

28. Which of the following is not true about the author of the passage?
- ① The author is interested in Raymond Carver's stories.
 - ② The author is concerned with how to make a film out of Carver's poetry.
 - ③ The author has a consideration for Carver fans.
 - ④ The author regards his film as a collaboration with the actors and staffs.
29. The author mentions the families such as the Weathers, the Kaisers, the Wymans, or the Shepherds in order to
- ① explain how he keeps in touch with them
 - ② argue for the importance of family gatherings
 - ③ contrast their wonderful idiosyncrasies with his own strange experiences
 - ④ reveal the various idiosyncratic behaviors that exist amid our daily experiences
30. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- ① The author and Raymond Carver are close to each other.
 - ② Raymond Carver is a fan of the author's films.
 - ③ *Short Cuts* is a film adapted from Raymond Carver's literary works.
 - ④ The author is a film-maker who is highly faithful to Carver's original stories.