

# Bookmark

*by* JM Prescott

Some books are like old friends and when you read them, you no longer feel alone.

My friend was killed in a head on collision five winters ago and I inherited his collection of paperback science-fiction novels.

As I was reading my fourth of fifth book from his collection, I found a 50\$ tax rebate between the pages, dated four months before he died. That check would have bought better Christmas gifts for his family; dinner when he just had water while the rest of us ate; gas for his car.

None of that mattered anymore, so I made plans to mail the check to his family and looked again at the pages where it had been, thinking: Could this have been the last thing he ever read?

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