Dave's Official *A Song of Ice and Fire* Predictions (Post Book 5)

The "Pink Letter"
This was written either by Ramsay or Roose. The purpose is to draw Jon Snow out of Castle Black (to try to find Arya before Ramsay does) so that Ramsay (or Roose) can kill him. The Boltons want Jon Snow dead in order to solidify their possession of Winterfell. Any living Stark is a potential threat to their claim. (If Ramsay can become a Bolton, Jon can become a Stark.)

Mance Rayder is captured (and if Ramsay is still alive, is probably being turned into the next "Reek") but the announcement of the victory over Stannis is premature. The rationale here is that Jon is more likely to come looking for Arya if Ramsay says he's defeated Stannis than if Ramsay says he's *about* to defeat Stannis.

Ramsay may be dead at this point, at the hands of Roose. Roose's wife is pregnant, which poses a potential threat to Ramsay's status as the Bolton heir. There's no way that Ramsay can allow this child to live, which means that if Roose is interested in his child surviving, he has to kill Ramsay. Of course, Ramsay would be aware of this and therefore might kill Roose for exactly the same reason. The race may be on.

The Battle for Winterfell
There will turn out to be a secret exit from Winterfell, which of course means that there's a secret entrance as well. This goes through the crypts. Theon never liked the crypts, so he doesn't know about it. Sansa would have been shown it during her lessons in the crypts when she had to learn who all those dead Starks are, and Jeyne Poole would have been there as well. Jeyne Poole, of course, has just met up with Stannis, which means that Stannis will soon learn about this secret entrance. In another night or two, around midnight, Stannis's men will pour out of the crypts into Winterfell and take the castle.

Benjen Stark
The dragonglass and stuff that Ghost found long ago was wrapped in Benjen Stark's cloak. Benjen's ranger expedition discovered something important, which prompted Benjen to proceed ahead incognito and send the rest of the company back to report. Unfortunately the rest of the company never made it back.

I would like to think that Benjen will show up again and make major revelations based on what he's been doing for the last few years, but that seems unlikely at this point. Oh, what the heck. I'll predict that, too.

Jon Snow
Of *course* he will be back in the remaining books. Whether he somehow manages to not die, or he dies but is resurrected by Melisandre, your guess is as good as mine.

The Remaining Books
The story will be wrapped up in seven books. However, book seven, which I think has been announced as *A Dream of Spring* or something like that, will be released in two parts as *A Dream of Spring, Part 1* and *A Dream of Spring, Part 2*. Both will check in at around a thousand pages.

Sirio Forel
Is alive. I mean, look at all the people that were said to be dead and weren't. And nobody ever said that Sirio died.

Dragon Riders
Much is made on the internet forums of the question of who is going to ride Daenerys' dragons, so I'll go ahead and take a crack at this. Deanerys, of course. Tyrion, because he's read almost every book known to exist about dragons. Victarion because he has that horn which is supposed to be able to control dragons. It helps that neither Tyrion nor Victarion has announced that they're going to ride a dragon, because one thing we know about Martin is that if a character sets out to travel from A to B in order to do C, the one thing we can be sure of is that they're *not* going to travel from A to B and do C.

Arya
Arya will ultimately fail in her quest to become "no one" and, for that reason, be forced to leave the place she's at. Before that happens, though, she will become even more badass than she is right now.

Not So Serious Prediction

Bran and Hodor
Either:

1. Bran fixes Hodor's mind, similar to Peter Boyle at the end of *Young Frankenstein*.
2. Bran tries to enter Hodor's mind once too often. Hodor lashes out and kills him.

***Really* not Serious Predictions**

How the Books Will End - The "Beginning of the Industrial Revolution" Ending
The Others are dead. R'hllor is dead. Magic no longer exists. In the last scene, Tyrion, Samwell, and Gendry are standing around examining something that Gendry has just forged, based on designs from Tyrion and Samwell. Tyrion: "So, what shall we call this wonderful device that's going to change the world?" Samwell: "Well, it's an engine, that runs on steam. Why don't we call it a 'steam engine'?"

Better Still, the "Casablanca" Ending
Tyrion: "This doesn't change anything. You still owe me 10,000 stags."
Varys: "That should just about cover our expenses."
Tyrion: "*Our* expenses? Varys, I think this is the start of a beautiful friendship."

“Hodor” is Hodor’s sled.