

## **Spoiler Alert! A packet on plot twists**

Example tossup. A hint at this fact is provided when a man arrives at his anniversary dinner and sits down without moving the chair. This twist is heavily dependent on a line earlier in the film claiming "they only see what they want to see." Clues to this spoiler include the lack of any dialogue with Lynn and a scene in which Anna ignores a man who was earlier shot by Vincent, a former patient played by Donnie Wahlberg. For 10 points, identify this twist regarding a psychiatrist who treats Cole Sear's disturbing visions in an M. Night Shyamalan movie.  
ANSWER: Malcolm Crowe (or Bruce Willis's character) in *The Sixth Sense* was dead/a ghost the whole time

There are 10 tossups in this packet and they all work like the one above (which I got out of the way so people don't guess the most obvious topic for a "plot twists" packet on every question). Here are the rest of the ground rules:

All answers will be in the form of descriptions of the plot twist such as "Bruce Willis was alive the whole time." If you buzz in with "oh this is from the sixth sense!" and don't have an actual guess at the answer you will be banned from participating in the rest of the packet. However, for the most part it's OK to substitute actor names for character names in questions from live-action media. If it's not I will prompt you.

There is nothing super-recent here - no tv episodes that aired last week or anything like that. Everything here is stuff that someone who is a fan of the thing it is from should already know. With that said, it is a packet entirely about spoilers so don't complain if something you were planning to watch gets spoiled.

Every answer is something that is explicitly true within the context of the fictional universe it is from. There are no fan theories or alternate readings included in this packet. Much as I wanted to write a tossup on, e.g., "Lex Luthor and Leo Quintum are the same person," that is only an implication or a plausible interpretation of the text and it isn't a necessary, explicit part of it, so nothing like that is going to be an answer.

1. During the conversation that reveals this spoiler, we learn that a progress report was put inside Soyka's jacket prior to the body being dumped in the river. In order to protect the secret that comprises this fact, a man follows orders to patronize the prostitute Kirilenko in front of his boss, but gives her extra money and finds out her hometown afterwards. As a subsidiary of this twist, we find out that Stepyan is actually alive and well in a luxury hotel in Edinburgh. A Scotland Yard contact becomes concerned when hearing that the person at the center of this twist, who previously fought off two assassins at a bathhouse, has received star tattoos on his knees. For 10 points, identify this twist that reveals the true motivations of a Russian mob chauffeur who encounters an obstetric nurse in *Eastern Promises*.

ANSWER: Nikolai Luzhin (or Viggo Mortensen's character) is a cop or FSB agent

2. As a result of what is ultimately shown to be this twist, two men get into a fistfight over what it means to call a girl a “lobster,” and a woman who drops a piece of paper has to borrow a more fashionable dress to replace one with more material that she usually wears. In reference to this plot development, Anita later says "State of New York didn't think so. The doctors didn't think so." to a woman who claims “I’m capable of making my own decisions.” A woman who is believed to have taken a vacation to a “fat farm” is told “It will shock you how much this never happened” after learning about this twist. For 10 points, identify this result of a liaison with Pete Campbell that affects Elizabeth Moss’s character in the season 1 finale of *Mad Men*.

ANSWER: Peggy is pregnant/has a baby

3. The strongest evidence pointing to this reveal was the finding of a *Nancy Drew Secret Code Book* in a rented apartment. A red herring that appeared to make this twist impossible occurred when Tall Boy was hired to stage an assassination at a mayoral debate. Lack of awareness of this fact led Midge Klump's mother to shoot the innocent Fangs Fogarty. This fact was hidden by framing the janitor Svenson and was first suggested when a teenage investigator looked for additional information on her father’s whereabouts during the deaths of the Sugarman and Miss Grundy and the shooting of Fred Andrews at Pops Chock’lit Shop. For 10 points, identify this resolution to the main plot arc of season 2 of *Riverdale*, which involved Betty’s father being a serial killer.

ANSWER: Hal Cooper is the Black Hood

4. Mendel Stromm, the Robot Master, attempts to reveal this twist early but is shot just before articulating it. In a 2009 essay, one of the creators of this spoiler explained all the clues he set up, including distinctive hair styles and the deliberate use of background characters at the Century Club, to dispel the rumor that he left the series where this revelation occurred because he did not agree with it. The mystery that led to this solution was set up shortly after an encounter with Fancy Dan and the Enforcers by using a strategically placed safe door to hide a man's face. This twist was revealed in the first John Romita, Sr. issue and is immediately responded to with the dialogue "you're related to my own classmate!" For 10 points, identify this solution to a mystery that ran for at least twenty issues of the *Amazing Spider-Man* series regarding a supervillain’s identity.

ANSWER: Norman Osborn is the Green Goblin

5. As a result of this fact, a man is able to explain the forensic use of Ernesto's empanadas. The man at the center of this reveal tries to give a speech involving this fact after receiving the Extreme Repulsiveness Award but is cut off by the playing of the song "Oh Yeah." The episode "Moving On" adds further to this spoiler after a character returns to work in a neck brace. This fact was essentially revealed in "Classy Christmas, Part 1" when a man has to begin a leave of absence for jury duty, and was strongly implied following the capture of George Howard Skub after a police chase. This reveal undercut a popular fan theory built on a man's response to a conversation about radon and asbestos and an idle threat made to Clark after a marriage counseling session. For 10 points, identify this anti-twist in which it is made abundantly clear that the HR representative at Dunder Mifflin has never committed a violent crime.

ANSWER: Toby is NOT the Scranton Strangler

6. In a later supplement to the story that included this twist, the person who told the story lamented that the story including this twist was once “the best” anecdote about its subject but is now “the 10,000<sup>th</sup> best.” As a result of this twist, a follow-up conversation included the complaint that “the man does not live at the number!” At the start of the story that has this twist, a man responds to the greeting “nice to meet you” by shouting “Yes!” and asks to have a phone conversation with a fan in Ottawa. For 10 points, identify this turning point of a Norm MacDonald anecdote about meeting Bill Cosby.

ANSWER: Norm’s father is dead

7. Clues to this twist are provided when we see a man brush off his shoulder even though there is no debris there, and an unexplained change in the style and color of a character's hair. As a result of this fact, some dice disappear. The person involved in this twist doesn’t leave red footprints on the salty ground as all other characters do. After this twist is revealed, a man who noted that “the war is just beginning” says “see you around, kid” and dies on Ahch-To. For 10 points, identify this fact about the duel between Kylo Ren and his former teacher in *The Last Jedi*.

ANSWER: Luke Skywalker was not actually on Crait (or was Force-projecting himself onto Crait)

8. As part of this reveal, we learn that the protagonist actually jumped out of his second floor bedroom as a child. During the episode that reveals this new information, we find out that a computer repair shop in New Jersey was the source for a character’s name. This twist is confirmed when Angela and Darlene run into a man at a cemetery who sees a grave with the name Edward on it. The protagonist learns that he was the one who created fsociety to combat Evilcorp after finding out, for 10 points, what twist about the nature of a Christian Slater-played character on a USA hacker drama?

ANSWER: Mr. Robot isn’t real/is the protagonist hallucinating his dead father

9. After revealing this fact, the narrator says "But now I must sleep" to conclude the "London 1999" section. Details of this twist include a man dying of sepsis after being wounded at Dunkirk and a woman dying in the bombing of Balham station during the Blitz. This spoiler attempts to justify itself by saying that readers do not want “pitiless” endings and claims that everything prior to Robbie and Cecilia’s reuniting was true. For 10 points, identify this undercutting of the last sections of a 2001 Ian McEwan novel about Briony falsely identifying Lola’s rapist.

ANSWER: the last third or so of Atonement didn’t happen

10. This twist was presaged by the intentional use of several awkward words and phrases, including “extra,” “more material,” and “additional information.” The setup for this twist is reminiscent of a recurring device used in the early 2000s by Jeremy White. The imprecision of the phrase “at least twenty issues” was probably the biggest hint to this spoiler, which also was foreshadowed by the words “adds further,” “later supplement,” “is just beginning,” and “new information.” This twist also ensures that there won’t be a “pitiless ending” on an academic question that comprises only the 9th tossup about plot spoilers. For 10 points, identify this twist that is happening right now regarding the number of questions in this packet.

ANSWER: there are actually 20 tossups in this packet, not 10

11. This spoiler led almost immediately to the death of a general running a private military firm and took place in the issue "The Anatomy Lesson." This fact was revealed in an attempt to reverse engineer the Bio-Restorative Formula. This twist was discovered after an attack by the Sunderland Corporation led to an autopsy performed by the Floronic Man. This reveal prompted an argument in the paper "Knowing One's Own Mind" by Donald Davidson which argues the metaphysical implications of this twist. For 10 points, identify this Alan Moore-created change to the nature of a Louisiana-based DC Comics character.

ANSWER: Swamp Thing is not identical to Alec Holland

12. This twist was introduced in the third draft of the script and at one point was to be revealed while flying a helicopter over jungle terrain. The 2012 comic book *Cataclysm* explains one of the tricks used to preserve this reveal, by detailing the destruction of the moon. This twist is stated in a musical parody of the film in a line that rhymes with "Oh my God, I was wrong." This twist, which was introduced in one of Rod Serling's screenplay drafts, is made apparent after a man who has journeyed into the Forbidden Zone shouts "You maniacs! You blew it up!" and the camera pulls back to show the Statue of Liberty's head. For 10 points, identify this reveal regarding the setting of the original *Planet of the Apes*.

ANSWER: It was Earth all along

13. This spoiler undid a wedding issue that featured Bachman being scooped about news in a greenhouse and a man giving up on a plot to kill the groom and riding away on the Dragon Man. The person at the center of this twist wore contact lenses to avoid revealing that she was not actually disabled. This twist brought to light a plan engineered by Paibok, and was generally exposed after it was deduced by the Puppet Master. Tom DeFalco came up with this twist in 1991 in order to do a continuity reset and end Johnny Storm's marriage. For 10 points, identify this spoiler which revealed that a blind sculptor had been abducted and replaced for seven years.

ANSWER: Alicia Masters was a Skrull (or was Lyja Lazerfist)

14. The intrusion of a theme by James Newton Howard into West Thordson's score provides a hint to this twist. A man leaves flowers on a train platform as part of an ongoing implication about a crash that killed his father, which is likely another connection tied to this reveal. The first hint at this spoiler was available before even viewing the film, as the movie poster used the same design of a bald man behind a fracture pattern as a film from 16 years earlier. A news story about "The Horde" being viewed by David Dunn in the final scene of a 2017 film confirms, for 10 points, what twist that sets up the shared universe of the upcoming film *Glass*?

ANSWER: *Split* takes place in the same continuity as *Unbreakable*

15. After this twist is revealed, a character reacts to pleas to help make a 3 pm deadline by mocking his family members with the words "divorce," "bankrupt," and "suicide." Frank explains the implications of this twist after a teenager writes the word "what?" on a scratchpad after failing to notice a green A inside an orange circle. A character breaks his vow of silence by screaming "FUCK!" after being told he cannot fly jets in the Navy as a result of this twist, which is discovered when Olive administers a vision test in the back of a van. For 10 points, identify this revelation which happens to a Paul Dano character in *Little Miss Sunshine*.

ANSWER: Dwayne (or Paul Dano's character) is color blind

16. This spoiler explains the seemingly out-of-nowhere reference to Lisa Loeb by a man who is sitting in the driver's seat of a van earlier in the film. Text on a coupon held by Isaac provides one of the clues to this twist. A red herring leading viewers away from this spoiler occurs when William Bludworth cryptically references having "seen this happen before." This twist is most obviously signaled by the use of clamshell cell phones throughout the movie, and this spoiler is cemented when Molly and Sam witness a fight between Carter and Alex, revealing that they are aboard Volée Airlines Flight 180. For 10 points, identify this twist about the chronological placement of the final film in a series about cheating death.

ANSWER: Final Destination 5 is an immediate prequel to Final Destination

17. Visual hints to this twist were provided in the repeated use of large glass windows by production designer Patrice Vermette. This twist is hinted at when a child imagines a television show called "Mommy and Daddy Talk to Animals." After comprehending this twist, a character asks "would you change things" and is told "Maybe I'd say what I felt more often." A woman writes a book dedicated to Hannah after understanding this spoiler, which ultimately leads her husband, Ian Donnelly, to leave the family. The non-linear understanding of time prompted by comprehension of Heptapod B leads to the presence of, for 10 points, what spoiler regarding Louise's visions of her daughter in *Arrival*?

ANSWER: The scenes involving Louise's dying daughter are in the future, not the past

18. A character in a wheelchair named Sara yells "I knew it!" after this fact is made public. This spoiler is revealed in the same episode as a plotline about a man who has to pay a \$429 phone bill as a result of weird improvised dirty talk with Sandra. This reveal occurs after the courier Raymond delivers a box of items that survived a cabin fire started by a cigar. A man announces "I loved him deeply, in a way you could never understand!" after this twist is revealed by Susan reading a passage involving the phrases "last night with you was bliss" and "I love you madly." For 10 points, identify this revelation about a man's marital infidelity on *Seinfeld*.

ANSWER: Henry Ross/Susan's father had an affair with John Cheever

19. In an attempt to avoid discovering this twist, a character is seen inside a large bin full of articulated rulers and wooden beams, nailing together a structure to try to accomplish what a series of ropes could not. Later, the words "this" and "brick wall" are highlighted in pink and the word "try" is in all-caps blue in a depiction of another attempt to avoid experiencing this revelation. A character says "please, please, please" and states "I am so scared" in an attempt to avoid progressing to this twist. That character later admits "I am so embarrassed" after dishonestly stating "I told you there was nothing to be afraid of." A blue character attempts to prevent the reader from turning pages and finding out, for 10 points, what twist about a Muppet being the title character of a Sesame Street book that promises a scary ending?

ANSWER: Grover is "The Monster At the End of This Book"

20. One of the first hints to this reveal was a character using the pronoun "we" in a discussion of exiling the Brahmastra stone. A character displays knowledge of Reverb's conversation with a man derided as "tech support" in another clue to this outcome. This twist was also suggested when it was discovered that the character involved feels pain and is "just a man, baby," found out during his first battle with Jesse Quick. While speaking through Julian Albert, the character involved in this spoiler uses a strategically absent comma to outright state this twist five months before it was shown on screen, then continues his plan to murder Iris West. For 10 points, identify this solution to the central mystery of season 3 of *The Flash*, in which a "god of speed" is revealed to be a "time remnant" of the protagonist.

ANSWER: Savitar is the future Flash or is Barry Allen or Barry Allen's time remnant