

ACRO-Demia - Round 1

Written by Danny Vopava, Erik Nelson, and Ben Weiner

1. In 1987, a week-long sequence of *Doonesbury* used this character to represent Mario Cuomo's potential presidential run. In an iteration of "Monsterpiece Theater" in which Elmo represents this character, a part of the set gets pissed off and leaves to be in a different play. This character may have been inspired by a similarly named man in the film *The Lovable Cheat*, which was itself based on a play by Balzac. *Phoenix Wright: Ace Attorney - Trials and Tribulations* introduced an ex of (*) Mia Fey who is named for this character and who resembles the author that created him. Wikipedia aptly notes that the Charlie Brown character the Great Pumpkin is essentially just this character. A 2009 West End production starred Patrick Stewart and Ian McKellan as the men anticipating, for 10 points, what unseen figure from an absurdist play by Samuel Beckett?

ANSWER: **Godot** [guh-DOH or GOH-doh] <Nelson, Literature>

2. The cover of Oingo Boingo's debut album parodies a painting by this artist. A copy of a painting by this man is tacked onto a bulletin board next to images of fighter planes in *Empire of the Sun*, which also recreates that same painting by this artist in a scene from Jim Graham's childhood. A framed photo of Stan Lee hangs behind Cable in a movie (*) poster that mimics one of this man's paintings. Alvy asks the title character of *Annie Hall* if she "grew up in" one of this man's paintings after learning that she calls her grandmother "grammy." A cover of Sublime's "Doin' Time" and the song "Mariners Apartment Complex" appear on a 2019 Lana Del Rey album that adds the word "fucking" to the name of, for 10 points, what painter known for his scenes of 20th-century Americana?

ANSWER: Norman (Perceval) **Rockwell** <Vopava, Fine Arts>

3. In *The Fighter*, Charlene complains that "There wasn't even any good sex" after viewing a foreign film set during the buildup to this conflict on her first date with Micky. The 1995 film *Land and Freedom* depicts volunteers who enlist in this conflict. The cancelled film *1993* was supposed to conclude an anthology trilogy of works set during this conflict that begins with *The (*) Devil's Backbone*. One song referencing a novel set during this war asks, "For a hill, men would kill, why?" before answering, "They do not know." In one film set in the aftermath of this conflict, Ofelia escapes from the Pale Man while on a quest to retrieve items for a faun. *Pan's Labyrinth* is set five years after, for 10 points, what twentieth century war that took place in a namesake Iberian nation?

ANSWER: **Spanish Civil** War [or Guerra **Civil Espanola**] <Weiner, History>

4. Rather than dial a phone number derived from this quote, Edward Wehling shoots a doctor, a painting model, and himself at the end of a Kurt Vonnegut short story. Richard Curtis replaced key words in this quote with "fuck" for a 1982 "Skinhead" parody version, while Ryan North used it to title a 2015 Choose Your Own Adventure-style book. To qualify for a SAG card, Tommy Wiseau produced a jeans commercial where he spoke this line. This line is the signal for Polish pilot Stanislaw Sobinski to leave his (*) theatre seat and go meet Maria in her dressing room in a 1942 Ernst Lubitsch film. This line, and its ensuing speech, is performed in the Academic Decathlon near the climax of *Billy Madison*, for which Billy holds a skull. For 10 points, give this six-word opening to a soliloquy from Act III of *Hamlet*.

ANSWER: "**To be, or not to be**" [accept "**2BR02B**"] <Vopava, Literature>

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5. A verse built around this concept concludes the first full song of the album *Mos Def and Talib Kweli Are Black Star*, which describes a "light" that is gonna "shine bright tonight." A portion of this concept is inscribed on the back of the Enchiridion (en-kur-ID-ee-in) in *Adventure Time*. This concept is observed as matching the manner in which Shia LeBeouf's character lost his virginity in Lars von Trier's *Nymphomaniac*. Lyrics beginning "Black and white are all I see" are given in a cadence based on this concept in (*) Tool's song "Lateralus." Walter Bishop on *Fringe* recites this structure to fall asleep and uses part of it as codes for safety deposit boxes, namely 233, 377, and 610. In *Square One Television's* "Mathnet" series, a parrot shouts "Five, eureka!" after being told the first digits of, for 10 points, what mathematical sequence?

ANSWER: Fibonacci sequence [or Fibonacci numbers] <Nelson, Science>

6. An excerpt from this ballet plays while a dozen or so Shy Guys dance in the Big Sho' Theater at Shogun Studios in *Paper Mario: The Origami King*. To confirm that Vicky Page is good enough for his company, Boris Lermontov goes to see her in this ballet in the film *The Red Shoes*. Rudolf Nureyev literally tosses a pig across the stage in *The Muppet Show's* parody of this ballet. While taking a ferry, the protagonist of (*) *Billy Elliott* first hears of this ballet, in which he eventually performs at the film's end. Vincent Cassel plays Thomas Leroy, the predatory director in a 2010 film who decides two rival dancers will split this ballet's female lead into two parts. Nina Sayers, a dancer played by Natalie Portman, goes insane while starring in, for 10 points, what Peter Tchaikovsky ballet?

ANSWER: Swan Lake <Vopava, Fine Arts>

7. An episode of Hulu's first original series *Battleground* depicts a candidate's stepson using an elementary school class to recreate this event. Douglas Pavlicek, a fictional participant in this event, wanders the U.S. planting trees in Richard Powers' 2019 Pulitzer-winner *The Overstory*. A man played by Dan Castellaneta recreates this event in a third season episode of *Veronica Mars*. An argument over whether or not a bed had been made leads to the assault of a man played by (*) Ezra Miller in a film about this event. In his brief foray on the Greendale debate team, Jeff Winger uses this event as evidence that all men are evil. In a 2015 film, Olivia Thirlby starred as Christina Maslach, the woman convinced this event's creator, played by Billy Crudup, to end it. For 10 points, name this 1971 event carried out by Philip Zimbardo.

ANSWER: Stanford prison experiment <Nelson, History>

8. If the CW had gotten their way in 2015, this novel would have been made into a gritty conspiracy drama set in dystopian Philadelphia. The 48-episode anime *Love's Tale of Young Grassis* based on this novel. On *Girls*, Hannah angers Ray by leaving Ray's treasured copy of this novel at an ex-boyfriend's house. Sutton Foster co-starred with Maureen McGovern in a 2005 Broadway adaptation of this novel, while June (*) Allyson starred alongside Elizabeth Taylor in David O. Selznick's 1949 film version. Joey misconstrues the genders of this novel's central romantic duo in a famous episode of *Friends*. Peter Lawford, Christian Bale, and Timothee Chalamet have all starred in film versions of this novel, the most recent of which was directed by Greta Gerwig. For 10 points, name this novel by Louisa May Alcott.

ANSWER: Little Women <Vopava, Literature>

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9. This figure names Martin Crieff's moving company in the BBC Radio comedy *Cabin Pressure*. The Garfunkel and Oates song "Loser" claims that this man "is bullshit--that's why it's called 'mythology.'" A Bastille song claims this man's life "has only just begun." This man lends his name to Gustav Graves' big death satellite in *Die Another Day*. In the *Hamilton* number "Burn," Eliza recalls how Angelica told her, upon learning of Hamilton's affair, that Eliza had married this (*) mythological figure. Zayn Malik's second solo album is named for an act taken by this man. The two spaceships in the film *Sunshine* are bluntly named for this figure. Pit is the hero of a classic Nintendo game named after, for 10 points, what Greek idiot whose wax wings were melted by the sun?

ANSWER: Icarus <Vopava, R/M/P>

10. In *Deadliest Warrior: Legends*, this figure can wield a dead fish as a joke weapon. In a 2008 film, a monk earns this man's favor by bringing a shard of bone to this man's wife to let her know he is alive. A 1987 strategy video game by Koei and its 1992 sequel, subtitled *Clan of the Grey Wolf* are named for this man. The West German Eurovision act behind the once internet-famous 1979 song (*) "Moskau" ("Moscow") is named for a unusually-spelled version of this man's name. This man's name titles a 2015 song that asserts "I don't want you to get it on with nobody else but me," a hit for the band Miike Snow. The 1956 film *The Conqueror* woefully miscast John Wayne as this man. A Patton Oswalt bit explains his shock at learning he has Asian heritage because of, for 10 points, what Mongol ruler?

ANSWER: Genghis Khan [accept variants like Dschinghis Khan or Chinggis Khan; prompt on partial answers] <Vopava, History>

11. The first time Lex is seen on his yacht in *Superman Returns*, he is listening to an excerpt from this work. Along with the 6th Brandenburg Concerto, Windows 3.0 shipped with a MIDI file containing an excerpt from this piece. DJ Taka's "V", a song introduced as part of the *Dance, Dance Revolution* games is a remixed version of one section of this piece. In *The Secret Life of Pets* Leonard the Poodle quickly changes the music playing in his owner's apartment from this work to System of a Down. Marianne is brought to tears afterspotting (*) Héloïse at a performance of this piece at the end of *Portrait of a Lady on Fire* The Piano Guys performed a mashup between one section of this piece and "Let It Go" while in an ice castle in a 2014 viral video. For 10 points, what set of violin concertos by Vivaldi contains *Spring* and *Winter*?

ANSWER: *The Four Seasons* [*Le Quattro Stagioni*; anti-prompt on any specific season by asking "could you be less specific?"] <Weiner, Fine Arts>

12. In the 1997 alternate universe collection *Back in the U.S.S.A.*, Charles Foster Kane seizes power after this man, his running mate, is assassinated in Chicago by Annie Oakley. According to SB Nation, a meeting convened by this political leader legalized football's forward pass. This man is metaphorically "the wind" in the 1975 film *The Wind and the Lion*. In *Newsies*, the abuse at the Refuge is stopped when this governor of (*) New York intervenes. America's leader in *Civilization VI* is this man, whom Mortimer Brewster's insane younger brother believes himself to be, thus charging up staircases and blowing a trumpet in the stage comedy *Arsenic and Old Lace*. In the *Night at the Museum* franchise, Robin Williams played, for 10 points, what energetic president and leader of the Rough Riders?

ANSWER: Theodore Roosevelt [or Teddy Roosevelt; prompt on Roosevelt] <Vopava, History>

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13. At the climax of a 2005 film subtitled "Wicked Prayer," a repeated line from this work is amended with the word "motherfucker" by a man played by Eddie Furlong. This written work is regularly referenced by Magica de Spell's brother on *DuckTales*, in which he is transformed into one of this work's characters. A hotel in *Altered Carbon* is named for this work, whose proprietor is (*) named for and resembles this work's author. Blues Traveler's song "Run Around" and this work begin with the same phrase. The final segment of *The Simpsons'* first "Treehouse of Horror" episode ends with a telling of this work and replaces one of its phrases with "eat my shorts." After moving the Cleveland Browns, Art Modell gave them a new name inspired by, for 10 points, what poem by Edgar Allan Poe?
ANSWER: "The Raven" <Nelson, Literature>

14. A misspelled version of this substance lends its name to a shapeshifting, douchebag cat who accompanies Wayne Aurelius in the RPG *Mana Khemia*. An episode of the satirical education show *Look Around You* claimed that this substance can give people heat vision. A dimension named for this substance is the home of the red-skinned Marvel villain Azazel. The claim that "you don't always know where you stand" and comparisons to breathing this substance repeated in a single by (*) Slipknot. The Pokedex in *Pokemon Ultra Sun* claims that Turtonators eat this substance while in their natural habitat. When using his teleportation power, the X-Man Nightcrawler produces a faint smell of, for 10 points, what allegedly foul-smelling element also known as brimstone?
ANSWER: sulfur [or sulphur; accept brimstone before the end] <Nelson, Science>

15. Mike Longshott reimagined this man as a mysterious vigilante in a book-within-a-book created by author Lavie Tidhar. In a New York Times opinion piece, British actor Ricky Sekhon lamented that his role playing this man was highlighted by a view of his nostrils. El Wray shoots Lt. Muldoon after the latter reveals that he killed this man in *Planet Terror*. This man is revealed to be running a soup kitchen and living on a pension in (*) *Postal III*. Eric Cartman has a cartoonish encounter with this man in an episode of *South Park* whose title claims this man has "Farty Pants." The song "Finest Girl," which likens having sex to the killing of this man, appears in the Lonely Island film *Pop Star*. For 10 points, name this man whose pursuit is depicted in Kathryn Bigelow's *Zero Dark Thirty*.
ANSWER: Osama bin Laden <Nelson, History>

16. In reviewing Guy Fieri's Times Square restaurant, *The New York Times* claimed that the *bahn mi* resembles a *bahn mi* as much as Guy Fieri resembles this person. While presenting his updated PokéRap in 2019, Brian David Gilbert invoked this author to underline the deplorability of the original PokéRap's "slant rhymes." This author and Robert Frost represent incompatible lovers in Simon & Garfunkel's "The (*) Dangling Conversation." In 1976 Julie Harris starred in an acclaimed one-woman Broadway show about this author. Wiz Khalifa plays Death on a 2019 Apple TV series that imagines this author as a modern feminist played by Hailee Steinfeld. *The Belle of Amherst* depicts, for 10 points, what American poet of "Because I could not stop for death"?
ANSWER: Emily (Elizabeth) Dickinson <Vopava, Literature>

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17. Ian McShane received early critical acclaim for playing this man in a 1977 miniseries directed by Franco Zeffirelli. A "Contract" named for this person titles a 1980s *Teen Titans* storyline about the double agent Tara Markov. This man is called a "fool" in a Walk the Moon song titled for him that ends by repeating variations on the lyric "You know you had it coming." Sunrises and silver harm vampires because the original vampire was this man, as played by (*) Gerard Butler in *Dracula 2000*. In a musical, this man insists, "I have no thought at all about my own reward / I really didn't come here of my own accord" shortly before telling Annas and Caiaphas "I don't want your blood money!" For 10 points, name this biblical figure who commits suicide near the end of *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

ANSWER: **Judas** Iscariot [prompt on Iscariot] <Vopava, R/M/P>

18. This artwork is incorrectly depicted as being in the Louvre on *Courage the Cowardly Dog*, in which it comes to life and steals Eustace's clothes after Eustace tells it "Put some clothes on, ya beatnik!" A Marvel villain named for this artwork mimics the work on the cover of *Fantastic Four* #15. Dobie Gillis always gave his narration in front of this artwork at the start of episodes of *The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis* On How I Met Your Mother, while doing "the Naked Man," Ted briefly entertains the thought of doing a pose based on this (*) sculpture. Goliath, the main character of the cartoon *Gargoyles*, resembles this artwork when he is frozen as stone. For the 2018 Teen Tournament, *Jeopardy!* used crappy CGI to make this artwork dab in the opening sequence. For 10 points, name this Auguste Rodin sculpture of a seated, introspective, nude man.

ANSWER: *The **Thinker*** [or *Le **Penseur*** or *The **Thinking Man*** or *La **Poete*** or *The **Poet***] <Vopava, Fine Arts>

19. This person names the school where former funk musician Steve Hightower worked on *The Steve Harvey Show*. This figure provides the ring name of a five-time WCW champion pro wrestler of the 90s and early 2000s who sometimes went as "G.I. Bro." This figure has "no patience" for certain people "who live less-than-exemplary lives" in the musical *Ragtime*, in which he denounces Coalhouse Walker's extremism. Robert Guenveur Smith played this man in the factually-dubious 2020 miniseries (*) *Self Made* in which Madam C. J. Walker attends one of his speeches. This historical figure shares his first name and middle initial with the keyboardist frontman heard on the hit "Green Onions." The M.G.'s were fronted by a guy whose name evokes, for 10 points, what founder of the Tuskegee Institute?

ANSWER: **Booker** T(aliaferro) **Washington** [prompt on "Booker T" or "Washington"] <Vopava, History>

20. Filia from the game *Skullgirls* cries out the name of this literary work during her special move punningly named for its protagonist. While searching for the perfect flop in *The Producers*, Max reads this work's first line aloud, then rejects it for being "too good." Champ Bennet fronted a 2000s shoegaze band named for this work's protagonist. Peter Capaldi's Oscar-winning 1993 (*) short film comically chronicles the writing of this literary work, which Walt has *clearly* not read but still tries to bullshit his way through discussing with Sophie in *The Squid and the Whale*. A *Calvin and Hobbes* comic about how Calvin is "so sluggish in the morning" mimics the central conceit of this novella, which is seen in *Flushed Away* being appropriately read by a cockroach. For 10 points, name this novella by Franz Kafka.

ANSWER: *The **Metamorphosis*** [or *Die **Verwandlung***] <Vopava, Literature>