

ACRO-Demia - Round 8

Written by Danny Vopava, Erik Nelson, and Ben Weiner

1. A boss heavily inspired by this historical figure is fought at the bottom of the Forgotten Tower in the first act of *Diablo II*. The Frankie Muniz film *Stay Alive* depicts a reincarnation of this figure, who is the subject of a film written and directed by Julie Delpy. The story of *Castlevania: Bloodlines* states that an analogue of this figure was returned to life to orchestrate the killing of Franz Ferdinand. A singer known as Quorthon founded a pioneering (*) black metal band named for this person, who is also the subject of Cradle of Filth's concept album *Cruelty and the Beast* and the debut single by Ghost. This figure is the ostensible basis for Lady Gaga's character in *American Horror Story* as well as all three protagonists of *The Neon Demon*. A 2008 movie subtitled *Countess of Blood* concerns, for 10 points, what Hungarian serial killer?

ANSWER: Elizabeth Báthory [or Báthory Erzsébet] <Nelson, History>

2. This scientific effect accounts for why the voyaging speaker sings "my love, it cannot be" in the song "'39" by Queen. David's subjection to this phenomenon causes him to fail to recognize who his brother Jeffrey is in the Disney film *The Flight of the Navigator*. Static on Ellie's recorder show that this phenomenon's standard effects were reversed by the screenwriters of the movie *Contact*. This phenomenon accounts for why the protagonist of *Captain Marvel*, which is set in the 1990s, appears virtually (*) unchanged in *Avengers: Endgame*. This phenomenon is observed by Coop and Brand as they orbit the black hole Gargantua late in the film *Interstellar*, causing Murphy to seemingly age rapidly. For 10 points, name this paradoxical phenomenon in which the rate of passage of time differs between two observers, often due to light-speed travel.

ANSWER: (relativistic) time dilation [accept dilation after "time"] <Vopava, Science>

3. Robert Altman's two-part series *Basements* adapted the plays of this author and cast John Travolta as one of those plays' leads. After being extremely unhappy with changes made to his script for a 1990 adaptation of *The Handmaid's Tale*, this author routinely exercised a contractual clause that removed his name from other screenplays he co-wrote, including one for *Lolita*. One play by this man strongly resembles the plot of the film *In (*) Bruges* and depicts food orders being delivered by the title device. This author aided William Friedkin with the casting of a 1968 film based on another of his plays, and cast Robert Shaw as Stanley, a man who receives a tin drum for a special occasion. For 10 points, name this author of *The Dumb Waiter* and *The Birthday Party*,

ANSWER: Harold Pinter <Nelson, Literature>

4. Near the start of his single "Hoe Cakes," rapper MF Doom likens himself to this figure. This man is given a shout out following mention of the "grits when there ain't enough eggs to cook" in Kid Rock's "Bawitdaba." A story arc of *NewsRadio* ending with the episode "Clash of the Titans" involves Jimmy James being accused of actually being this figure. The plot of the film *Without a Paddle* is centered on a search for (*) money belonging to this man. A popular theory among fans of *Mad Men* suggested that Don Draper would be revealed to have been this man. Due to disputes about his age and origins, XKCD postulated that *The Room* director Tommy Wiseau may be this figure. The protagonist of *Twin Peaks* was named after, for 10 points, what mysterious 1970s plane hijacker?

ANSWER: D. B. Cooper [or Dan Cooper] <Nelson, History>

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5. This artist was intended to be the basis for Henry Case, the protagonist of *Neuromancer*, an unfinished video game made by Timothy Leary. In 2008 a balloon based on a work by this artist collided with NBC's broadcast booth during the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. This man's artwork covered a jacket worn by Madonna during her several televised performances of "Like a Virgin," including on *Top of the Tops* In 2011, a jigsaw puzzle with a then-record 32,000 pieces was released by Ravensburger and featured the work of this artist. Whitney Houston's cover of (*) "Do You Hear What I Hear?" appeared on a 1987 record benefitting the Special Olympics and featuring this man's work. Cover art for the *A Very Special Christmas* albums features the outlined figures typical of, for 10 points, what New York artist who died of AIDS?

ANSWER: Keith (Allen) Haring <Nelson, Fine Arts>

6. The comic book series *The League of ExtraordinaryGentlemen* claims that the ruins of this place are visible from Greece using a large telescope. A 1990 album named for this place featured "Pure," the breakthrough single for the Lightning Seeds. On the album *Amnesiac*, Thom Yorke describes living in this place in the song "Like Spinning Plates." In a 2014 film, a colorful base named for this location sinks into the ocean after being attacked by Super Secret Police Dropships. Banjo can transform into a bee in a world named for this (*) figurative place, which is the final regular world encountered in *Banjo Tooie*. This place is the namesake of the home of Princess Unikitty in *The Lego Movie*. For 10 points, name this metaphorical and idealistic place whose name comes from a city in the sky in Aristophanes's *The Birds*.

ANSWER: Cloud Cuckoo Land [or Cloudcuckooland] <Nelson, R/M/P>

7. In the bad ending of the video game *Shadow Man*, the final boss utters this phrase just before dying. In the Judy Garland version of *A Star is Born*, a PR man uses this poetic phrase when describing Norman Maine's death. The episode of *Dexter* in which the title figure meets the Domsday Killer is titled for this phrase. An observation about the world being "engulfed in truth" prompts the AI Colonel to quote this phrase during the ending of (*) *Metal Gear Solid 2*. The film version of *August: Osage County* controversially changed its ending to *not* end with the use of this phrase. This phrase ends a poem recited by Colonel Kurtz in *Apocalypse Now*, a film whose title, deliberately or otherwise, invokes this phrase. For 10 points, name this thrice-repeated phrase about the apocalypse in T.S. Eliot's "The Hollow Men."

ANSWER: This is the way the world ends <Nelson, Literature>

8. Elements of this artwork slowly come to life in the opening segment of Abbas Kiarostami's (KYE-uh-roh-STAH-mee's) 2017 art film *24 Frames*. In *Melancholia*, Kirsten Dunst's character takes a modern art book off a shelf and replaces it with a book she just saw this painting in; earlier, in *Melancholia*'s opening montage, this painting is obscured by falling embers as it begins to burn. Andrei Tarkovsky borrowed this painting's composition for a scene in *Mirror* in which a young boy climbs atop a (*) hill, where a bird flies over and perches on his hat. In *Solaris*, just before Hari and Kelvin mysteriously begin to levitate, Hari is mesmerized by this painting, particularly its images of ice skaters and dogs. For 10 points, name this wintry landscape painting by Pieter Bruegel the Elder.

ANSWER: (The) Hunters in the Snow <Vopava, Fine Arts>

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9. The central trio of the sitcom *Stella* accidentally kill this historical figure, who is also their landlord, after giving him open heart surgery. This man is dubbed "Monarch to the kingdom of the dead" in a song by Slayer. In one film, Barry Kohler is killed after he is caught recording a secret meeting where this man sends assassins to kill 94 fathers in disparate countries; in that 1978 thriller, this man is played by (*) Gregory Peck. In Marvel comics, this man led Project Griffin, which created human-mutant hybrids called he called "little time travelers" during World War II. This historical figure masterminds the creation of the title group of the film *Werewolves of the Third Reich* The main villain of *The Boys from Brazil* is, for 10 points, what Nazi who experimented on prisoners at Auschwitz?

ANSWER: Josef Mengele <Vopava, History>

10. Lauren Gunderson used this quote to title her 2012 dark comedy in which housewife Nan Carter plots a cartoonish revenge on her abusive husband. A 2015 young adult novel by E. K. Johnson uses this title and updates the work it comes from by making a queen into a cheerleading captain. This quote's final word is replaced with "Bruised Ego" to name an early quest in *Red Dead Redemption 2* in which Hosea teaches Arthur how to track and hunt legendary animals. TV Tropes uses this quote to title the practice of having a villain be climactically "finished off by a large, (*) vicious animal." This quote provides the punchline to a joke about William Shakespeare walking into a gay bar. For 10 points, name this stage direction from Antigonus's (an-TIG-uh-niss's) final scene in *The Winter's Tale*.

ANSWER: exit, pursued by a bear <Vopava, Literature>

11. A *Little Einsteins* episode in which this work is the featured piece takes place at a carnival and is titled for the "great guessing game" of this piece's composer. An excerpt from this work was used as the theme song of the British sitcom, *Waiting for God*. Several Samsung washers and dryers will play an excerpt from this work upon the conclusion of either a wash or dry cycle. This piece is alluded to via a flipbook presented to an antagonist of a 2011 film while at attendance of a peace conference in (*) Reichenbach. After hanging a Robert Downey Jr.-played character from a certain type of hook, Moriarty compares their situation to, and then proceeds to sing, part of this musical work in *Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows* For 10 points, name this piano quintet by Franz Schubert.

ANSWER: Trout Quintet [or Franz Schubert's Piano Quintet in A major, D. 667, prompt on partial answers; accept "Die Forelle"] <Weiner, Fine Arts>

12. The pilot of the Adam West *Batman* series used footage from this event to depict the episode's setting. A landmark created for this event is seen in the opening shot of the Ridley Scott film *Black Rain*. The Oscar-winning short film *To Be Alive!* premiered at this event, which also saw the premiere of *Parable*, a religious film that depicts Jesus as a clown. They Might Be Giants filmed the video for "Don't Let's Start" at the site of this event, which they also referenced in "Ana Ng" as a place where the singer was (*) "all alone." Before moving to Disneyland, the "It's a Small World" ride premiered at this event, which featured two tall structures seen in the climax of *Men in Black*. The Disney film *Tomorrowland* is heavily inspired by, for 10 points, what international event for which the Unisphere was built in Queens?

ANSWER: 1964 World's Fair [accept 1965 World's Fair or Second New York World' Fair or similar; prompt on New York World's Fair] <Nelson, History>

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13. A phrase associated with this specific religious group is used to break Peter Tork out of a trance in the series finale of *The Monkees*. That phrase used by this group is heavily sampled in Xzibit's song "Concentrate," as well as at the end of "Welcome Back Home," the longest song by The Byrds. The final track on Duncan Sheik's sophomore album *Humming* is titled for the founder of this group, of which Sheik is a member. In his verse on Kanye's "No More Parties in LA," Kendrick Lamar describes "the head still good" that makes him recite a phrase used by this sect, which is (*) "nam myoho renge kyo." Orlando Bloom is an outspoken member of Soka Gakkai, an affiliate of, for 10 points, what branch of Mahayana Buddhism that follows the Lotus Sutra?

ANSWER: Nichiren Buddhism [prompt on Buddhism or Mahayana] <Nelson, R/M/P>

14. The Paul Kelly and the Messengers song "Everything's Turning to White" is based on a work by this author, which was also adapted into *Jindabyne*, a film for which Kelly co-wrote the score. Andrew Kotatko directed two adaptations of works by this man, including a 2016 short film about a couple shaken by a phone call in the middle of the night. 10 different works by this author are combined into a single narrative in Robert Altman's film *Short Cuts*. Hugo Weaving and Will Ferrell each played men getting rid of his possessions in separate films inspired by this man's story (*) "Why Don't You Dance?". Riggan Thompson performs in a production of another of this man's stories in an attempt to revive his stagnant acting career in Alejandro Inarritu's *Birdman*. For 10 points, name this author of *Cathedral* and *What We Talk About When We Talk About Love*.

ANSWER: Raymond (Clevie) Carver (Jr.) <Nelson, Literature>

15. Taryn Manning played a woman forced to reveal that she has this medical condition after making a list of "rules to live by" in the rom-com *Jack and Jill vs. the World*. The 1997 documentary *Sick* concerned Bob Flanagan, a man with this condition who coped with it by inflicting unthinkable pain on himself. Complications from this condition forced Frankie Abernathy to leave (*) *The Real World: San Diego*. Though it was not revealed until after his accidental death, Anton Yelchin suffered from this condition. A YA book about two teenagers who can not make physical contact due to this condition was made into the 2019 film *Five Feet Apart*. After learning his son Gunnar had this condition, Boomer Esiason started a foundation dedicated to, for 10 points, what debilitating lung disorder?

ANSWER: cystic fibrosis [accept CF] <Nelson, Science>

16. Matthew Cullen disowned a film he directed based on a work by this author, causing it to be pulled from the TIFF in 2015. This author described being stood up by Brian De Palma in an essay that dubbed De Palma "The Movie Brute." The 2000 film known in the U.S. *Mood Swingers* was adapted from a novel by this man, who also wrote the screenplay for the Kirk Douglas and Farrah Fawcett bomb *Saturn 3*. The 2018 film *Out of Blue* is based on this man's novel (*) *Night Train*. In 1982 this man wrote a guide to classic video games with the redundant title *Invasion of the Space Invaders*. A 2018 film based on one of this man's novels starred Billy Bob Thornton as a dying author with writer's block. *London Fields* and *Time's Arrow* are by, for 10 points, what son of the author Kingsley?

ANSWER: Martin Amis [prompt on Amis] <Nelson, Literature>

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17. Margaret Wycherly's character in the film *White Heat* is almost certainly based on this historical figure. One of Roger Corman's favorite films is his 1970 biopic about this person that starred Shelley Winters and very young Robert de Niro. Theresa Russell was *way* too young when she portrayed this woman in the 1996 film *Public Enemies*. The name and general vibe of the metal band Maylene and the Sons of Disaster is based on the (*) lineage and legend of this woman. The pop group Boney M dropped an R from this woman's surname because it sounded nicer for their 1970 hit about her, which claims "she was the meanest cat in old Chicago town." The aforementioned film *Bloody Mama* is loosely based on the life of, for 10 points, what matriarch of a family of ruthless 1930s gangsters?
ANSWER: Ma Barker [or Kate Barker] <Vopava, History>

18. In 2020, BBC Four aired *It's True, It's True, It's True*, a play based on the experiences of this artist. A work by this artist was the likely inspiration for the name of Heidi's child at the end of the play *The Heidi Chronicles*. The Helen Mirren mini-series *The Painted Lady* concerns the theft of one of this artist's works. A 1997 Agnes Merlet film inaccurately depicted a major event in this artist's life, including claiming that this artist was tortured into (*) denying it occurred. A set of murders in the fifth season premiere of *Endeavor* were inspired by this artist's works, including one whose subject is about to use a hammer to drive a nail into a man's skull. That *Endeavor* episode also featured a murder based on the killing of *Judith Beheading Holofernes* by, for 10 points, what Baroque artist who participated in the trial of her rapist?
ANSWER: Artemisia Gentileschi [or Artemisia Lomi] <Nelson, Fine Arts>

19. In an episode of *American Dad*, Hayley revives this event's perpetrator by using an old toenail, and then gets him to carry out this event again. While on the train to Big Whiskey, Wyoming, English Bob comments on this event claiming the "aura of royalty" would prevent a comparable event from happening in Britain in *Unforgiven*. This event occurs in a 1990 Stephen Sondheim musical after one figure central to this even asks the other to be made (*) ambassador to France. A Ramblin' Jack Elliot song concerning this event was reworked into a Johnny Cash song that describes how "Me and my brother was down close to the depot." The musical *Assassins* adapted the poem "I Am Going to the Lordy" by the perpetrator of, for 10 points, what 1881 event carried out by Charles Guiteau?
ANSWER: assassination of James Garfield [accept obvious equivalents referring to the death of James Garfield such as: shooting of James Garfield] <Weiner, History>

20. After his success with *A Man for All Seasons*, Fred Zinnemann tried to adapt a book by this man for MGM using a screenplay by Han Suyin; Zinnemann later won a court case against MGM after it was cancelled. After the Chinese government declined Bernardo Bertolucci's proposal to adapt the same book by this author, he made *The Last Emperor* instead. This man directed the adaptation of his book *L'Espoir*, or "Man's Hope," which he based on his experience in the Spanish Civil War. A man throws a wine glass to the ground before (*) quoting this man and attacking a visitor in a video game prologue known as "Bloodlines." For 10 points, name this Cultural Affairs minister under Charles Du Gaulle whose *Antimémoires* is the source of *Castlevania: Symphony of the Nights* "What is a man?" dialogue.
ANSWER: André Malraux <Nelson, Literature>