

Festivus 2020: TBD (The Big Day) – Hopefully More Well-Received than Chance the Rapper’s Ill-Conceived Paean to Loving His Wife  
by Kenji Shimizu

*Note to players: Two answers required.*

1. After declaring “I like my rock and roll all the same,” the singer declares that he doesn’t “give a fuck” if he does either of these two actions in “Back to the Motor League” by Propagandhi. Kurgan quotes a line mentioning these two actions in a church scene in *Highlander*, referencing a 1983 song’s spoken-word intro in which that line follows the gibberish phrase “Gunter glieben glauten globen.” In a 1979 album’s final track, the second half of a line about these two actions is replaced by the album’s title, (\*) *Rust Never Sleeps*. That line about these two actions is quoted at the beginning of Def Leppard’s “Rock of Ages” and in the closing statements of Kurt Cobain’s suicide note. For 10 points, the song “My My, Hey Hey (Out of the Blue)” by Neil Young declares that “it’s better to” do what action “than to” do what other action?

ANSWER: burn out and fade away [accept “It’s better to burn out than to fade away”]

2. In reference to a song titled after one of these people, the Martin guitar company embedded a coin into 73 limited-edition guitars to commemorate the victim of a September 1973 plane crash. The twist that Marie is the narrator’s six-year-old daughter is the final piece of information given to a person with this job in Chuck Berry’s “Memphis, Tennessee.” The words of a person with this job are juxtaposed with several excuses given by Mrs. Avery in the Dr. Hook song “Sylvia’s Mother.” Another narrator asks a person with this job to “please patch me back to my mind” in the (\*) Black Keys’ “Little Black Submarines.” Yet another narrator thanks a person with this job for their time and tells them to “keep the dime” in a song inspired by soldiers reacting to Dear John letters. That song, whose narrator tries to reach a woman “living in L.A. with my best old ex-friend Ray,” is subtitled “That’s Not the Way it Feels.” For 10 points, identify this outdated job which Jim Croce seeks to “help me place this call.”

ANSWER: a telephone operator

*Note to players: The answer requires both a person and a trait, such as “JFK’s Catholicism” or “FDR’s polio.”* 3. Several commenters on a Joe Rogan Experience episode that prominently showcases this trait claimed they rewatched the aforementioned episode after Rogan’s interviews with Bob Lazar and David Fravor were released. A company that publishes the book series *Sekret Machines* and *Poet Anderson* evolved into its current form to act on this trait. This trait is expressed in the title of the song that declares “I’m not like you guys / Twelve majestic lies” and begins “Hey mom, there’s (\*) something in the back room.” This trait led to the production of a History Channel series starring former counterintelligence officer Luis Elizondo, who disclosed information relating to the USS *Nimitz* and *Theodore Roosevelt* incidents. In September 2019, the U.S. Navy vindicated research spurred by this belief by To the Stars Academy, which began after this trait’s holder left his former band and was replaced by Matt Skiba. For 10 points, identify this somewhat fringe belief held by a former blink-182 frontman.

ANSWER: Tom DeLonge believing in aliens [accept UFOs and similar answers in place of “aliens”; prompt on DeLonge being a conspiracy theorist; prompt on partial answers]

*Note to players: Description acceptable.*

4. One of this image’s subjects is recreated in a stained glass window of Camden, New Jersey’s Building 17, as well as in a sculpture that sits atop the Maryland Historical Society’s museum in Baltimore. In the video for “Time After Time,” Cyndi Lauper inexplicably holds a life-size figure of one of this image’s two subjects as she begins singing. This image was first produced by the painter Francis Barraud and was trademarked by Emile Berliner to advertise his invention. The German label Electrola uses a version of this image, bronze trophies of which were once sent out by (\*) EMI to high-selling recording artists. This image, whose animate subject is named Nipper, was most often used by companies affiliated with RCA Victor. For 10 points, identify this image whose title lent its name to the British retailer HMV, which features a household pet listening to an outdated music-playing device.

ANSWER: His Master’s Voice [accept answers that mention both a dog and a phonograph or

**gramophone]**

5. The soundtrack for an adaptation of this book ends with the same cover of a 1963 song that closes *Fresh Fruit for Rotting Vegetables*. That adaptation of this book directly inspired the video for Lil Wayne's "No Worries." A Japanese band whose name adds a comma to this book's title performed "Let Me Hear," the theme song for the anime *Parasyte*. The second single from *City of Evil* opens with a Samuel Johnson quote used as this book's epigraph and asks "Can't you help me as I'm (\*) starting to burn?" A quote from this book about "one of God's own prototypes" inspired the title of an album that opens with "This Is Gospel"; that album is Panic! At the Disco's *Too Weird to Live, Too Rare to Die!* Brewer & Shipley's "One Toke Over the Line" is mentioned in the opening of this book and is sung by Benicio del Toro's character in a 1998 film adaptation. For 10 points, Avenged Sevenfold's "Bat Country" was inspired by what book by Hunter S. Thompson?

ANSWER: *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*

*Note to players: Two answers required.*

6. A 2015 *Salon* article by Marc Spitz criticizing the usage of this pair of words notes how his experience of watching *The West Wing*'s episode "King Corn" was ruined by a 2002 Ryan Adams song titled for one of them, and that Bob Dylan used this rhyming pair in "Caribbean Wind," "Lord Protect My Child," and "I Feel a Change Comin' On." A song named for this pair of words declares "You a real-ass woman and I like it" and repeats the phrase "I dedicate" in its intro and outro. This pair of words titles a duet between Rick James and Teena Marie as well as a track from Drake's *Views*. One of these two words applies to a "red guitar" in a song titled for the other, which is the lead single from (\*) *Rattle and Hum*. This rhyming pair ends every verse of a song whose bridge states "Oh, move over Rover / and let Jimi take over." The chorus of Shocking Blue and Bananarama's "Venus" includes this rhyming pair, which closes a verse that begins "Love is a burning thing." For 10 points, the opening lines of "I Want It That Way" includes what rhyming pair of words?

ANSWER: fire and desire

*Note to players: By "a title in this form," I mean the full title with one part replaced by a variable. For example, if the tossup clued What We Talk About When We Talk About Love and What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank, you would answer What We Talk About When We Talk About X. It will be obvious which part of the title you should replace.*

7. A song titled in this form was inspired by lyrics from the folk song "Koloda-Duda," which its writer found from reading *And Quiet Flows the Don*. Two lines in this form about "bastards" and "riots" appear after Kathleen Hanna sings the acapella introduction "Nobody likes you / everyone left you" in Green Day's "Letterbomb." The album *Diver Down* opens with a song titled in this form, marking the second time Van Halen covered the Kinks. 1997's Best New Artist wrote a song titled in this form in which she yearns for things like a (\*) "prairie song" and "John Wayne." An opening line in this form is followed by the mention of a "streetwise Hercules to fight the rising odds." The question "When will they ever learn?" is frequently asked in a song popularized by Peter, Paul and Mary that cycles "young girls," "husbands," "soldiers," and "graveyards" through this form. For 10 points, give this form used in the title of a Paula Cole song about "cowboys," and a Pete Seeger song about "flowers."

ANSWER: "Where have all the [subjects] gone?"

8. A song titled after this length of time, which Neil Halstead wrote during a trip to a Welsh cottage after a break-up, laments that "if I saw something new / I guess I wouldn't worry." In Johnny Cash's "The Man Who Couldn't Cry," an event lasting for this length of time leads the title character to cry and pass away from dehydration. The singer recounts how "I waited for a girl like you to come and save my life" for this length of time in the first line of the 2013 album *More Than Just a Dream*. The third track on Slowdive's *Sowolaki* is named for this length of time, which is how long the title group is said to be "out on the road for" in the opening line of (\*) Grand Funk Railroad's "We're an American Band." A request to "lift me up" "if I can't swim after" this period of time is given in the most successful song by Jars of Clay. The law was on the title character's side for this length of time, according to the second verse of Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean." For 10 points, Noah weathered a Biblical flood lasting for

what length of time?

ANSWER: **forty days** and forty nights

*Note to players: Description somewhat acceptable.*

9. The idea for this article of clothing originated after a remark by its eventual designer welcoming rip-offs of her designs was compared to a similar remark made by *Sniffin' Glue* publisher Mark P, leading ZTT Records founder Paul Morley to think "Great, fanzine T-shirts!" In its most famous appearance, this article of clothing is handed back to its original owner after the words "petty" and "small" are exchanged multiple times. A parody of this article of clothing is worn by Kinko, a young refugee from Cordovia in *BoJack Horseman*. Part of its design is replaced with phrases like (\*) "WAR! HIDE YOURSELF" in a series by its designer Katherine Hamnett, who also made the "CHOOSE LIFE" shirt in Wham!'s "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go." A song that tells the listener to "hit me with those laser beams" is referenced by this shirt, which Rachel apparently sleeps in because Ross hasn't worn it since he was fifteen. For 10 points, identify this T-shirt immortalized by an episode of *Friends*, which references a raunchy 80s song that remarks "Don't do it / when you wanna come." ANSWER: "**Frankie Says Relax**" T-shirt [accept "**Frankie Says Relax**," even though that's not actually what it says; accept answers that mention "**Relax**" or **Frankie Goes to Hollywood**; prompt on answers referencing *Friends* or Ross Geller]

10. On Valentine's Day in 2012, a person with this profession became the dedicatee of a rewrite of John Parr's theme to *St. Elmo's Fire*. Two people with this profession sing the refrain that closes Huey Lewis's "Hip to Be Square." In 1976, a person who worked in this profession at the time scored a Top 20 *Billboard* Country hit with a cover of "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry." Darius Rucker calls himself a baby because a group of these people make him (\*) cry, as recounted in "Only Wanna Be with You." This is said to be the future occupation of Jack in the first verse of "Jack and Diane." In 1970, Marvin Gaye attempted to enter this profession and later hired two of them, Mel Farr and Lem Barney, to perform on "What's Going On." TV programs that prominently showcase members of this profession change the lyrics of "I Hate Myself For Lovin' You" and "All My Rowdy Friends Are Coming Over Tonight." For 10 points, identify this profession of the performers of "The Super Bowl Shuffle," the Chicago Bears. ANSWER: NFL **football** players

*Note to players: Description acceptable.*

11. A viewpoint regarding this debate was espoused by the YouTube channel SPIRITUAL So in a video titled "XXXTentacion was RIGHT!!! (Must See)", which was rebuffed in a video that demonstrates the implications of a so-called "Factor 9" grid. The standard disputed in this debate was established at the Stuttgart Conference, based on Johann Heinrich Scheibler's research. Though this debate isn't political or economic, Stefan Zucker opposes the Pythagorean views of the LaRouche movement's (\*) Schiller Institute about this debate. Two slightly different covers of "All Star" play in the opening of an Adam Neely video addressing this debate that dismisses one side as the "Flat Earth theory for musicians." Proponents of that side in this debate applaud Giuseppe Verdi's attempts to address a type of "inflation" affecting orchestras. For 10 points, identify this debate concerning proper tuning systems, often expressed through the frequency of a note a major sixth above middle C. ANSWER: **scientific pitch** standard [accept answers mentioning **A = 432** or **440** Hz or the **frequency** of **A4**]

12. This term titles a 2015 anthology by the English-Australian progressive rock band Sky, as well as their highest charting single, which closes their album *Sky 2*. This word is paired with "Finale" in the title of a piece that plays throughout Reverse Castle in *Castlevania: Symphony of the Night*. A track named after this word comes in between the much shorter and calmer songs "Jerusalem" and "Still... You Turn Me On" and was based on the final movement of Alberto Ginastera's *Piano Concerto No. 1*. The last movement of Ravel's (\*) *La tombeau de Couperin* is also named after this term. Emerson, Lake & Palmer's *Brain Salad Surgery* includes a track named after this musical term, which is the first word in a piece that begins with the quick notes A-G-A, followed by a descent to C-sharp, then back up to D. That piece is analyzed in Sideways's YouTube video "Why Pipe Organs Sound Scary," which examines its overuse by old-time movie villains. For 10 points, give this term that is paired with "Fugue" in a spooky

D minor organ piece by J.S. Bach.

ANSWER: toccata

Note to players: Description acceptable.

13. This video uses album art from both *The Budos Band EP* and Iron Maiden's *Powerslave* as censor bars. In 2019, the creator of this video featured two guest responses to it from Volksgeist and DEHH. It's not by Scarce, but this video begins with a shot of a tree that a man enters from the right side. This video's preface notes that arguments like "That's just context, man! It's not important!" and "Leave your hate at the door" were "total and utter bullshit." This video gives the response "DAAAAAMN!!" to the line "Too many (\*) Urkels on your team, that's why your wins low." Though the production and sampling in its central work was praised, this video's creator claimed to be bored of personal details that take up "8 minutes of 'Blame Game' or 9 minutes of 'Runaway'." A 2019 "redux" video gave an identical verdict as, for 10 points, what 2010 video in which the "Internet's busiest music nerd" gives a near-universally acclaimed Kanye West album a "light to decent 6"?

ANSWER: Anthony Fantano's review of *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* [accept theneedledrop in place of "Anthony Fantano"; prompt on partial answers]

14. In a song titled for this two-word concept, the vocals pan to the center at the lyric "I'll pay for you anytime" after alternating between left and right panning during lines like "To be lost in the forest, to be caught adrift." Though it was never released as a single, that track on *Silent Alarm* named after this concept is Bloc Party's third-most streamed song on Spotify. A song named after this concept begins with muted guitar strumming in 6/4 time before switching to 4/4 on the spoken phrase "I know when to go out / And when to stay in." The spelled-out hook of a song titled for this two-word concept was reinterpreted by (\*) Method Man for his self-titled song on *Enter the Wu-Tang*; that Hall & Oates song appeared on the same album as "Out of Touch." A choir repeats the phrase "God and man" in a song named for this two-word concept, which "walks beside me, walks on by" and "gets me to the church on time." For 10 points, what two words title both a George Meredith poetry collection and the first track on David Bowie's *Let's Dance*?

ANSWER: modern love

Note to players: A general answer is acceptable.

15. In the opening lyrics of the 2010 song "Last Kiss," this type of detail completes a description of "the look on your face lit through the darkness." "The lingering question" of "who do you love" is juxtaposed with the mention of this kind of detail in "Enchanted." The line "Feelin' like I just lost a friend" is preceded by invoking this detail in the bridge of "Breathe," which also aids the memory of a fight that occurred "as everything was slipping right of our hands" in the bridge of "Mine." The phrases (\*) "in your car," "in your room," and "here we are" are each preceded by an identical mention of this detail at the start of each verse in "I Wish You Would." After name-dropping Patrón to describe "shots" from Internet trolls, the singer of "You Need to Calm Down" responds by saying "Damn" and pointing out this detail. For 10 points, identify this detail which, at the beginning of Taylor Swift's "Style," is "midnight."

ANSWER: the time [accept 1:58 AM, 2:00 AM, 2:30 AM or 7 AM]

16. This musician played the kazoo on his composition "Too Kool to Kalypso," which he released under the name Klark Kent. Peter Gabriel hired this musician to produce the hi-hats emulating the title phenomenon on "Red Rain." This musician joined Phish's Trey Anastasio and Primus's Les Claypool in the supergroup Oysterhead. This musician's Golden Globe-nominated score for *Rumble Fish* began a prolific composing career, which included the scores for *Wall Street* and four games in the (\*) *Spyro* series. On a 1983 hit, this musician plays the marimba as a bandmate sings about "a little black spot on the sun today." This drummer opted to hit the rim of the snare rather than the snare itself in the verses of many of his band's songs, like "Murder By Numbers," "Tea in the Sahara," "Walking on the Moon," and "Don't Stand So Close to Me." For 10 points, name this drummer for the Police. ANSWER: Stewart Copeland

17. A band whose name ends in this word recorded a song that provides the looping phone-like

sample in the intro to Spacehog's "In the Meantime." A band whose name ends with this word included snippets of Handel's *Messiah* and a backmasked warning that "The music is reversible, but time is not" in the chaotic intro of an instrumental. The "avant-pop" band that released a "Perpetuum Mobile" in 15/8 time and the instrumentals "Music for a Found Harmonium" and "Telephone and Rubber Band" is named for this word and (\*) "Penguin Cafe." A band whose name ends in this word designated Side 3 of a double album as a *Concerto for a Rainy Day*. *Technodelic* and *Solid State Survivor* are pioneering electronic albums by a Japanese band whose name ends in this word. A band whose name ends with this word heavily used vocoders in "Sweet Talkin' Woman" and a song that implores its title character to "please tell us why you had to hide away for so long." For 10 points, give this last word of a rock group led by Jeff Lynne who employed string sections in songs like "Mr. Blue Sky." ANSWER: orchestra

18. With the letter G, this is the name of a reggae fusion singer who recorded the song "Soundbwoy" and featured on Clean Bandit's song "Come Over." Though it's not the wobble board or the didgeridoo, an instrument whose name begins with this prefix was promoted in Britain by the now-convicted Australian musician Rolf Harris. In a viral video, that instrument plays the riff from "Jerk It Out" before a man yells "LET'S GO!" In a music video, a driver played by (\*) Bruce Willis shoots at a car with this word displayed on its grill, whose occupants are unusually rendered in 3D. Mos Def and Bobby Womack appear on a 2010 song with this name that repeats the word "overload" in its chorus. On "Space Oddity," David Bowie is credited with playing both the acoustic guitar and an instrument whose name appends this prefix to the stem "-phone," which consists of a thin metal keyboard-like interface and a pen. For 10 points, the lead single from Gorillaz' *Plastic Beach* has what five-letter name?

ANSWER: stylo

19. In an infamous live performance, a song with this title was cut off when the singer declared "There's no reason to do that song here" and played a more well-known song instead. This is the title of a song whose substantially rewritten "Dallas version" was a response to American audiences misinterpreting its subject. Slayer recorded an inane cover of "In-a-Gadda-da-Vida" for a film with this title, whose soundtrack also marked the first appearances of LL Cool J's "Going Back to Cali" and Public Enemy's (\*) "Bring the Noise." A song with this title notes that "I hear South America is coming into style" and admonishes a TV interview of a man "with the swastika tattoo." This title is shared by the first single from *My Aim Is True*, an Elvis Costello song about Oswald Mosley, and a film whose soundtrack produced the Bangles' cover of "A Hazy Shade of Winter." For 10 points, Bret Easton Ellis's first novel has what title that can potentially describe negative numbers?

ANSWER: "Less Than Zero"

20. This action titles a song that declares "But I'm about to burn your bridges now / I know that I don't belong here," which is the closing track of *Maps of Non-Existent Places* by progressive rock band Thank You Scientist. According to a *Rolling Stone* interview, the séances conducted by Harry Houdini's wife inspired a song named for this action that mentions "the famous living dead." A "western star" and "eastern silent way" are mentioned on a song titled for this action, the second single from Sonic Youth's *Goo*. This word ends a couplet that begins "Hang my head, drown my fear" before transitioning into the final chorus of (\*) "Black Hole Sun." Gerard Way declares that "without you is how I" do this action on a track from *Welcome to the Black Parade*. Advice from Michael Stipe inspired the lyric "I'm not here, this isn't happening" in a sparse acoustic track titled for this action, which follows "The National Anthem" on a 2000 album. For 10 points, a track from Radiohead's *Kid A* is titled "How to" do what action "Completely"?

ANSWER: disappearing