

Mythologically United Subjects in an Exceptional Set II:

This Time It's Personal

Set written and edited by Ethan Ashbrook, Iain Carpenter, Tim Cho, William Golden, Matthew Lehmann, Mitch McCullar, Brad McLain, Ben Miller, and Raul Passemant

Packet 8

1. **This god is assisted in his daily journey by his son and charioteer Bunene. King Balih was conceived as a result of a favor done for this god by his father, Etana. This god's main temples were located in Sippar and Larsa and were known as E-babbar. This god was depicted on cylinder seals as cutting through mountains with a notched dagger. During this god's trip through the underworld, he visited trees that produce (*) gems for fruit. This god is depicted with the four cardinal directions coming from his body as well as the light beams coming from his shoulders. Hammurabi claimed that his namesake law code was handed to him by this god. This god utilized seven winds to immobilize Humbaba to allow Gilgamesh and Enkidu to kill him. This god's mountain was protected by scorpion men, which were also met by Gilgamesh. For 10 points, name this twin of Inanna, the Mesopotamian god of the sun.**

ANSWER: **Shamash** [or **Utu**]

< BMc | *Mythology* >

2. **In this play, an explorer chats up a woman with the incredibly romantic line, “You have been thought of where no white woman has ever been thought of before.” A man in this play does a magic trick by pulling a flag out of his sleeve in a scene that ends with the cast singing “In the Bleak Midwinter,” except they use the word “deep” in place of “bleak.” Toward the end of this play, members of the Dead Hand Gang hit a little girl in the nose and steal her ice cream. One character in this play uses a cake knife to cut open a doll and shake the sawdust out of it during a wedding in the first act that ends when a (*) Black servant shoots a man giving a speech. This play ends as the two actors who played Betty in the first and second act embrace. The ghost of the dead soldier Bill appears in this play during an orgy that takes place in a London park. Actors of different genders play Edward in this play whose first act is set in colonial Africa. For 10 points, name this play written by the author of *Top Girls*, Caryl Churchill.**

ANSWER: **Cloud 9**

< MM | *Thalia* >

3. **Description acceptable. In part of this dance, the performers rapidly switch on and off *pointe* with *entrechats* mixed in during a series of emphasized off-beats in the violins and flutes. In the larger work it appears in, this dance is followed by a waltz *pas d'action* that borrows sections from the composer's unfinished opera *Undina*. The F-sharp minor accompaniment to this dance opens with an oboe duet over alternating F-sharp and C-sharp eighth notes in the bassoons. Many productions opt to perform semi-*pas de chat* instead of full ones for the sixteen *pas de chat* called for at the beginning of this dance. This dance titles a Russian (*) documentary about the hypercompetitive audition process for the Vaganova Ballet Academy for Young Dancers. This *pas de quatre* ends with the main dancers disentangling and falling to the ground while Siegfried and the rest of the performers look on. For 10 points, identify this dance from the middle of Act II of *Swan Lake* that features four girls interlocking hands and dancing together in a line.**

ANSWER: Dance of the **Little Swans** [or the Dance of the **Cygnets**; or *danse des petits cygnes*; accept descriptions before “For 10 points” that specifically mention **four swans** dancing in a **line**; accept the player getting their team to perform the dance]

< EA | *Melpomene* >

4. While talking to a priest, one character in this play bashes the Catholic Church by stating, “They rave against covetousness; yet for the sake of gold they have depopulated Peru, and yoked the natives, like cattle, to their chariots.” A sadistic character in this play relates how he once saw a baby under a burning table and “threw it into the flames” so it wouldn’t be cold. One character in this play “blows his brains out” after failing to prevent the antagonist from strangling himself with a golden cord from his hat. In one scene, the protagonist of this play starts bashing himself against an oak tree after his (*) father Maximilian dies. In this play, a powder-magazine blows up and kills over 60 people while the protagonist was rescuing Roller. To keep his promise with the title group, the protagonist of this play kills his beloved Amelia before turning himself in to the authorities. For 10 points, name this tragedy about the brothers Franz and Karl Moor, written by Friedrich Schiller.

ANSWER: *The **Robbers*** [or *Die **Räuber***]

< MM | *Melpomene* >

5. The 27th book of the most famous work by Guido delle Colonne is titled for the burial of this character. The story of this man falling in love was created by Benoît de Sainte-Maure in a 40,000 line poem. This character gives all the wealth he has on him to a blind woman from a leper colony in Robert Henryson’s most famous poem. After his death, the speaker of one poem notes how this character’s ghost “blissfully” went up to the “hollowness” of the eighth sphere. This character recognizes a golden brooch used as a clasp on a set of armor taken in battle by (*) Deifobo as a gift that this man had earlier given his lover. This character is the protagonist of the narrative poem *Il Filostrato*. That Boccaccio poem later influenced a poem about this character in which Pandarus helps exchange love letters between this man and a woman who later takes up with Diomedes. For 10 points, name this son of Priam who falls in love with Criseyde in an epic poem set during the Trojan War written by Geoffrey Chaucer.

ANSWER: **Troilus** [or **Troilo**]

< MM | *Calliope* >

6. One play written by an author from this country ends after a large group of townspeople kneel “in final deference to” a man “whose tragedy is also their tragedy.” Near the beginning of a play written by an author from this country, a woman riding on the handlebars of her husband’s bike falls off and hurts her feet after they abruptly stop in front of the protagonist’s house. A character created by an author from this country tells Rebecca that he wouldn’t be upset if his followers took the “latest short cut to heaven” by “facing the firing squad at the Bar Beach Show.” Toward the end of a 1968 play written by an author from this country, the protagonist, with “dreamy, slow movements,” pulls a dagger out of his dead (*) mother’s womb and gouges his eyes out. An author from this country wrote the play *The Gods Are Not to Blame*, which is an adaptation of *Oedipus Rex*. A different author from this country wrote about the *Metamorphosis* and *Trials* of a charlatan prophet named Brother Jero. For 10 points, name this home country of playwrights Ola Rotimi and Wole Soyinka.

ANSWER: **Nigeria** [or Federal Republic of **Nigeria**]

< MM | *Melpomene* >

7. According to Penelope, while Aphrodite was asking Zeus to bless the daughters of Pandareus, these beings took them away. In the *Homeric Hymns*, these beings are the counterparts of the Anemoi and were personified storms. These beings are the daughters of Thaumias and Electra according to Hesiod, who also describes these beings as having "lovely hair" and the speed to outrun birds. According to Virgil, these beings were known as the "hounds of Zeus" and lived on the (*) Strophades. One of these creatures caused the Trojans to flee to Buthrotum after giving a prophecy that they would be forced to eat their own tables. Some of these creatures were saved by Iris after they were defeated by the Boreads. After defeating these creatures, the Argonauts are given the location of the Symplegades by a king who had his food snatched away by these creatures. For 10 points, name these tormentors of Phineas, who are depicted as half-woman-half bird creatures.

ANSWER: **Harpy** [or **Harpies**; or **Harpyiai**; or **Thuellai**]

< BMc | *Mythology* >

8. Replacing a similar operation with this operation is often referred to as the "comma-goes-to-semicolon rule." Applying the commutator of two instances of this operation to a vector field is equivalent to contracting the Riemann tensor with the vector field. Contracting this operation with the Ricci tensor equals one half of this operation applied to the Ricci scalar according to one form of the Bianchi identity. This operation is defined by the unique torsion-free connection which makes this operation compatible with the (*) metric. This operation reduces to a similar operation in flat universes or on scalar fields, and this operation is defined index-wise using Christoffel symbols. Typically, this operation is represented by a nabla with one index, and this operation applied to the stress-energy tensor is zero because stress-energy is conserved. For 10 points, identify this operation from general relativity which is used to define a directional derivative which includes curvature effects.

ANSWER: **covariant derivative** [prompt on 4-divergence or 4-gradient; prompt on derivative alone; do not accept or prompt on "partial derivative"]

< IC | *Urania* >

9. Near the start of a war, this king's forces inflicted heavy casualties on an opposing army at the Battle of Callinicus, where he was assisted by Cotys IV's Odrysian army. Andriscus claimed to be a son of this man, but was executed after briefly seizing this man's former kingdom. Eumenes II of Pergamon gave a speech in the Roman Senate which claimed that this ruler had been preparing for war. This ruler's predecessor allied with Rome during the Seleucid War after he had earlier allied with (*) Hannibal against the Aetolian League and Rome. This ruler died in captivity after his defeat to the forces of Lucius Aemilius Paullus, which led to his kingdom being partitioned into four client republics subservient to Rome. This loser of the Battle of Pydna succeeded his father, Philip V, to become the last ruler of the Antigonid dynasty. For 10 points, name this final king of Macedon.

ANSWER: **Perseus** of Macedon

< TC | *Clio* >

10. **One performer on this instrument included the song “Lament for a King” on an album she wrote with Uli Geissendoerfer inspired by themes by the ethnomusicologist Moisei Beregovsky. Another performer on this instrument doubles the melody at the beginning of the song “The Rare Ould (*old*) Flag.” The Klezmatics were co-founded by a performer on this instrument named Alicia Svigals, and a different performer on this instrument pleads “good Lord show me the way” in one song. The song (*) “Cowboy Take Me Away” was co-written by a different performer on this instrument which is played by Bridget Regan in Flogging Molly. A performer on this instrument accompanied Gillian Welch on a cover of “I’ll Fly Away” which was featured along with her cover “Down in the River to Pray” in *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* For 10 points, the Dixie Chicks’ Martie Maguire and Alison Krauss play what common lead instrument of bluegrass music, which is referred to as a violin in the classical tradition?**

ANSWER: **fiddle** [accept **violin** until mention]

< IC | *Euterpe* >

11. **To begin a dance from this country, dancers take four steps counter-clockwise before swaying four times to lyrics comparing a “righteous man” to a palm tree. Martha Graham was the artistic advisor for a dance company from this country that pioneered the “movement language” Gaga. An architect and a choreographer from this country name a movement notation system abbreviated EWMN. Dancers hold hands while doing the grapevine, then take four quick steps to the center while raising their arms before moving back again, in a dance performed to a song from this country whose name means (*) “Water Water.” A three-step dance move with a “quick, quick, slow” tempo was popularized by Yemeni immigrants to this country. Although it originated in Eastern Europe, the circle dance *hora* is often performed at weddings to this country’s unofficial anthem “Hava Nagila.” For 10 points, name this country whose folk dances may be performed in *kibbutzim*.**

ANSWER: **Israel** (The song in the first sentence is “Tzadik Ka’Tamar.” The dance company in the second sentence is Batsheva. EWMN stands for Eshkol-Wachman movement notation. The song whose name means “Water Water” is “Mayim Mayim.”)

< WG | *Terpsichore* >

12. *Description acceptable.* **This practice is represented iconographically with a string of six miniature people exiting the mouth of a worshipper. In the earliest texts, this practice places the greatest emphasis on immeasurability and “infinite light.” This practice is prescribed as a part of the Primal Vow, except for those who have committed one of the five gravest offences. The earliest known documentation of this practice is found in the Pratyutpanna Samādhi Sūtra, which unlike later texts presents this practice as a method of meditation and omits a list of vows typically associated with this practice. Under the influence of Nichiren, the followers of (*) Honen were banished from Kyoto over their preference for this practice. An early documentation of this practice found in the 18th vow of the Infinite Life Sutra originated the emphasis on performing this practice 10 times to be reborn in the Western Paradise. For 10 points, name or describe this Pure Land practice of reciting the name of a certain Buddha.**

ANSWER: **nianfo** [or **nembutsu**; or **yeombul**; or **niem Phat**; accept **Amitufofo**; accept any answer indicating **repeating** or **chanting** the name of the **Amitabha** Buddha; prompt on **buddhānusmrti** or **recollection of the Buddha**; prompt on **chanting**]

< BMc | *Polyhymnia* >

13. The speaker of one poem tells a “proud” woman with this name that she would live unknown in a “forgotten crowd” had he not given her fame with his verse that “extolled [her] name.” In a poem, a snooping man finds out that a woman with this name owns puppy urine and “night-gloves” made from the hide of the dog Tripsy. The speaker of one poem asks a woman with this name why “goblin Honour, which the world adores, should make men atheists, and not women whores?” Strephon discovers that a woman with this name (*) shits after finding her chamber pot in the poem “The Lady’s Dressing Room” by Jonathan Swift. The poem “A Rapture” was one of many poems Thomas Carew (“Carey”) wrote to a woman with this name. The speaker of a poem tells a woman with this name that if she leaves “a kiss but in the cup,” he’ll “not look for wine.” For 10 points, the command, “Drink to me only with thine eyes” is given to a woman with what name in a “Song” by Ben Jonson? ANSWER: Celia (the first poem is “Know, Celia, since thou art so proud” by Thomas Carew)

< MM | *Erato* >

14. In one epic, this character fights a monster that uproots the sky and swings it like a club while sliding its head along the ground "like a snake." In another epic, this character is described as the captain of the Magilum boat who hangs the bodies of the mermaid Kulianna and the Six-headed Wild Ram from his chariot. At the end of that epic, this character is advised by his barber to give his blessing to the king. In an etiological myth of stonemasonry, this character punishes (*) limestone by making it the foundation in muddy ground and basalt by making it serve goldsmiths but rewards lapis lazuli with sacred power. This character wields a talking weapon whose name means "smasher of mountains." The protagonist of the *Angim* and *Lugal-e* is, for 10 points, what wielder of the talking mace Shurur, a Mesopotamian god of hunting and patron deity of Lagash who retrieved the Tablet of Destinies from the Anzu Bird.

ANSWER: Ninurta

< BMc | *Calliope* >

15. One hymn using this melody was partially inspired by a figurine of the Nataraja depiction of Shiva and notes how “I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee, but they would not dance and they wouldn’t follow me.” That Sydney Carter hymn based on this melody entreats listeners to “dance, dance wherever you may be” and that the title “Lord of the Dance” will “lead you all, wherever you may be.” This hymn attributed to Joseph Brackett is paired with an “air” in a John (*) Williams piece composed for Barack Obama’s first inauguration. This hymn is quoted in a “doppio movimento” movement of one piece, and this hymn states that when a “true” example of the title concept “is gained, to bow and to bend we shan’t be ashamed.” For 10 points, name this hymn that avows that “by turning, turning we’ll come ‘round right’”; a traditional Shaker hymn repopularized by Aaron Copland’s *Appalachian Spring*.

ANSWER: “Simple Gifts” [accept “Tis the Gift to be Simple”; accept musical elements style answers; prompt on “Lord of the Dance”]

< IC | *Polyhymnia* >

16. A modern recreation of one of these sites was constructed at Valley City State University, which included both a "meridian" and "horizontal" calendar which align with the rising sun on the first day of each season. In a 1974 paper, the astronomer John Eddy argued that one of these sites was an observatory meant to mark the heliacal rising alignments of Aldebaran, Rigel, and Sirius. These sites lend their name to a new-age symbol invented by the plastic shaman George Storm, a circle divided into red, black, white, and yellow quarters. The most famous examples of these monuments are the (*) Majorville one in Alberta's Blackfoot Nation and the Bighorn one in northern Wyoming. These monuments were typically constructed using a central cairn surrounded by concentric rings and connecting spokes. For 10 points, name these large, circular stone monuments sacred to many Plains Indians groups, which despite their name are not associated with healing.

ANSWER: Medicine Wheel [prompt on stone circles; reject "henges"]

< BMc | *Urania* >

17. Accounts of this event are interspersed with a description of a grungy city-scene in Susan Wheeler's poem "The movie set on the horizon glows." Lucille Clifton compares the birth of her granddaughter to the St. Mary's river in a "Poem in Seven Days" about this event. One poem compares this event to "An Owl who [knows] the devil" and "acid vomit of the fire of Hell" before ending with a long "Whoooooooooooooooooooo!" Wislawa Szymborska states that she can "not add a last line" in a poem titled for a (*) "Photograph from" this event. In Simon Armitage's poem "Convergence of the Twain," the narrator recalls the "moments of grace" before the "earth and heaven fused" during this event. In the first stanza of a long inflammatory poem about this event, the speaker states, "It wasn't Trett Lott or David Duke or Giuliani or Schundler." For 10 points, what event is the subject of Amiri Baraka's poem "Somebody Blew Up America?"

ANSWER: 9/11 attacks [accept equivalents like the September 11th attacks or the World Trade Center assault]
< EA | *Erato* >

18. To prevent erosion inside aqueducts, Roman engineers used *opus signinum* plaster, in which this material was crushed and incorporated into ordinary mortar and lime. Veii was the primary Etruscan hub for the production of this material, a polychrome version of which decorated the city's sanctuary to Minerva. Figurines of this material were mass produced for the Mediterranean world in the Boeotian town of (*) Tangara. The object an old woman used to mortally wound Pyrrhus of Epirus was likely made of this material. Hollow figures with elongated faces formed from this material were the trademark creations of Central Nigeria's Nok culture. In 1974 farmers outside of Xi'an discovered a subterranean complex constructed by Qin Shi Huangdi that contained thousands of sculpted soldiers made from this material. For 10 points, name this material whose Italian name means "baked earth."

ANSWER: terracotta [accept Terracotta Army; prompt on clay]
< BM | *Clio* >

19. The composer of this work called its last movement a "higher form" that halts the "Ixion wheel of appearances" characterized by the rest of the work. Several offstage snare drums play in the middle of this work's first movement, which is written in modified sonata form based on a slow march theme played by the trombone. An offstage posthorn melody interrupts the reprise of this symphony's *scherzo* movement several times. Children imitate bells in one movement of this work while a (*) woman's choir sings "Three Angels Sang." This symphony opens with a theme from the horns adapted from the finale of Brahms's First Symphony that represents the awakening of Pan. A solo alto sings "O Mensch! Gib acht!" in this symphony's fourth movement, which quotes from the Midnight Song in *Also Sprach Zarathustra*. Due to its six separate movements, this is the longest symphony in the standard orchestral repertoire. For 10 points, name this D-minor symphony by Gustav Mahler.

ANSWER: Symphony No. 3 by Gustav Mahler [accept Symphony No. 3 once Mahler is mentioned; accept clear equivalents like Mahler's 3rd symphony]
< EA | *Euterpe* >

20. During a funeral in this work, the attendees gleefully sing a dirge that includes the lines, “Mourn for a judge who cleared his cases quicker than anyone. Sometimes he only heard one side, often neither.” The narrator of this work relates the story of a man who died after saying, “Good heavens. I think I’ve shat myself.” One character in this work attempts to have the goddess Fever executed after she reveals that he was born in Lugdunum and not in Troy, as he had told (*) Hercules. During a session on Mount Olympus in this work, Augustus denounces the main character for killing Appius Silanus and his own wife. This work ends after the title character becomes a servant of the freedman Menander and is sentenced to play dice forever with a bottomless cup. For 10 points, name this Menippean satire by Seneca that parodies the apotheosis of the fourth Roman emperor. ANSWER: *Apocolocyntosis (divi) Claudii* [or *The Pumpkinification of Claudius the God*; or *The Pumpkinification of the Divine Claudius*; accept “Gourdification” in place of “Pumpkinification”; or *Ludus de Morte Divi Claudii*] (the quotes in this tossup were taken from Martha Nussbaum’s translation)

< MM | *Thalia* >