

## Henry's Lit-Adjacent Trash Packet: Sometimes Lit, Always Trash

*Note to players:* this being an unabashed vanity packet, some authors/works/pieces of media/etc. may come up more than once. Additionally, I colored a bit outside the lines of this packet's stated theme, so don't be afraid to buzz, even if you think the answer doesn't fit the packet!

1. **A man makes a descendant of a Spanish countess laugh by suggesting that this novel's title character was a florist. Because he "usually gets Ds and Fs," a character is praised for getting a C on a paper about this novel, which he describes as "how mean humans can be to each other when living in cramped conditions." After mistaking the gender of Leslie Fiedler, a woman reeling from her ill-fated love for her husband's employee (\*) Furio claims that this novel is about a man "being picked on by his evil boss," dismissing a passage from this novel that compares its protagonist to a "nude statue of Adam." For 10 points, during a dinner party at Meadow's apartment, Carmela Soprano repeatedly denies the homoerotic elements in what Herman Melville novella about a "handsome sailor"?**

ANSWER: **Billy Budd**, *Sailor (An Inside Narrative)*

2. *Note to players: description acceptable.* **This character describes how he enjoys peeing because the activity lacks "tentacles." During a telephone argument, this character calmly tells his best friend, "hey, hey, hey, fuck you." This character befriends a kind woman who has suffered eight miscarriages, as well as his elderly roommate Muqtada, for whom this character plays Egyptian music. This character draws a map inside an outline of his head, which is visually reflected on the (\*) cover of the novel in which this character appears. At the end of the novel, this character repeatedly tells himself, "live, live, live," after thinking about kissing a girl with self-inflicted scissor cuts on her face named Noelle. After earning 93s at his new Bronx Science-esque high school, this character becomes disillusioned with his friendships with Aaron and Nia. For 10 points, name this teenage boy who spends some time in a New York City psych ward after nearly committing suicide, the protagonist of a novel by Ned Vizzini.**

ANSWER: **Craig Gilner** [accept either; accept the **protagonist** of **It's Kind of a Funny Story** or the **narrator** of **It's Kind of a Funny Story**]

3. **When asked for his thoughts on this book, one reader responded with a series of "um"s before eventually deciding, "he was a very smart man...a very, very, very smart man." An Instagram post depicting this book includes a caption quoting its subject that "education is the passport to the future," forgoing its poster's usual assortment of laughing and crown emojis; that post also shows a man reading this book while working out shirtless on a stationary bike during the 2020 (\*) NBA bubble. In the wake of Takeoff's passing, a man's claim that he had listened to Migos since 2010 inspired a wave of tweets showing photos of that man engrossed in this book's opening pages. Accusations of LeBron James' habit for duplicity often include pictures of him reading, for 10 points, what Alex Haley book that chronicles the life of a civil rights leader?**

The **Autobiography of Malcolm X**

4. **A Bloomsbury anthology on this play subtitled for the "State of Play" includes a discussion of an adaptation of it in the chapter "In/di/gestion." A character named after this play's protagonist raps "caviar, Myanmar, midsize car" while wearing a werewolf costume in the music video for his song "Pinot Noir." In a modern adaptation of this play, the protagonist attempts to train a local farmer's pony to bite off his enemy's (\*) penis. In that adaptation of this play, the protagonist invites Radiohead, who guest star as themselves, to a chili cookoff, where they laugh at a boy who had sold his pubes. This play's title character inspired the name of Kimmy's Black roommate on *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*. For 10 points, name this Shakespeare play, often cited as the inspiration of the *South Park* episode "Scott Tenorman Must Die," in which Cartman feeds the title character his murdered parents.**

ANSWER: Titus Andronicus [prompt on Titus Andromedon]

5. *Note to players: description acceptable.* Descriptions of a woman's breasts "like twin Gestapo bullets" and "Arcadian breasts with stern puritanical terry cloth" make up two of this film's 23 overwrought uses of the word "breasts." This film begins with a long academic monologue on phallic anxieties in Tudor drama. A man loses faith in this film after seeing its stage direction and line "MONA (holding revolver) 'What's wrong with being in love with myself? Why is that a problem?'" on a page being used as a coloring sheet by Eden (\*) Procuoro's daughter. This film's screenplay is discovered by Julia Vrais, whose ex-husband Gitanas later hires this film's screenwriter to work for him in Lithuania. This film is inspired by an affair between Melissa Paquette and her English professor at D-- College, who hides the fallout from his parents, Alfred and Enid. For 10 points, name or describe this unrealized film based on an incredibly hackneyed script by the younger Lambert son in a Jonathan Franzen novel.

ANSWER: The Academy Purple [accept descriptions of Chip Lambert's screenplay or or Chip's screenplay in The Corrections; accept "script" or "film" in place of screenplay] (thanks to Taylor Harvey for the question format!)

6. *Note to players: description acceptable.* The narrator of this essay describes screaming at his creator "for peace of mind to rain like manna somehow." This essay claims that "human beings spinning on blackness" all want to "be heard, touched, paid attention to." At the end of this essay, the author notes that "I can hear the sky falling too" after a series of thank yous to his friends and mother, which inform this essay's official title, "thank you's." In this essay's central scene, the narrator weeps in the Nissan Maxima that he had driven to Los Angeles from (\*) New Orleans. This essay, which revisits the author's confession of unrequited love to a friend with whom he had spent the whole summer, was published as a screenshot of a .txt file on Tumblr. This essay's content likely informed the lyrics of songs like "Bad Religion" and "Thinkin Bout You." For 10 points, name this open letter that revealed the bisexuality of its author, the musical artist behind *Channel Orange*.

ANSWER: Frank Ocean's coming-out letter [accept any description of a letter or essay written by Frank Ocean, as long as it matches what's in the tossup; accept "thank you's" before read]

7. In one show, this author explains that he titled two of his novels after "what I paid for gas once" and something he saw "written on an Eskimo Pie package." In another appearance, this author leaves in disgust after walking in on a naked woman attempting to catch hot dogs in her mouth. In the *Simpsons* episode "Summer of 4-foot-2," Marge reminds Lisa that "boys kiss girls" after Lisa says that her only friends are "grown-up nerds" like this author, who she laments has "kissed more (\*) boys than I ever will." Brian loses this author's respect after he sees that the radio show "The Lunch Hour" has been turned into "Dingo and the Baby" in the *Family Guy* episode "Mother Tucker." In an interview mistaking him for a similarly-named hairdresser, Ali G interviewed this author as a "historian," though his *Narratives of Empire* never came up. For 10 points, name this public intellectual and author of *Myra Breckenridge*.

ANSWER: Gore Vidal [or Eugene Louis Vidal] (The quote in the lead-in is from the *Simpsons* episode "Moe'n'a Lisa," in which Vidal is referring to his novels *1876* and *Burr*. The hairdresser is Vidal Sassoon.)

8. To demonstrate their rhetorical power, one of these authors notes to the other that when one says "a clever thing to say," they later hear "some adult saying it to another adult, both of them strangers." One of these authors expresses dismay when her father agrees with her opinion on "leaving half the civilized world as virtual helots" after working with "Russian hegemonists," whose troop movements inspired these authors to start writing. An xkcd parody of these two authors depicts them as creators of a series of uncommented posts on a (\*) Wordpress blog. One of these authors writes an essay praising the title of "Third" after the I.F. forces her to write a letter to her brother in Phoenix Army. A "proposal" named for one of these authors ends a war on Earth that breaks out after these authors' brother destroys the Formics, or "buggers." For 10 points, name these pseudonymous authorial personas taken up by Peter and Valentine Wiggin in *Ender's Game*, named for the author of *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding* and the orator of The Philippians.

ANSWER: **Locke** and **Demosthenes** [accept **Peter** and **Valentine** Wiggin before read; prompt on the Wiggins before read]

9. A woman claims that this author coined the phrase “make love, not war” in response to another woman’s claim that his novels endorse “promiscuity, godlessness, the mongrelization of the races, and disrespect to high-ranking officers of the United States Army.” A speech by this author describes how America has “rolled by like an army of steamrollers” and been “erased like a blackboard, rebuilt, and erased again.” During a PTA meeting, a woman calls her neighbor Beulah a “Nazi cow” for attempting to ban this author’s novel (\*) *The Boat Rocker*, which satirized the 1960s. Against his will, this author attends a Red Sox game with a film’s protagonist, who explains that this author’s work estranged him from his father, John. This James Earl Jones-played author is theorized by Ray Kinsella to be the subject of the phrase “if you build it, he will come.” For 10 points, name this author who assists Ray in creating the title place in *Field of Dreams*, and shares his full name with a Clippers guard out of Florida State.

ANSWER: Terence Mann [accept either name]

10. This monologue’s narrator praises its subject for “saying something two or three times as dumb to make me laugh,” and being “weird and wise sometimes in a way I could never be.” Despite this monologue’s kinda misogynistic tone, its speaker insists that it is not about “how girls are evil or love is bad,” but his decision to “cut out the middleman, make it all for everybody, always.” This monologue’s narrator is implied to be a young version of a protagonist named “The Boy” in the film *Clapping for the Wrong Reasons*. This monologue climaxes as a girl named (\*) Michelle mockingly says the word “destiny” to the speaker. Derrick Comedy alum DC Pierson wrote this monologue, which recalls a thirteen-year-old’s confession of unrequited love to a girl on “the bus back from” the title location of an album that includes the songs “Bonfire” and “Heartbeat.” For 10 points, identify this spoken-word story that concludes the debut album by Childish Gambino.

ANSWER: “That Power” monologue [or the monologue in Camp; accept equivalents for monologue; prompt on monologue by Childish Gambino or Donald Glover]

11. The first section of a novel titled for this word ends as a man triumphantly does a sit-up, inadvertently shitting himself and ending his constipation. Two of a band’s three guitarists play tom-toms for live performances of a song titled for this word, which borrowed from the children’s TV show *Bagpuss* for its subtitle “The Boney King of Nowhere.” In a novel titled for this word, a character sees his graffiti of the word “Lens” outside his train window on his way to pitch an (\*) interview project. The music video for a song titled for this word depicts the singer wandering through a magical forest, which may allude to its opening lines, “in pitch dark / I go walking in your landscape.” A novel titled for this word describes Dene Oxendene listening to that song’s lyric “just ‘cause you feel it, doesn’t mean it’s [this word],” which he thinks about along with a Gertrude Stein quote about Oakland that thrice mentions this word. For 10 points, a Radiohead song and a Tommy Orange novel are both titled for reduplications of what word?

ANSWER: there [accept There *There* or “there is no there there”]

12. In this novel, a character reading *Moby-Dick* tells his friend that she’d enjoy it because “you live for pretentious metaphors,” then exclaims, “God, I understand whale anatomy. Can we move on now, Herman?” Another character in this novel proclaims her love for W. H. Auden’s line “you shall love your crooked neighbor / with your crooked heart” as she searches for her neighbors’ porn. Upon first meeting the protagonist, a girl in this novel shows him a quote from a Gabriel Garcia Marquez book about (\*) Simon Bolivar in which the general declares, “damn. How will I ever get out of this labyrinth?” This novel’s protagonist uses Francois Rabelais’ quote “I go to seek a Great Perhaps” to illustrate both his obsession with last words and his decision to attend Culver Creek School, where he plays pranks with The Colonel and this novel’s book-loving title character. For 10 points, Miles “Pudge” Halter narrates what debut novel by John Green?

ANSWER: Looking For Alaska

13. One artist claims that “I cursed my mother then slammed the door” a month before this event occurs in the BJ the Chicago Kid song “His Pain.” That artist vaguely stated that “I’ve done a lot to tear down my community” in response to a Rob Markman question about this event. Michael Chabon’s *Genius* annotation for a line about this event compares it to the Common song “I Used to Love H.E.R.” In that line, the artist calls himself a “hypocrite” because he wept “when (\*) Trayvon Martin was in the street” even though he perpetrated this event in a song titled for a Wallace Thurman novel. In another song, this event’s perpetrator references his “basketball and some Now ‘n’ Laters to eat” to support his perceived innocence after asking the audience, “if I told you I [did this event] at 16, would you believe me?” For 10 points, identify this crime that a Compton rapper claimed he perpetrated in the songs “The Blacker the Berry” and “m.A.A.d City.”  
ANSWER: **Kendrick** Lamar **kill**ing someone [or Kendrick **Lamar** **kill**ing someone; accept equivalents for “killing”]

14. This group realizes that the Dutch word “Controle” is the password needed to open a door after recalling their adversary’s motto, “control is the key.” Admittance to this group is based on a test whose first half asks impossible academic questions that inform the correct answers in its second half. In order to access their headquarters, this group must feel their way through a nondescript maze that leads to a large house, which is illustrated as filled with black silhouettes gazing out windows on a book cover by Carson Ellis. The advertisement “are you a (\*) gifted child looking for special opportunities?” leads to the creation of this group, whose youngest member, a telepathic toddler with a red raincoat, is named Constance Contraire. In their first appearance, this group infiltrates the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened to stop Ledroptha Curtain, the evil twin of this group’s namesake narcoleptic benefactor. For 10 points, Reynie Muldoon leads what enigmatic foursome of gifted children in a series by Trenton Lee Stewart?  
ANSWER: The **Mysterious Benedict Society** [prompt on partial answer]

15. This album’s iconography partially titles and provides the thumbnail for a *No Exit*-inspired video in which a camera pans away from a person in a Superman shirt, then pans back around to reveal them in a suit. This was the last album released by an artist who suggested that Nietzsche’s “God is dead” declaration produced the question “how could we fill the space we had created within ourselves?” An actor reads several passages from Audre Lorde’s book *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name* before this album’s title track plays as Abigail Thorn walks out in Philosophy Tube’s trans coming-out video. The artist sings, “Cheena so sound” to open this album’s (\*) Nadsat-heavy track “Girl Loves Me.” The lyrics “man, she punched me like a dude” open a track on this album titled for a John Ford play. The artist’s fatal liver cancer, which killed him two days after this album’s release, inspired its song “Lazarus.” For 10 points, name this final album by David Bowie.  
ANSWER: **Blackstar** [or **★**] (The lead-in refers to Philosophy Tube’s *Men. Abuse. Trauma.* **★** video. The quote in the second line opens the *Moonage Daydream* documentary.)

16. A character who introduces himself by reciting this poem is later taken to a hospital after jumping into a shallow pool and breaking several teeth. In another work, a woman recites Francis William Bourdillon’s poem “The Night Has a Thousand Eyes” shortly before a recitation of this poem by a man who “coughed, a ghastly sound, and his hands clutched his chest” before delivering its final line. A *Succession* episode set on Connor’s ranch guest stars Griffin Dunne as a therapist who recites this poem to begin a (\*) family therapy session for the Roys. At the end of a book set on an island led by Ishmael, a man suffering from a harpoon wound recites this poem’s final stanza, which describes a misery that “deepens like a coastal shelf,” before dying in front of the Baudelaire orphans. For 10 points, in *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, Count Olaf’s final words are the only kid-friendly stanza of what Philip Larkin poem that begins, “they fuck you up, your mum and dad”?  
ANSWER: “**This Be The Verse**”

17. An adaptation of a novel by this author ends with the fake credit “executive producer - Donald P. Bellisario,” referencing a previous scene in that adaptation in which the protagonist watches “Magnum, B.M.” In another adaptation of this author’s work, the narrator describes the protagonist as “the kind of drink of water you know your friend got from the bathroom, and not from the kitchen.” A rant about plot holes in the film *Contact* precedes a demand to change the fate of Snuggly Jeff in a parody of a novel by this author that references a real-life accident in which this author was (\*) hit by a van. At the end of another send-up of this author’s work, a recently paroled character played by Cleveland Brown fails to recall the name of Zihuatanejo, the new home of Andy Dufresne. For 10 points, a season 7 *Family Guy* episode consists of three parodies of the work of what author, including *Misery* and *The Shawshank Redemption*?

ANSWER: Stephen King [accept “Three Kings”]

18. A scene depicting this situation is used to describe how its author “makes a metaphysical commitment to see reality through his characters’ eyes” in a foreword by Tom Bissell. That scene ends as the central character stands splay-legged, unsure whether to answer his simultaneously ringing phone or apartment buzzer. In a song titled for this situation, a narrator who travels to “Lexington 125” is asked, “hey white boy, what you doin’ uptown?” while holding (\*) \$26 in his hand. A character in this situation named Ken Erdedy repeatedly imagines a “grueling final debauch” while wondering “where was the woman who said she’d come” in the second chapter of *Infinite Jest*. For 10 points, describe this situation central to the first half of the Velvet Underground song “I’m Waiting for the Man,” whose title character plans to sell the narrator heroin.

ANSWER: waiting to buy drugs from someone [accept more specific drugs, such as marijuana or heroin; accept “I’m Waiting for the Man” before mention; reject “buying drugs” or other answers that do not indicate waiting]

19. A misunderstanding of this attribute causes a character to die on the operating table after being shot in a gang war in San Francisco. This unusual attribute titles a story whose protagonist watches buckwheat batter “spread like lava” after thinking that his bitter coffee “made a good ending to the story.” This physiological oddity saves a character from death after the witch Lilith stabs him in an episode titled (\*) “The Shakespeare Code.” In a story titled for this attribute set near Seney, Michigan, the narrator exclaims “Geezus Chrise” while eating beans and spaghetti before recalling his childhood friend Hopkins. The narrator of that story catches grasshoppers to use as bait while fishing in a body of water with this attribute. For 10 points, identify this internal physiological attribute that describes a river by which Nick Adams camps in a Hemingway story, which also may be a challenge for cardiologists attending to Time Lords in *Doctor Who*.

ANSWER: two-hearted [accept answers that describe having two hearts]

20. In the scene before he first reads this poem, a character tells his family that the beef industry uses a virus spray to remove rat shit from steak. At a funeral dinner, that character quotes this poem’s final line to express his exasperation with a discussion of Jennifer Hudson in *Dreamgirls*. After learning about this poem in an English class that he takes along with a class on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, a character is shown reading this poem shortly before he jumps into his family’s (\*) pool with a cinder block tied to his leg. A.J.’s interest in this poem preceding his suicide attempt is foreshadowed by a previous episode in which Dr. Melfi quotes this poem’s line “the falcon cannot hear the falconer.” For 10 points, the antepenultimate episode of *The Sopranos* is titled for what W. B. Yeats poem that claims, “things fall apart; the centre cannot hold”?

ANSWER: “The Second Coming”