

Eminent Victorians

Packet 3: The Woebegone Nineteenth Century

By Henry Atkins and Sheena Li

1. Though it was later excised, several early editions of Mary Baker Eddy's *Science and Health* approvingly quote this text. Helena Blavatsky requested that this text be read every year on the anniversary of her death, which is now known as White Lotus Day. Warren Hastings funded the first English translation of this text by Charles Wilkins, who wrote that it was written to encourage "unitarianism." In *Walden*, Thoreau writes that he "bathes his intellect" in this text every morning. After writing (+) *The Light of Asia*, Edwin Arnold published a translation of this text under the title *The Song Celestial*. Two Theosophist brothers lent this text to an eighteen-year-old Mohandas Gandhi, who wrote a commentary emphasizing its lesson that renunciation was (*) not the only way to moksha. For 10 points, name this poetic dialogue between Arjuna and Krishna.

ANSWER: *Bhagavadgita* [prompt on *Mahabharata*]

2. In a film named for these beings, a storm batters a miniature ship to introduce an undersea scene that the director shot with the camera pointed through a fish tank. These beings name a genre of 19th century French stage production focused on acrobatics, fantastical settings, and cutting-edge transformation effects. While in a mental asylum for the murder of his father, an outsider artist painted a panorama of these beings watching one of their number prepare to split a nut with an axe. Georges Méliès adapted (+) *La Biche au bois* ["bwah"] into a film in which Prince Bel-Azor rescues a princess from the kingdom of these beings. A Richard Dadd painting shows the *Master-Stroke* of one of these beings. Arthur Conan Doyle was incredibly duped by photographs of cardboard cutouts of these beings taken at (*) Cottingley. For 10 points, name these common subjects of Victorian art that include Oberon and Queen Mab.

ANSWER: *fairies* [accept *féerie*; accept *fées*; accept *Le Royaume des Fées*; accept *The Fairy Feller's Master-Stroke*]

3. Funds for this project were encouraged in a grim *Punch* cartoon depicting death as "The Silent Highwayman." This project included a building at Crossness with an ornate octagon of decorated ironwork dubbed "The Cathedral on the Marsh." Edwin Chadwick wrote a report strongly supporting proposals for this project but struggled to raise funds in the midst of the Railway Mania. This structure was designed to end at Barking to bypass a tidal zone to the west. Bovril (+) Boats were used to fix flaws in this project after the *Princess Alice* took a wrong turn and sank with 700 deaths. The Victoria and Chelsea Embankments were constructed by Joseph Bazalgette to accommodate parts of this structure. Proposals for this project began after 250 tons of lime were needed daily to counteract 1858's Great (*) Stink. For 10 points, name this structure built to direct human waste downstream to the Thames Estuary.

ANSWER: *London sewer* system [or *London sewage* system]

4. A thought experiment by this scientist imagines a solution between two membranes of different pressure with pure water on the other side to demonstrate that osmotic pressure must be independent of the nature of the membrane. This scientist first developed a method to experimentally determine reaction order by taking all but one reactant in excess, then measuring order of the isolated component and repeating for each reactant. While investigating electrolyte conductivity to support (+) Svante Arrhenius, this scientist proposed that the degree of dissociation of a weak electrolyte is directly proportional to the square root of dilution in an application of the law of mass action. That relationship is this scientist's namesake "dilution law." This scientist first described small crystals dissolving and depositing onto larger crystals in a process known as his namesake (*) "ripening." For 10 points, name this founder of physical chemistry who patented a process for making nitric acid.

ANSWER: Wilhelm *Ostwald*

5. Sympathetic portrayals of this person's daughter followed a novel in which she confesses her loneliness at a party and agrees to write a letter of protection for Daniel's cousin. A judge appointed by this person orders the torture of a young man with U-shaped sideburns, who arrives after a bull is cut open to find its retracted testicles. The chapter "Present and Future" lists this person's self-defeating crimes in a book that compares this person's distribution of red ribbons to the branding of cattle. This villain of Jose Marmol's novel *Amalia* orders the cynical butchering of 50 steers in Estaban (+) Echeverría's story "The Slaughter Yard." This leader is compared to his contemporary, the "Tiger of the Plains," in a book that presents his rule as barbarism instead of civilization. For 10 points, Domingo Faustino (*) Sarmiento's book *Facundo* attacks the rule of what Argentine president?

ANSWER: Juan Manuel de Rosas [or Juan Manuel José Domingo Ortiz de Rosas]

6. *Note to players: two answers required*

A Jürgen Osterhammel book titled for an "Unfabling" argues that a hierarchical distinction between these two places only arose in the 1830s. After spending 10 years as a prisoner of war, Philip Johan von Strahlenberg published a 1740 book that established a modern convention around these two places. Jack Goldstone contrasts sustained growth with equilibrium-setting "efflorescences" while developing a California School argument about these two places. Variable access to (+) coal deposits circa 1750 explains the gap in growth between these two places according to a 2001 book by Kenneth Pomeranz. A 1904 lecture by Harold Mackinder claims that the "pivot area" straddling these two places makes up a geostrategic "Heartland." For 10 points, name these two (*) geographic regions that split economically in the "Great Divergence," and have a boundary commonly set at the Urals.

ANSWER: Asia and Europe [or East and West; accept the Orient and Occident; prompt on Europe and the rest of the world; accept Western Europe and East Asia; antiprompt if the answer contains specific countries like the United Kingdom and China, as long as the two parts of the answer contain an Asian region and a European region, respectively]

7. A controversial member of this movement known as "The Tiger" escalated attacks on civilians after the execution of his mother. This movement created a paramilitary force of so-called "customs officers" to prevent trade to enemy towns. The high rate of firing squads by and against this movement was tempered in a convention brokered by Lord Eliot. A red beret with a yellow tassel became a symbol of this movement despite also being associated with opposing (+) chapelgorris. This movement focused on an electoral strategy in a period in which the ultra-right Integrist and Mellist movements broke away. This movement failed to strongly defend the autonomy of regional *fueros* while signing the Convention of Bergara. "God, King, and Fatherland" was the motto of this movement, which opposed the (*) Pragmatic Sanction of 1830. For 10 points, name this legitimist movement that supported an alternate Bourbon line over Isabella II for the throne of Spain.

ANSWER: Carlism [or Carlists]

8. A small, eccentric one of these buildings was built in Craig-y-nos Castle in Wales after its purchase by an Italian celebrity. An event in one of these buildings led a commentator to write "but that would have been a butcher's method, not an artist's." The construction of one of these buildings required frequent pumping of groundwater, which fed the myth that it was built over an underground lake. A ruinously expensive one of these buildings was commissioned to celebrate the opening of the (+) Suez Canal. In one of these buildings, a player sacrificed his queen on b8 to set up a rook and bishop mate against Duke Karl and Count Isouard. An influx of wealth during the rubber boom funded the creation of a large Belle Époque one of these buildings in Manaus. Napoleon III commissioned an (*) opulent one of these buildings that later installed a ceiling mural by Chagall. For 10 points, name these buildings exemplified by the Palais Garnier.

ANSWER: opera houses [prompt on theater; prompt on performing arts venue]

9. A commander in this battle wrote in his diary that he was the reincarnation of Nelson and began it with the order “let every man do his utmost duty.” One side adopted an early fire control system in the months before this battle, giving its guns a long-distance accuracy advantage to complement its more explosive picric acid-based shells. The winning side of this battle continued to fire on surrendering ships because it didn’t have the signal XGE in its (+) codebooks. Before this battle, a fleet maneuvered to fire broadsides at the enemy’s bows after the nighttime sighting of a hospital ship was reported through wireless telegraphy. Most of the Second Pacific Squadron sank in this battle after a disastrous 18,000 mile journey from the (*) Baltic. The Treaty of Portsmouth followed, for 10 points, what decisive 1905 victory for the Japanese navy over the Russian Empire?

ANSWER: Battle of Tsushima [or the Battle of Tsushima Strait]

10. Nigel Glendenning argued that supposed initials in the bottom left hand of this painting were actually the inventory number 18. This painting depicts a similar figure to later aquatint, which shows him sitting under a night sky with his back to the viewer. The *Farnese* [“far-NAY-zay”] *Hercules* may have inspired that figure in this painting who raises a clenched fist before his closed eyes. Many allegorical readings of this painting see its subject as a symbol of the people’s will found in the poem *Pyrenean* [“peer-an-EE-an”] *Prophecy*. Prado curator Manuela Mena (*) re-attributed this painting to the artist’s pupil Asensio Juliá in 2009, despite its stylistic similarity to the paintings in the Quinta del Sordo. The lower third of this painting shows a panicked crowd fleeing to the bottom left with livestock, while dark clouds shroud a turned figure in the background. For 10 points, name this painting of a (*) massive nude giant usually attributed to Goya.

ANSWER: *The Colossus* [or *El Coloso*, *El Pánico*, *The Panic*, *La Tormenta*, or *The Storm*; accept *El Gigante* or *The Giant* before “giant”]

11. In *Aspects of the Novel*, E.M. Forster writes that the older generation loves Walter Scott for the same reason that he loves this novel. A character in this novel knocks out an angry albatross with a message tied to its leg and ties a response to that same albatross. Many of the available English versions of this novel are actually translations of Isabelle de Montolieu’s heavily altered French version. Characters in this novel attempt to carve a shelter into a rock wall and discover a crystalline grotto filled with salt. This novel’s many improbable fauna include penguins, a kangaroo, and two lions that kill the “Danish” dog Juno. (+) Jenny Montrose dresses as an English naval officer in this novel before her rescue. The 1960 Disney adaptation of this novel adds a band of Malay pirates that attack the protagonists’ booby-trapped (*) treehouse. For 10 points, name this didactic novel by Johann David Wyss about a family of European castaways.

ANSWER: *The Swiss Family Robinson* [or *Der Schweizerische Robinson*]

12. *Note to players: description acceptable*

During this case, both the presiding judge and the defendant attended a dinner party thrown by the defendant’s chief counsel, which inspired a rumor that its outcome was planned in advance over a game of chess. The president gave the prosecutor in this case a batch of blank pardons in order to get whatever witnesses necessary for a conviction. Effigies of John Marshall were hanged and burned after this case, in which Marshall applied his ruling in *Ex Parte Bollman* that mere (+) conspiracy did not constitute a “levying of war.” This case ended in an acquittal when the jury found that a doctored letter presented by James Wilkinson did not prove an overt attempt to carve out a secessionist fiefdom in the west. For 10 points, name this 1807 legal proceeding in which Thomas Jefferson failed to secure a (*) treason conviction against his former vice president.

ANSWER: the treason trial of Aaron Burr [or *United States v. Burr*; accept answers indicating the trial over the Burr Conspiracy; reject answers like “the murder trial of Aaron Burr” that indicate the trial was over his killing of Hamilton]

13. While approaching Dracula's coach, one of Jonathan Harker's fellow passengers quotes a poem with this title by remarking "for the dead travel fast." One of Sir Walter Scott's earliest published poems, *William and Helen*, was an adaptation of a poem with this name. Vasili Zhukovsky loosely translated that poem with this title three times, producing the ballads *Lyudmila* and *Svetlana*. A woman with this name rides a hundred miles overnight with her fiancé to their marriage bed, only to arrive at a grave and learn that he is undead in a spooky poem by Gottfried August (+) Burger. The deceased lover of Guy de Vere has this name in a poem that opens with the line "Ah, broken is the golden bowl!" In a different poem, the narrator asks if his soul shall clasp a "rare and radiant maiden" of this name to a creature (*) perched upon a bust of Pallas. For 10 points, "nevermore" rhymes with the name of what dead woman mourned in *The Raven*?

ANSWER: Lenore [accept any of Leonora, Eleanor, or Ellenore]

14. This city's St. Stephen's Church was built in a Gothic Revival and Neo-Baroque style using prefabricated, completely cast iron parts produced in Vienna and assembled on-site. The head of this city's Camondo banking family built an Art Nouveau pedestrian stairway as a shortcut for his children to walk to school. Another Art Nouveau building in this city, the Botter Apartment, was designed by Raimondo d'Aronco, who with Alexander Vallaury led this city's reconstruction efforts after a devastating 1894 earthquake. This city's waterfront is lined with 620 opulent (+) yalis used as seaside second homes. This city's twenty clock towers, mostly dating from the 19th century, include the Tophane and Dolmabahçe ["dol-mah-bah-CHAY"] Towers. Luxury hotels like the Pera Palace were built in this city to accommodate travelers on the (*) Orient Express. For 10 points, name this city where mosques like the Suleymaniye were commissioned by Ottoman sultans.

ANSWER: Istanbul

15. A song in this language written for a vacationing prime minister tells the addressee to "come look at the gardens" and "come look at the mermaids" before asking them to come back to the title city. Scandinavian countries changed the lyrics of one song originally in this language for its use on the winter solstice celebration of Saint Lucy's Day. A composer of one song in this language successfully sued Richard Strauss, who used its tune in his first tone poem because he mistook it for a folk song. Elvis adapted a song in this language using completely new lyrics as (+) "It's Now or Never." A genre of music in this language was promoted by a songwriting contest at the Festival of Piedigrotta. A song in this language featuring the lyrics "you rise, pulled by a cable, quick as a wink/into the sky" was written for the opening of a (*) cable railway on a volcano. For 10 points, name this language of "Funiculì, Funiculà," "O Sole Mio," and many other *canzones*.

ANSWER: Neapolitan [prompt on Italian]

16. A king of these people names a still popular type of patterned indigo textile supposedly gifted to him by French missionaries. A failed effort to confiscate these people's firearms under the Peace Preservation Act resulted in the "disannexation" of their land. These people, who won the Gun War, were besieged by cannon they called "seqiti" in a series of border conflicts that forced them to petition for British protection. These people founded a capital on a highly defensible plateau called Thaba Bosiu, or "the Mountain at Night." Malay workers may have introduced a national symbol of these people, a (+) conical straw hat called the Mokorotlo. These Bantu people formed a distinct identity under their king Moshoeshoe ["Mo-shway-shway"], who united disparate groups displaced by the Mfecane in a mountainous interior region. For 10 points, name these southern African people who founded a landlocked (*) country with capital Maseru.

ANSWER: Sotho [or Basotho; or Basatu; reject "Lesotho"]

17. This character's description as "so odd a mixture" titles a Phyllis Ferguson Bottomer book that diagnoses most of the novel's principal characters with autism. This character says "so much the better. It will save me a world of trouble and economy" upon learning the source of a mysterious settlement. In a moment of dramatic irony, this character mocks a letter by saying "his perfect indifference, and your pointed dislike, make it so delightfully absurd!" A passage describing this character's "unsuitable" (+) marriage explains both his love of the country and books, as well as his sarcastic attitude. This character travels to London to find his daughter after she runs off with a deadbeat soldier she met in Brighton. This character, whose entailed property drives the plot of the novel he appears in, initially demurs to his wife about visiting (*) Mr. Bingley. For 10 points, name this father of Jane and Elizabeth in *Pride and Prejudice*.

ANSWER: Mr Bennet [accept any answer indicating the patriarch of the Bennet family; accept answers indicating Elizabeth's father before "Elizabeth"; accept equivalents to the dad in *Pride and Prejudice* before "*Pride and Prejudice*"]

18. In a letter to friends, this work's composer described its first movement as "the call of fate into the life struggle. [...] and a warning concerning my future misfortune." The slow third movement of this piece is a set of variations in tribute to the composer's childhood sweetheart, who died 10 years into their marriage. This piece's second movement is based on a rising sixteenth note–sixteenth note–staccato eighth note motif, most often with the notes C–E–F. That movement is à la polka and instructs the viola to play like a (+) trumpet. This piece opens with a *sforzando fortissimo* E minor triad and a wavering effect from the violins before the opening theme of [read slowly] B–B–down to E–rest–F-sharp–G–down to B is played by solo viola. The final movement of this piece portrays the development of nationalism in the composer's music and features a sustained high E that represents their (*) tinnitus and eventual deafness. For 10 points, name this autobiographical chamber piece by Bedřich Smetana.

ANSWER: String Quartet No. 1 in E Minor [or first string quartet; or From My Life; or Z mého života]

19. A thinker from this country who advocated a "Common Cause" of interstellar colonization received backlash for claiming that science could achieve the resurrection of the dead. It's not Denmark, but an early existentialist from this country referred to despair as the "penultimate knowledge" and an irrational step toward God as the "ultimate knowledge." This country was home to the Cosmism movement and the philosophy of Sophiology, as well as the thinker who wrote *The Apotheosis of Groundlessness*. John Gardner's *On Moral Fiction* draws from a book from this country, which controversially argues that (+) art is good if it provokes emotions that improve humanity. Another book from this country cites Christ's commandment to turn the other cheek as a call for nonviolent resistance, part of its author's philosophy of Christian anarchism. For 10 points, name this home country of the thinker who wrote *What is Art?* and (*) *The Kingdom of God is Within You*, Leo Tolstoy.

ANSWER: Russia [or the Russian Empire] (the unnamed religious thinkers are Lev Shestov, Vladimir Solovyov, and Nikolai Fyodorov)

20. One of these objects is a near-invisible easter egg in the background of William Dyce's landscape *Pegwell Bay, Kent*. Two dead men discuss one of these objects in Edgar Allan Poe's story "The Conversation of Eiros and Charmion." A legendary year of Château d'Yquem ["dee-kem"] is one of the highly sought-after vintages named for these objects. William Blake used gold foil to paint one of these objects behind a walking monster in *The Ghost of a Flea*. Absurd claims made about one of these objects by Camille Flammarion caused people to panic buy gas masks, (+) umbrellas, and pills that would supposedly counteract it. Thomas Rowlandson satirized Napoleon as one of these objects trying to reach George III, since Napoleon enjoyed linking his birth to one. The first one of these objects to be photographed was named after Giovanni Battista (*) Donati. For 10 points, an 1811 "Great" one of what objects passed within viewing distance of the earth?

ANSWER: comets [prompt on shooting star]

21. In the longest American libel trial to date, a physician practising this field of medicine unsuccessfully sued *The Brooklyn Eagle* after their investigative report led to charges of murder and manslaughter. A Chicago-based doctor attached vouchers for free exams in this field of medicine to each copy of their book *Tokology*. The youngest of Johns Hopkins' Big Four, Howard Kelly, helped establish this field as a medical specialty. One of the founders of the Birmingham and Midland Hospital, Lawson (+) Tait, was a pioneer of this field who performed the first salpingectomy. Irish immigrants and black slaves like Anarcha Westcott were experimented on repeatedly without anesthesia by a "father" of this medical field, J. Marion Sims. It's not neurology, but the knee-chest position was often used in this field to repair (*) fistulas and prolapses. For 10 points, name this surgical specialty concerned with female reproductive organs, the counterpart to obstetrics.
ANSWER: gynecology [prompt on surgery; prompt on women's health; prompt on obstetrics by asking "what is the surgical specialty?"; prompt on OB/GYN by asking "which one?"]

22. When asked what scenes he would liked to have filmed, this critic replied "Herman Melville at breakfast, feeding a sardine to his cat." This critic urged readers to absorb a book's "stereographic charm" by creating detailed maps of Mansfield Park and Dr. Jekyll's London. To introduce a series on the great European novels, this critic dismissed "bad readers" who use fiction "to learn something about life in gay Paree or in sad Russia." A novel by this critic opens with the parody quotation (+) "all happy families are more or less dissimilar; all unhappy ones are more or less alike." This critic consistently rated Tolstoy as great, Turgenev as "pleasant," and Dostoevsky as "mediocre." This critic feuded with his erstwhile friend Edmund Wilson, who criticized his overly literal prose translation of (*) Eugene Onegin. For 10 points, name this author whose 19th century literary homages include *Ada* and a novel about the poet John Shade.
ANSWER Vladimir Nabokov