



One **L**etter Away 2: The Empire Strikes **Bach**

Just one letter can *still* make a whole lot of difference. We've changed one - and only one - letter in each of the titles of yet another assortment of songs, books, TV shows, movies, plays, and poems. Given a description of the resulting work, please give us the **NEW** title of the thing in question.

*For example, if the clue were "MOVIE: "The heartwarming tale of a father's ocean-spanning quest to locate a tyrannical, suicidal, possible-arsonist emperor" (Q44 from our original One Letter Away bonus), the answer you'd need to give would be "Finding Nero." Get it? Got it? **Goof!***

Er... I mean, "good!"

(...but also "goof," because we're certainly goofing around by writing more of these descriptions. We hope you have fun with them, too!)

BOOKS

1. A high-society lawyer falls hopelessly in love with his fiancée's cousin, a scandalously unconventional and independent-minded chimpanzee.
2. Patients confined in an asylum for the mentally ill are abused by both a cruel nurse and a right-wing former Speaker of the House.
3. Purported super-geniuses struggle to make sense of backwards writing or solve an incredibly easy riddle about an apple, but by gosh, they know their Dorian from their Mixolydian!
4. In this notoriously violent Western about scalp-hunters, a possibly-immortal sadist hunts a voyeuristic Irish everyman with a fondness for organ meats.
5. The spice must flow...although it turns out there's another brand that'll turn your eyes almost exactly the same shade of blue for half the price!
6. A series of vignettes explores puberty, poverty, and trauma through the experiences of a famous penguin chick and his two loving dads, who have moved into a new home in a Latino neighborhood in Chicago.
7. You really can't let this silly, needy bird be in charge of operating the director of My Own Private Idaho and Good Will Hunting.
8. The taste of a madeleine inspires a man to reminisce about the time he tried to locate a guy trapped in an invisible box.
9. After their farm is destroyed by the Dust Bowl, a destitute family travels from Oklahoma to California in search of work, whining and complaining all the way.
10. This semi-autobiographical novel tells the story of four sisters in 19th-century New England, and how they grew into adults with a striking resemblance to the dots on top of lowercase letter "i"s.
11. A brother and sister are raised in a home next to a river in Lincolnshire, and the sister grows up to have potentially-scandalous flirtations with two men - but more importantly, I think the siblings' mother is *super* hot, and I want to tap that ass!

12. In this take on “Beauty and the Beast,” a young woman’s punishment (well, sort of) for killing a fairy in wolf form is to go live in a fairy court where everyone wears masks and is *really* into Shibari.
13. This satirical take on corporate life postulates that everyone is promoted to a position approximately 39.37 inches away from where they started.
14. A multi-layered, multi-colored, metafictional narrative about a family's experiences living in a creepy, shape-changing equine.
15. Written by a notable scientist, this book is an introduction to the beginning of the universe, the nature of black holes, and, of course, detergent pods.
16. The first historical novel in a popular trilogy chronicles the rise to power of a controversial figure in the court of Henry VIII, as well as his enshrinement in a sports museum recently relocated to Pinehurst, North Carolina.
17. This self-help book counters the genre’s “mindless positivity” by suggesting that readers refuse to donate waterfowl to others.
18. A diplomatic envoy from Earth struggles to understand an ambisexual society composed of charming 51st-century time travelers and Marvelous witches from Salem, MA.
19. A plucky, red-headed, Canadian orphan is adopted by a bored, manipulative, and ultimately doomed Norwegian woman.
20. Two kids run away to the Met, and end up solving an art mystery by figuring out that the rich lady who donated a particular sculpture to the museum really loves pumpkin spice lattes, Uggs, vanilla scented candles, and signs that say, “Live, Laugh, Love.”
21. The agoraphobic narrator of this psychological thriller believes they’ve seen their neighbor across the street get stabbed to death, but their account may be unreliable—after all, they only have one eye, having traded the other to Mimir for greater wisdom.
22. A death row prison guard discovers that one of the inmates he supervises possesses a miraculous ability: the power to make dairy products *really* moldy.
23. This novel brought attention to the many horrors of slavery, as endured by a Williams Trivia veteran known both for his encyclopedic knowledge of pop culture and his love of wearing shorts.

MOVIES

24. In this critically-acclaimed sequel, a colony on LV-426 is attacked by Lily, Joan, Debbie, Karen, and Tim.
25. Why so serious? Smoke some of this excellent weed and chill out, bro!
26. Mama always said that life is like a hit Van Halen song...
27. Don't drop the soap - or the rope, candlestick, revolver, or lead pipe.
28. A bored man spying on his neighbors suspects that one of them was mauled by a grizzly.
29. A German submarine patrols the Atlantic, crewed by both ordinary soldiers and a sexy cartoon flapper.
30. The Bride seeks revenge on a fictionalized Truman Capote.
31. A kidnapping plot in the Upper Midwest goes horribly wrong, despite being conducted at a slow and stately musical tempo.
32. A Hmong gang member tries to steal a Korean War veteran's box of high-fiber cereal.
33. A knight (portrayed by someone other than Connery, Bean, Astin, Penn, Lennon, or Hannity) plays chess with Death.
34. A famous girl group/secret trio of superheroes must defeat a boy band made up of mediocre used cars.
35. Now my straw reaches across the room, and I... Drink... Your... Popular TMBG Album released in 1990!!!!
36. The story of the rise and inevitable fall of a Cuban drug kingpin who only recently acquired a visible (and bloody) injury to his head.
37. This '90s adaptation of an Austen novel, like, totally doesn't involve the main character joining student government, the honor society, the GSA, or the quiz bowl team. As if!
38. The Man With No Name and two rivals hunt for a buried cache of jade vaginal eggs, vaginal steamers, and candles that smell like a famous person's vagina.

39. A Japanese biscuit-based snack aspires to go the distance against a heavyweight champion.
40. British POWs are forced to build a structure by which a train can cross the most decorated American figure skater of all time.
41. A lonely, disturbed Vietnam veteran plans to kill a senator and does kill a child trafficker, all while wearing a flowy, floor-length dress.
42. Gah, who turned the volume up?! The first audible farts in cinema history (perpetrated by a group of cowboys eating baked beans) were so loud they just about burst my eardrums!
43. A cop must rescue his estranged wife when her office building is taken over by a lagomorphic terrorist/thief.
44. A cursed hatmaker becomes involved with a wizard and his notably depressed and self-pitying home.
45. I know you're feeling pretty down about everything, but just look at how terribly things in your hometown would have gone wrong if this elevator had never existed!
46. The coefficient of friction adopts, and unexpectedly learns to love, a trio of children as part of a villainous plot to shrink the moon.

TV SHOWS

47. A group of 80s kids must rescue their friend, a fictional Baltimorean drug dealer, after he gets sucked into the Upside-Down.
48. A family gets trapped on the Jupiter 2 with a robot, a mad scientist, and a co-anchor of SNL's Weekend Update.
49. Queer, funny pirates enjoy some crème caramel.
50. A 19th-century figure often discussed in psychology classes thanks to having a 3-foot-long iron rod shot through his brain honestly fits right into this famously gory fantasy series, although his neither being brutally murdered nor ever brutally murdering anyone else in order to obtain political power (or for revenge, or just for the fun of it, or...) do admittedly make him a bit of an outlier among its characters.

51. Paul Hollywood will *not* be pleased if your pile of autumn leaves has a soggy bottom.
52. A thoroughly unscrupulous lawyer adopts a new identity: the region of Western Europe famously conquered by Julius Caesar.
53. After his brother's suicide, a young man moves back to Chicago to manage his family's famous (and shiny) Millennium Park work of art (which he refers to by its popular nickname). Yes, artist!
54. In the midst of a zombie apocalypse at the center of the continuous 48 states, a man must escort a young girl all the way from Leawood to Kanorado in hopes of finding a cure, lest the world be fully consumed by the shambling hordes croaking, "Rrrooockk, chhaaaalk... rrooock, chhaallllkk...." as they attack.
55. A steamy gay romance between sled hockey players.
56. This radio station is just a jump to the left, and then a step to the ri-i-i-ight. As God is my witness, I thought turkeys could do pelvic thrusts!
57. If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you'll probably want to know is where the lanai is, and what my lousy childhood in St. Olaf was like, and how my friends and I were widowed or divorced and all before we moved in together, and all that Miss Havisham kind of crap, but I'd rather just eat some cheesecake, if you want to know the truth.
58. At the end of the series, a montage showed how every red root vegetable in this family of funeral home operators eventually died.
59. In this game show, none of the contestants have any idea what they'll be asked to do or whether one of their YA love interests (who's been here the whole time!) will turn out to have designed a bomb that killed their little sister.
60. Weird crush on an unnamed attractive Catholic clergyman, but okay.
61. A relentlessly cheerful, folksy yogurt drink is hired to coach a British soccer team.
62. A depressed, self-destructive Viking who used to star in a sitcom hopes a tell-all autobiography will make him relevant again.
63. A mercurial, time-traveling alien with more lives than a cat has a lot of questions about the reasons behind things.
64. Clear eyes, snug hose, can't lose.

65. Holy motherfucking shirtballs, this is the *bad* saucer!
66. Emergency room workers break up one long, stressful shift by practicing their small golf strokes.
67. War... war never changes... but it doesn't always involve the lopsided major wardrobe malfunction suffered by a male character in this post-apocalyptic TV show based on a popular video game series.
68. Romance in a less-racist version of the Regency era is made somewhat more challenging when all the characters are kept at roughly 38°F so they don't spoil.
69. A classic game show in which a panel of questioners try to guess contestants' favored cutlery prong.

SONGS

70. What if we got rid of capitalism, religion, and war, and replaced them all with a radiology department?
71. Why can't we all get along? Don't punish me with brutality, sister, because I'm busy trying to listen to "Last Christmas."
72. To do this dance, one needs a little grace. Also, I'm not a sailor - I'm a cute little fawn!
73. You only get one shot; do not miss your chance to self-administer it properly.
74. Now that most of the pandemic lockdowns and closures are over, I'm ready to turn up the music and have a party - or at least I would be, if friggin' Curry, Burton, Conway, and McGraw weren't getting on my nerves so much.
75. I met an attractive trans woman at the club, so I greeted her in Spanish.
76. Tell me why (I made this roof be tilted).
Tell me why (That's just the way I built it).
Tell me why ("It slopes like this," I hear you say).
77. I won't be afraid of the dark or weep if the whole world falls apart, just as long as you continue to support a dumbass rapper who claims to love Hitler.

78. Someday, you're going to regret staying in the closet instead of being with me, you gravelly-voiced Batman!
79. My former boyfriends say I'm crazy, but you know you like it! Now come on, babe. I've got a spot for doing an isometric core strength exercise with your name on it!
80. Thanks to a viral video, millions of people worldwide rocked out to this Moldovan boy-band single in which the singers beg the star of "Cheers" and "Becker" not to leave without them.
81. Girl, I'm in love with your body - or at least the unit of equity ownership I have in it!
82. In a continent that somehow entirely lacks snow, or rain, or rivers, can definite articles figure out that a winter holiday is taking place?
83. Oh, you're a tough, puffed-up sort of dude? Well, I'm a Chinese dumpling. *Duh.*
84. I found my one true love thanks to a strange atmospheric phenomenon, which caused Earth's main satellite to look just like it was woo-hooing its way through "Song 2."
85. Two women boast about the cervical cancer screenings they receive in order to make sure their genitals stay healthy (and moist).
86. One: You'll need some mares; you know that you can use them to make equine heirs.
Two: Let in your jacks; the jacks should mount the horses' backs.
Three: You'll get some foals, and maybe they can plow your forty acres in the morning.
87. The rotoscoped music video for this '80s bop shows a woman being pulled into a comic book by a cute guy who just happens to have a major British museum of modern art sitting atop his head.
88. I can't sleep until I feel your touch—or at least not until I've made my favorite smoothie.
89. It's been a little over two weeks since you dumped me, and while even a medical professional thinks I should go enjoy my life, I'm just too fixated on how much I love tungsten.
90. Side-step, right-left, to my beat!
Seems a loose seal ate my hand, baby!
These are my awards. From army.
I'M A MONSTER, don't look at me!
Side-step, right-left, to my beat!

91. Young man, you can get yourself clean, you can have a good meal, and you can invoke copyright law to have material that infringes on your intellectual property removed from the internet!

PLAYS, MUSICALS, & OPERAS

92. Two unhappy, aging couples meet up with the wives' former coworkers and yearn for their lost youth, during which they recorded "Long Cool Woman in a Black Dress."

93. A fair t' middlin' bloke fools 'issen into reckonin' 'is gurt dreams'll come off. 'E gets reet radged wi' 'is gaffer an' loses 'is graft, knackers 'is bond wi' 'is eldest nipper (wha 'e reckons be derrived from liggin'), an' in t' end 'e reckons a feller be worth more six feet under than 'e is above. Aye, as 'is missus says, tha oughta pay 'eed to such a 'un!

94. Comedic shenanigans ensue when a British Prime Minister known for his less-than-successful policy of appeasement enlists his former servant (and self-proclaimed factotum) to help him woo a girl he has the hots for.

95. In this two-part saga of the AIDS crisis, a dying gay man experiences visions of a Marxist philosopher.

96. A semi-autobiographical play depicts a teenaged white boy in apartheid-era South Africa and shows how institutionalized racism changes his relationships with his family's Black employees. Also, the music is *seriously* catchy.

97. A Black family has a thoroughly enjoyable time while figuring out how to spend (and losing a large chunk of) a life insurance payout, as well as dealing with housing discrimination.

98. A Theban princess is condemned to be buried alive for the crime of being opposed to a former Vice President and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

99. A Nubian princess is condemned to be buried alive for the crime of being named after the world in which the continent of Middle-earth can be found.

100. A man is nearly committed to a sanitarium thanks to his relationship with his best friend, an invisible, anthropomorphic, six-foot-tall motorcycle.

101. A Russian tsar during the Time of Troubles contains remarkably high levels of $B(OH)_3$.

102. A South American first lady sends you an email to let you know when to come to her party.
103. Multiple overlapping stories at the turn of the 20th century explore themes of racism and social mobility in the lives of Taylor Swift, Hailee Steinfeld, Gabrielle Union, Simone Biles, and Posh Spice, but very emphatically NOT Shakira anymore.
104. No One Mourns a policeman who is ritually murdered while investigating Something Bad happening in a neo-pagan community. Maybe his death will bring back some creatures known for Defying Gravity and all known laws of aviation.
105. Oh hey! The creatures from the last clue *did* come back - except now they're all stinging the inhabitants of Catfish Row!
106. I'm sorry, the card says I didn't even change a letter in the name of this opera with a famous "mad scene" featuring a reluctant bride who just stabbed her groom to death.
107. Side characters in someone else's story struggle with the inevitability of their fate: to be turned into delicious metheglin or melomel.
108. Gotta get through some trials to acquire a cute girlfriend from some guy I thought was a demon but it turns out he's not a demon and actually her mother's just a jerk who lies about people being demons and also my new friend who dresses all weird has to go through his own trials to get a girlfriend who also dresses all weird because it's a whole thing with them and man I haven't slept in three days and I feel AMAZING and did you know I've got a cool instrument and my friend with the weird outfit also has a cool instrument and hey look it's those people who keep telling me not to talk but why would I not talk when I can just talk and talk and talk and talk and talk and
109. Two brothers fight about screenplays and stolen toasters (among other things), but the real problem is that they forgot to type "light lantern," it is pitch black, and they are likely to be eaten.
110. This Royal Navy ship, on which characters trade both potential romantic partners and social classes, *never* needs assistance from paramedics! (What, never? Well... hardly ever!)
111. A group of fuckin' salesmen want to sell some fuckin' real estate to some fuckin' giant mythological birds featured in One Thousand and One Fuckin' Nights.

POEMS

112. Whose woods these are I think I know.
He's really quite a jerkwad, though;
So pissily I'll walk around
And slam my feet down in his snow.
113. Everybody ignored that poor dead guy because they thought he was just at the
spa getting some hair removed.
114. Let's raise a toast to old friends and days gone by with a delicious cup of a
powdered orange astronaut drink!
115. This gorgeous, dark-haired girl reminds me of a starry sky, but she really should
have just thrown that pitch in a continuous motion instead of feinting.
116. If not for the infamous interruption of a person on business from Porlock, this
opium-induced vision of a philosophical Zen riddle might make more sense.
117. I was reading some books and moping about my lost love late one night, when a
bowl of Japanese noodle soup showed up at my door and creeped me out by repeating
the same word over and over.
118. Shall I listen to some birds? Do I dare to eat a peach?
I shall wear white flannel trousers, and walk upon the beach.
I have heard the pigeons cooing, each to each.
I do not think that they will coo to me.
119. The world is a depressing, disintegrating mess, and thinking about how screwed
up things are made me envision something terrible slouching towards the world: some
buggy C++ that I really ought to rewrite.
120. A knight is haunted after having a vision of the other men (including Connie and
Jere, of course) whom the mysterious woman he instantly fell in love with has apparently
destroyed.
121. Let me list the manners in which I freely, purely, passionately adore clarified
butter.
122. One sister gives in to the urge to sniff the forbidden Sharpies offered to her by
some creepy little fairy dudes, while the other must eventually cure her sister's crippling
Sharpie addiction by letting the creepy little fairy dudes scribble all over her face.

123. We are rebellious youths. We
May be short-lived. We
Enjoy a particular dessert. We
Make it out of whipped cream and pureed fruit.
124. Do I bonk this little dot with my line-paddle? Very well, then I bonk this little dot
with my line-paddle. I am large, I contain... well, really just those two lines and the dot,
but I still think I'm pretty cool.
125. Hey, dead parent (whom I'm also kind of conflating with my cheating spouse), I
am angry enough at you to compare you to the Nazis, but you sure did dress like a
regular Beau Brummel.
126. O, famously walk-and-talk-y TV show that looks like a friggin' utopian vision
these days, make me a prophet of revolution! If Bartlet comes, can Santos be far
behind?
127. I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as the primary way to score points in rugby
128. "Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries he
With cartoon lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your doodly masses yearning to breathe free,
I'll say, "Hi-diddly-ho, new neighbors!" Yes sirree!