

Style Invitational

by Pat Myers

Report from Week 993

In which we asked you to engage two historical or fictional figures in a mini-version of Epic Rap Battles of History, the immensely popular video site. It won't shock regular Invite readers that we ended up not caring so much if the cleverest rhymes hadn't so much a phat beat as a fat beat. Lots more of these — including an actual video of "Santa vs. Raffi" — appear in the online Invite at bit.ly/inv997.



Aunt Jemima vs. Mrs. Butterworth:
Aunt J: You got an old-lady voice that always sounds so proper!
Always hating on the leading runny pancake topper!
You say you're thick and rich, now that's hard to chew —
You're just a talking plastic bottle! I'll recycle you!
Mrs. B: You're better than me, huh? You'd better check your label:
It's not just me who's putting hexametaphosphate on the table!
You're just jealous of the squeezing that I get every day—
You're an aunt, but I'm a Mrs., and that's all I'm gonna say!
(Amanda Yanovitch, Midlothian, Va.)

2 Winner of "Now Wash Your Hands," a book about toilets:
First Witch from "Macbeth": You wrote a few old cookbooks. So? Big freakin' deal!
In my cauldron I am makin' a more exotic meal!
Julia Child: I spit upon your bat and on your tongue of dog;
(But I confess: That there is one luscious-looking frog!)(Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

3 Pontius Pilate: We've been at this for hours, and I'd like to go home.
Traffic's getting pretty heavy on all roads that lead to Rome.
Jesus: You need to practice patience and become more unselfconscious That my Father named me Jesus and your father named you Pontius.
Pilate: Naming is irrelevant! They say you walk on water!
(My life'd be so much easier if Mary'd had a daughter!)
Jesus: Have you seen my halo, Pontius? It's as if my head were skylit!
The biggest diffbetween us, bro, is that God is mypilot. (Christopher Lamora, Guatemala City)

4 John Grisham: My immense success just goes to show what's achievable
When you have no talent — it's really unbelievable!
Dan Brown: You think you have no talent? Let me tell you, suckah, I can't write for dirt and I can't even rhyme! (Andrew Ballard, London)

3 **STYLE CONVERSATIONAL** Have a question for the Empress or want to talk to some real Losers? Join us at washingtonpost.com/stylconversational.

Under raps: Honorable mentions

Abominable Snowman: You think you're gross? I'm grosser, and indomitable!

And furthermore, folks tell me I'm abominable.

Medusa: My snaky locks are writhing like spaghetti;

Come take a look! You ain't seen nuthin', yeti! (Beverley Sharp)

Adam: "Try this fruit!" says you, my rib-stealing be-otch!

Now the Original Sinna's gotta fig-leaf his cre-otch.

Eve: "For the very first man, yo' head is way second-rate —

You'd be outta luck, playa, if I'd a choice in my mate." (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

Easter Bunny: "Your North Pole ice is melting fast, and Mrs. Claus has sung at last!

Your slave-kept elves will all applaud when kids find out that you're a fraud."

Santa Claus: "I have no fear, you furry freak, who lays the eggs for hide-and-seek!

When those kids learn the same 'bout you, in no time you'll be Brunswick Stew." (Mark Raffman, Reston)

Kanye West: Interruption!
Interruption! I gotta get a word in!
The fact you beat Beyoncé's just a little bit absurd, an' —

Taylor Swift: Yo, Westie, maybe country music's not your thing, But there's two of us on stage right now, and only one can sing. (Christopher Lamora)

Paris Hilton: "Uh . . . what?"
Kim Kardashian: "Huh?" (David Garratt, Silver City, N.M.)

Still running — deadline Monday night — is our contest to combine two magazines. See bit.ly/inv996



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

THIS WEEK'S CONTEST: WEEK 997

Unworthy causes

'Tis the season for newspaper articles to begin with " 'Tis the season," and this week we'll do our part and remind you to support any or all of the literally thousands of charities you can assist through United Way or the Combined Federal Campaign. On the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook, Not-Yet-a-Loser Daphne Steinberg noted that the CFC "Catalog of Caring" (bit.ly/cfc-2012) lists such diverse organizations as the National Speleological Society (preserving caves) and Dogs Finding Dogs (using dogs to find lost dogs, duh). Yes, we know that all of those causes are worthy ones, so Daphne thinks the Loser Community ought to come up with some that aren't: This week: Name a dubious charity and describe its mission. You might also want to include a line from its pitch to potential donors.

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a prize we've been waiting all year to give out: a genuine caganer, brought back from Barcelona by Loser Elizabeth Molye. A caganer is a traditional figurine that's placed in Catalan Nativity scenes and depicts a cherubic child who is blithely, well, pooping away in a manger. This one is only about two inches high.



For a mangy scene: A caganer from Barcelona.

Other runners-up win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug or the ardently desired Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet, possibly the new model whose slogan will be determined in the Week 994 contest. First Offenders receive a smelly, tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to losers@washpost.com or fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, Nov. 26; results published Dec. 16 (online Dec. 13). No more than 25 entries per entrant per week. Include "Week 997" in your e-mail subject line or it might be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/inviterules. The subhead for this week's honorable mentions was submitted by both Kevin Dopart and Chris Doyle. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev

TV

Led Zeppelin lands: NBC's 'Revolution' to air band's songs

BY LYNN ELBER

What tunes fit a post-apocalyptic society? For NBC's freshman drama "Revolution," the answer is Led Zeppelin's "Kashmir" and "Since I've Been Loving You."

The songs will be featured in next week's episode of "Revolution," on the same day that Led Zeppelin's "Celebration Day" album and a companion documentary on DVD will be released.

Corporate synergy led to the deal for the rock band, which

rarely allows use of its music in Hollywood projects. "Revolution" is produced in association with Warner Bros. Television, and Led Zeppelin has a deal with Warner Music Group's publishing arm.

But it was Eric Kripke, creator and executive producer of "Revolution," who brought his series and the band together.

When Warner-Chappell Music sent out an e-mail asking if any producers on the studio lot would be interested in using Led Zeppelin songs, Kripke jumped



ATLANTIC RECORDS

Led Zeppelin: "Revolution's" stairway to ratings heaven.

at the chance.

"The speed and overwhelming enthusiasm with which I responded, I think, frankly weirded them out a little," said the self-described "massive Led Zeppelin fan."

His credentials: Between "Revolution" and "Supernatural," the CW drama he created, Kripke said he has probably used Led Zeppelin references in the titles of some 20 episodes. "Revolution," about an American family struggling with the nation's sudden loss of electricity and all the technology

it powered, was in part inspired by the band's music and its sense of "mythic adventure," he said.

Warner made a logical pick with "Revolution": The series started strong in the ratings, especially with the advertiser-favored young adult demographic.

— Associated Press

'Revolution' with Zep
The episode featuring Led Zeppelin music airs on NBC at 10:01 p.m. Monday, Nov. 18.