

BEST SONG NOMINEE A: "Don't You Know Who I Am?"

Well, I'm not just anybody
I could be your bosom buddy
Or I could work hard as a prison guard
Now don't you know who I am?

I was a big star, yes it's true,
Just doing the things I do
Even all alone, I know how to have a ball
And I was once a ladykiller, I seem to recall

Come on baby, don't you know who I am?
You don't even need my name, just my monogram
Even if you're pop-culturally impaired
I am someone of which you should be aware

Well, I'm not just anybody
Movies are my field of study
I often sit a while in a seat on the aisle
Now don't you know who I am?

I treat each film like it's a gladiator
When I'm acting as a movie rater
I like sunny days in the Windy City
And I work by myself or in a two-man committee

Come on baby, don't you know who I am?
You don't even need my name, just my monogram
Even if you've never watched any TV
I'm pretty sure that even you have heard of me

Well, I'm not just anybody
I like to act a little nutty
I used to spend time with these friends of mine
Now don't you know who I am?

No, I never found Mr. Right
But I like girls, so that's not much of a plight
And in the daytime, celebs will come and chat
And I was friends with a fish, now ask yourself, "Who's that?"

Come on baby, don't you know who I am?
You don't even need my name, just my monogram
Even if you think comedians are lame
I'm pretty sure that even you should know my name

Come on baby, don't you know who we are?
We're not obscure, each one of us is a star
Come on baby, yes, you're doing just fine
Just take our six initials now and put 'em in a line
And if that's not looking great, don't forget to punctuate

BEST SONG NOMINEE B: "How Things Start"

If you pay attention to how things start
You might find repetition and that would be smart
Solving's not hard when I tell you the rules of the game
Every beginning's the same

Donnie Darko's dad is daft
Does despise the daily draft
Draws his dollars damning Doug's
Disastrous dally doing drugs
Doug despises dudes who dine
Dates dames who diet by design
Dang, Doug dotes

Olive Oyl observes an omen
Obviously Oklahoman
Offering old outlandish odes
On opium, Olive overloads
Off with her outer overcoats
Obese Olive opts for oats
Oats, only oats

If you pay attention to how things start
You might find repetition and that would be smart
Solving's not hard when I tell you the rules of the game
Every beginning's the same

Peanuts purposely perplexes
Pete who's priming perfect pecs
Pete's papa pops a purple pill
Peruses Punxsutawney Phil
Pete's parents prodded, pinched, and poked
Pete persists, won't be provoked
Poor poor Pete

Ernie's ever so extreme
Extra eager for esteem
Ends each episode exactly
Eighteen ere the entr'acte
Every eve, eschewing ease
Ernie's eating Edam cheese
Eat, Ernie, eat

If you pay attention to how things start
You might find repetition and that would be smart
Solving's not hard when I tell you the rules of the game
Every beginning's the same

BEST SONG NOMINEE C: “Nothing in the World”

Nothing in the world makes me feel sadder
Than an unsolved word ladder
Nothing in the world makes me feel sadder
Than an unsolved word ladder

Let me tell you what I saw when I got punched in the face
There were little drops of water all over the place
I think I was near a place that you hang a sail
And then I was in the place that you're in when you fail

Nothing in the world is really more rude
Than a word ladder that's obliquely clued
Nothing in the world is really more rude
Than a word ladder that's obliquely clued

I wandered all around but didn't know where I was
I should always do the things that Emily does
Then finally that ship found a place to land
But I could feel the sweat emerging on the palm of my hand

Nothing in the world makes me feel better
Than taking short words and changing one letter
Nothing in the world makes me feel better
Than taking short words and changing one letter

So I went deep inside, 'cause that's where it's at
I really have a heartfelt opinion on that
I know I'll solve this mystery one of these days
And if I change the first letter, I can say it two ways

Nothing in the world goes on too long
Like a word ladder puzzle built into a song
Nothing in the world really matters
Except for the twelfth word ending the ladder

BEST SONG NOMINEE D: "Anticlimactic"

This song's anticlimactic but baby don't pout
If I don't give away the ending you can figure it out

Writing puzzles can kill you, they work me till I bleed
So last week I asked my boss Valerie
Can you spare some extra money, I've got a wife and kids to feed
It backfired when she cut my

So the next day I returned and said, "If I can't have a raise
Could you give me a little more latitude
Creative freedom and flex time and occasional praise?"
I got fired for my disruptive

My friends in ancient Egypt say the Boy King is a pox
Somehow we must get that jerk off of us
By now he's passed away and they stuffed him in a box
So in L.A. you can see his

This song's anticlimactic but baby don't pout
If I don't give away the ending you can figure it out

When I was very young with my friends I'd play a game
If we said the same thing we would cry "Jinx!"
Now I'm older and I look back and nothing seems the same
I can't believe we'd waste time with such

I've traveled all around the world, in France I bought some wine
When I host guests I show them my Paris bottle
In Greece I was inspired by the great thinkers left behind
Like Socrates, Plato, and

In the summer I'll be stateside making fun food in the yard
With a hot dog, some chips, and a Jell-O packet
But the outdoors are full of insects, so you'd best be on your guard
Or you might get stung by a

So now you've got six words and you don't know what to do
I imagine you might feel quite caustic
You pronounce them, anagram them, but friends, if I were you
I'd simply read off the

This song's anticlimactic but baby don't pout
If I don't give away the ending you can figure it out

SPHINXIE AWARD SELECTION PROCESS

Most Sphinxie Award winners are determined by a vote amongst the constructors who have had puzzles of the appropriate puzzle type published in the last thirty years. There is one exception: The Puzzler of the Year award is determined by following these instructions:

Arrange the six puzzle writers' names in alphabetical order by the names of the award-winning puzzles that they wrote. Arrange the answers associated with the Best Song nominees alphabetically.

If any of the award winners' first names have a common three- or four-letter nickname, use that nickname instead of their full name. The ten answers should then be read in the following order with these alterations:

Delete the first letter of the first puzzle composer's last name and reverse it.

Delete the last letter of the first song answer and reverse it.

Delete the last letter of the second puzzle composer's last name and reverse the full name.

Delete the last three letters of the third puzzle composer's last name.

Delete the middle letter of the fourth puzzle composer's last name.

Delete the first and fourth letters of the second song answer.

Delete the first letter of both the first and last name of the fifth puzzle composer. Then Caesar shift the letters in the first name eleven letters later in the alphabet. Insert the result (first and last name) after the first remaining letter of the second song answer.

Swap the third and fourth letter of the third song answer.

Move the first letter of the sixth puzzle composer's first name to the end of the first name. Delete the first half of the last name.

Insert the first letter of the final song answer after what is now the second letter of the sixth puzzle composer's name.

A transcript of these selection policies and the lyrics to tonight's Best Song nominees may be obtained in exchange for a complete list of the winning constructors in the other six categories. Thank you, and enjoy the show.