

DUPLEX NAME PALINDROMES

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Familiar two-part proper nouns—duplex names such as “Neil Diamond” and “Jersey City”—whose *connected* first and second parts can be used in a well-made palindromic passage are less common than one might suppose. Not only are such names scarce, but, once identified, they often yield only grudgingly to palindromization. For some, there may be only a single word, or sometimes two, in the language whose facilitating presence will permit their use in a palindromic passage. The seldom-palindromized duplex name “Vladimir Putin,” for instance, has two such essential verbal “familiar”; it cannot be used—at least, not with any reasonable degree of *savoir faire*, in my opinion—in a palindromic passage unless somewhere nearby there lurk its keyword minions “Lvov” and “manitu.” Likewise, I know of no tolerably literate way to use the name “United States” in a palindromic passage without also including, elsewhere in the passage, the legalese term “detinue.” (See the examples below.)

This article identifies a number of relatively reversal-tolerant familiar duplex names and incorporates them into palindromic passages. As is often the case, many of these passages might well have benefited from having their imagined circumstances or contexts explained in an introductory note, but I have preferred to permit readers to imagine all such scenarios for themselves, thereby saving page space and maintaining a more even flow in the presentation of the palindromes.

These are the sundry well-known duplex names palindromized in this collection:

Adam Smith	Haile Selassie	Noel Coward	Jersey City
Emily Brontë	Leonard Nimoy	Pontius Pilate	New Georgia
Eva Perón	Mary Stewart	Ray Bradbury	Santa Barbara
Ferde Grofé	Napoleon Bonaparte	Robert E. Lee	United States
Galileo Galilei	Neil Diamond	Simon Bolivar	Wagga Wagga &
Gustav Klimt	Nikola Tesla	Vladimir Putin	Walla Walla
			Word Ways

Adam Smith

Selim’s Tim? Oh, Tim’s mad at *Adam Smith*—omit smiles!

Emily Brontë

“Pull up!” yarred Don; “Dinna wet, nor by limewater ‘retaw,’ Emily Brontë, wan nid-nodder Ray! Pull up!”

Eva Perón

“Bahada” or no, repave Eva Perón Road, Ahab!

Ferde Grofé

On? *I’d* no mise manse, ere Ferde Grofé forged referees’ names—I’m *on*, Dino!

Galileo Galilei

I, Eli, *lag*? O, Eli, laggard I *am*! I, loth to mar a moth—to Lima I drag *Galileo Galilei*!

Gustav Klimt

“Decadent’? Milk vats, Ugrian, add an *air*!” Gustav Klimt Ned aced.

Haile Selassie

Lapses, pal, an era—*démodé* is sales, Eliah! . . . *Never*? Even Haile Selassie Domed Arena *lapses*, pal!

Leonard Nimoy

Did I, Leonard Nimoy—or Rana Nikita, by batik, in an arroyo—mind Ra, Noel? *I* did.

Mary Stewart

Rae? Hanna? Canna hear—Eh? Tilden saw Hess, as “nidors fresh” suffuse in Reno?... Dex—or, “extra wet,” Sy —rammed an *anadem*?... Mary Stewart xeroxed, on Ernie’s “uffish serfs,” Rodin’s *Ass*?... Eh? Was Ned *lithe*?... Rae?... Hanna?... Canna hear...

Napoleon Bonaparte

No, *sit*, serene...Reset, rap a “nob”—Noel!...O, *pan* an anabatic ileitis! *Sit*—I elicit a *banana*, Napoleon Bonaparte! Serene *rest* is on...

Neil Diamond

“O, Neil Diamond,” Rae hissed, “do go!...No, goddess, I heard *no* maid lie, no!”

Nikola Tesla

...Star *dips*! I had no *veto*! Nikola Tesla—never-a-care, venal—set a “Loki” note, Vonda! Hispid rats!

Noel Coward

Draw, O Cleon, no megaron flowered,
Nor frond ere wolf, nor a gem on Noel Coward!

Pontius Pilate

Ode
Wet a lip!
Suit no profanity, Tina!
For Pontius Pilate, we *wet a lip*!
Suit no profanity, Tina,
For Pontius Pilate—
We do.

The line “Suit no profane word, Rowena” could be substituted for lines two and four in this verse without affecting its palindromicity.

Ray Bradbury

Sir, I snap no slang: I see, Signor Woo, zebu! Ray Bradbury, a mega-sage, may rub Darby, a rube zoo, *wrong!* I see signals on *pans*, Iris!...

In the U.S., there are Darbys in MT and PA.

Robert E. Lee

“On *Edi's* bus? No sodden way!” remarked Afton. “Tennessee! Let, reborn, Robert E. Lee’s sennet *not* fade!”

Kramer yawned. “Do, son, subside, no?”

Simon Bolivar

“No! I toss *flasks?* At *one* grav? I lob *no* missile, Tatar brat, at Eli’s *Simon Bolivar,*” Geno tasks Alf’s sot Ion.

Vladimir Putin

So, I’d Eva, Hanna *and* Edna-Anna have? Ha! I’d—ab ovo—Vladimir Putin, a manitu, prim Ida, Lvov, Obadiah, Eva, Hanna *and* Edna-Anna have? Dios!

De novo, Vladimir Putin amassed dogs, sorgo (Selina’s) and Edna’s anile, so-gross “goddess”—a manitu, “Prim Ida Lvov”—on Ed.

Jersey City

Tab! Mo! *Was* I analytic? Yes! Rejoin Esra and Edna, Arsenio—“Jersey City Lana” is a *wombat!*

New Georgia (island, Solomon Is.)

“Delia, hand Edna Haig roe!” Gwen, bad at Ubangi signa but a dab New Georgia hand, Edna hailed.

Santa Barbara

“Decide—we’ve, yadda-yadda, *no* dinero! Arab Rabat? Nastily-lit Santa Barbara? Or *Enid* on Ad Day?” (Ad Day Eve, we diced.)

United States

Refed, Rose tats “Detinue me, United States, or defer!”

Wagga Wagga (NSW, Australia) & Walla Walla (WA, U.S.)

I saw, Red, *no* wall a wall; a Wagga Wagga-Walla Walla *wonder* was I!

Word Ways (noted quarterly currently celebrating 200th issue)

Balsa, Idaho *Gasp*: “As spacecraft, feds yaw, drowsy astronaut Otto ‘Tuan’ Ort says *Word Ways*’ ‘deft farce...caps sapsago (had I a slab)...”