

Season 1

Note: While these explanations have a lot of info on them to help you understand the meaning behind the matchup, they're meant to just show the main reasoning behind it being suggested and getting picked for an ERB, so there are some that talk more about what can be said between them for it to be understood, but at most all ERB ideas really just have 1 or 2 connections or a major contrast.

For any further discussion about the battles, you can come join our ERB Community Discord server: <https://discord.com/invite/hkyPGMBNaf>

John Lennon vs Bill O'Reilly:

The only reasoning is Lennon is an outspoken liberal activist while O'Reilly is an outspoken conservative commentator. Lennon promoted lots of ideals that people on the left-wing political spectrum advocate for now, and O'Reilly's show is a catalyst for right-wing news propaganda of today. Peter once said this was chosen because he could picture them battling each other when he saw it because of their ideological differences. Though Lennon could have been against an influential musician (or what would be more likely now, alongside the Beatles), it at least makes sense for him to want to fight O'Reilly, and it's a more interesting matchup than someone only known for liberal activism and nothing else vs O'Reilly, which wouldn't garner much attention. This battle was also intended to be kind of clickbaity in a way despite being the first battle of the series since the original video was titled "Bill O'Reilly Flips Out on John Lennon" when his "Fuck it, we'll do it live!" meme was still around and had someone high profile like John to battle him.

Darth Vader vs Hitler:

Both Vader and Hitler are villainous commanders and caused the rise to the most evil regimes ever known, one being in fiction and the other being in history. The Nazis directly influenced the Galactic Empire, so it fits in how they both used their hatred to become symbolic evils.

Abe Lincoln vs Chuck Norris:

They're basically tough guys famous for sporting beards. That's the main reason it happened, but some people added them being Republican to the mix, which doesn't seem right considering how Lincoln was the first major figure of that party while Norris is just a supporter who doesn't have any control on it for that to matter, and the Republicans of Lincoln's era are very different from now. It could also be Lincoln being the strongest president as seen by historians due to his leadership vs Norris being the strongest fighter as seen by the internet due to Chuck Norris jokes. The only other thing that could be added is that Lincoln has some myths/urban legends surrounding him that gives him parallels to being like a Chuck Norris of his day the same way Norris has exaggerated godly feats, including how Lincoln is in the Wrestling Hall of Fame, was known as The Rail Splitter, and becoming known for his honesty made him something of a folk hero, so that side of him may have been taken into consideration when Peter saw the matchup.

However, the original commenter has gone on record saying he was only pairing two random people he thought of against each other without much thought to it.

Sarah Palin vs Lady Gaga:

This is like what Lennon vs O'Reilly was, but with prominent women this time. Palin became a major figure in the conservative movement for the Tea Party, and Lady Gaga's performance arts and opinions on social media began a major trend on pop stars using their platform to influence. Once again, it's opposing sides of the political spectrum: outspoken liberal musician vs outspoken right-winger. Palin was big in the news from the 2008 election coverage, and she used this fame to remain in the public eye for a while with deals and endorsements; it may have been Peter's interest in political news that got her in one since early YouTube liked to lampoon politics with parodies during that time, and a founder of Maker Studios, Lisa Nova, was popular for portraying Palin too. Lady Gaga became a huge star by this time as well, being considered the most popular and most followed celebrity by that year, and since early YouTube liked to bash pop stars for their image, she was used for that, albeit with little resemblance to the real person and mostly as a stand-in for any superstar female musician with rumors surrounding them. The connection is mostly based on their fame with contrast between them, but they were brought up together in certain articles to seem less random. You can see those here:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2010-12-16/why-the-nation-went-gaga-over-lady-gaga-and-sarah-palin> (headline mentions both and it came out a month before the battle)

<https://ew.com/article/2009/12/02/fascinating-people-gaga-palin/> (both were in the same list of Barbara Walters' most fascinating people of 2009)

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/lady-gaga-jayz-michael-jackson-make-guinness-world-records-2011-2081230.html> (it says Gaga was the most searched female in 2010, beating Palin's record for it in 2009)

Hulk Hogan and Macho Man vs Kim Jong-il:

According to Peter, the original comment requested Osama bin Laden as a tag team with Kim Jong-il. They removed Osama, who would not be killed until 3 months after the battle came out, from consideration of the matchup since Peter was not comfortable with a terrorist who affected families of their viewers less than a decade ago. With that in mind, it's likely that the guy who suggested it put two of the most hated people in the world at the time, Osama and Kim since he was known as a dictator who threatened American ideals, against The Mega Powers as a way to see idols beloved by Americans (especially wrestling fans like him) fight bad guys hated by Americans. However, upon a confirmation from reaching out to him, he claims Osama was never a part of this. Searching the guy's YouTube channel (where his first video has a comment he hearted saying "EPIC RAP BATTLES OF HISTORY" to show he's the same guy) shows a pic of a middle-aged man who posted a few videos of his car and racing, so this is almost definitely the type of guy who suggested it for that reason. The only comparison is how the wrestlers have their physical strength compared to Kim's military strength. ERB even acknowledged the lack of correlation in the re-edit when one of the comments on YOU DECIDE said "Can someone please tell me what the connection is here?"

The man who originally made the suggestions answered this when asked:

"As far as the Savage/Hogan... I've been a huge fan of old wrestling for my whole life and Hogan and Savage's chemistry was epic, they played very good friends and foes, the promos they did were awesome. Back in the day, late 80s, they created the tag team known as the Mega Powers... The "MADNESS" and the "Mania" joined as one, NOBODY could stop them... For Kim, at the time of my ERB suggestion North Korea was in world news daily, with threats, missile testing etc... While watching the news one night the news anchor said something to the effect of North Korea's leader is wanting to be taken as a serious super power of the world.... I instantly connected the two "powers" and said holy crap that would be a funny Epic Rap Battle let me put that as a suggestion... this all happened at 10pm right before bed, still remember it vividly and think its awesome that they picked my idea."

Having found the original comment, he did indeed include Osama and just forgot about it.

Justin Bieber vs Beethoven:

The obvious expectation for a web series in the early 2010s that uses famous figures in history along with pop culture ones is that Justin Bieber had to appear to bash him like the rest of the internet did. This is actually the first idea to use a musician against someone else who's also a musician, so it's likely that they didn't want to go the route from before a third time, especially since Bieber was 17 and had nothing to do with politics. Much like the previous artists, the battle hardly talks about his music to make it clear that it was more about Bieber vs whoever would have beef with him, so making it him vs another musician may be to insult Bieber harder over his musicianship with someone renowned in music history. This could apply for another contemporary artist, or someone from the 20th century would have also worked, but they likely settled on Beethoven for a more historical figure in music for the namesake of the series. The only major connection is their music being popular since of the 3 most famous classical composers, Beethoven's music is likely most remembered to the general public, and Bieber is famous for having so many fans and haters. The matchup is mainly a contrast of Beethoven being known for timeless compositions while Bieber was following pop trends.

Albert Einstein vs Stephen Hawking:

This one is simply that they're considered the smartest men of their time. Both are physicists and changed the scope of science for generations to come, and Hawking used Einstein's work for his own as well. Einstein became synonymous with genius, and Hawking likewise became a pop culture figure for his intelligent mind in spite of his disability. Whenever some child prodigy gets noticed by a news outlet, they often make a headline reading "X-Year-Old has a higher IQ than Einstein and Hawking," further cementing the comparisons between them.

Genghis Khan vs Easter Bunny:

This may just be the prime example of a wtf matchup that fans like to bring up. At first the connection was thought to be "war vs peace" since it sounds like they wanted to do a

warmongering conqueror like Khan against an innocent mascot like the Easter Bunny...because it sounds funny. Recently the comments have now claimed that the actual connection is that Khan had so many kids that he reproduced like a rabbit, so he was put against the Easter Bunny just for that. Easter Bunny has very little lore to use, but nothing implies he has a family, though another way it's been said is that "Easter Bunny leaves a lot of eggs around and Khan impregnated a lot of women's eggs" to make that try to work. The actual reason, as stated by Peter's Reddit profile, was just that Peter looked for Easter Bunny suggestions for the holiday coming up and thought it sounded funny for them to do, but the real reasoning, if any, can only be known if whoever suggested it gave their own thought process when suggesting it. In fact, what's known about the suggestion and was acknowledged by them is that the person who appears on YOU DECIDE is not the original commenter, and the one where the idea first appeared was lost, so they asked a friend to comment it on the video for them to screenshot it, leaving the original comment lost. Regardless, it seems just as unlikely for it being "war vs peace" as it is "both reproduced a lot," but there's a better chance it's neither and they just wanted something randomly dumb not meant to make sense. Contrary to what some in ERB comments said, this is NOT something that was the most popular and requested idea at the time like they claim because it was an idea only suggested by a single person and was only made for Easter.

Napoleon vs Napoleon:

Connection is obvious. Only thing I'll say is Dynamite would definitely not have gotten a chance past the early seasons, but Bonaparte could have done better. It seems to be Lloyd's preference to go with a name matchup since this was his favorite battle for the longest time, and he prefers ideas based around names such as Conan vs Conan.

Billy Mays vs Ben Franklin:

Ben Franklin was nicknamed "The Patreon Saint of Advertising" (among other nicknames) for promoting the concept of advertisement in early American society. To quote an article "American Advertising: A Brief History": "Advertisements in colonial America were most frequently announcements of goods on hand, but even in this early period, persuasive appeals accompanied dry descriptions. Benjamin Franklin's Pennsylvania Gazette reached out to readers with new devices like headlines, illustrations, and advertising placed next to editorial material." Basically, if there was a significant person in the history of advertisements, Franklin would be among the biggest that influenced its usage, and it's because of that that he went against Billy Mays, the best known pitchman in ads. He could have been against someone else for his expertise as an inventor or statesman, but since this is ERB Season 1, it can get a pass since Billy Mays likely wouldn't have been in a battle otherwise, and he got in it due to his and Vince's popularity in early YouTube and memes. It was more common to see Billy Mays vs Vince Offer suggested, but Peter and Lloyd may have realized how dated that is because even now they're the most irrelevant characters used as individual rappers in the series.

Gandalf vs Dumbledore:

Both of them are considered the most powerful wizards of their respective franchises, which are also among the most popular fantasy series in pop culture. This was also released on the same date as Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2, the final film of the series.

Dr. Seuss vs Shakespeare:

As the comment for YOU DECIDE said, "THE BEST RHYMERS OF ALL TIME," and while that's true, it also made the most sense from both of them being authors of works that are famous for constantly using rhyming techniques since there are very few stories that do so. Shakespeare's use of iambic pentameter was mentioned, but Seuss is also known for most of his books being in anapestic tetrameter. For contrast, Seuss is known for children's reading material while Shakespeare's poems and plays are basically the opposite, being taught in higher levels of literature classes, and both works even invented new words. Furthermore, Seuss' throat cancer caused him to lose his voice in the last years of his life, which is why they decided to make him not rap and went with the creative decision of having his equally famous characters rap for him.

Mr. T vs Mr. Rogers:

They battled over being known as "Misters," but they also have a contrasting opposition of personalities with Mr. T being aggressive and loud compared to the calm and soft-spoken Rogers. They also happen to be role models along with being television celebrities.

Captain Kirk vs Christopher Columbus:

Kirk being the star of Star Trek, which is known for voyaging to unknown worlds (trek literally means to travel), and Columbus traveling to the "New World" makes it a great fit for them. There's a contrast on Kirk being a moral hero compared to Columbus being cruel to natives as well as one navigating a ship through space while the other navigates through sea, both boldly going to areas that no captain has gone before. This was also done because of Columbus Day.

Nice Peter vs EpicLLOYD:

It's clearly done as the season wrapped up to go against each other as the creators of the series, but this served as a finale to the series being on Nice Peter's channel to switch to ERB's.

Season 2

Hitler vs Vader 2:

The decision to make a sequel is based on how it's the video that made them popular, and since both of them have a lot to work with in their history, they likely thought of other line opportunities to make a new battle to continue the story.

Master Chief vs Leonidas:

As Peter pointed out in YOU DECIDE, it's "Spartan vs Spartan" since both the historical Greek warriors and the Halo supersoldiers are named "Spartans." The latter is named after the former since they were trained to be the greatest fighters with fierce combat skills and efficiency in warfare like their Greek counterparts. Like Kirk vs Columbus, there is a contrast on one using ancient military combat while the other has futuristic technology. This was also chosen for how famous the "THIS IS SPARTA!" meme was in early YouTube; it was mainly based on the 300 portrayal rather than the real life Leonidas since he may not get one otherwise.

Mario Bros vs Wright Bros:

Both are the best known duos of brothers. The Mario Bros are among the biggest characters in media, and the Wright Bros are the first example you can think of for siblings who changed history together. As pointed out in the battle, they also reached new heights since Mario games have the pair going through worlds in the sky, and the Wrights worked on a plane that can remain stable while flying.

Michael Jackson vs Elvis Presley:

It is the King of Pop vs the King of Rock and Roll, and both had significant influence in music and the culture of the 20th century. Their careers, success and controversies have several parallels without having too much in common, and they were known as THE biggest sole celebrity for their time periods. Just as Elvis had influences from black artists and popularized their music to appeal to a new crowd, Michael opened the doors for more black artists in pop and many other genres. Though MJ is Elvis' son-in-law as mentioned, they only met once a few years before Elvis died while MJ married his daughter in 1994.

Cleopatra vs Marilyn Monroe:

They're known for their beauty and seduction, especially for getting powerful men as mentioned in the battle. Cleopatra is debated to not be very physically attractive, but rather had charisma, intelligence and skills that made her desirable. Likewise, Monroe is considered to be intelligent in spite of the characters she played and remained an icon of beautiful Hollywood actresses.

Steve Jobs vs Bill Gates:

Besides their famous rivalry, they are also the most famous entrepreneurs to lead the innovation of tech products, and the current state of computers, smartphones and many other devices resulted from what they did. The battle ends with HAL 9000, the best known AI character, as a way to show the creations they made gaining enough sentience to supersede them.

Frank Sinatra vs Freddie Mercury:

They're known for having iconic singing voices. Sinatra is the most famous crooner (singers known for soft and smooth vocals) and became an icon in music from the emotions displayed in his later works that predated the first concept albums. Mercury was famous for his four octave range and incorporated operatic vocals to Queen's music. The battle includes a contrast of Sinatra's gentle singing and classy image to Mercury's grand vocals and lively nature.

Barack Obama vs Mitt Romney:

The battle was decided amidst the 2012 election coverage, which had President Obama against his real-life opponent Mitt Romney to grab attention from general audiences. This worked well for them as it's their most viewed video and made them the first YouTube channel to get RIAA Gold certification for their song. This ends with Abe Lincoln returning from being considered the greatest American president, so it fits for him to judge each candidate based on his beliefs.

Doc Brown vs Doctor Who:

They're time-traveling doctors from two of the most beloved sci-fi franchises of all time. The Doctor's portrayals are based on his most famous incarnations: the Tenth Doctor, the most beloved version of the new show after its revival, and the Fourth Doctor, the most beloved version of the original show.

Bruce Lee vs Clint Eastwood:

The contrast is described as a Far East vs Old West showdown, but both of them star in action movies that defined their era of Hollywood: Lee was in martial arts movies and Eastwood had gunslinging westerns. It made them badass cultural icons and among the first actors you think of in those genres. Bruce Lee was notably requested for a battle, and though Eastwood was looked into for an opponent (see the first episode of Lloyd's Dis Raps for Hire), he was picked for the viral moment he had from the 2012 Republican National Convention in which he talked to a chair and pretended Obama was sitting in it.

Batman vs Sherlock Holmes:

Both are known as the world's greatest detective and are considered two of the smartest characters in fiction due to their deductive skills. Their sidekicks, Robin and Dr. Watson, are also intelligent in their own right to help them on cases and accompany them often.

Moses vs Santa Claus:

The battle may have originally been considered for Jesus vs Santa Claus as two sides of the Christmas holiday: Jesus is the figure worshiped for religious celebration and Santa is the figure glorified for capitalist consumption. This seems to be confirmed by Peter, who said the only way Jesus would be in a battle would be if they get Snoop Dogg to play him, who was working with Maker Studios for his own channel at the time. Since they were in talks to have him appear, they cast him for the battle but had his role changed to Moses, who was one of the biggest prophets in Christianity like Jesus. The reason they did not go with Jesus was not confirmed, but it's more likely due to Jesus being too sacred to be portrayed and would cause unwanted controversy, but Moses would still fit the role while not appearing too disrespectful to use; it may have also been a decision from Snoop Dogg to not portray Jesus as he converted to the Rastafari movement that year, which developed as an Abrahamic religion. While Moses isn't related to Christmas, he does represent Passover, the Jewish holiday that celebrates the Exodus that Moses caused. This still fits the intention for Santa representing the commercialization of a religious holiday, to go against a biblical prophet who remains a religious icon of a different holiday.

Adam vs Eve:

Despite being titled that, it's just Man vs Woman. There may be a few references to Adam and Eve, but it's meant to be gender stereotypes and nothing else. It was chosen as a return to the final part of the season and as a Valentine's Day special. Although they could do enough lines with the little material from it, most fans agree it shouldn't have been a battle.

Gandhi vs Martin Luther King Jr.:

Both are leaders of non-violent movements that fought for rights to an oppressed group. This is shown in the battle with their followers in the background with Gandhi's Indian independence marchers and MLK's civil rights marchers. Gandhi's pacifism was also studied by MLK since their situations had parallels as well as differences in how they were handled. This was also released on the last day of February 2013 to commemorate Black History Month.

Nikola Tesla vs Thomas Edison:

Tesla and Edison's feud became more widely discussed online, notably on Reddit as the battle mentions, so it is possible that they wanted to capture the popularity of Jobs vs Gates with another famous rivalry between two innovators. Both were two of the biggest pioneers in

electricity, and they're also prolific inventors that changed the world and worked together but ended in a bitter rivalry. Either of them could have gone against another inventor, but the real history that happened between them seemed to be enough for them to be seen on the same level to battle. The AC vs DC debate was also unfairly against Tesla's side, so Peter may have preferred to show it so fans were aware about it.

Babe Ruth vs Lance Armstrong:

They're sportsmen who were seen as inspirational heroes. ERB needed an opponent for Lance Armstrong, who had made news from his doping scandal that revealed he used performance-enhancing drugs to win his races. It may be possible that they didn't have anyone else to pair with Babe Ruth and chose him as the opponent for being an American icon who matched Armstrong's prominence in his sport even though their careers had different outcomes since Lance trained using steroids to become the best while Ruth just had a natural talent to be the best, but both also had tainted legacies in their sports due to Armstrong's use of steroids and Ruth's unconventional lifestyle of debauchery. Dante also said "The reason we celebrate Pi Day has a lot to do with these rappers" as a hint, but the only correlation would be that Pi Day refers to circles, which can mean the circular shape of a baseball and a bike's wheels. Amazingly, there's a ridiculously small chance that whoever suggested the matchup may have even gotten it from an article from Whim Quarterly, a humor magazine that imagines conversations between two random figures and did it for Ruth and Armstrong over 2 years before the battle:

<https://whimquarterly.com/conversation-pieces/a-conversation-between-babe-ruth-and-lance-armstrong-two-athletes-i-know-very-little-about>

Mozart vs Skrillex:

Like Bieber vs Beethoven, this has a classical composer vs a modern musician, but it still takes a slightly different direction with a stronger connection this time. Skrillex blew up from the previous year with dubstep, so he was chosen to be against Mozart as he is as big of a music icon as Beethoven to work in one. Both are known as instrumental composers and created their own style that would inspire their contemporaries. Skrillex was at the top of his game just like how Mozart was considered a brilliant genius for his time, so there was some similarity as well as differences between the two, including whose musical style would be more desirable by audiences. As a side note, it may not have been expected to be this matchup in particular due to Beethoven appearing at the end of Peter vs Lloyd hinting at his possible return, meaning they may have initially wanted a battle with Beethoven and Mozart as a team, though there was no confirmation if this was true or if it'd be a rematch with Bieber, which was highly speculated. When it was decided to be Mozart vs Skrillex, it was confirmed that Peter planned to be Skrillex before deciding Lloyd would, and Mozart was going to be portrayed by a guest appearance from André 3000 or Robert Downey Jr., which didn't come to fruition.

Rasputin vs Stalin:

This format would be the first time they tried a royale, or cavalcade as Lloyd would put it, and it ended the season with the most impactful figures in modern Russian history due to the quote by Putin at the end of Peter vs Lloyd: "If season 2 does not have a Russian character, I will kill this Nice Peter with my bare hands." Their actions all influenced the power in Russia's government: Rasputin's control on Tsar Nicholas II through his wife, who received guidance from him, led to the family's demise; Stalin rose to power as its dictator after overseeing the transformation of the country to the Soviet Union; Lenin was the founding head of government of Soviet Russia who promoted Stalin but couldn't prevent him from being its leader when he died; Gorbachev was the final leader of the Soviet Union who dissolved it to end the Cold War, leading to Russia's weakened global influence; and Putin is Russia's president who remained in power since the turn of the century to become one of the most powerful leaders on the planet.

Season 3

Hitler vs Vader 3:

Since the previous one ended on a cliffhanger, everyone expected this to start the season and complete the trilogy the same way the Star Wars movies came in trilogies. Boba Fett came in to assist, but as a way to finish off making any more, they killed off Hitler.

Blackbeard vs Al Capone:

Both of them are ruthless criminals who gained a fearsome reputation and masterminded groups that committed their crimes, which is shown in the battle with the pirates and gangsters plotting to steal and exact revenge on the other side. Blackbeard and Capone were also seemingly untouchable during their criminal life as well, and they carried out brutal actions that made them respectively known as the most notorious pirate and mobster in history. Ubisoft also sponsored this battle for Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag, which features Blackbeard and ERB initially requested a pirate character before settling on the matchup for two criminals.

Miley Cyrus vs Joan of Arc:

They were meant to show two different types of female empowerment with one gaining it from historic battles and one doing it during modern day. Miley was picked for a battle from becoming huge during that time, initially being planned to battle the Queen of England (possibly Elizabeth II) as a contrast to her being posh and also having a different type of empowerment, but they used Joan of Arc as a more opposing side to have a saint vs sinner battle. Joan is one of the most significant females in history and became a symbol as a martyr who showed strength despite being a young woman while Miley set a trend on how celebrities use their image to take control and break social norms.

Bob Ross vs Pablo Picasso:

The battle is partially built on a contrast, but both are also the most respected painters in different ways: Ross gained an audience through his kind demeanor and ASMR-like speaking manner, making him beloved amongst viewers, and Picasso's art became a prime example of an artist's paintings being so valued that it's beloved amongst critics. The major differences between their paintings are also explored since Ross disses Picasso's for negative emotions contrasted to his positivity while Picasso disses Ross for not having the talent he does.

Michael Jordan vs Muhammad Ali:

Both of them are African-American athletes who were considered not only the best at what they did but were also called the best sports celebrities in general since Ali gained the nickname "The Greatest" and Jordan is often used as a term to describe the pinnacle of something, such as "The Michael Jordan of ____."

Donald Trump vs Ebenezer Scrooge:

This was requested only to have Scrooge in a battle with the format of his story A Christmas Carol to release it on the novel's 170th anniversary. He battles 4 ghosts who represent his former business partner Jacob Marley, the Ghost of Christmas Past, the Ghost of Christmas Present and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. When Peter asked for a matchup to the ERB Wiki, someone suggested Trump as a representative of wealth and greed to battle Scrooge since his image at the time was as a successful businessman prior to his involvement in politics. The battle recreates the story with figures known for their riches like Scrooge, so this applies to the other two ghosts as well: J. P. Morgan was a banker who was the leading financier in the United States for his time and used his wealth to impact the market and economy. As he represents the past, he shows Scrooge the way he used his wealth to benefit others. Kanye West, being known for his lavish lifestyle, gained his luxury from business ventures along with his music, so he represents the present shows Scrooge to live a better life now while he can. Since no one specifically would represent this for the future, they kept the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come, personified by Death in the story, to conclude it so that he changes his ways.

Rick Grimes vs Walter White:

This one is a battle of protagonists for the most popular AMC shows at the time. Both are dads who look out for their families in completely different approaches: Rick protects himself and his group from walkers, and Walter cooks meth so that his family can be financially stable after learning he will die from cancer. There is also a contrast of Rick being a cop and Walter being a criminal, showing the sides of the law they fall on being complete opposites for them to battle.

Goku vs Superman:

It's a classic rivalry between the most powerful alien heroes. This was highly requested since the debate online was popularized by Death Battle making a video on it the year before over which character is stronger due to them having many forms that give them an extraordinary amount of super strength.

Stephen King vs Edgar Allan Poe:

They're the most famous authors of horror. Poe is a clear influence on King as they share some similar writing styles and have themes of death, violence, and human suffering in their stories. They also wrote with other elements like the supernatural, crime and thrillers along with short stories as well.

Sir Isaac Newton vs Bill Nye:

Newton's accomplishments led him to become an esteemed professor at Cambridge, and his writings on *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica* became one of the most important

publications in history. With this in mind, it could be said that he's entirely used in the matchup on the basis of his education of science, both directly at university and indirectly from his discoveries. Because of this, he was put against Bill Nye, who is best known as a science educator and taught many viewers at a young age through his show and promoted science through other methods. He is backed up by Neil deGrasse Tyson, another fellow science communicator who is equally popular from his shows and media appearances.

George Washington vs William Wallace:

Both of them are iconic revolutionary leaders who fought for independence from the British. They led armies in a war for freedom and became national heroes. This battle was also released in anticipation of July 4th, American Independence Day, which would come by the end of the week that this battle was released.

Artists vs TMNT:

They are groups of 4 with the names Leonardo, Michelangelo, Donatello and Raphael, but the TMNT obviously had their names taken from the Renaissance artists. This was first hinted at in a deleted ERB News hosted by Leonardo da Vinci where he says "And tell that turtle I'm coming for his ninja ass" at the end.

Season 4

Ghostbusters vs Mythbusters:

Both teams have "busters" in their name, and they also solved scientific problems that happen to be fictitious because ghosts are not considered real since Ghostbusters is fictional while myths are proven to be false by the Mythbusters. The members came in order of when they joined since Winston joins after the start of the movie, and the B-Team come in the second verse as the members became a part of the show separately after the first season. The Stay Puft Marshmallow Man also comes at the end as a third party for the conclusion, and he is summoned after Tory thinks of the first thing coming to mind like how Ray thought of the first thing in his mind when Gozer says to choose a form. Lloyd performs him with a Notorious B.I.G. impression like he did in Annoying Orange's Epic Rap Battles of Kitchenry as Biggie Fries.

Romeo and Juliet vs Bonnie and Clyde:

They're pairs of lovers whose stories end in both tragically dying, which is recreated in the battle. They were not meant to be together since Romeo and Juliet were prevented from seeing each other due to their families' rivalry, and Bonnie kept going back to Clyde despite his criminal past, his imprisonment and her previous marriage, making each duo rebellious in different ways.

Zeus vs Thor:

They are the best known gods of thunder of different mythologies. Though the mythological versions were used, there is a reference to Marvel's Thor as this version would not fit the history they have even if Zeus does appear in Marvel as well as DC. The battle was made with LEGO stop motion to show off the many different figures and places each mythological world has.

Jack the Ripper vs Hannibal Lecter:

To make a battle between serial killers, they chose the most significant serial killer in history, Jack the Ripper, whose infamy made him used often in pop culture and media due to the legends surrounding him, his lack of identity and the mystery of him avoiding capture, and it was a better fit than any recent or modern killer as it would not be controversial for Jack to appear due to his murders happening over a century ago, when none of the victims would have any known living relatives or associates around today. They settled on Hannibal Lecter as the opponent since he is among the most acclaimed and analyzed portrayals of fictional killers, and he was voted as the American Film Institute's #1 movie villain of all time and considered to be one of the most accurate portrayals of a psychopath in film. His escape from prison is also widely remembered, making both of them killers who are famous for being elusive and outsmarting the police (and presumably even eating organs as well).

Oprah Winfrey vs Ellen DeGeneres:

Both ladies are the most famous female talk show hosts in entertainment, going so far to get their shows mononymously titled after just their first names. They happened to be friends, even meeting up the exact same day the battle came out, but they also had a shady history in how they treat others and think of themselves that became far more exposed after the battle's release. Both women also represented their own group for African-Americans and the LGBT community, respectively, in the industry.

Steven Spielberg vs Alfred Hitchcock:

Spielberg and Hitchcock are widely known as two of the greatest directors in cinema, and they have different styles that made them famous since Spielberg is the biggest influence on blockbusters and sci-fi/adventure movies as Hitchcock is to film auteurs and thrillers. Like everyone after Hitchcock, Spielberg was greatly influenced by him, but he became known for a wide array of genres that became a part of the New Hollywood era after Hitchcock's Golden Age of Hollywood. After them comes Tarantino, also considered one of the most impactful directors of modern day, and he claims he's more capable of giving movies his signature style than the other two. As his movies mostly center around crime, it covers another big area in popular filmmaking. The introduction following his verse leads to Kubrick, which references the way Kubrick shoots his movies with long sequences to build up to the scene. As he is an arthouse director whose films are considered among the most influential in his field, it puts him on the level of the others. So far, the 4 directors can be considered to be best defined respectively by story, directing, writing and visuals, which are the main components of a film. However, while these are all the qualities that can artistically make it memorable, the battle ends with a twist of using Michael Bay, who is famous for not following any of these rules and makes hit films with the intention of focusing on special effects, mindless action and nostalgic properties. As ERB is a comedy series, it is meant to catch you off guard with a verse written completely for laughs rather than another influential director played straight, though it's also been said that Bay's films do get analyzed by directors for how to recreate its effects and action.

Lewis and Clark vs Bill and Ted:

They're duos who traveled with a guide to report their findings from different places they went to. Lewis and Clark made history by exploring the Western United States after the Louisiana Purchase expanded the country's territory, making the expedition possible for Manifest Destiny, and Bill and Ted is remembered in pop culture for traveling through time to recruit historical figures for their project to pass class and keep their band alive, which would create music that caused world peace. Though Bill and Ted's inclusion confused fans, even getting Peter and Lloyd to admit they liked the two but didn't expect them to be lesser known to the audience, they cover the "comedic dumb duo" trope well enough, and they were also likely used since all the historical figures in their movie (sans Billy the Kid) had an ERB and got featured in the battle.

David Copperfield vs Harry Houdini:

In the field of illusionists, they are by far the two most memorable figures who practiced it. Houdini is synonymous with the act of performance magic, and Copperfield is the most financially successful illusionist performer ever, selling around 40 million tickets in his career and grossing over \$4 billion, more than any other solo entertainer in history. Houdini is the one who influenced Copperfield, but they contrast through how their illusions are done in their day, with Houdini being remembered as a stunt and escape artist and Copperfield using illusions to pass through objects and levitate, and both of their actions are shown in their second verses. This is also nearly interrupted by Criss Angel, who comes in trying to be a third-party rapper before getting dismissed quickly as a joke to subvert that expectation.

Terminator vs Robocop:

They're iconic cyborg movie characters who are technologically advanced to perform tasks controlled by an organization before they go rogue to become heroes. In this case, the T-800 from Terminator 2 is portrayed in the battle rather than the first movie's because of its actions to protect John Connor, and RoboCop remains an officer of the law but gains his sentience as Alex Murphy. They also once battled in a comic series as well as the Death Battle the year before, and the battle was released as a sponsor for the upcoming Terminator: Genisys film.

Eastern Philosophers vs Western Philosophers:

Originally, this idea was most requested as Socrates vs Confucius, but it was expanded to be a team of philosophers representing Eastern and Western philosophy since the topic has a wide range of subjects. Western philosophy is significant in the modern world for shaping laws and government institutions such as democracy, and Eastern philosophy is significant for its spirituality and religious foundations. Both sides include other principles like ethics, knowledge and finding purpose, but they can also contrast on themes. On the East's side is Confucius, arguably the most important Chinese philosopher who founded Confucianism and taught rules of morality and humanism; Lao Tzu, the founder of the religion Taoism, which taught to live in harmony with the world and greatly influenced Chinese culture; and Sun Tzu, who wrote The Art of War and affected both Chinese philosophy and military thinking. The figures chosen had a major impact on China and the ideals they became known for, resulting in their influence on Asia as a whole. On the West's side is Socrates, arguably the most important Greek philosopher who taught Plato, who went on to teach Aristotle, and both are amongst the most impactful people in history through their teachings, but Socrates was also famous for asking questions in order to gain the truth and heavily affected the course of philosophy worldwide; Nietzsche, an important thinker of contemporary philosophy who contributed to nihilism and existentialism and wrote works that shaped ideologies for the following century; and Voltaire, a prolific writer whose wit and criticisms made him an honored figure of his time. The figures chosen greatly influenced the Western world in different eras, with Socrates being the one who spearheaded ancient philosophy, Nietzsche having a profound impact on modern philosophy, and Voltaire being one of the most significant minds of the Enlightenment. With each side having worthy figures, they

would battle to prove whose side has the better outlook on their philosophies, and they even line up each figure 1 on 1: Laozi and Nietzsche both have outlooks on how life is lived, but the former believes in accepting the consequences of life as they are while the latter believes people should take control of their lives without fear of risks or failure; Confucius and Voltaire have opposing views on authority as Voltaire wrote that any institution, regardless of power or religion, should be prone to criticism for people to think freely, and Confucius wrote that moral character should be shown through discipline and virtues of respect; and Socrates and Sun Tzu battle due to Socrates' military experience changing his perception of the world, and Sun Tzu uses Socrates' thoughts against him to imply he is the root of problems that arose from Western philosophy. This makes Nietzsche distance himself from Socrates' teachings because in real life, Nietzsche did learn from Socrates but came to resent his philosophy, later criticizing it heavily in his life, and this turns them against each other with Voltaire trying to remedy it but ends up getting criticized, leading to them continuing to bicker. Sun Tzu begins to celebrate but gets interrupted by Laozi giving a quote, which irritates him enough to argue back and makes the usually orderly Laozi go against him in a battle between war and peace. Confucius tries to remedy this, paralleling Voltaire's actions, but he is attacked by Sun Tzu's aggressiveness and retaliates. The battle ends in both parties fighting as a reflection of real life philosophy having so many mindsets that they are bound to contradict and argue even if they're on the same side.

Shaka Zulu vs Julius Caesar:

They were both military generals who became known for their strategies and conquests. They also led their nations through their positions of power since Shaka was a monarch of the Zulu Kingdom while Caesar was a dictator of the Roman Empire. This eventually led to their downfall by those closest to them, though the writers seem unaware of this as the diss Shaka makes fails to acknowledge his death at the hands of his brothers.

Jim Henson vs Stan Lee:

Both are visionary creators of beloved casts of characters in entertainment, particularly for younger audiences but are enjoyed by all ages. Henson's creations, the Muppets and Sesame Street, are among the most popular characters that children grow up with, and Lee's writing in Marvel comics led to the popularity of their most famous heroes such as Spider-Man, the Fantastic Four and the X-Men. Kermit the Frog is also by Henson's side as an extension of him as he was his original voice and puppeteer. The main reason the matchup happened between them is due to the Muppets and Marvel's acquisition by Disney, which is shown at the end after they make up to see Walt Disney himself appear to take control. Disney is portrayed as the company rather than the person due to ERB's straining relationship in being owned by Disney through Maker Studios, which led to time restraints and limiting control, as Peter had put it. It's also possible that this battle excluded George Lucas, creator of Star Wars whose production company was famously purchased by Disney 3 years prior to the battle, from the next battle being Deadpool vs Boba Fett, which was already a Marvel vs Star Wars matchup.

Deadpool vs Boba Fett:

The characters are masked mercenaries who became widely popular for different reasons: Deadpool's movie was coming up, but fans loved him from his comic book and video game appearances, and Boba Fett was a fan favorite whose limited appearances in the trilogy still gained him a cult following. They also fight extraordinarily well since Deadpool is proficient in combat and swords while Boba Fett is the deadliest bounty hunter skilled with guns, and their abilities are also results of experiments (Project X and Clone Troopers). They were also chosen to anticipate their upcoming movies as the return of Star Wars with The Force Awakens made it popular online the week the battle was released, and Deadpool's movie would be released 2 months afterwards.

Season 5

J. R. R. Tolkien vs George R. R. Martin:

In terms of fantasy authors best known for creating worlds and characters that are among the most beloved in the genre, these two are the biggest. Tolkien's writing is so popular that literature fans developed a following of his works, and for recent generations the same can be said for Martin, who is considered "the American Tolkien" (though his name is unlikely to be a direct reference to Tolkien's name and was just a coincidental second name added at Catholic confirmation), which led to the development of the Game of Thrones series that reached a bigger audience. Though Tolkien had no involvement in Peter Jackson's adaptations, the trilogy is considered one of the best movie series of all time, and Martin's show is also considered one of the best television series of all time, making fantasy fiction more prominent in pop culture. Tolkien is credited with defining the genre in modern times and influenced Martin's stories, but Martin is famous for diverting from usual tropes and adding realistic situations, giving him a distinction from Tolkien's tales.

Gordon Ramsay vs Julia Child:

Both are television celebrity chefs, and it's a mix of old and new since Child had one of the first cooking shows on American television and Ramsay is indisputably the most famous chef in the world due to his popularity online from his shows. There is also the contrast of Ramsay being very aggressive and loud compared to Child, who was cheerful and carefree; whereas Child was down-to-earth and authentic from her show being unedited, Ramsay is very professional and detailed with how he gets presented.

Frederick Douglass vs Thomas Jefferson:

They advocated for two types of freedom: as author of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson wrote about freedom of thought, speech and religion, which inspired the American Revolution and led to the war for independence from Britain; meanwhile, Douglass orated and wrote about his experiences as a slave and campaigned for the rights of freed slaves, turning him into a leader of the abolitionist movement. The battle also brings attention to each of their experiences due to the complexity of the issue between them, which is that of a slave and a slave owner due to Douglass' criticism of Jefferson calling for freedom but not using his power to free slaves, and Jefferson tries defending actions (or lack thereof) due to the circumstances in his career despite being against slavery. The battle was meant to show that Jefferson would not be in the right for it as Peter believed it would be understood that Douglass' points could not be rebutted, though this is the first of several times in which this season would take a more political direction to influence the battle's format, leading to polarizing opinions amongst fans.

James Bond vs Austin Powers:

These are the two most entertaining spies in film, and starting with Daniel Craig's Bond, he is acclaimed for having a grounded and faithful portrayal of the character that made him beloved

to new audiences again, but Powers was a completely different approach as his character is entirely campy and comedic. This also marks the first battle between fictional characters in which one is based directly on the other (not mostly just inspired by the other like before), but it was enough of a difference to work as a matchup since Powers works as his own character from his direction and tone as a parody; Daniel Craig even once said they planned to make the movies grittier as a response to Austin Powers, who caused the Bond brand to look goofier during that time because of the outlandish plots and elements from previous Bond installments. This is interrupted by Sean Connery's Bond because of the fact that he's the only other one more iconic than Craig's, and he also joins in as the "original" classic character in contrast to a newer Bond of a different style and a parody Bond of a different genre.

Bruce Banner vs Bruce Jenner:

They were previously known as "Bruce" before their transformations (neither of their first names were Bruce btw), with Banner having the ability to turn into the Hulk and Jenner gaining fame for coming out as transgender. This was chosen for Pride Month, as shown by the LGBT flag logo at the end, but it remained controversial due to having Jenner as trans representation despite her problematic past and comments that go against the LGBT community.

Alexander the Great vs Ivan the Terrible:

Both battled over their epithets being opposite words, and Alexander is the most famous historical figure with the title "The Great" while Ivan is the only one who is widely known as "The Terrible." All figures had powerful rule over expansive lands, and though Alexander was considered great for his expertise in battle, he could also be just as ruthless and unrelenting as Ivan. Since Alexander is far from the only ruler best known as "The Great," this is incorporated into the battle to make it a "gauntlet" battle like what Trump vs Scrooge was. After Alexander came Frederick the Great, who was the Prussian king also remembered as one of the greatest military minds of all time, and following him was going to be Pompey the Great, Caesar's friend turned foe who was a major Roman statesman, but he is killed off immediately by Catherine the Great, a beloved empress of Russia who ruled over the land better than Ivan. The battle also shows Ivan murdering the other rappers in reference to their real life death: Alexander's was never confirmed, but it has been theorized that someone may have poisoned him to lead to his death; Frederick died in his sleep on his armchair, which is shown before Ivan attempts to behead him; Catherine uses the garrote wire to behead Pompey like he had been in real life; Ivan offers a horse to Catherine because of the false rumors after her death stating she died while having sex with one; and Catherine finishes her verse with a line about chess, which Alexander first mentioned about how Ivan died while playing a game of chess.

Donald Trump vs Hillary Clinton:

Due to the popularity of the 2012 election battle, they knew they had to make another one for 2016, especially when both rappers were controversial enough to have a lot of material. They

bring in Lincoln at the end again, but this time their bias would show more because of the ERB crew's dissatisfaction in having a person like Trump as a presidential candidate. While they acknowledge Clinton had her flaws, they believed Trump's negatives outweighed hers and found him despicable enough to slap him twice while making Clinton flinch, which was different from the norm of Lincoln slapping both candidates in the 2012 election, though it's assumed that they assert that Lincoln would not harm a woman, but this had again caused controversy over showing who they prefer in the battle rather than letting the audience decide.

Ash Ketchum vs Charles Darwin:

Both are mainly linked through the topic of evolution since they collected creatures that evolved with Pokémon doing it instantly after leveling up while Darwin researched animals and their differences through natural evolution, which takes thousands of years to see the effects. These are also documented on their research for the species they encountered, and both of their journeys led to an impact on what was previously known about these creatures. Darwin was the leading figure in proposing the theory of evolution, and Ash was the main protagonist of the Pokémon series, which is known for having Pokémon evolve to stronger forms.

Wonder Woman vs Stevie Wonder:

They both have "Wonder" in their name.

Tony Hawk vs Wayne Gretzky:

They are athletes known for different types of skating with both being considered the best professional players of their sport.

Theodore Roosevelt vs Winston Churchill:

Both of them are leaders considered to have had the strongest wills of their countries and transformed the position to have a global impact: Roosevelt turned the President of the United States to a world leader position that can influence issues in other countries, and Churchill did the same as Prime Minister for global affairs after his involvement in World War II. Roosevelt is among the most top-rated presidents of the country from his tough demeanor and capabilities in wars while Churchill is also considered one of the best prime ministers from his role in leading the United Kingdom during World War II. These two had even met once before in their lives, and Teddy took a dislike of how he was despite Churchill's admiration for him.

Nice Peter vs EpicLLOYD 2:

Unlike the previous one, which was made to show a big change coming to the series' new channel and development with Maker Studios, this one was made as a way to vent from the hard work they each put in while also being uncertain with their future at the time, as it would be

the last season made by Maker. They also bring up more personal issues they knew the other for this time, and it also gives more credit to the input from the crew, who shows the process of how their battles get completed.

Season 6

Elon Musk vs Mark Zuckerberg:

Both of them are entrepreneurs who are heavily involved in modern tech while also getting media attention on the news during the year of the battle's release since Musk was memed online from his appearance on The Joe Rogan Experience showing him smoking weed, practically unheard of for a major CEO at the time, and being more prevalent on the internet for his social media usage but still making major advancements in his technology, including electric cars and space exploration; meanwhile, Zuckerberg was also heavily memed, but it was due to his appearance in the Senate hearing for Facebook's role in selling profile data to Cambridge Analytica, and he was ridiculed for appearing to be inhuman and answering in a deceptively robotic manner. The popularity they had during this year led ERB to upload this months after it occurred as a bonus battle (retroactively made to be the season 6 premiere since the pandemic led to them cutting a battle short in production). This proved to be prophetic as Musk would later purchase Facebook's competitor, Twitter, and rename it to "X" after Zuckerberg renamed Facebook's company to "Meta," which led to both getting taunted. Musk would later challenge Zuckerberg to a cage fight, escalating the feud between them to attract more attention.

Freddy Krueger vs Wolverine:

They were primarily suggested for being iconic characters that use claws, though there is some correlation to them being indestructible. To add a bit to this, they deal with opposing moralities since Wolverine has been seen as a hero and previously an anti-hero while Freddy is a pure villain and gets more vile later on, and both have dealt with torment but also tormented others.

Guy Fawkes vs Che Guevara:

Their faces have become symbols of revolution after their lifetime since Guy Fawkes' mask, which was designed by V for Vendetta illustrator David Lloyd (the mask itself was not worn by Fawkes and originated from effigies that represented him burning on Guy Fawkes Night), was adopted as an icon of anarchy and anti-establishment protest, and Che's face became an insignia for his revolutionary beliefs due to the iconic status that a photograph of his received. They were seen as martyrs for their cause due to Fawkes being used as a scapegoat for the failed plot, leading to his death and legacy for his association with it, and Guevara branched out his ideologies to other countries, eventually leading to his capture and execution. As a bonus, their names also mean "dude" since our usage of the word "guy" may have derived from Fawkes, though it was formerly used in a derogatory sense, and "che" was used as an interjection to get someone's attention, which led to Guevara getting his nickname from his usage of it with Cubans, who were foreign to it, and is now known to refer to someone's buddy.

Ronald McDonald vs The Burger King:

They are mascots of fast food burger chains that also have a famous rivalry, as shown with Ronald mentioning two other famous rivalries for comparison. This started out for their side

series Flash in the Pan Hip Hop Conflicts of Nowadays, which was made for matchups that were popular enough to acknowledge but weren't expected to get a full ERB video, yet the reception on this one led to it becoming an official ERB since they didn't include Wendy, which fans pointed out would have fit from the popularity the restaurant had online from their Twitter account roasting competitors and other Twitter users. Wendy's is also the third most popular burger chain after McDonald's and Burger King, so the battle was between the top 3 in that field.

George Carlin vs Richard Pryor:

Both of them are considered by critics and fans as being the two greatest stand-up comedians of all time. Though they knew each other and got along well, their styles are different enough for a contrast while still having similar career paths where they delved into more controversial and vulgar topics that influenced future stand-up comics. They are initially interrupted by Bill Cosby, who attempts to challenge Pryor's assertion of being the original comedian of color since Cosby had influenced and became known before them, and although Cosby was indeed best known by audiences as one of the most famous comedians of all time, his reputation was tainted by his rape and assault charges that found him guilty of heinous acts. As a result, ERB knew he had to be represented in a way for the battle to acknowledge his work, but in good conscience, they could not give him a full verse when he didn't deserve it, so they prevent him from getting more than 2 lines by having him drugged the same way he did to victims, knocking him out to get roasted by Joan Rivers for his actions. Rivers, like Carlin and Pryor, is considered one of the most influential stand-up comedians, especially for females, and also gained prominence during the 70s and 80s much like them. Rivers was also famous for her celebrity roasts, which is why she comes in fittingly to roast Cosby despite not giving him a chance to be in the battle since he was only used for the sake of making jokes about him as the real Joan Rivers would. She was originally meant to be a closer since Peter and Lloyd were not expecting to add anyone else in, but Robin Williams was requested by the Patreon to end it as a beloved stand-up comedian also considered one of the funniest, and he made it a wholesome ending for his departure.

Jacques Cousteau vs Steve Irwin:

They are among the most remembered conservationists in history who advocated to preserve plants and animals by educating about wildlife through documentaries and television series.

Mother Teresa vs Sigmund Freud:

This one is really just the sole connection of them being known for different types of healing methods: Teresa is a spiritual healer and among the most famous figures for this due to her humanitarian efforts while Freud is the father of psychoanalysis whose research led to the development of different branches of psychology, which helps healing for mental health. This matchup is one of the only ones where the contrast seems more prevalent and was taken as being the main reason rather than an actual connection, in which fans assumed it was more about the man who made a theory about having sex with mothers vs the mother who never had

sex, or someone being deeply religious against someone having atheist beliefs. Though this helped add on to the battle itself, it was more used to make lines out of it rather than being the only point of contention between them.

Vlad the Impaler vs Count Dracula:

They both have "Dracula" in their name. Count Dracula may be directly based on Vlad, and both are known for gruesomely killing victims as well, bringing terror to their stories. This is the only battle released with the intention of being for Halloween, though Blackbeard vs Capone mentioned the holiday and was released two days before it.

The Joker vs Pennywise:

They're villainous killer clowns and certainly among the most popular in terms of fictional clowns in media as well as getting famously adapted in TV and movies from their book material. Both of them trended later that year from their films (IT: Chapter 2 and Joker) releasing a couple months before the battle's release, boosting its popularity to become the most viewed of the season.

Thanos vs J. Robert Oppenheimer:

The two of them are the figures behind the development of world-ending weapons that were used to wipe away a vast amount of lives. They both also address the fact that being the minds behind this event is a heavy burden but acknowledge that it had to be done.

Donald Trump vs Joe Biden:

As is tradition, they made an election battle with the 2020 presidential candidates, making Trump tied for having the most rapping appearances with Hitler, Vader and Lincoln. Speaking of Lincoln, they did not bring him back for a few reasons, the first of which is the reception of the 2016 battle being more negative than 2012 due to Lincoln's inclusion showing their bias too much on the figure they preferred when a rap battle is expected to remain impartial for the audience to decide. Since Peter and Lloyd were against Trump's presidency and what he stood for, it would not be possible for them to add him again and make him less partial after they lived through a term of his presidency and would be frustrated with his actions (especially if you see Peter's comments outside the ERB subreddit, which is usually related to left-leaning news and politics). Since the bias would show no matter how Lincoln is introduced due to the amount of controversies Trump had being more than Biden's, they omitted him entirely from the battle, and due to the limitations they had from filming during the pandemic, they would not be able to have Peter as Lincoln in the same battle where he already portrays Biden.

Harry Potter vs Luke Skywalker:

They are two of the most iconic protagonist heroes in pop culture and are the main characters of stories with an enormous fandom, arguably having the biggest memorability in their respective genres of fantasy and science-fiction. The battle also mentions how their stories have similar beats: orphans raised by relatives who are later taught from an old "wizard" mentor to practice their powerful gifts and train in combat with a magic stick. They're also assisted by a memorable cast of characters and battle a dark lord and their evil army, and they play a role in a prophecy that ends in a battle between good and evil. This was decided to be a Lego battle because of the many characters and locations each world has to portray their stories; conveniently, both franchises have Lego sets that are some of the most popular ones that the brand ever made.

Season 7

Ragnar Lodbrok vs Richard the Lionheart:

Both of them are warrior-kings who conquered European lands. Richard took over lands in the Middle East during the Third Crusade, but historically, Vikings like Ragnar plundered England and France, which happen to be places well associated with Richard as he was King of England but spent most of his early life in France. Both of them are also in Rise of Kingdoms, which sponsored the battle. ERB wrote in the description: "Legendary Viking versus legendary King. Raider vs Crusader."

Jeff Bezos vs Mansa Musa:

Before this battle's release, Jeff Bezos was the richest man in the world for over 4 years since 2018, and the popularity he gained online ever since led to many historical and educational outlets/publications to teach about the richest man in history, Mansa Musa, who is calculated to have had a \$400 billion net worth, though some state his wealth is too high to estimate. Many of these videos got Musa recognition online for showing how his wealth was far higher than Bezos and Musk's combined, and this comparison made the matchup gain traction to be suggested for ERB. A photoshop of the battle was made by @anzasquiddles on Twitter (almost exactly a year before the battle's release, though it ended up with Lloyd over Peter as Bezos) in response to recommend that idea instead of Jeff Bezos vs Lex Luthor, and it got noticed by Scru himself a couple months later, ultimately getting him to guest star as Mansa Musa, which is especially fitting since he was also born in West Africa. This was planned months ahead while Bezos still held the title until it was later taken by Elon Musk before the battle's release. ERB wrote in the description: "It's the King of Amazon versus the King of Mali who are both known for being the richest men on Earth during their lifetime. Two merchants with very different backgrounds!"

John Wick vs John Rambo vs John McClane:

All three characters are action movie heroes named John. This is the first three-way battle, so they were picked from being on the same level of memorability as a character and had movies that defined the action genre afterwards since Rambo's First Blood was a dark war story that was among the first to have the protagonist act as a one man army, McClane's Die Hard revitalized interest in action films and led to imitators with an everyman character in a plot against their odds in a restricted environment, and John Wick's eponymous movies diverted from tropes of contemporary action movies and captured interest from its fighting choreography. This was also intended as a Christmas release as said by the Behind the Scenes since they counted Die Hard as a Christmas movie.

Lara Croft vs Indiana Jones:

They are the most popular fictional archaeologists of all time and are iconic heroes of their respective mediums of video games and movies. They have adventures in which they collect artifacts and discover ancient locations while getting out of dangerous situations. Lara Croft was

even designed as a female to not be derivative from Indiana Jones. Nathan Drake was planned to get a third party verse but was scrapped, possibly due to the imbalance between two similar video game characters over one originating from film.

Karl Marx vs Henry Ford:

Both of them revolutionized economic ideologies, especially in the argument of capitalism vs communism. Marx is the person most associated with the origins of communism, which inspired many country leaders to adopt it and impacted governments around the world, most famously from Lenin, Guevara and Mao Zedong. He had written about its ideals and the process of turning it into the main structure of the economy and government, leading to his theories and practices becoming known as Marxism. Meanwhile, although Adam Smith was popularly paired against Marx due to his writings on capitalism, he was not chosen as he'd only be used for his works rather than practicing the structure that capitalism led to today, which is best represented by Henry Ford. Ford's manufacturing led to a business model that prioritized mass production for efficiency and cost reduction, which is used by most major companies today and made capitalism a dominating ideology for many countries' economies. Both of these practices are known for their advantages and disadvantages, and the debate surrounding them has been debated for generations regarding which one is more harmful to adopt, especially since Marx had also said capitalism is a stage needed to reach communism but remains opposed to keeping it as the only structure for a country. ERB wrote in the description: "The king of capitalism goes head to head against the father of communism in an epic rap battle of history! This matchup was the clear winner of a poll we posted over on the ERB YouTube community page last year."

Godzilla vs King Kong:

This is among the most famous and arguably the most historical rivalry fight/crossover in cinema. They are both giant monsters that wreak havoc, so their joint movies have attracted a lot of interest in moviegoers, which was the reason this battle was chosen to be made. It first won a poll in 2020 for battles fans wanted to see, and it was planned to be released in 2021 to coincide with the MonsterVerse movie featuring them, but it proved to be unable to fit into their schedule during that time. They later decided to use motion capture technology and 3D animation to portray both of them, leading to a major delay in their production schedule.

Donald Trump vs Kamala Harris:

They made a fourth battle for elections, with this one being for 2024. Theodore Roosevelt appears in the end as a substitute for Lincoln, as it seems likely that he replaces him due to Lincoln being likely more angered with Trump's actions, so Roosevelt would treat them equal to criticize as there was previous criticism on Lincoln being blatantly against Trump in 2016.

Napoleon vs Charlemagne:

Both are emperors who conquered European countries to unite them under their rule, with Charlemagne being the first to rule the Holy Roman Empire while Napoleon dissolved it. This is Napoleon's return to ERB following a season 1 battle in which most fans, along with the ERB crew, felt his material as a historical figure was not properly utilized well enough. They were also featured in Civilization VII, the game that sponsored the video that led to this matchup, and appear as leaders there, with the advertisement mentioning joining the game with a 2K account will get you the Emperor persona for Napoleon.

Red Baron vs White Death:

Both are color-nicknamed soldiers in world wars known for their many kills.

Tom Cruise vs Evel Knievel:

They are entertainers known for performing their own death-defying stunts. Cruise always does his stunts in action movies that involve reaching tall heights and hanging onto vehicles at immense speed, and Knievel is best known as a daredevil who made long motorcycle jumps, most notably his attempt at the Grand Canyon.

For anyone interested in a complete list
of ERBs

John Lennon vs Bill O'Reilly:

Darth Vader vs Hitler:

Abe Lincoln vs Chuck Norris:

Sarah Palin vs Lady Gaga:

Hulk Hogan and Macho Man vs Kim Jong-il:

Justin Bieber vs Beethoven:

Albert Einstein vs Stephen Hawking:

Genghis Khan vs Easter Bunny:

Napoleon vs Napoleon:

Billy Mays vs Ben Franklin:

Gandalf vs Dumbledore:

Dr. Seuss vs Shakespeare:

Mr. T vs Mr. Rogers:

Captain Kirk vs Christopher Columbus:

Nice Peter vs EpicLLOYD:

Hitler vs Vader 2:

Master Chief vs Leonidas:

Mario Bros vs Wright Bros:

Michael Jackson vs Elvis Presley:

Cleopatra vs Marilyn Monroe:

Steve Jobs vs Bill Gates:

Frank Sinatra vs Freddie Mercury:

Barack Obama vs Mitt Romney:

Doc Brown vs Doctor Who:

Bruce Lee vs Clint Eastwood:

Batman vs Sherlock Holmes:

Moses vs Santa Claus:

Adam vs Eve:

Gandhi vs Martin Luther King Jr.:

Nikola Tesla vs Thomas Edison:

Babe Ruth vs Lance Armstrong:

Mozart vs Skrillex:

Rasputin vs Stalin:

Hitler vs Vader 3:

Blackbeard vs Al Capone:

Miley Cyrus vs Joan of Arc:

Bob Ross vs Pablo Picasso:

Michael Jordan vs Muhammad Ali:

Donald Trump vs Ebenezer Scrooge:

Rick Grimes vs Walter White:

Goku vs Superman:

Stephen King vs Edgar Allan Poe:

Sir Isaac Newton vs Bill Nye:

George Washington vs William Wallace:

Artists vs TMNT:

Ghostbusters vs Mythbusters:

Romeo and Juliet vs Bonnie and Clyde:

Zeus vs Thor:

Jack the Ripper vs Hannibal Lecter:

Oprah Winfrey vs Ellen DeGeneres:

Steven Spielberg vs Alfred Hitchcock:

Lewis and Clark vs Bill and Ted:

David Copperfield vs Harry Houdini:

Terminator vs Robocop:

Eastern Philosophers vs Western Philosophers:

Shaka Zulu vs Julius Caesar:

Jim Henson vs Stan Lee:

Deadpool vs Boba Fett:

J. R. R. Tolkien vs George R. R. Martin:

Gordon Ramsay vs Julia Child:

Frederick Douglass vs Thomas Jefferson:

James Bond vs Austin Powers:

Bruce Banner vs Bruce Jenner:

Alexander the Great vs Ivan the Terrible:

Donald Trump vs Hillary Clinton:

Ash Ketchum vs Charles Darwin:

Wonder Woman vs Stevie Wonder:

Tony Hawk vs Wayne Gretzky:

Theodore Roosevelt vs Winston Churchill:

Nice Peter vs EpicLLOYD 2:

Elon Musk vs Mark Zuckerberg:

Freddy Krueger vs Wolverine:

Guy Fawkes vs Che Guevara:

Ronald McDonald vs The Burger King:

George Carlin vs Richard Pryor:

Jacques Cousteau vs Steve Irwin:

Mother Teresa vs Sigmund Freud:

Vlad the Impaler vs Count Dracula:

The Joker vs Pennywise:

Thanos vs J. Robert Oppenheimer:

Donald Trump vs Joe Biden:

Harry Potter vs Luke Skywalker:

Ragnar Lodbrok vs Richard the Lionheart:

Jeff Bezos vs Mansa Musa:

John Wick vs John Rambo vs John McClane:

Lara Croft vs Indiana Jones:

Karl Marx vs Henry Ford:

Godzilla vs King Kong:

Donald Trump vs Kamala Harris:

Napoleon vs Charlemagne: