

Matthew,

I keep telling you we need to work on your self-defense, but either you're dodging me or we're on opposite schedules. Maybe a little of both. So I broke out my old typewriter and wrote down some basic moves for you to practice! Just follow these and you'll be unstoppable!

Press ○ alone to punch. It's got a pretty short range, but it's quick. Use it when you're right in your opponent's face!

Pressing ○ and forward performs an elbow swipe. It's fast, but it leaves you open. Don't overuse it.

○ and back performs a jab. It's speedy, but pretty weak.

Pressing × alone performs a kick! It's got a long range, but it's slow.

× with a directional button performs a lightning kick! It'll send your opponent flying! Use it when you spot an opening.

If you land two hits in a row, the third one will become a finishing blow! It's the most powerful move in your arsenal!

Press down to duck! No points for guessing when to use this.

Press back or forward twice in quick succession to dash or back up. A dash will make you close in, and backing up puts some space between you and your opponent. But that's obvious, right?

If you press ○ while dashing forward, you'll do a shoulder tackle! It's quick as you can blink, but leaves you wide open if you miss!

And I've saved the best for last: the Triple Threat! Throw a normal punch with ○. As it connects, press × to kick. As the kick connects, punch again with ○! It's tricky to do, but devastating!

If you need a sparring partner, see if Old Man Perry will practice with you. He usually hangs around the park. I'd offer, but I want to get some time in at the shooting range before hunting season starts!

Keep your guard up,

Uncle Nozz

P.S. Now that I've written all this down, I'm thinking I should write a book about self-defense! This is, what, 300 words already? Just fifty thousand more and we're in publishable territory! I'm leaving a list of possible titles on the next page. Tell me your favorite!

- Punching: The Universal Language
 - You Are Already Dead (Unless You've Read This Book!)
 - Kick or Be Kicked
 - Suplex Saga
 - Shoulder Checks: The Only Checks a Man Needs
 - Chokehold Chronicles
 - Piledriver Parables
 - Fables of the Fist
 - Game of Bones: Skeletal Injury and You
 - Twin Sweeps: How to Win Any Fight with Two Legsweeps
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