### Trios by Chase Dittrich

**Universal Crossword** edited by David Steinberg

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#### **ACROSS**

- "Mamma Mia"
- band Skin opening Two kings,
- perhaps Become a
- member Asian Risk territory that
- borders Europe Senate staffers Youngest Bronte
- sister 18 New England
- NFL team, informally Male bee
- 20 Words before "tape," "paper" & "ribbon,"
- respectively Gopher's opening Author Rand
- 25 Tycoons 28 Add up
- and the "Ali 30 Forty Thieves" Wed on the sly,
- and on the fly Exhilarating
- shopping outing Canon model

- 38 Words before "show," "piece" & "play,"
- respectively Little devil
- Part of LGBTQ+, informally 43 Bit of prevention,
- in a proverb 44 Prone to prying
- Situp muscles 47 Successfully
- reach 48 Muffin morsel, maybe
- 50 Cookie that some twist
- Words before 'reading,
- "language" & "music," respectively Like s'mores
- Effortlessness 61 Darts, for a blowgun
- 62 Ponders, with 'over' 63 Let off, like light
- 64 Some Amazon vehicles 65 Talk back to
- Discreet attention-getter
- Greek god with a

#### **DOWN**

- Nearly closed 2 You might have one to pick
- Tricky spot Oldest "Star Wars" movie's retroactive

subtitle

- 5 They grow in the dark
- 6 Make a speech Give one star, perhaps
- "Frozen" queen Rice source
- 10 Site for renters and hosts
- Worshipped celebrity
- Contact solution brand "Get it now?"
- Adjective in Lincoln's nickname
- Titled Word heard at the start of a test
- 26 Car rental choice Lopsided wins
- 28 Extends over Large containers with spigots
- 31 Big health insurer

#### 32 One spelling for an Italian lawn game

- Very pale Pierce with a
- toothpick 36 Acted over-the-
- top? Love poetry
- Muse Video game function that preserves your

progress

- Alpine songs Will of "Arrested Development"
- Chasm 50 Desert mirage.
- maybe Grand Las
- Vegas Notes promising banknotes
- 53 City SE of Baton Rouge Profound
- 55 Vegetables in West African cuisine
- Epps of "House" "Er, don't think so'

#### 58 Defeat

# **HOROSCOPES** BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021 Mercury Directional Change



This is the first full day of Mercury direct in Aquarius, where the current cosmic consortium includes Venus, Jupiter and Saturn. The planets are all traveling direct and this is one of the most straight-forward times when subtext often matches text and intuition speaks in surprisingly logical and clear signals.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You know you're doing the right thing for you if it happens to feed your soul even when it's not feeding your wallet. As you give to others, you will be evermore fulfilled.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You are no stranger to being a stranger. As you visit the unfamiliar, you expect a certain inelegance to color your interactions. In fact, you welcome it as the evidence that you have something to learn, and that you're doing it. GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your business card

is but a narrow definition of who you are and what you do. Titles are like keys that get you into certain doors. Once inside, you'll expand to take up as much energetic space as feels appropriate to you. CANCER (June 22-July 22). Arguably, your influence and creations are entities that outlive you. Today, you'll

make sure of it. This you'll do mostly unconsciously as you carry the intention of serving, helping and committing the right action. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The winds have changed direction. It is not necessary to learn all about this change. You'll learn plenty by sticking your sail into

Then, suddenly, you're off. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Standard agreements make sense to everyone and fit almost no one, perhaps because there is no such thing as a "standard person." For the best chance at coming to a successful

the air and moving it around until something catches.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Money starts out as wellprinted but essentially meaningless paper that we,

agreement, ask for and expect modifications.

as a society and on the individual level, give rich meaning indeed through what we do with it. You'll use

your dollars in an inspired way today. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Those foggy feelings count for something. A phenomenon doesn't have to be defined to be relevant to your mood or to how

discover it as you go. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You could keep envisioning the dream that requires you to climb a staircase, ladder or mountain to get somewhere. Or you could set your sights on an equally lovely scene located at an elevation within coasting distance.

you contribute. Dare to push into formlessness and

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You are pinning your happiness on something you could lose, but don't worry. You're in cosmic accordance. Happiness, beauty, infatuation, thrills of all kinds... the very nature of these states is, in a word, fleeting.

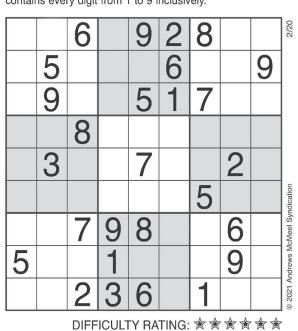
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It is said that you are only free if nothing holds you back. Also, things will tug at you - tethers of emotion, habit, perceived responsibility. It only counts as a limitation if it actually restrains you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). As you tend to and spring for the details that are sure to impress, just be honest about how much of this is necessary. None of it, really. You could just show up as you are, an approach that is relatable and comfortable.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 21). Here come elated moments, disciplines change and shared interests forwarded. In a humorous cosmic twist, the money arrives after you've stopped waiting. Meanwhile, prizes untold come in surprising packages you wouldn't have guessed could hold such gifts of feeling. Professional development happens in March. Scorpio and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 35, 22, 1 and 39.

# Universal **SUD**O

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



## **On Even Ground** by Fred Piscop

**Universal Crossword** edited by David Steinberg

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### **ACROSS**

Con artist's ploy 5 Ungentlemanly

sorts

- "That's enough," in Spanish
- 14 Brit's "Bye-bye!" 15 Wilson of "Starsky &
- Smiley face in a 16 text, e.g.

Hutch"

- Do the bidding of 18 Bear with a soft
- bed 19 Burton of "Roots"
- Part of a flying
- flatland? Tennis match unit 23
- Grand
- 24 Opry
- 25 Textile colorants
- 26 Like a wallflower 27 Songwriters' org. Garb for Caesar

What you hear on

- birds fly for the winter
- 37 "I do," at a wedding
- 38
- behind you? Butter serving

43 Late for school

- horse's hooves 46 Take a stab at
- Like fresh paint 48 Disney clown fish
- 54 Artist O'Keeffe, when on a flatland?
- dance 59 Lively spirit
- follower
- Got up 63 They slip into
- 64 Special Forces cap
- of the d'Urbervilles"
- 35 Direction many
- Flatland that's

- 50 Aqualung filler 51 Rainbow shape
- 58 Interrupt at a
- "Fine" or "liberal"
- Dull way to learn
- slip-ons
- 65 Animal that's a plant backward
- Bring joy to

- 44 Covered as a
- points 2 CNN introduction? 3 Bugged

**DOWN** 

incessantly "Pretty please?" 5 Conform to

1 Transit map

- another's wishes In the loop Auditioner's CD
- Flip one's wig "Promiscuous" singer Furtado 10 Eggy brunch
- entree Steps aside 12 Open just a bit 13 Knight's title Zero chance
- wife 26 Drink from a flask Pirate's haul

Archie Bunker's

- TV-silencing button 30 Egg on Out of whack
- 32 Venomous snakes of Egypt Zion National Park's state
- Device used for demolition 35 Have top billing

- 36 Prefix meaning "different" Former 76er
- Brand 40 Double-crosser 45 Cook up Shape of the
- Oscar Maver car's upper part 49 "The Fifer
- painter Edouard 50 Banded gemstone or marble See eye to eye
- Baptism and bris, for two 53 Assigns a role to 54 "Fine by me"

Stereotypical

Simple boat

58 City transport

Comic-Con attendee Skin cream ingredient

55

### HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021 Cancer Moon Heightens Sensitivity

OTHSCOMPERE magical time of all is always right now. After all, developments only happen in certain moments and those certain moments are "this one." The

the sharp point of the present? ARIES (March 21-April 19). To merely fulfill the basic requirements of a role is not fun or interesting enough as far as you're concerned. You act with the intention

of feeling something.

extreme heat, it will work.

sensitivities of the Cancer moon ask, "What sensory

stimulus can you tune into that will help you inhabit

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). A presence has you fortifying your boundaries. The force that threatens your territory may be aggressive, assertive or very soft and kind. The latter is the most dangerous of the

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You are drawn to

elegance and repelled by extravagance. Beauty and

usefulness are intertwined in your aesthetic rules -rules you are not entirely aware of even as you closely stick within their guidelines. CANCER (June 22-July 22). Do you want the work that supports your life or the life that supports your work? Much will depend on how in love you are with

point of ponderance today. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). While it may not be ideal, it is certainly possible to launch a rocket without a launching pad. If the ground is flat enough and substantial enough to bear the scorch marks of your

vour work – or vour life, for that matter. This will be a

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Once upon a time, you knew what you wanted and you went all-in, with mostly successful effect. Now, what you most want is another person's success. It's a tricky thing to go all-in on. Offer support without interference.

Having a future-vision is magical, though the most LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Faith is not solely the domain of the religious, though rituals do help to fortify and vitalize faith. Create your own rituals to

weave your belief into your psyche and daily life.

3 6 2 4 9

119

3 7 6 4 9 2 8 5 1

a gift for initiating, so start something interesting and include as many people as possible. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you don't feel completely understood, maybe that's because you're not. Parts of you will remain unfathomable. Can you

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If it's appealing to you,

then it will appeal to others, too. And right now, you've

see this as a blessing? Your mystery is one of your many gifts to the world. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People want to connect with you, but you have to show them how. How can you present yourself so they learn quickly who you are? It's a work in progress. You make

tweaks with every new person you meet. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's something you're working on - a feeling you want to process or an artistic impulse begging to be expressed. It's

something worth making time and spiritual space for. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Welcome inspiration but not control. The more charismatic someone is, the more susceptible you are to their influence over your direction. Don't let that happen. Cling to your vision.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 22). You're striving for a certain accomplishment and will not rest until it's done. Your determination is unmatched and people will turn to you to make things happen for them too, which you should definitely charge for. As for the more mundane responsibilities, you approach with art and whimsy attracting premium playmates. Leo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 5, 28, 14 and

# Jniversal 💲

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆



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