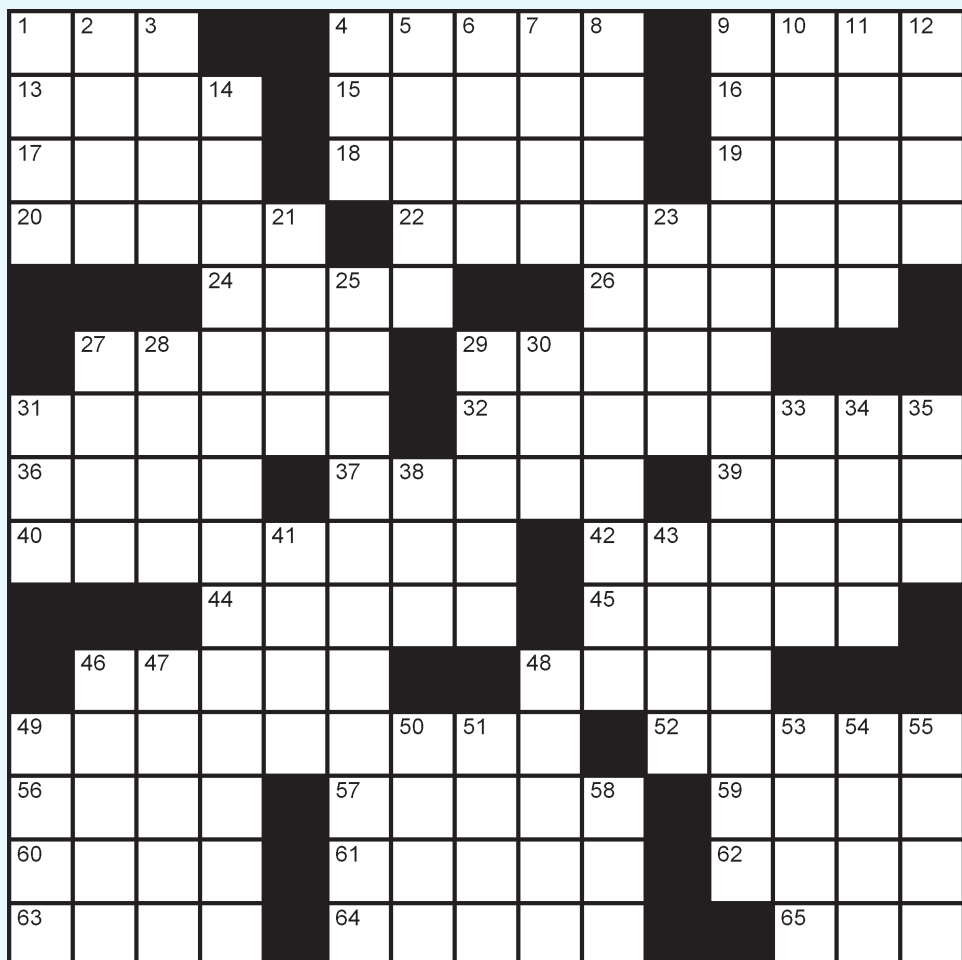


That's Sweet! by Paul Coulter
Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Pig's home, 4 Bit of parsley, 9 Fluid ounce or foot, 13 Figurehead's place on a ship, 15 Quintet within "facetious", 16 Fancy-schmancy, 17 Hamster's home, 18 Desert flora, 19 Alone, 20 Not quite right, 22 Worker in a pit, 24 Heavy book, 26 They ebb and flow, 27 '90s workout system, 29 Crowd size?, 31 Intense craving, 32 Outdoor event contingency, 36 Beethoven's German birthplace, 37 In days gone by, 39 Baby's boo-boo, 40 Monarch, perhaps, 42 Prosper, 44 Mini- (convenience stores), 45 Name ending in four consonants, 46 He-Man's twin sister, 48 Where to see stock footage?, 49 Concern for parents of young kids, 52 Greet someone, 56 Like the White Rabbit, 57 Devices for smoothing sheets, 59 Fortified tower in a castle, 60 Tons, 61 Unfamiliar with "Blondie" boy, 63 Pigs' homes, 64 Feeling bloated, 65 Acid, 28 "Say it \_\_\_ so!", 29 Moderate paces, 30 "2001: A Space Odyssey" computer, 31 As yet unscheduled: Abbr., 33 Amazes, 34 Leaning Tower of Pisa feature, 35 Slippery fish, 38 What workouts "burn", 41 Really funny person, 43 Globes, 46 Oil source, 47 Unintentionally discover, 48 Tenths of dimes, 49 Applaud, 50 Square footage, 51 Column crossers, 53 Shout, 54 Bottom lines?, 55 Apple product with a Touch model, 58 Kind of sauce in a stir-fry, 21 Breaks down in tears, 23 Appearance, 25 Track sport, to Brits (... 8 to 3), 27 Ten Commandments pronoun

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021 Domestic Moon



It's an odd fact of real estate that abandoned houses don't fare as well as those that have been respectfully and joyfully lived in. Relationships are like houses in that way, and however sturdily they were built, they still require all kinds of upkeep. The moon in domestic Cancer favors the maintenance of the structures and relationships that feel like home.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Feelings are waves. They rise into an identifiable shape and then hit the shore and go back to being part of the big ocean of emotion. Don't fear the feeling. It's just another form for energy to be for a while.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It is said that good stories seldom come from happy experiences. So it is with bittersweet sentiment that the muses announce this day as pleasant to experience, if lacking the ingredients of a good tale.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). No explaining. People with the experience don't need an explanation, and to the inexperienced, it's equally useless. Action will be the teacher, the lesson and the homework.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You play many roles throughout the course of the day, all of which reflect you. Just don't forget that you're the actor and not the part. If the choice you made isn't working, you have the freedom to play it different.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In a moment of complete relaxation, an answer will come to you accompanied by all the relief and satisfaction of finding a set of lost keys. Indeed, this will unlock future doors.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The emotions and intent of an action are intrinsic to the alchemical properties of its result. The same action taken for love will have a different result if done from a place of fear. You'll see evidence of the principle today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When dealing with distracted people (and it's safe to say that most people you'll deal with today will have an attention deficit), assume that you must capture their attention several times throughout the interaction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Complaining comes easily to most. Just about anyone can describe a problem. The next steps - brainstorming solutions, settling on a few to try, gaining the cooperation of others, etc. - are for the advanced corps. That's you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You like to be clear about your reasons for doing things, especially the things that scare you. Consider that maybe "because it scares me" is reason enough to do a thing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll find that you don't have to change everything just because you now understand something you didn't before. Instead, you'll adapt your style to fit your new understanding.

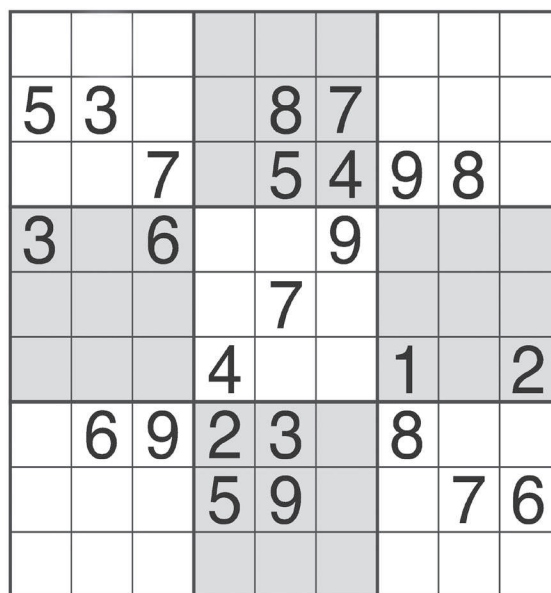
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Wanting shapes perspective. Every possible route to the wanted thing gets enlarged, while everything that's not the wanted thing shrivels and shrinks. Wanting something very badly warps the worldview in equal measure.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The theories that work out on the page but don't work out in real life can be considered exercises or games, not serious contenders. Actual results trump theory every time.

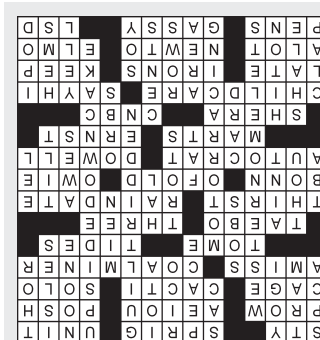
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 16). You're as committed as anyone to becoming better, stronger, smarter and wiser. Can you help it if the path to those things happens to cut through some very pleasurable territory? If it doesn't feel like you're working quite hard enough for the cosmic bounty that comes to you, your philanthropy will shore up the difference! Virgo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 19, 3, 33 and 40.

Universal SUDOKU

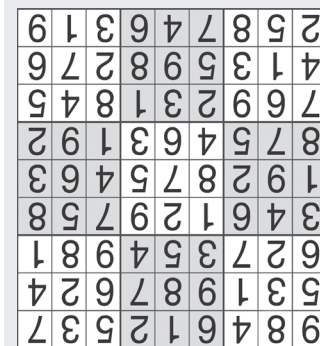
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



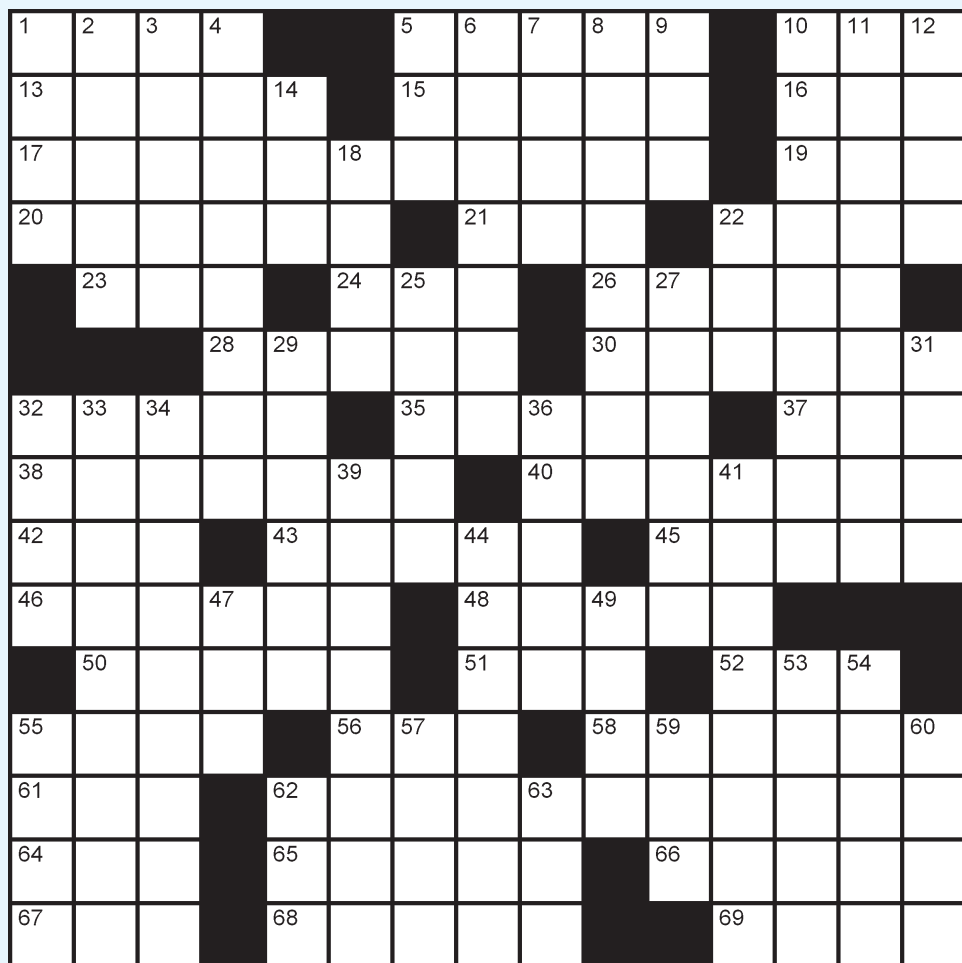
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆☆



SOLUTIONS



Group Play by Alex Eaton-Salners
Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Small size, 5 Integra automaker, once, 10 Tiger Woods' org., 13 Non-reactive, 15 Apple consumer products?, 16 Particle like Li+, 17 Fish's midday meal?, 19 Deep hole, 20 Seek help from, 21 "For shame!" sound, 22 Ballpoints, e.g., 23 Coke's partner at the bar, 24 Australian bird, 26 At the summit, 28 \_\_\_ Day (time to plant trees), 30 Approached, 32 \_\_\_ kebab, 35 Comb backward, 37 The "G" of LGBTQIA+, 38 Wolves' winter walking surface?, 40 Whales' swimming competition?, 42 Yosemite's country: Abbr., 43 Island country north of Libya, 45 Tic-tac-toe boards have four, 46 Stove/oven combinations, 48 Corporate benefits whiz, 50 Hidden supply, 51 Flight-related abbr. hidden in "ticket agent", 52 "Face the Nation" network, 55 Iowa college town, 56 Tai \_\_\_, 58 Like hot items?, 61 Federal URL ender, 62 Lions' procession?, 64 Just squeeze (out), 65 Club charge, 66 Milk dispenser, 67 Potential man cave, 68 Asparagus unit, 69 Feudal field hand, 21 Breaks down in tears, 23 Appearance, 25 Track sport, to Brits (... 8 to 3), 27 Ten Commandments pronoun, 32 San Antonio NBA player, 33 Lights up, in a way, 34 "This is too much for me to process!", 36 "Things Fall \_\_\_" (Achebe novel), 39 Corn or soybeans, 41 Parachute attachments "What nerve!", 44 "What nerve!", 47 Pump product, 49 Carpentry file, 53 Cutting edge, 54 Meal memorializing Exodus, 55 Like fine wine, 57 Home abuzz with activity?, 59 Letter before epsilon, 60 Squishy toy brand, 62 Many run Windows 10, 63 Miss your exit, perhaps, 22 K-12 support org., 25 Inn relative, 27 Tool requiring hand-eye coordination?, 29 "Grey's Anatomy" creator Shonda, 31 Hair colorings

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS
MONDAY, MAY 17, 2021 Earth-Sign Trine



In his famous book "Be Here Now," spiritual guru Ram Dass suggests, "Just because you are seeing divine light, experiencing waves of bliss, or conversing with Gods and Goddesses is no reason not to know your zip code." The Taurus solar trine to Pluto highlights the profound need for practicality and the practicality of profundity.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Try not to get too caught up in how important a job is. Commit to the work, whatever it may be, as though the harmony of the universe depends on it. It just might.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The right mindset helps you cruise unimpeded by the worries or doubts of underconfidence and overthinking. It takes time and experimentation, but it's well worth it to learn how to conjure that mindset on command.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Lately, your feelings are often suspended as you wait to see what goes well and what blows up spectacularly. Every outcome is a sign that you're doing what you're supposed to be doing at this stage: testing it all out.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As you find yourself actually enjoying the same process that others meet with dread, you prove a point about the power of interpretation. Cultivate this and you have the world in the palm of your hand.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There is no reasoning with what was born outside of reason's realm. Much falls into the category, including every animal and infant, and every fear or impulse that comes from the animal and infantile parts of the brain.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). While the newbies may be wise to aim for incremental, reachable goals, the pros, who long ago separated their self-worth from the task at hand, will set the bar impossibly high and expect to fail gloriously and often.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The untapped resources

around you are so plentiful there's no time to tap them all. Where to start? You can afford to be a little selfish about it right now. Your preferences and interests are as worthy of serving as anyone's.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You keep finding new ways to be useful. You'll figure out how you can create convenience, relieve pain and solve the problem. Your efforts are only successful when they give you ease, too.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Though the only way to really know if something will work for you is to try it, there are many things that are not worth the risk. Today, your educated guess will steer you very accurately.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You don't need all good examples around you as the inspiration for living right. In fact, it is the bad examples that can be the most motivating of all. You'll be shown an array of models, both aspirational and cautionary.

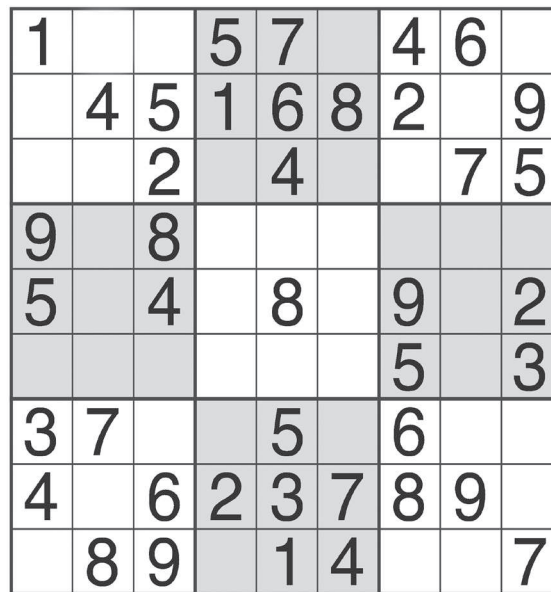
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Should you dive in or dip a toe in? Much depends on the number of people in the pool. Your strategy will be determined by what others are doing and how many are doing it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Whether you sit in the sun or the shade is a personal choice, though it's dictated by things beyond your control. Metaphorically, your skin is sensitive and protection is required to avoid getting burned.

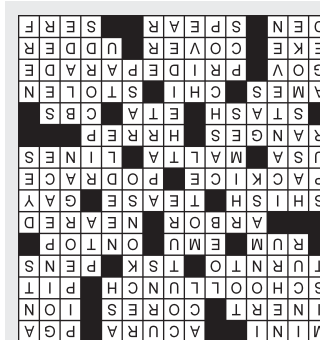
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 17). Wisdom's heartbeat commands the rhythm of your solar year. There is magic in the pauses. Your restraint (somehow at once judicious and natural) will have you moving strategically and with purpose, your goals ever in mind. You'll alternate between going out on a limb and returning to the roots that stand you in good stead. Libra and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 50, 2, 21 and 17.

Universal SUDOKU

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



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆



SOLUTIONS

