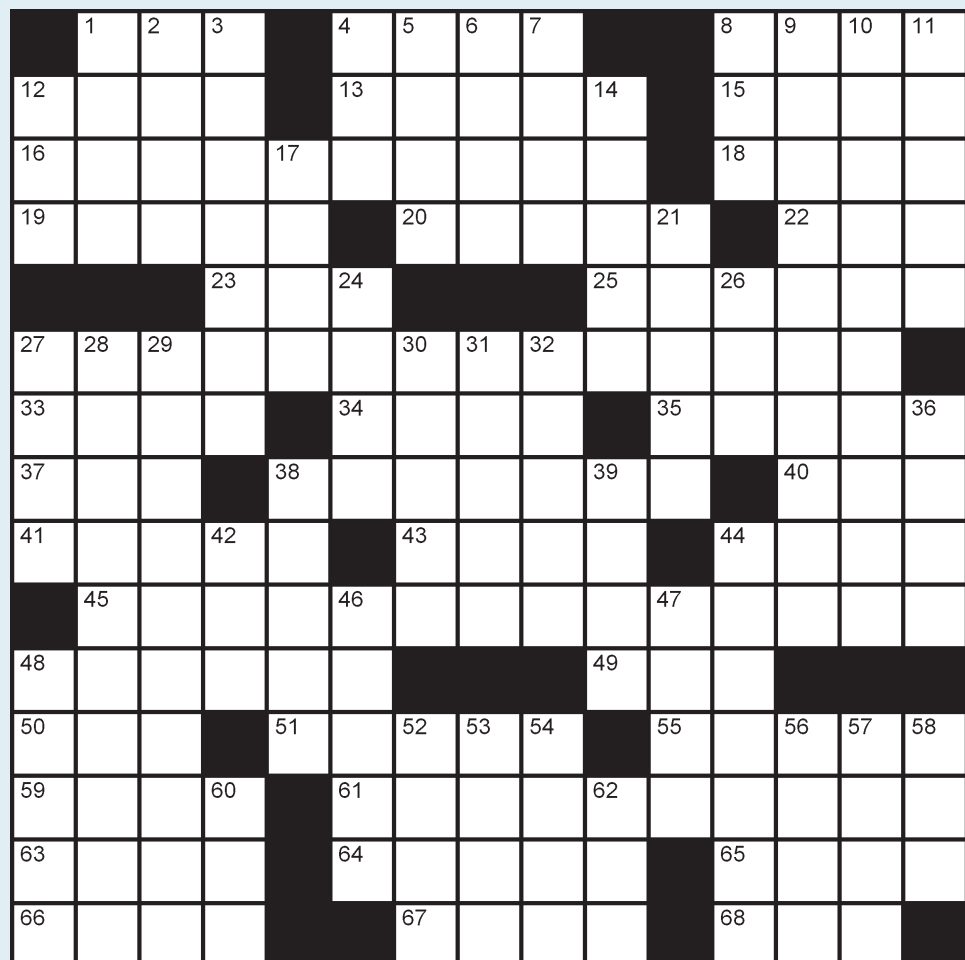


Lofty Language by Julietta Gervase & Miranda Capps

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Liveliness, 4 Country famous for its cigars, 8 Simple earring, 12 Rosso or bianco drink, 13 \_\_\_-and-mortar, 15 Hollow stem, 16 High horse?, 18 Big Apple computer, 19 Flinch, perhaps, 20 Take forcibly, 22 "Te \_\_\_" (2009 Rihanna hit), 23 Often-torn knee part, briefly, 25 Dead \_\_\_ (spitting image), 27 High spirits?, 33 Apartment, for one, 34 \_\_\_ monster (large lizard), 35 Opposite of "lether", 37 Waze suggestion: Abbr., 38 \_\_\_ languages (Italian, Spanish and others), 40 Includes on an email, 41 Color of many smart casual pants, 43 Swedish furniture giant, 44 Laker who was 1999-2000's NBA MVP, 45 High rollers?, 48 Tattered, 49 Ill, to Jr., 50 Metaphorical pinch, 51 Tiny truck manufacturer, 55 Physician-scientist's dual deg., 59 Reason to hold your nose, 61 High maintenance?, 63 Lyft offering, 64 Contest submission, 65 Like broccoli, to many kids, 66 "\_\_\_ it matter?", 67 Double-reed woodwind, 68 Casual top, DOWN: 1 Heap, 2 One-named Irish singer, 3 Audio show, 4 "Survivor" channel, 5 Language in Pakistan, 6 What's often in the news?, 7 Rights org., 8 \_\_\_-fi, 9 Digital pet that became a fad, 10 Like a monarchy, as opposed to a presidency, 11 Look inside?, 12 Ancestor of a DVD player, 14 Strug of 1996's Magnificent Seven, 17 Inscribe, 21 Stimulate, as interest, 24 Danish toymaker, 26 Religious sister, 27 Istanbul resident, 28 Where people heard fireside chats, 29 Dessert whose topping often melts, 30 Boundary, 31 Blow off a commitment, 32 Like a highway, 36 Titles for J.D. holders, 38 Transfix, 39 Musical based on T.S. Eliot poems, 42 Crucial, 44 Grainy quarry, 46 Really love, 47 It wasn't built in a day, 48 Feature of Norway's coast, 52 Thing you shouldn't do, 53 "Today" co-anchor Hoda, 54 Hairdo under a Soul Cap swimming cap, perhaps, 56 Walk while deep in thought, 57 Walk while deep in nature, 58 Word with "humor" or "cleaning", 60 Lo-\_\_\_ image, 62 Whiskey type

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2021 New Moon of Eight, Eight



In numerology, eight recalls the symbol of infinity -- a number greater than numbers. A circle joined with a circle and winding on forever. No end, no beginning. And yet, as the stars of our own show, we want a promising open to the story. We must impose it ourselves under the new Leo moon roaring like the MGM lion. Lights, camera, action!
ARIES (March 21-April 19). A relationship will bring out the best in you. It will make you happier, as well as more creative and energetic. These zingy vibes will carry into other ventures.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've a talent for seeing what will serve the most people. What you do for the good of the group will also bring about your own personal best -- and in ways you couldn't have anticipated.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You hunger for excitement, attention, experience and passion. These cravings will ebb and flow whether you heed them, feed them or recede from them. Just do what feels healthy.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). The day plays out like a Cinderella story in which unappealing work must be handled before a transformation can occur. Then, onto the glamour and fun!
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll deal with the unrealistic expectations of children and the childlike. Distorted ideals -- whether wondrously wise or innocent -- will burst through the bounds of the possible.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Thinking ahead will be productive. Revel in future fantasies both reasonable and impossible. Planning that takes hours will save days of work. Let your mind dance inside the challenge.

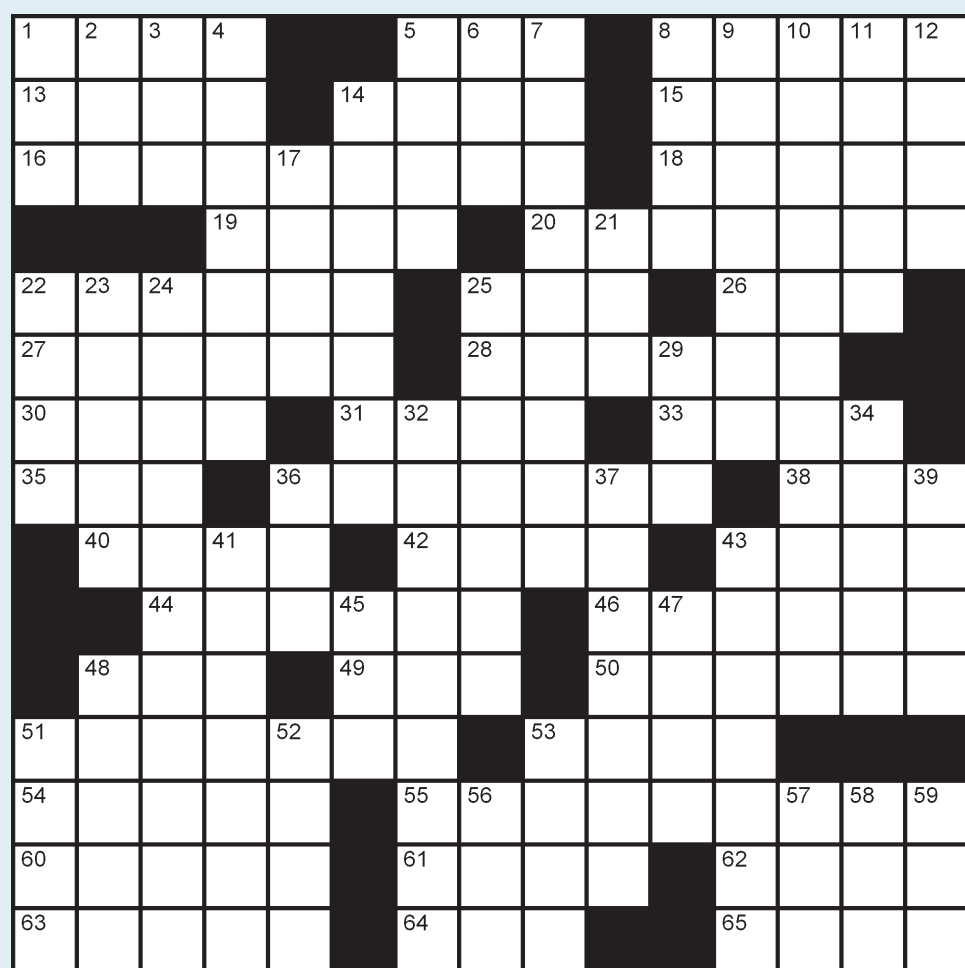
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Consider the effects of exposure. If you are illuminated for too long, flying too close to the sun through excessive publicity or dealing with other such demands on people's attention, burnout is certain.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you say to yourself, "I don't want this," what you are saying is that you're attached to something else -- such as a different idea of what should be happening or who you are. Happiness is letting go of attachments to accept what is.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). To outsiders, you look busy, but you don't feel like you're expending a bunch of effort. It turns out that doing what you love, putting good things in the world and creating opportunities for others charges you up.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). In theory, it wouldn't be too hard to acquiesce to what's being asked of you. And yet, you resist due to something like justice, principle or the desire to restore balance.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Would you rather be the one bending the rules or the one trying to enforce them? Whichever role you choose, you'll gain intimate knowledge of the limits, where they lie and how elastic they are.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). For some reason, many people will be reluctant to ask for what they want. You'll step in and save the day. Your requests -- dripping in charm -- are irresistible.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 8). "Deep roots are not reached by the frost," J.R.R. Tolkien said. You will know the meaning of these words as you are insulated by networks of love, family, community and your own internal spiritual resources. You'll delight in your attractions and grow strong while tending to the lessons they bring to your life. Virgo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 11, 28, 40 and 16.

Universal SUDOKU. Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively. Includes a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled and a difficulty rating of 5 stars.

SOLUTIONS. A 9x9 grid showing the completed numbers for the Sudoku puzzle.

Where the Action Was by Matthew Stock

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Boast, 5 Absolutely, informally, 8 Soccer star Lionel, 13 Former Cowboys QB Tony, 14 Grain-storing structure, 15 Sworn statements, 16 \*Organizer of a classic music convention?, 18 Fuss in front of a mirror, 19 Greek war god, 20 Pressure, so to speak, 22 Escapee's cry, 25 Chinese life force within this clue, 26 Chihuahua's sound, 27 Word after "coffee" or "oil", 28 Confusingly active, 30 Utters, 31 Some, 33 Steamy appliance, 35 Tiebreaker periods, for short, 36 Wise, or a phonetic hint to what was deleted from each starred answer, 38 \_\_\_ Angeles, 40 "Here," in Honduras, 42 El \_\_\_ (weather phenomenon), 43 Shoe with a moderate heel, 44 Like a teenager's bed, often, 46 Place for touchdowns?, 48 Personal Nintendo avatar, 49 Belonging to us, 50 Angola's capital, 51 Join (in), 53 Bank based in The Big Apple, 54 Out in the country, 55 \*Dinner request from actor Gregory?, 60 18-time Grand Slam champion Chris, 61 Willie who broke the NHL's color barrier, 62 Missouri neighbor, 63 End-of-the-alphabet Nintendo princess, 64 Itty-bitty bit, 65 Partners who broke up, DOWN: 1 "It's so cold!", 2 Hopping marsupial, briefly, 3 Theater chain, 4 Indoor track racers, 5 "Buenos \_\_\_!" (Spanish for "Good morning!"), 6 Name within "Felix", 7 Gamer's excited cry, 8 Pout, 9 Growth in a bodily canal, 10 \*Op-ed about a certain longhorn?, 11 Bundle of grain, 12 "\_\_\_ that odd?", 14 "Sing" singer Ed, 17 Group of Algonquin languages, 21 Juice box brand, 22 "In that case ...", 23 Sporty Mazda car, 24 \*Bushy-tailed creature with cool style?, 25 More well-done, as a steak, 29 Comedian Notaro, 32 Vessel for a cheesy dish, 34 Roving person, 36 Actor Daniel Dae, 37 Different from, 39 Puppy safety org., 41 Gymnast's garb, 43 Grassland, 45 Thumbs-up, to an astronaut, 47 23-Down, for example, 48 Purple hue, 51 Obama or Biden, informally, 52 High, like una montana, 53 Kept in the know via email, 56 Historical period, 57 Expose on the internet, 58 Baaing ma, 59 Dorm figures: Abbr.

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2021 Venusian Beauty Tips



On the quest to become more attractive, people will spend their hard-earned money on any number of methods, potions and possessions. As she opposes Neptune, Venus, the beauty goddess, reminds us that profound forms of beauty can't be bought with dollars. Rather, they are earned through disciplines like gratitude, optimism and kindness.
ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll pick up a new skill. There's no luck involved here -- only well-directed attention. Imitate the master. Follow directions, then practice until you own it.TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have choices to make and actions to take on your way to solving a problem. If you consult everyone along the way, it will get complicated. Better to ask for forgiveness than permission.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Unless you're getting paid for your opinion, there's no need to offer criticism. Don't take offense where none was given. Follow these two rules and you'll grow in power and influence.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). People will express themselves in confusing ways. You'll feel as though you're watching an art film -- creatively inspired as you try to piece together the meaning.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). To avoid being a target for the slings of other people's jealousy and the arrows of their insecurity, don't display your talents too broadly. Choose your audience carefully and show them just enough.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Even though all people are created equal, it would be perilous to ignore -- and auspicious to respect -- the status structures by which the tribe of humanity operates.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Gather the pertinent information. There's much going on inside the minds of others that won't be verbalized, though with sensitivity, you can pick up on it and respond accordingly.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Mistakes were made. Enough time has passed for feelings to cool and settle. The world is full of second chances, which generally go to those with the guts to ask for them.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). No one understands the issue as well as you do. Explain to people who have reason to care. Matching your message to the audience is an art. If you don't get it right, keep trying.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Relationships change form though the love itself is neither the same nor different. There's a blossoming when the conditions invite openness and, under colder conditions, the relationship folds into itself and waits.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You organize like a pro, prioritize like a genius and quickly understand what it will take to get to the goal. These talents of yours are highly sought after -- though most pleasingly applied to your own projects.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Don't shrink from an intimidating challenge. Gather information instead. When you understand the nature of a thing, it will liberate you from your fear of it. You'll feel empowered to interact and gain higher levels of experience.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 9). You'll extend your love with gusto, creating a powerfully charged atmosphere in which all around you will thrive. You'll realize your team is shy a few members. You'll put an attractive energy into the world and quickly build something beautiful. Fall sees you effectively promoting and selling on a large scale. Taurus and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 26, 2, 36, 14 and 5.

Universal SUDOKU. Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively. Includes a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled and a difficulty rating of 4 stars.

SOLUTIONS. A 9x9 grid showing the completed numbers for the Sudoku puzzle.