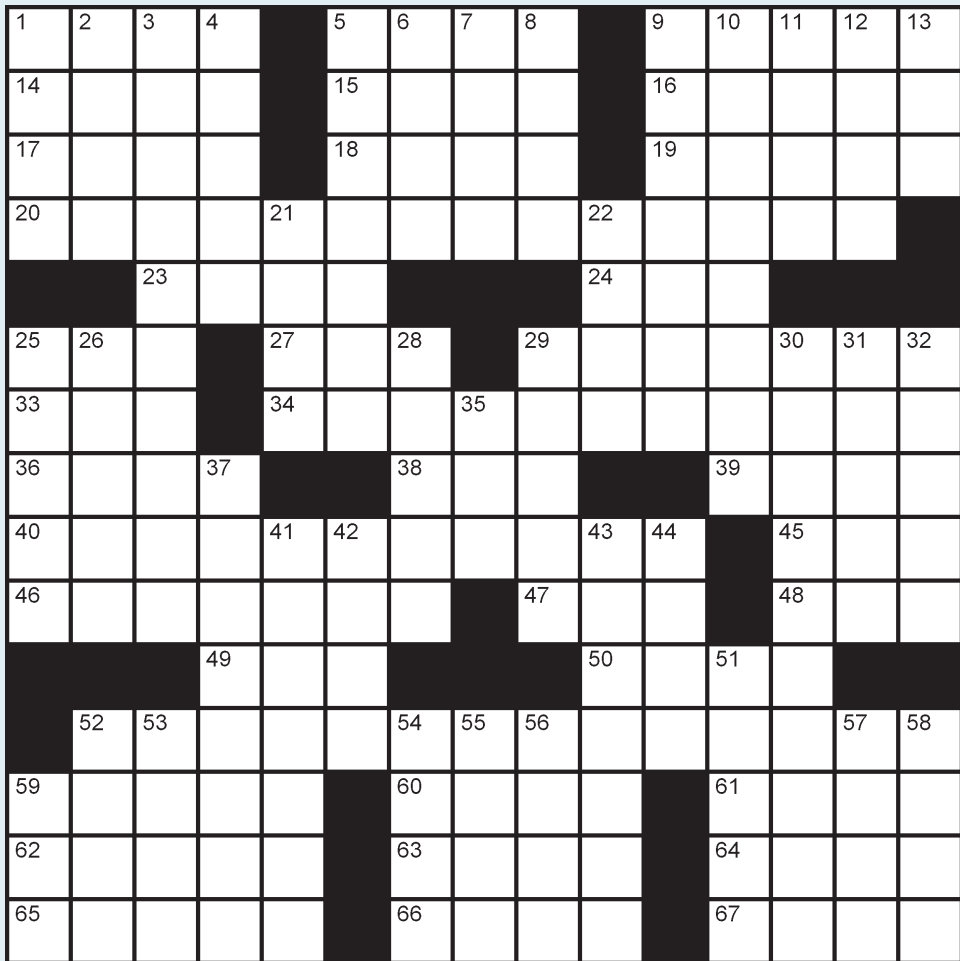


Splittin Hairs by Malaika Handa

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Drains, 5 Cultivate, 9 Word after 'punch' or 'sloppy'... DOWN: 1 Bygone Swedish car, 2 RBG's onetime employer...

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2021 Jupiter Nudge



The fifth planet from the Sun is over two and a half times bigger than the rest of the planets combined. It follows that Jupiter is associated with expansion, exponential growth and massive fortunes.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because there is always more to learn, you're seldom bored. The exception is the case in which circumstances disallow you to follow your curiosity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll find yourself in a fascinating position. The next 48 hours are marked by boldness and unpredictability.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you martyr yourself in the name of friendship, you'll only end up resenting your friend.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's hard to see the value of an opportunity on its face. You must proceed down the winding corridor in hopes it actually leads somewhere good.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've a keen instinct for when to get in and out of things. If you're in it, it's because you want to be.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It takes boldness and self-awareness, but if you dare ask for what you want, you'll save yourself from countless hours of struggle and frustration.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). In today's endeavor, you cannot have both perfection and practicality. Pick one. Hint: happiness is choosing options existing within the realm of possibility.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There is a purpose behind your communication and behavior, though not everyone will understand it. Spell it out and get the support you need.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Social scientists suggest most untrained people do not read emotional expressions as accurately as they think they can.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When others around you don't acknowledge the reality you are experiencing, question it. Maybe they are afraid. Maybe they are waiting for the leader.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). In the case of incompatible desires or mutually exclusive agendas, no amount of persuasion will alter the course.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Efforts are rewarded, though not always by their reciprocation. An attempt to connect will result in something positive, regardless of whether the connection actually takes place.

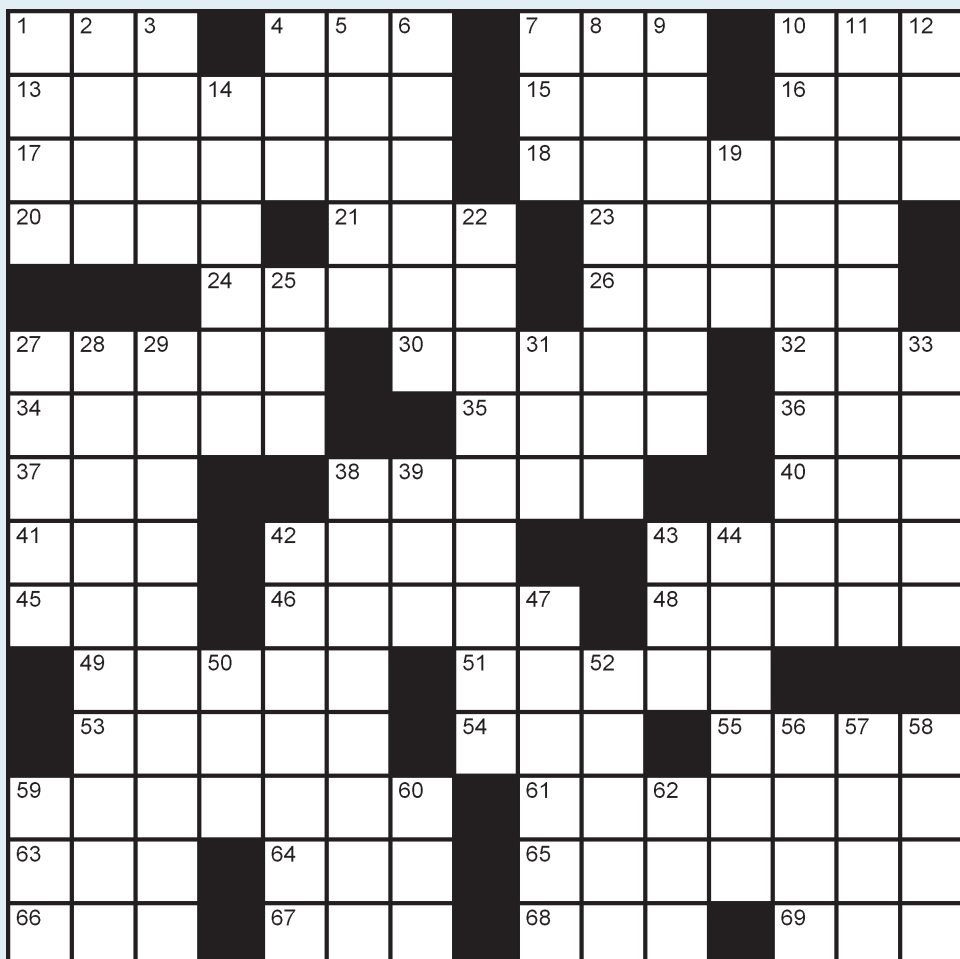
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 27). Your craving for excitement will be satisfied repeatedly. You won't have to go far to find a new world; there's one behind every door you come to.

Universal SUDOKU puzzle grid with difficulty rating: ★★★★★

SOLUTIONS for the Universal Sudoku puzzle, showing the completed grid.

Star-Crossed Lovers by Andrew McIntyre

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Dined, 4 Bat wood, 7 Shar \_\_\_ (wrinkly dog)... DOWN: 1 High male voice, 2 Gull's relative...

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2021 Mercury Gets Existential



The last full day of Mercury in Virgo will be a productive one in which orders are followed, requests fulfilled, goals met, expectations exceeded.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If no one else is taking charge, assume the authority. Handle each issue as it comes to you and as quickly as possible.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). What is commonplace to you will be a novelty or even a wonder to someone from a different place. Sharing your culture will open your eyes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The benefit to keeping communication short and to-the-point is both social and financial. You will be heard, understood and paid.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As good as you may feel about your ability to handle details, there will be simply too many of them to juggle and still feel calm and relaxed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A project you thought was completed will need to be deconstructed and rebuilt differently. The willingness to go through the exercise is what sets the pros apart from the amateurs.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You figure out how to get the most out of the least. These limitations do not limit your capacity for glamour and could in fact give birth to the best elements of your style.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Make a plan, and move through it quickly, leaving no room for doubt or overthinking. With elegant simplicity, you will hit your marks and move to the next level.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). To open yourself to criticism makes you vulnerable while giving you an edge. Not all vulnerability is weakness, and not all criticism is negative.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Are you willing to go one step further? Everyone who completes the course will receive a certificate, though only those who go above and beyond the requirements will take home the prize.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The day plays like a coin toss. You surrender your problem to the whims of fate, and when you catch back up with it, it's either just how you left it or the opposite of that.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Loosen your grip on the rules. Trying to make a thing flawless will prevent it from getting finished in time.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your water sign energy can steam, boil, flow or freeze, according to the emotional climate around you. Let the hand that guides the thermostat be your own.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 28). You've the heart of a teacher. When you share knowledge and skills, you'll be paid in money and other ways more meaningful. Adventures launch in the spur of the moment, and events are oddly enhanced by the lack of planning.

Universal SUDOKU puzzle grid with difficulty rating: ★★★★★

SOLUTIONS for the Universal Sudoku puzzle, showing the completed grid.