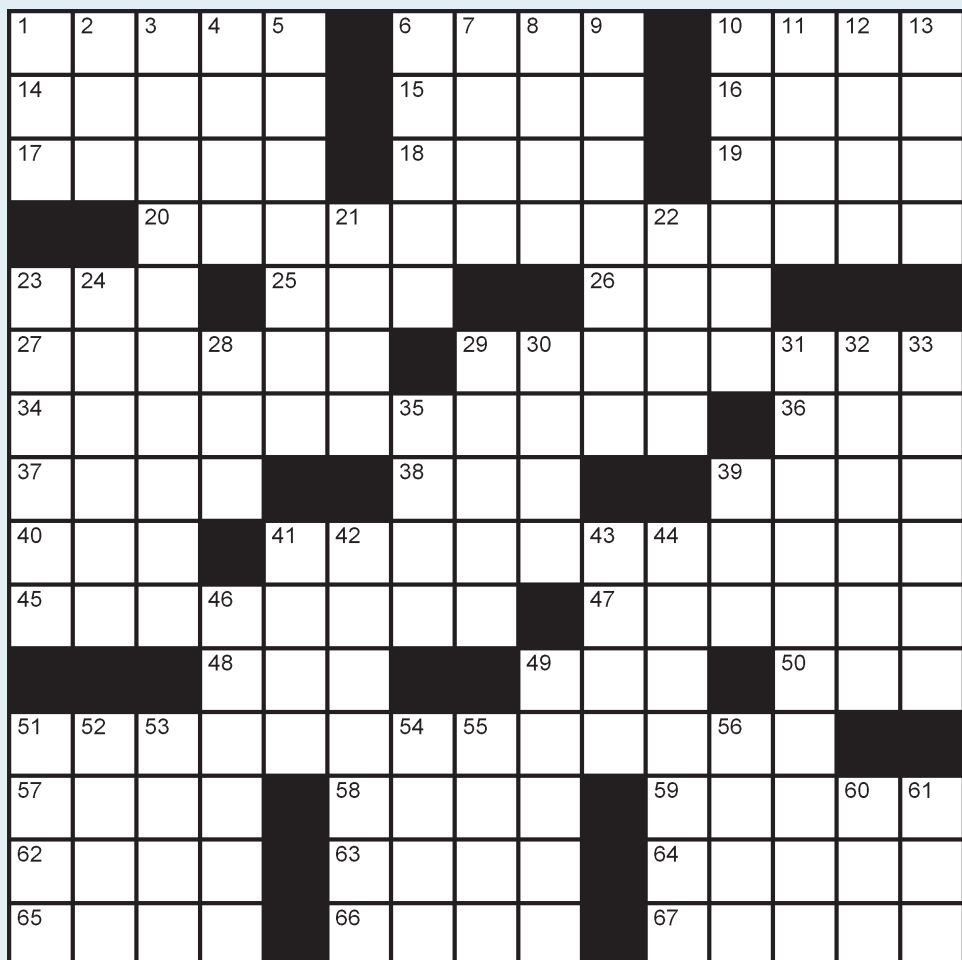


Light My Fire by Bill Pipal and Jeff Chen

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS**
- 1 Stumbles
 - 6 Apple desktop
 - 10 Not evil
 - 14 Finalize
 - 15 Infamous Roman emperor
 - 16 Slight advantage
 - 17 Not in the dark
 - 18 Beach bucket
 - 19 "One ___ song!" ("Encore!")
 - 20 Sender of an anonymous valentine
 - 23 Bowler's target
 - 25 007 creator Fleming
 - 26 Food drive item
 - 27 Grp. concerned with viruses
 - 29 Sightseers, often
 - 34 New York Harbor attraction
 - 36 Chart out
 - 37 Plant with soothing gel
 - 38 WaterSense org.
 - 39 Guitarist's chance to shred
 - 40 Ominous sight for a swimmer
 - 41 Person who welds
 - 45 Act opener
 - 47 Playing hooky, say
 - 48 Quantity: Abbr.
 - 49 Big diamond?
 - 50 Home where slop is served
 - 51 What 20-, 34- and 41-Across each does in a different way
 - 57 It's usually a bad sign
 - 58 Big event for Cinderella
 - 59 Hovers (over)
 - 62 Where to find heros among men?
 - 63 Water, in Spanish
 - 64 Louvre Pyramid architect
 - 65 "Only Time" singer
 - 66 Precious stones
 - 67 Residences on Wingspan cards
- DOWN**
- 1 Org. responsible for travelers' checks?
 - 2 Opposite of FF
 - 3 "Would you let me finish?!"
 - 4 Unadulterated
 - 5 "Well, isn't that ___?"
 - 6 How some solve crosswords
 - 7 Tofu might replace it
 - 8 Song that may end on a high note
 - 9 Slice of roast beef, e.g.
 - 10 The twins, astrologically
 - 11 Stench
 - 12 Baddie in a D&D campaign
 - 13 "Do-Re-Mi" animal
 - 21 Actor Malek
 - 22 "Jesus Christ Superstar" role
 - 23 Spiced rice dishes
 - 24 Like slanted type
 - 28 Center of a hurricane
 - 29 Conical home
 - 30 Mouth-related
 - 31 Stores for cigar aficionados
 - 32 Juggling or dancing, e.g.
 - 33 Like Mustangs and Miatas
 - 35 "___ there, done that!"
 - 39 Ditch Day participants: Abbr.
 - 41 Hauler
 - 42 Reusable grocery carrier
 - 43 Texas city hidden in "draw a conclusion"
 - 44 Liberal arts college in Ohio
 - 46 Fantasy world accessed through a wardrobe
 - 49 Titan holding up the sky
 - 51 Write in Python, say
 - 52 "You got that right!"
 - 53 Depend (on)
 - 54 Herb in stuffing
 - 55 Reunion attendee, briefly
 - 56 "On the ___ Up" (Angie Thomas novel)
 - 60 Encountered
 - 61 Solange, to Beyonce, for short

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2021 Social Advice From the Gemini Moon



Humans, being a physically vulnerable species with little in the way of armor, teeth or claws to protect ourselves against the other monsters of nature, learned early on that if we are to survive as a species, we have to stick together. We are social animals who rely on one another's attention and will in fact perish without it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The problem can be solved. First, take the pressure off yourself so you can move again. You're going to need to walk around this issue and see it from a few different vantage points.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll finish what you started. The accomplishment is a significant boost to your confidence. This is true even if no one knows about it except you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll trade up in some way. High value, in this case, is relative and will be determined on fit alone. The option that suits you best will not be the one with the highest price tag.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The empathy you feel changes you. When you open yourself to listen deeply to another person's experience, you get a small taste of the experience yourself and are broadened accordingly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are focused on the difference you want to make in the world. However serious you are about the mission, approach it with a light heart. You'll be surprised at how much you can change by simply shining the warmth of your smile on it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). No need to hide the flaw or spin the story so it sounds like you're getting everything right. That wouldn't be relatable, and therefore, it would only make it harder to connect with people.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Everyone is a performer to some extent. Sometimes you're a hit. Other times, the act flops. That just hones your work. To win the room, you first have to read it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). How long you're in a place matters little compared with what value you brought to the others while you were there. With this in mind, you'll think in terms of the impression you'd like to make, not the amount of time it takes to make it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). To learn another person is a form of love. You'll feel loved today because there's a person who knows just how to make you laugh or get you in the frame of mind to act.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The upgrade isn't necessarily better, just newer. It will stir up fresh energy and ideas, though, so at least it's something different. Today, different will be good. Get the upgrade.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It feels as though you have a frenemy, or a rival working at cross purposes to yours. There is a way to turn this into a win-win arrangement: Find the common purpose you share.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Since you can't make everyone happy, just focus on doing what needs to be done. Let the others fend for themselves for a while. You'll be surprised at your productivity, and that makes at least one person happy... you!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 24). The highlight is fresh experiences, and you'll have many "firsts" this year. Your enjoyment will be enhanced by the presence of people from different generations. A festive November event is a chance to share your talent. You'll earn more than you planned to in December and share the wealth. Libra and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 25, 42, 30 and 15.

Universal SUDOKU

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

5	3							2
				4		1		
			3	6	8			
2		4						5
	8		3			4		
1					5			3
			6	5	1			
	7		8					
4						6		1

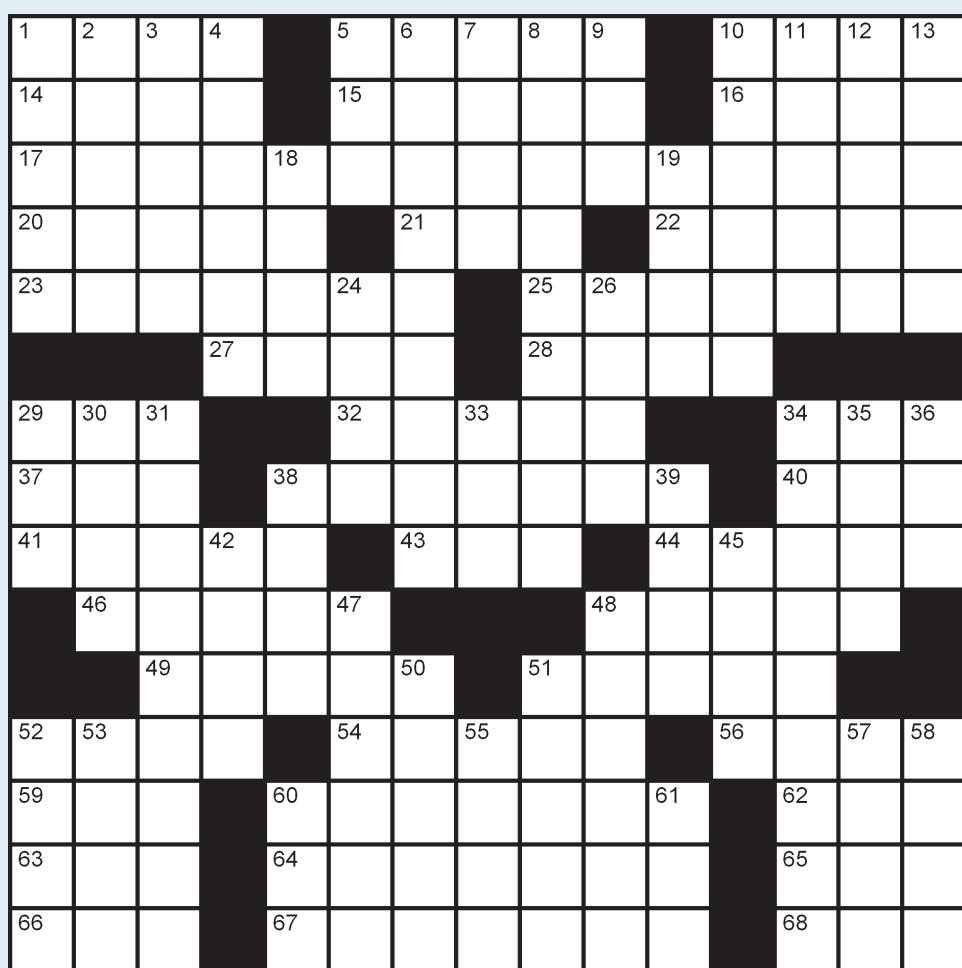
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆☆

SOLUTIONS

1	6	9	3	2	7	5	4	8
2	5	2	4	8	6	7	1	9
3	9	2	5	1	7	4	8	6
4	7	4	8	9	5	2	6	3
5	8	1	7	4	8	2	3	6
6	5	8	2	3	6	4	1	7
7	3	6	4	1	7	9	8	5
8	4	2	1	3	6	9	8	5
9	7	8	5	4	2	1	3	6
10	3	1	7	9	8	2	4	5

Forest Ranger Zhouquin Burnikel

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS**
- 1 Where Romeo last kisses Juliet
 - 5 Sleeps under the stars
 - 10 ___ mater
 - 14 Sword with a bell guard
 - 15 Tiresome task
 - 16 Blue-green
 - 17 "Sabrina the Teenage Witch" actress
 - 20 Supine's opposite
 - 21 Meghan Markle, to Lilibet
 - 22 Like a weird coincidence
 - 23 Easy-to-peel citrus hybrid
 - 25 Former justice Sandra Day ___
 - 27 Email filter target
 - 28 Pros' counterparts
 - 29 Subside
 - 32 Jellyfish poison
 - 34 Cone-bearing tree
 - 37 "Skip to My ___"
 - 38 *Anonymous female
 - 40 High or low card
 - 41 Coffee-chocolate mix
 - 43 It may be made into a crop top
 - 44 Cried like a raven
 - 46 Hybrid golf garment
 - 48 Like stress balls
 - 49 Initial stage
 - 51 Fender imperfections
 - 52 Rubberneck
 - 54 Kept up the lawn
 - 56 "Good heavens!"
 - 59 "There ___ no words"
 - 60 Yellow-orange stone fruit
 - 62 Tiny battery
 - 63 Liquor in a Negroni
 - 64 Cherished person, and a phonetic hint to each starred clue's answer
 - 65 Compete in a 5K, say
 - 66 Sunday paper inserts
 - 67 Stuck (to)
 - 68 Animal in a pen
- DOWN**
- 1 Offer bait to
 - 2 "Carmen," for instance
 - 3 Honeydew, e.g.
 - 4 Us and them?
 - 5 Loops in on an email
 - 6 Instant when things click
 - 7 Magical power
 - 8 It's entered online to redeem a discount
 - 9 Manatee's habitat
 - 10 Europe's oldest capital city
 - 11 Take lessons
 - 12 Nintendo's mascot
 - 13 Make changes to
 - 18 Leak slowly
 - 19 Gas in bar signs
 - 24 Volcanic flow
 - 26 Italian resort lake
 - 29 Tree susceptible to beetles
 - 30 Disapproving shouts
 - 31 "Hee Haw" co-host
 - 33 Word before a dropped surname
 - 34 *President of the National Congress of American Indians
 - 35 Like cold lattes
 - 36 Color of beet juice
 - 38 Containers for pickled beets
 - 39 Apt abbr. hidden in "price control"
 - 42 Traffic jam noise
 - 45 Traffic jam component
 - 47 Filled in at an office
 - 48 Given a new look
 - 50 Temple text
 - 51 Wallpaper, rugs, etc.
 - 52 Lady who sings
 - 53 Like Mauritania's climate
 - 55 Hidden mike
 - 57 Island with a ferry to Lanai
 - 58 Yin's counterpart
 - 60 Org. on a mouthwash bottle
 - 61 "Chopped" host Allen

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021 A Martian Matter of Freedom



These final days before the Mars change recall our relationship with responsibility. It is hard to feel free and positive about your obligations. They may, on the surface, be pleasant activities that require work that's not so bad or a price that is easy to pay. Still, *having* to do something is much different from *getting* to do it. Exercise freedoms.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Prehistoric humans relied on their ears to make their way through the wild without being eaten. Listening well remains among the top survival skills; it will be your strength today. You'll clue in to what others miss.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Stay open to the possibilities. It is all too easy to resist the ideas that don't fit with your notion of how the world is or should be. But one such idea will be your success key.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Hours of practice have helped you refine your talent. Now you expect the same work ethic of others. You'll get what you're looking for, so hold out until then.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your novel and interesting activities will attract questions, all of which you'll handle in one way or another. So, have no fear of this outside interest; it will ultimately further your cause.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's time to update your information systems, including the ones that help you run your life efficiently, and of course, the one in your head running the show. Seek only solutions that are cheap, simple and immediate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be appreciated for your image instead of your essence. To be fair, you've put a great deal of yourself into your packaging, which is very attractive. Golden are the ones who take the time to learn what's inside.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Confidence will not coincide with competence. Those who know a little will feel they know everything, and those who know more will feel small next to the mountain of knowledge there is to gain on even the most granular subject.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A challenging situation will inspire you to play the "What if?" game -- a thought exercise that will lead you to your next move. Instead of asking, "What if I fail?" ask, "What if I succeed?"

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). People trust you. They'll bring rough ideas and ask you to shape them. It's a responsibility you don't take lightly, even though it's also a whole lot of fun!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's an art to setting a price. The expert bargainers start with a number that's too high, fully expecting to dance their way down to a mutually agreeable arrangement.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're cooking up the sort of ideas that lead to the sweet life. Give into them! To do great things, you need great passion. It's not the only ingredient, but good luck getting this cake to bake without it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The power of a legend cannot be felt by the characters within them. Also, people can only be as famous as the people around them think they are. The nature of celebrity will be a theme today.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 25). Inspiration flows strong. You got a year older and your mind got five years younger because of all you learned, the mental exercise you put yourself through and curiosity, which is a fountain of youth. A purchase will last you the next decade, and a special relationship will build into the far-flung future. Libra and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 4, 28, 36 and 17.

Universal SUDOKU

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

	6	7		4	3			
9			7	8		6		
5		8		6		3	7	
3			6			4	8	2
			4	5	1			
4	7	9			8			6
	1	6		7		2		5
		3		1	5			9
			8	3		1	4	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

SOLUTIONS

2	9	5	8	3	6	7	4	1
6	9	7	4	3	2	1	5	8
5	2	3	5	7	4	2	3	6
4	7	9	6	3	2	8	5	1
6	8	2	4	5	1	7	9	3
3	5	1	6	9	7	4	8	2
9	3	4	7	8	2	6	5	1
1	6	7	5	4	3	9	8	2