

Universal Freestyle 1 by Stella Zawistowski

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20				21	22					23				
24			25		26				27					
28				29			30	31					32	
			33				34				35	36		
			37											
			38											
39					40				41			42	43	44
45			46	47			48	49			50			
51						52					53		54	
55					56					57	58			
59					60					61				
62					63					64				

- ACROSS**
- 1 Paintball player's cry
 - 6 What icons on a phone stand for
 - 10 Basics
 - 14 Sister's daughter, maybe
 - 15 Blood thinners might prevent one
 - 16 Steak specification
 - 17 Reptile that symbolizes treachery
 - 18 "Yep, totes!"
 - 20 Little bit
 - 21 "The Great British Baking Show" treat
 - 23 Sword-and-sandal epic costumes
 - 24 Composer Satie
 - 26 Spoil
 - 27 Country with an important canal
 - 28 What's hit at a 39-Down
 - 30 Org. that might certify an AC tech
 - 32 Kitty's sound
 - 33 Squatter, say?
 - 37 Major event in Major League Baseball
 - 38 Carbs also called "butterflies"
 - 39 ___ Schwarz
 - 40 Portland-to-Seattle dir.
 - 41 Best Animated Short Film and others
 - 45 Dressed like a gender-bending queen
 - 48 (Gimme a treat!)
 - 50 Greek goddess of marriage
 - 51 Sprinter ___ Moses
 - 52 Chef's sharp tool
 - 54 Line with one end, in math
 - 55 Minneapolis twin?
 - 57 Cloud-forming insects
 - 59 "Peter Pan" fairy, for short
 - 60 Pay to play, in a way
 - 61 "Don't go easy on the other team!"
 - 62 Uses an abacus, perhaps
 - 63 Disorderly room
 - 64 Stockholm resident
- DOWN**
- 1 Marching synchronously
 - 2 Lee Isaac Chung film named for a Korean vegetable
 - 3 Way to park
 - 4 "Gross!"
 - 5 Tops worn with jeans
 - 6 Sound before a blessing?
 - 7 Snack foods whose container features a monocled legume
 - 8 Skin opening
 - 9 The "S" of PST: Abbr.
 - 10 Alphabetically first noble gas
 - 11 Darts and cornhole, for two
 - 12 Liquid that lightens coffee
 - 13 What one can't play on?
 - 19 ___ snail's pace
 - 22 Moving like a snail
 - 25 Punch sound, in comics
 - 27 Couples up
 - 29 Reason for a civil case
 - 31 "Guilty," e.g.
 - 34 Biblical paradise
 - 35 Is the right size for
 - 36 Show the ropes to
 - 37 Saxophone or flute, e.g.
 - 38 Short-term solution
 - 39 Spanish party
 - 42 Fill with bubbles
 - 43 Not tween-appropriate
 - 44 "I'm the one declaring this!"
 - 46 Icy venues for Adam Rippon
 - 47 Tiny, six-legged worker
 - 49 Makes mad
 - 52 Girl group Danity ___
 - 53 Tamagoyaki ingredients
 - 56 "Foxy Brown" actress Grier
 - 58 Completely fresh

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022 Lunar Conjunctions



When we leave the house with the intention of having an experience, what often results is a whole lot of fun. But when our intention is dutiful attendance to familiar places, things and people, our spirit of adventure has a way of falling asleep. Three lunar conjunctions will shake the spirit of adventure awake, magnetizing life's interesting side.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You felt trapped and now you'll be released, not because someone else had the key but because you have come to understand the situation from a vantage point that shows you all the ins and outs.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Going into a new situation is exciting and scary. There's no amount of forethought that will let you know what you're getting into. You will prevail, though; trust that.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Much is riding on your decisions. Other people's lives will be affected, not to mention in some way, however small, the course of history. So even though it would be easier to act impulsively, you'll take time to reflect.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've just reached the top of a mountain only to discover there are several more ranges to cross. Don't lose heart. If you can do it once, you can do it a hundred times.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The opportunity to bring your work to a new crowd or to mingle outside of your usual setting is not to be missed. Don't worry about fitting in. Whether you technically fit or not, you'll be a smashing success.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). In life and music, one rhythm is not inherently better than other, rather there are different moods produced by different beats. You'll groove, march and tap dance through the day, responding perfectly to its many tones.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You learn a lot about people because you don't make assumptions. Your listening skills help you deepen a connection and create understanding.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's a waste to wait for inspiration or motivation. Move even when you are not motivated and you'll get the same good result as if you had moved when you were.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Trust your instincts. They are creative, accurate and healthy. What you want to do may be difficult but you have the courage and tenacity to do hard things.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If you downplay your accomplishments, you'll insinuate doubt in an otherwise neutral mind. If you praise yourself, it will only annoy. For today, you'll win socially by not discussing yourself at all.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your plans cannot be carried out alone. There are two other important players on the team. Take measures to build the morale of these people and make sure that the communication lines between the three of you are open.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). More organization will be necessary for the plan to go smoothly. Get your priorities straight first to avoid wasting time on things that won't matter to you in the long run.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 2). You've a permanent home in the hearts of others. There's comfort in this. Feeling loved and safe inspires you to take risks. You'll get to spend more time with someone you've been missing. You'll have the means to spoil the people you love, and their reactions will be precious. A new professional circle will open to you. Virgo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 4, 14, 44 and 20.

Universal SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆☆

E	O	E	M	S	S	S	M	S	O	D	Y			
W	E	L	T	E	N	U	N	K	N	I	T			
S	T	L	I	N	G	T	L	P	T	N	I	V	S	
A	V	A	R	F	I	N	K	N	I	M	O	D		
V	A	R	E	H	A	R	F	A	G	A	D	I	A	
S	A	R	E	S	C	S	O	N	N	O	F	A		
S	A	V	A	R	E	S	P	E	A	I	T	M	O	
S	E	I	R	E	R	I	E	R	E	M	O	D		
T	E	R	E	R	I	F	T	E	R	M	O	D		
M	E	M	E	N	T	A	P	E	R	A	N	I	P	
V	W	N	A	V	P	A	I	O	R	A	V	I	R	
S	V	O	T	O	S	C	S	O	N	N	O	F	A	
S	V	G	R	E	D	D	A	V	H	N	O	S	E	
R	A	R	E	C	L	O	T	R	A	R	E	N	I	
A	B	C	S	A	P	S	A	P	A	R	T	I	M	I

SOLUTIONS

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

There's a Place for Us by Paul Coulter

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13				14		15				16				
17					18					19				
	20								21	22				
23					24		25	26		27			28	
29			30	31		32				33				
34					35		36					37		
					38			39		40		41		
42	43	44			45		46			47		48	49	50
51					52					53		54		
55						56				57		58		
	59				60				61		62	63		
64					65	66	67						68	
69					70						71			
72					73						74			

- ACROSS**
- 1 Regarding
 - 5 "On Earth ___ Briefly Gorgeous" (Vuong novel)
 - 9 Bygone Russian ruler
 - 13 False appearance
 - 15 Jazz pianist Jones
 - 16 ___ mater
 - 17 Where to find a roof?
 - 19 Gym count
 - 20 One of the Teletubbies
 - 21 Smooth transition
 - 23 Color similar to khaki
 - 24 Raunchy material
 - 27 Colorful aquarium fish
 - 29 Strike down
 - 32 Where to find soap bubbles?
 - 34 Advanced H.S. math course
 - 36 Futbol cheer
 - 37 The "A" of T.A.
 - 38 Gallbladder fluid
 - 40 Untruthful person
 - 42 Lumpy stocking stuffer
 - 45 Jimmy Eat World genre
 - 47 Middy nap
 - 51 Where to find logs?
 - 54 Senegal's capital
 - 55 Soup-serving utensil
 - 56 Hamilton bills
 - 58 Lead-in to "Pen" or "center"
 - 59 Works hard
 - 61 Machine for a Tide Pod
 - 64 Philly Ivy
 - 65 Where to find a sweater?
 - 69 Abhor
 - 70 Old Italian bread?
 - 71 Cookies with a Mega Stuf variety
 - 72 De-wrinkling appliance
 - 73 Wyatt or Wynona
 - 74 Major employer?
- DOWN**
- 1 Back in time
 - 2 Light therapy device
 - 3 Film with the theme song "My Heart Will Go On"
 - 4 Dept. of Labor agency
 - 5 Question at the end of a riddle, sometimes
 - 6 Water, in French
 - 7 M.D.'s co-workers
 - 8 ___ out (barely gets)
 - 9 Location to be hit
 - 10 Detectives
 - 11 Units of electrical current
 - 12 Dorm event planners, for short
 - 14 Slippery fish
 - 18 "History ___ Its Eyes on You" ("Hamilton" song)
 - 22 "When will you be here?"
 - 23 PreCheck org.
 - 25 Game whose name is a Spanish number
 - 26 Like most WNBA players
 - 28 "___ is meant to disturb, science reassures"
 - 30 Cloth napkins and placemats, e.g.
 - 31 Former Giant Manning
 - 33 Floral necklaces
 - 35 Music staff symbol
 - 39 Radiate
 - 41 Help
 - 42 ___-de-sac
 - 43 Going nonstop
 - 44 Expand, like a house
 - 46 Underground rock band?
 - 48 Biting insect, informally
 - 49 Place with many beers on draft
 - 50 Name hidden in "car insurance"
 - 52 Lil ___ Howery ("Get Out" actor)
 - 53 Swaddle
 - 57 Lowered your seat?
 - 60 Bottom of a shoe
 - 62 "Ziwe" channel, for short
 - 63 Queen on Mount Olympus
 - 64 Greek letter before chi
 - 66 By way of
 - 67 Screw up
 - 68 One-named K-pop star

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022 Triple Conjunctions



The moon makes three conjunctions today. First, it's Venus, the love goddess, getting attention from the realm of traditional Capricorn. Then Pluto gets a nod, and finally, after a sign change, Mercury. These lunar visits promise an active day in which ambition gets us into the strangest situations, and emotions get processed after the fact.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Maybe it's cynical to think that people are being nice in hopes of future favors returned but it's not altogether wrong. Good thing you are well-versed in the land of politics.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Managing expectations will be an important part of your day. Master it by underpromising and overdelivering. In the end, you'll be someone's hero.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). From Shakespeare to the planner. This is a good day to let play out, unplanned. Let your creed be one of minding your own business.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The current problem is integral to the well-being of the people around you, and you'll derive great satisfaction and pride from solving it even if you go uncompensated. The solution will be the reward.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). While it would be foolish to aim to make mistakes, it's equally silly to avoid and fear them. The wise do not aim to live without folly. There's much to learn in a tidy little mess.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Reflection is in order. Why did you start this journey? Your reasons have changed along the way, which is perfectly natural and will be very helpful to keep track of.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Thinking is the brain's natural sorting process. Maybe it's enough to let your mind comfortably sift through the day without putting extra pressure on yourself to solve everything for everyone.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There is a way to have your cake and eat it, too. It's all about portion control. By acting in moderation, you'll be able to savor the present pleasures without ruining your chances for future ones.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A social circle opens to include you. There was a time you would have found this crowd intimidating but now you fit right in, like you've always belonged there.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Would you rather win in a minor league game or lose in a major league game? You have a choice to make. Which option offers you the biggest opportunity to learn?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're not trying to make jokes but when you say the truth, it makes people laugh. Oddly enough, the truth can be a very unusual thing to say.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Someone trusts you enough to give you great responsibilities and seemingly impossible duties. You'll rise to the occasion and hone your skills on these difficult tasks. This is the price of greatness.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 3). This will be a year of truly magical moments. A wondrous mix of luck, talent and opportunity will culminate in no less than 10 2022 events. You'll focus on your loved ones' needs, connect with them on deep levels and understand how to make them happy. Your people will be very loyal to you and be advocates and ambassadors for your cause. Scorpio and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 22, 18, 6 and 40.

Universal SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

A	W	R	A	R	E	A	R	N	O	R		
S	O	E	R	O	A	I	T	E	L	A	V	
P	O	T	H	E	R	I	T	A	N	N	E	P
R	E	H	S	A	M	S	T	I	O	L	T	
I	D	E	S	N	E	I	E	T	E	D	O	V
K	V	K	O	E	R	E	R	E	D	N	O	V
A	T	I	A	S	E	I	E	C	O	V	A	R
A	V	I	L	I	S	T	I	E	B	A		
T	S	S	V	E	L	O	C	T	A	V	C	A
H	S	H	T	A	V	L	A	N	I	A	S	
H	S	T	E	T	A	T	E	T	A	S	N	A
G	O	V	E	S	E	S	E	V	A	V	L	A
S	S	R	E	S	E	H	O	H	E	H	N	O
L	T	L	K	A	N	K	A	N	I	A	S	
A	W	R	A	R	E	T	S	A	R	E		

SOLUTIONS

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