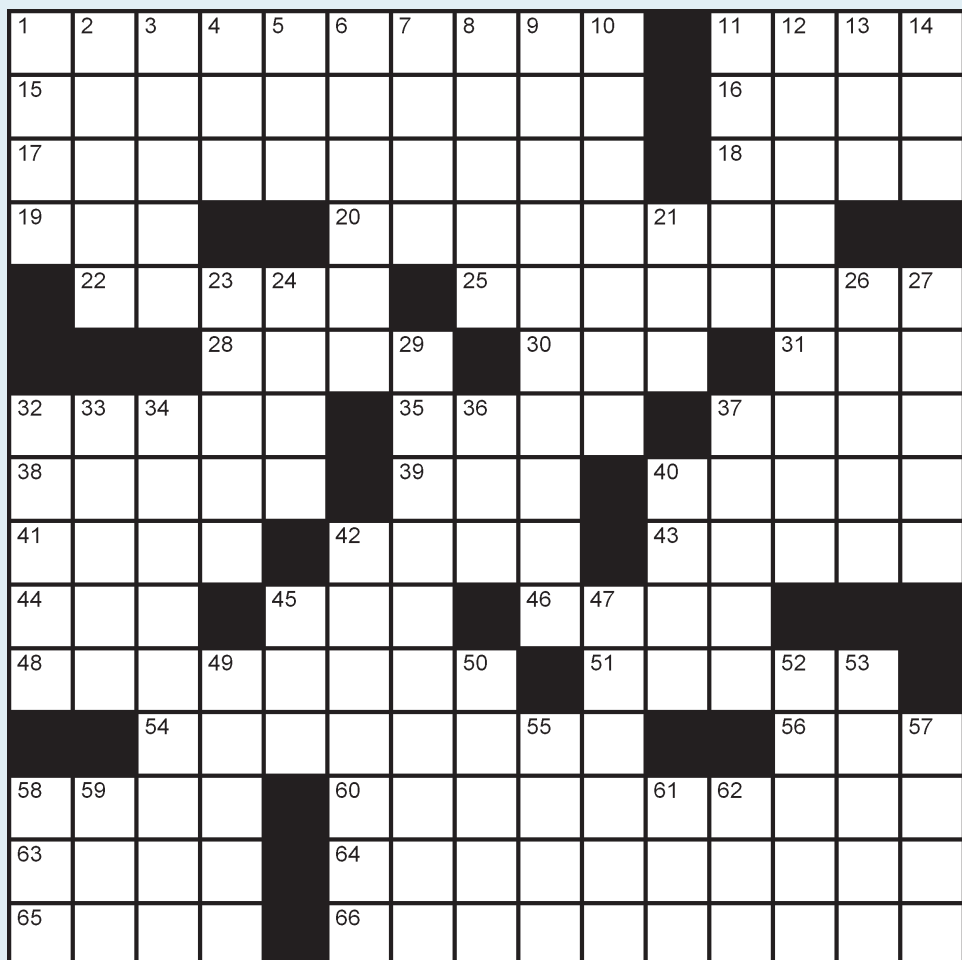


### Universal Freestyle 11 by Adrian Johnson

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS**
- 1 "That's disappointing"
  - 11 Concert blasters
  - 15 Broadcasting structure
  - 16 "Othello" villain
  - 17 "It's only me"
  - 18 Rhyme for "away" in "You Are My Sunshine"
  - 19 Pull with force
  - 20 Kind of band at many Mexican baptisms
  - 22 Hippie's goal
  - 25 Both parents in some expecting couples
  - 28 Ahi, e.g.
  - 30 Flower necklace
  - 31 Weightlifter's pride, for short
  - 32 Make changes to
  - 35 Tolkien series, briefly
  - 37 Prince under a spell, perhaps
  - 38 Pair of cymbals on a stand
  - 39 Goat's cry
  - 40 Stopped hitting snooze, say
  - 41 Track-and-field event
  - 42 Braille markings
  - 43 Doesn't wear out
  - 44 An ostrich's often weighs about three pounds
  - 45 Largest Chinese ethnic group
  - 46 "I'm Every Woman" singer Chaka
  - 48 They lead you nowhere
  - 51 Grouchy Muppet
  - 54 Home to Canada's Polar Bear Capital of the World
  - 56 "Queer Eye" fashion expert France
  - 58 Money owed
  - 60 Liable to mess up
  - 63 Boo-boo
  - 64 "Hmm ..."
  - 65 Colorful part of a match
  - 66 Mythical aquatic snake
- DOWN**
- 1 Order from the court
  - 2 Exaggerate, as a role
  - 3 "Money talks," e.g.
  - 4 Dusk-dawn link?
  - 5 MSN alternative
  - 6 Pollen-bearing organ
  - 7 Greeting in Santo Domingo
  - 8 "I need to speak with you," informally
  - 9 Undignified undertaking
  - 10 Bookworm's gizmo
  - 11 "Sounds like a plan," in Black vernacular
  - 12 Iconic Nintendo sibs
  - 13 Links org.
  - 14 Nondairy milk source
  - 21 "\_\_\_: Vegas" (forensic series)
  - 23 Troubled to no end
  - 24 Abrupt
  - 26 Helpful upward push
  - 27 Jigsaw puzzle sides
  - 29 Source of the nuts in most biscotti
  - 32 Arabic name meaning "highly praised"
  - 33 Feudal subject
  - 34 West African country named for a river
  - 36 Nondairy milk source
  - 37 Money of Benin
  - 40 "Such a pity"
  - 42 Film producer Lee
  - 45 Chicks' mother
  - 47 Croaky
  - 49 Like the clue "Mountain: Comb. form" for OREO
  - 50 In a way, informally
  - 52 Make up (for)
  - 53 Babbled interminably
  - 55 Person who reviews reports
  - 57 Lizardlike amphibian
  - 58 Homer Simpson cry
  - 59 Lambs' mother
  - 61 Part of KPH
  - 62 AOC, for one

### HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2022 Conjunction of Dreams



The sun and Neptune, the planet of trancey imaginings, align in ethereal Pisces. Cue the billowy clouds, the diffused light show and other odd ambiance to touch the dreamscape with theatrical absurdity. The Leo moon will chime in to carry the theme through the early week. Experiment boldly. Be your own dream weaver.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Though your past has a lot to do with your present, it doesn't have to impact your future. There are many reasons to interrupt a pattern. You've outgrown it; it doesn't feel right; it's boring... The list goes on.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** You try to keep your friends out of mischief, though it's not always possible or wise. In protecting or covering for a friend, you'll walk the line between loyalty and codependency.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Think about what you really want because when you're not sure, you'll send out a mixed signal. That's like casting a fishing line out with pizza for bait. What you'll reel in with that is anyone's guess.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** "May you live in interesting times and attract the attention of important people." This traditional wish sounds like a blessing but is actually a curse. Go carefully into potentially ego-inflating situations.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Just when you think you have it all figured out, experience will bring you something baffling and new. You won't mind today's pickle, especially since you're in it with an interesting someone.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You make friends easily, yet good friendships are still hard to come by. You're about to encounter that magical blend of mutual interest, logistical convenience and the indescribable X-factor.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Someone has borrowed part of you, and it is now time to call it back. This will be an internal process. You'll focus on the task at hand and realize that it will require the wholeness of your energy. From there, boundaries are easy to set.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You can't become mighty, clever or confident without fortifying your weaknesses. And you don't know what your weaknesses are until you make mistakes. This is why it's better to take on the harder challenges.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** There are times when the detours are sweeter than the main path. This is not one of those times. Steer clear of distractions, especially games, shopping and expensive enticements.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Hopefully you don't mind being copied; people want to be like you today. You seem like you know what you're doing, and you make the activity look cool. You'll gain admirers as well as followers.

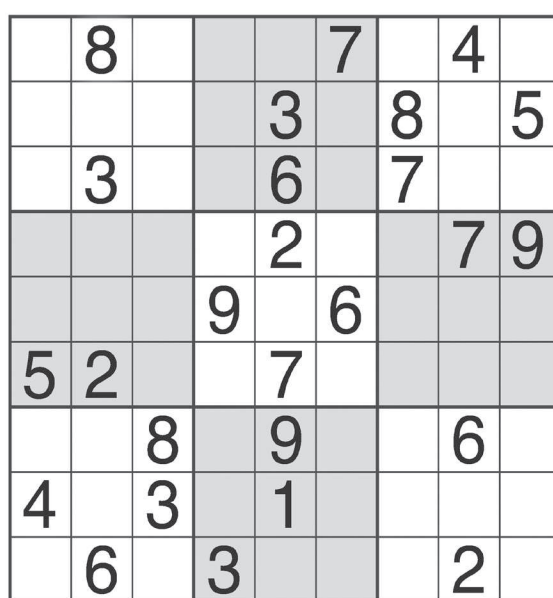
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Your voice is clear, and your presence is strong. Anyone new to the scene will assume you have authority. Ask for what you want. You'll either get it immediately or you'll find out how to get it.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** It may be an inconvenient time for certain aspects of a relationship, but you'll make room for everything that needs to happen because love is worth it.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 13).** Creativity is one of your love languages. You'll be inventive and make things for people. These contributions mean so much more than anything that can be bought at a store. Often the thing you make is not a physical item, rather it's an exchange or an experience, every bit as alive as something you can hold. Leo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 13, 16, 27 and 1.

### Universal SUDOKU

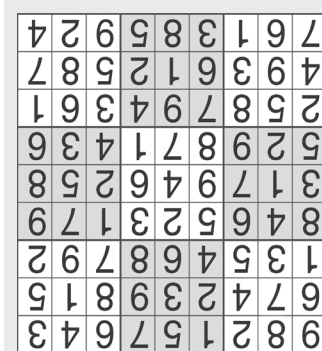
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

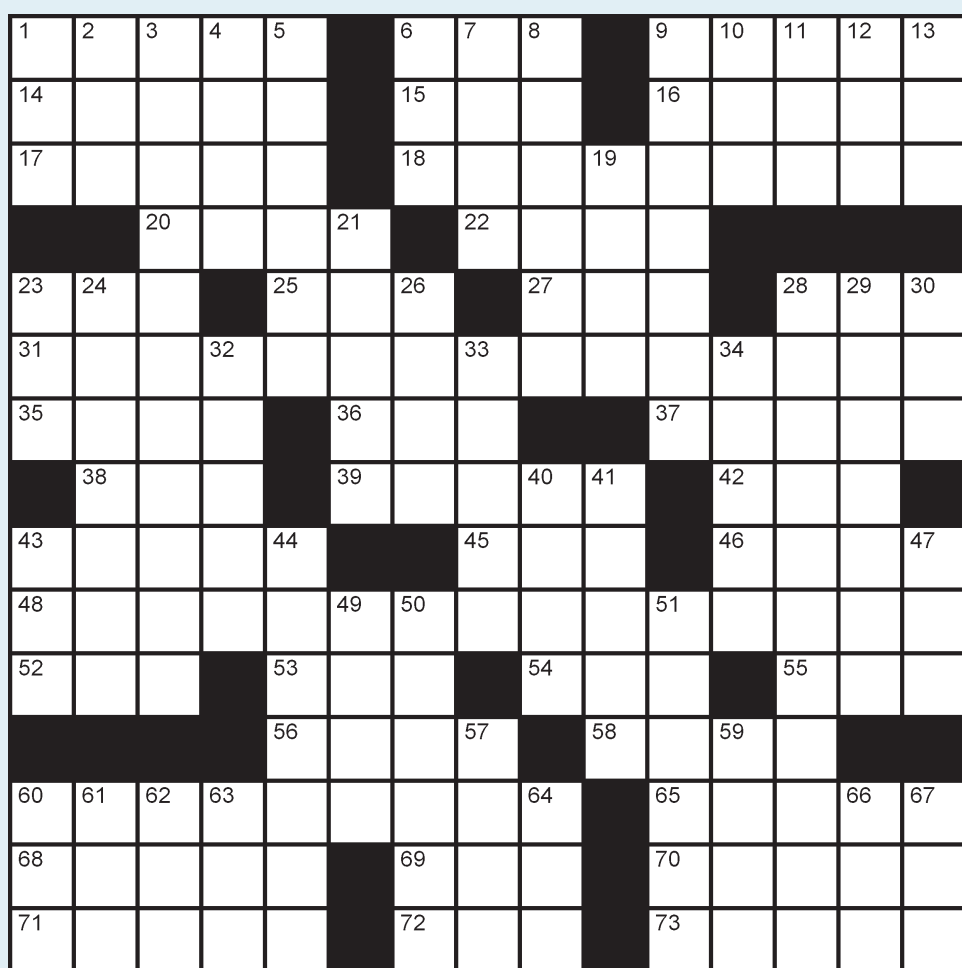


### SOLUTIONS



### Deconstructed Lunch by Alex Eaton-Salners

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS**
- 1 Single chance?
  - 6 Crispy sandwich
  - 9 Links, like devices
  - 14 A step stool extends it
  - 15 Pole with a blade
  - 16 Like many small-budget films
  - 17 \_\_\_ coil (electrical gizmo)
  - 18 Bulbous church topper
  - 20 Fish popular in poke
  - 22 \_\_\_ & Buster's
  - 23 Comedian Wong
  - 25 Flattering poem
  - 27 Name disguised in "Among Us"
  - 28 Draw, scorewise
  - 31 Savor an experience
  - 35 About 2.2 lb.
  - 36 Number of consonants in "aioli"
  - 37 Pale purple
  - 38 Stitch a seam, say
  - 39 Nines and tens, but not elevens
  - 42 Just out
  - 43 Biblical traitor
  - 45 Fake user
  - 46 Barely manages, with "out"
  - 48 Candid talk
  - 52 Word after "skeleton" or "shift"
  - 53 "That's right!"
  - 54 Fast-food chain with buckets
  - 55 Texans' org.
  - 56 Persian greeting?
  - 58 Notability
  - 60 Appliance sometimes used for part of the food suggested by 18-, 31- and 48-Across' starts
  - 65 Vertical piece of a stair
  - 68 \_\_\_ mix (hiking snack)
  - 69 Peron in Argentine history
  - 70 Still kicking
  - 71 Up to, but not past
  - 72 Sen.'s counterpart
  - 73 Plant-\_\_\_ diet
- DOWN**
- 1 The most beautiful deception of all, per Debussy
  - 2 Golfer's peg
  - 3 July 14, in France
  - 4 Grp. that fights for rights
  - 5 "Avengers: Infinity War" villain
  - 6 Startling shout
  - 7 Touch the runway
  - 8 Emergency sorting process
  - 9 Evergreen-scented cleaner
  - 10 &
  - 11 Wedding words
  - 12 Canyon's edge
  - 13 Observe
  - 19 Fallopian tube traveler
  - 21 Special-purpose, as a committee
  - 23 Biblical boat
  - 24 \_\_\_ suit ('70s garment)
  - 26 Sicilian volcano
  - 28 Power of mind over matter?
  - 29 Blown away by
  - 30 List-shortening abbr.
  - 32 Dubuque resident
  - 33 Rosemary and thyme
  - 34 Extracts, as ore
  - 40 Place to board a cruise ship
  - 41 Things, collectively
  - 43 Prez before LBJ
  - 44 Longtime in-flight magazine
  - 47 Show with 86 Emmys, briefly
  - 49 Grazer in a forest
  - 50 Chemical variant
  - 51 Egyptian beetle
  - 57 "\_\_\_ all been there"
  - 59 Kunis of "Black Swan"
  - 60 Heat meas.
  - 61 Caterer's dispenser
  - 62 D.C. baller
  - 63 Game console since 2006
  - 64 Saweetie's genre
  - 66 December 31, for one
  - 67 Stop sign color

### HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2022 Antagonizing Leo Moon



The cat moon is a sibling antagonist along today's lunar path, beginning with a swipe at Mars before upsetting Venus and then going way too far with Uranus. When life is an irritating, familiar bully, just remember that you always have a choice about what's worth reacting to and how.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You're the favorite. Call in a favor and you'll be lavished. Behave badly and you'll be instantly forgiven. Act on your whimsy and you will be inexplicably understood.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Someone has a lot less power than you assumed. The situation is a little like Dorothy and friends visiting the Wizard of Oz. Sometimes powerful people pose and pretend because it's what the citizens expect.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Can the essence of life be seen? Today you feel like you can see it -- and hear and dance to it, too. There are certain people and places that occur to you like geysers of vitality.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Crying is not a form of weakness; it's a way of processing emotion. Each tear is a healing balm. Even so, you'll be somewhat strategic, processing your emotions when and where it is smart to do so.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Your apprehensions keep you from taking a risk not worth taking. But when you see the opportunity that seems right for you, you'll have the courage to move through fear and seize the moment.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Assess what you're dealing with through the lens of time. Some problems that seem massive in one moment can quickly become irrelevant. Ask yourself what you're likely to think about the situation next week.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** You speak kindly of all, show gratitude and return favors. Most importantly, you make time for those who need a friend. These quality habits are their own reward, but more will come your way.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You feel wronged by someone, yet, on some level, it also seems you agreed to the deal. That doesn't mean you should be stuck with it. Deals can be renegotiated or unmade.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You'll find yourself on the receiving end of unexpected niceties, perks and the like. Maybe the bounty is not coming from the direction you thought it would, but you have to admit it feels like your turn. Take it!

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Conversation can be competition. Distill it to its essence and it's basically, "I'm the best." "No, I'm the best." Or, "You're the best." "No, you're the best." It's just a competition of modesty.

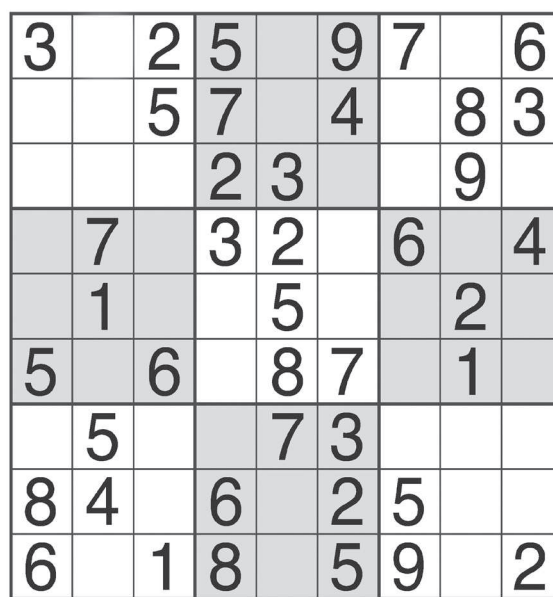
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Take a break from thinking about a problem. While your conscious mind is distracted, your subconscious will work out the knots and find a solution. Using your talents makes you feel rich.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Your priority is usually work over pleasure, others over yourself and duty over leisure. It's time to flip the script and appreciate life from both sides.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 14).** Confidence soars this year. You'll pin your adventurous spirit on a distant destination. There are many ways to get there; each path brings its own unique experience. You're inclined toward challenging terrain and people who have something to teach you. Improvements give you an edge at work and in your personal life. Pisces and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 15, 23 and 12.

### Universal SUDOKU

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



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆



### SOLUTIONS

