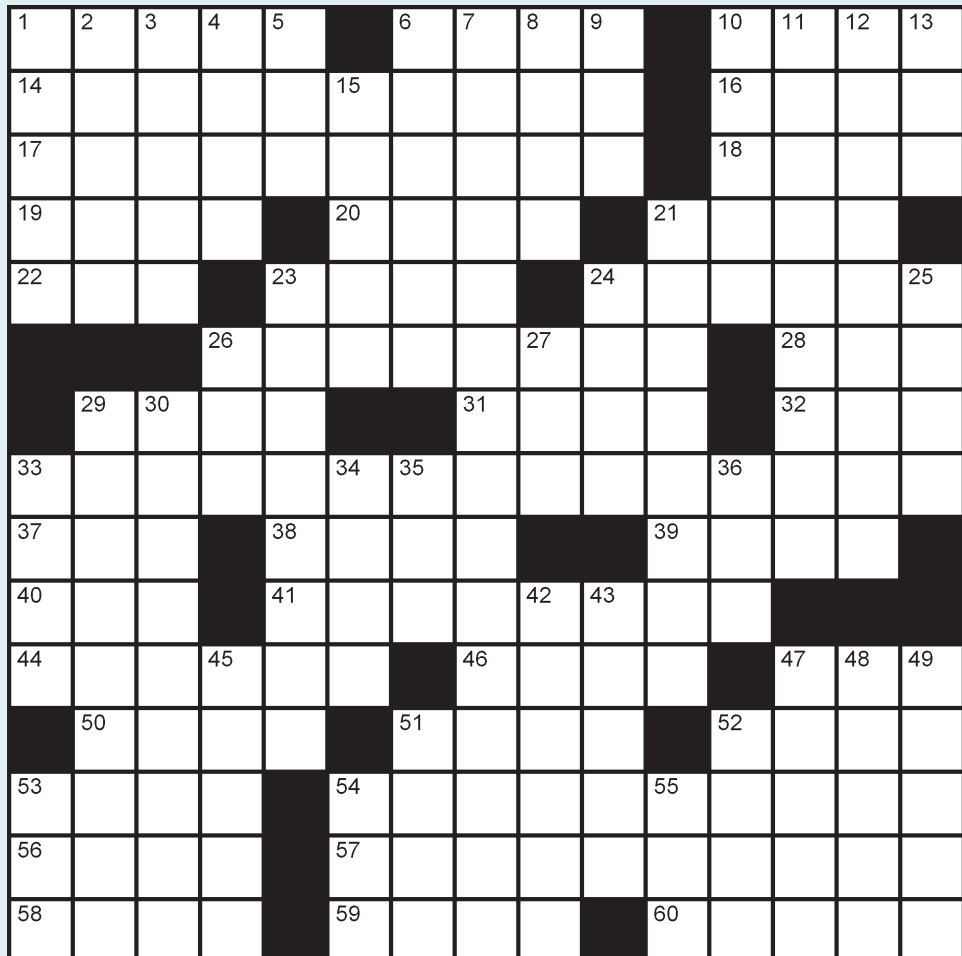


Universal Freestyle 16 by Jared Goudsmit

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS**
- 1 Polite, palindromic title
 - 6 Rummikub or Scrabble piece
 - 10 "Now I know my ..."
 - 14 It's not quite a free ride
 - 16 Jocasta, e.g., in "Oedipus Rex"
 - 17 New Year's Day event
 - 18 ___ angel (winter creation)
 - 19 Sprouted up
 - 20 Like eccentric humor
 - 21 Some swine
 - 22 See 56-Across
 - 23 Ivy near Drexel
 - 24 Summer camp fleet
 - 26 Extinct mammal that had large tusks
 - 28 Fawn's mother
 - 29 Commotions
 - 31 Zesty taste
 - 32 Relentless grind
 - 33 Embellish a story, say
 - 37 Harper or Spike
 - 38 Soothing stuff
 - 39 Purina alternative
 - 40 Belcalis Marlenis Almanzar, ___ Cardi B
 - 41 New Year's Day event
 - 44 Mainly nocturnal marsupial
 - 46 A wedge of it may be served with 47-Across
 - 47 Vietnamese soup
 - 50 Twinkling thing
 - 51 Zippo
 - 52 Word before "play" or "trade"
 - 53 (That was close!)
 - 54 Sci-fi author who helped inspire steampunk
 - 56 With 22-Across, cul-de-sac feature
 - 57 Parting phrase in Panama
 - 58 Military force
 - 59 "I've ___ had!"
 - 60 Private eye's jobs
- DOWN**
- 1 Join the freeway
 - 2 Sort of squash
 - 3 Gave medicine to
 - 4 From square one
 - 5 Wipe (up)
 - 6 Napoleon in "Animal Farm," e.g.
 - 7 Supposed Washington quote
 - 8 Title for a countess
 - 9 Before, to Shakespeare
 - 10 Pyromaniac's crime
 - 11 Salsa ingredient?
 - 12 "Everything must go!" events
 - 13 Stitch
 - 15 Puzzles for rats
 - 21 When something is up in the air?
 - 23 Where bow ties are on display
 - 24 Ice cream holder
 - 25 Rogen of "The Interview"
 - 26 A Stoooge
 - 27 "Well, lah-di-___!"
 - 29 Passed up pork, say
 - 30 Perfect squad
 - 33 Side made with cabbage
 - 34 Lump in Devonshire cream
 - 35 "By what metric?"
 - 36 Singer Carly ___ Jepsen
 - 42 Hotel Bible provider
 - 43 Build up
 - 45 Like indecent humor
 - 47 European capital where "Amelie" is set
 - 48 Door joint
 - 49 Cookies in a dirt cake
 - 51 Ready to skinny-dip
 - 52 Disaster relief org.
 - 53 Kissing at the park, e.g., briefly
 - 54 Unkind remark
 - 55 Rug cleaner, informally

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2022 Full Moon Poetics



A number of holidays are celebrated under today's full Scorpio moon, including International Haiku Poetry Day. In that spirit: Pink Scorpio Moon
Glowing with promise on this
A day of haiku.
May the rhythms of your life please you as they fall to form.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You don't expect people to think and behave like you do. This makes you easy to be around. Others can tell that you're not imposing rules or judgments on them. People feel accepted for who they are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When people get upset over minor details, it's not merely a sign of pettiness. Dramatic outbursts are indicative of wounds that happened in the past, or trouble that's been brewing a while.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll take care of your loved ones, catering your help to what they need. Even though practical help is appreciated, what's even more meaningful is the emotional support you provide without even realizing that you are.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Be thorough, pay attention to the details and follow the rules. Plans may cost slightly more than you thought, but an early course correction keeps it all in line.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You might find it temporarily appropriate to act like a parent toward someone who is not your child. While it's just what's needed in the moment, it's imperative to shift gears as things develop.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You make demands of yourself because you believe you can accomplish something remarkable -- and you're absolutely right about that. On a personal note, your talent for solo contentment makes others want to be with you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It doesn't matter how expensive, elegant or exciting the plan is because no matter what happens, it's who you're with that matters most. Bottom line: In the company of people you enjoy, life is enjoyable.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). "Don't sweat the small stuff," they say. "The little things add up," they say. So which is it? Forget about the scale of things for now and focus on their gravitational pull. If it's important, you'll be attracted to it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Why do those who know the least tend to talk the longest? Your observations may be brief by comparison, but they go right to the heart of the matter, so don't hesitate to lead the way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Being willing and able to fully connect with your fellow human beings means that heartbreak is an inevitability. So is healing. So is loving better. You're not afraid. You'll go boldly forward and give your all to relationships.

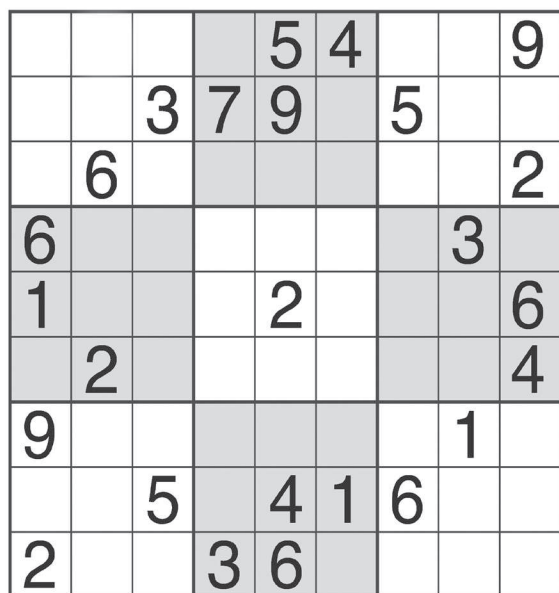
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Put a cap on your spending, especially in regard to what you contribute to those in your personal life. Though it's nice to pay the way from time to time, you don't need to buy things to prove your love.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're socially aware and it works to your advantage. Conversational breeziness features fitting topics. You have a terrific sense of who is open to you, when to advance and how best to retreat.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 17). Your talent for listening with your whole being makes wonderful music out of your year. People, nature and ideas intertwine, clash and harmonize to help you move toward an unexpected destiny much to your liking. Your openness engenders practical and magical connections for whatever you and your loved ones need. Aquarius and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 4, 44, 19 and 3.

Universal SUDOKU

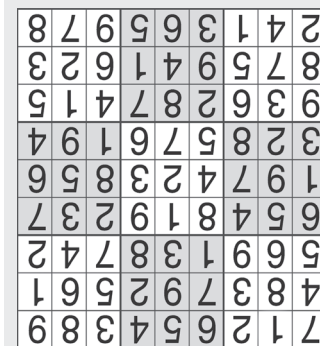
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

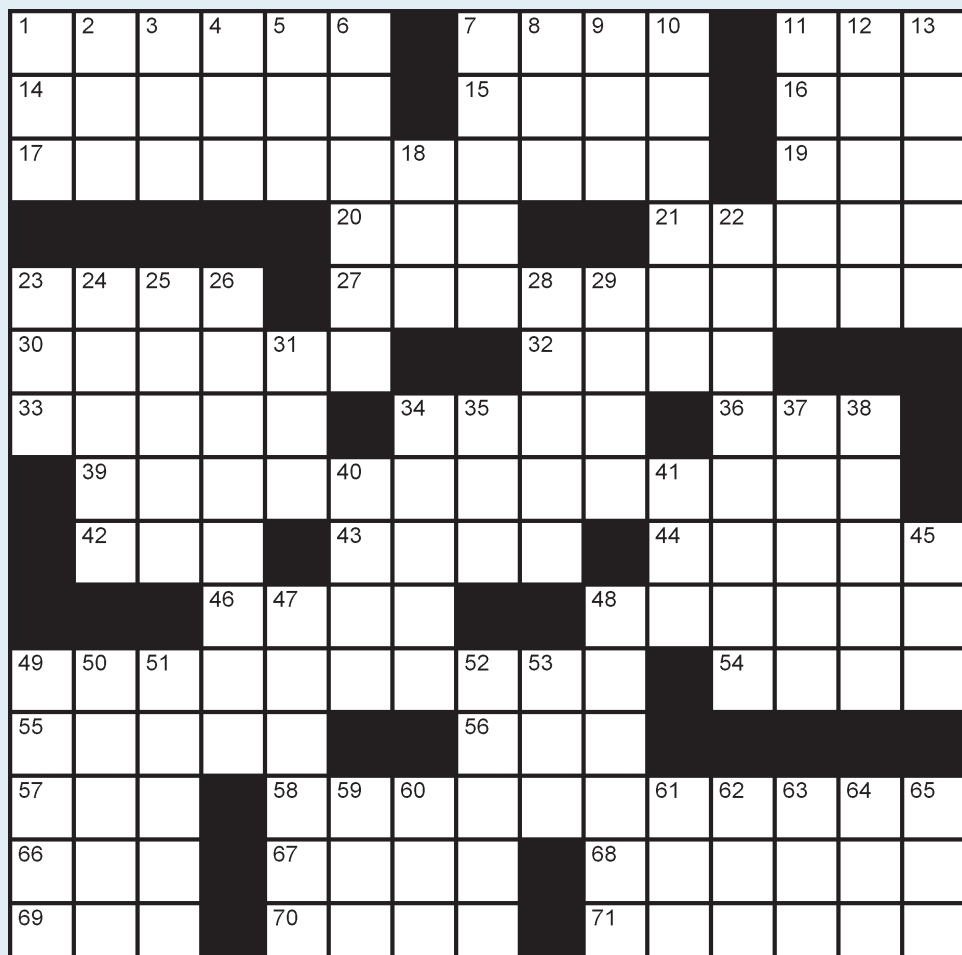


SOLUTIONS



Short Months by Brooke Husic

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS**
- 1 Halloween decoration under a fake spider
 - 7 Like some orders and tales
 - 11 Steamed
 - 14 "West Side Story" actress DeBose
 - 15 ___ gobi (potato/cauliflower dish)
 - 16 The "A" in IPA
 - 17 Certain air-freshening device
 - 19 Name hidden in "astronaut"
 - 20 Body spray brand
 - 21 Stop in for a sec
 - 23 SAT ___ course
 - 27 Spread made from a stone fruit
 - 30 Person making a call
 - 32 Far more than a few
 - 33 "Grand" amount
 - 34 Academic paper reviewer, often
 - 36 Faux ___ (gaffe)
 - 39 Second-tier high school squad
 - 42 Well-suited
 - 43 Whine
 - 44 Nutmeg State sch. where Diana Taurasi played b-ball
 - 46 Like the fit of some jeans
 - 48 Hypnotic state
 - 49 Brownish photo hues
 - 54 In case
 - 55 Second section of a plan
 - 56 "A bug!!"
 - 57 Earlier
 - 58 Place to buy a whimsical gift
 - 66 Org. with goalkeepers
 - 67 ___ out (crossed off)
 - 68 Tennis great Williams
 - 69 Get the picture
 - 70 Red ___ (cinnamon candies)
 - 71 Crusty kind of roll
- DOWN**
- 1 Lunchroom, briefly
 - 2 "Minecraft" resource
 - 3 Road race identifier
 - 4 Simple card game
 - 5 Opposite of WSW
 - 6 Street market
 - 7 Narrow to a point
 - 8 Every last bit
 - 9 MLB legend Gehrig
 - 10 Signs in
 - 11 Singer Blige
 - 12 Hawaiian goodbye
 - 13 Overalls material
 - 18 Driver's license abbr. before a date
 - 22 Nonstandard
 - 23 Summer hrs. in SoCal
 - 24 Red wine from Spain
 - 25 Finish every last bit of
 - 26 Tend to a friend's fern, say
 - 28 Clarifying words
 - 29 Fitting surname for Otto?
 - 31 "One Night in Miami" star Goree
 - 34 Teaser ad
 - 35 Actress Mendes
 - 37 Do penance
 - 38 Aligns, informally
 - 40 Leave out
 - 41 Opposite of norte
 - 45 Tennis court divider
 - 47 Middle Eastern yogurt
 - 48 "You should know better!"
 - 49 Floods with unwanted email
 - 50 ___ Dance (ceremony performed with artificial wings)
 - 51 Poetry's counterpart
 - 52 Requires
 - 53 Slithery fish
 - 59 Palindromic kitchenware brand
 - 60 Lab specialist?
 - 61 Pro vote
 - 62 ___ Lankan
 - 63 "___ So Fine" (Chiffons song)
 - 64 Number in this grid's upper left corner
 - 65 Standard score in disc golf

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022 The Reality of Nonreality



It happens all the time -- people fall in love with movie characters, believe in books, feel like they're living in a video game... These nonrealities can change our reality. Use this to your benefit as Mercury aligns with Uranus and the sun clashes with Pluto. It's an opportunity for surprising, purposeful and meaningful entertainment.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're engaged in a pursuit that will never stop being a lot of work for you. It's like a stair stepper that keeps producing a new step in front of you, though your elevation hardly changes. Only you can say whether it's worth it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Make backups, whether it's a digital copy of your computer files or a plan B for today's schedule. Thinking ahead to what might go wrong will make getting it right more likely.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It's like you're the on-call problem solver of your group. Don't stress yourself out over what they need; it's a lot. You don't have to have all the answers. It's OK to say, "I don't know."

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You feel a transition coming on, and you want to be graceful about it. This is where surrender comes in. Let go and trust that you will have a soft place to land.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Answer phone calls promptly. You will avoid confusion, miscommunication and awkward situations by following this one rule. Dealing with things in real time gives you power.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The sweet life is about loving what you have, especially your relationships. When you see opportunities to treat your cherished people, you don't hesitate. It will make them feel special to know they are important to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You walk into a room and you set the tone. There's no shortage of people who want to be around you. Just by liking the life you're living and living the life you like, you influence people.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Persistence is your thing. You're even persistent about being persistent. So long as you feel there is something else you can do that might help you achieve your goal, you'll keep after it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Eliminate stressful triggers. It's the daily habits -- for instance, always putting your keys and your glasses back in the same place -- that make life smooth and allow you to focus on highly valued relationships.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're becoming aware of the ways you get off track. There's an art to redirection, a way to lead yourself back to productivity. Sometimes it's easier to change your environment first. Your thoughts will follow suit.

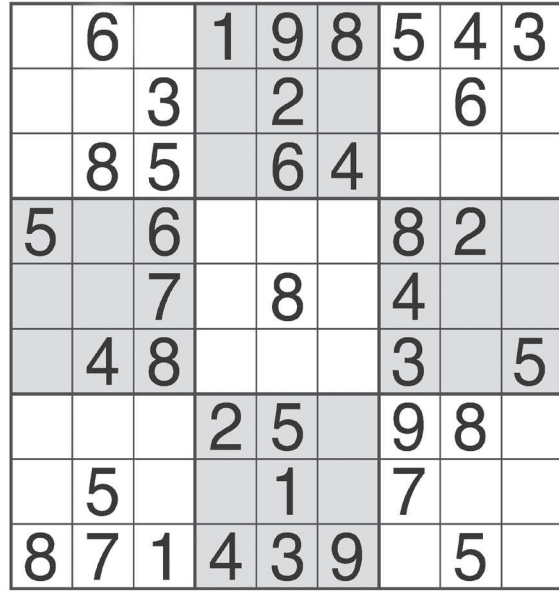
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The weather has shifted yet again, and your priorities adjust right along with the change. You'll be coming back to a part of yourself you haven't seen in a while. This part has been waiting patiently for your return.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When you started this work, you weren't expecting anyone to saddle up and carry some of the load. And though you didn't ask, the sweet moment comes when you realize it's happening all by itself. Your team is emerging.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 18). Your goals are unique, and your list of must-do experiences eclectic. You'll work these plans like a boss this year, and with very little support at first. But as you forge forward with confidence, people join you, resources are offered, skills developed. You become the person who can bring your exciting visions into reality. Cancer and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 30, 1, 27 and 14.

Universal SUDOKU

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



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆



SOLUTIONS

