

Puzzle Pieces by Ryan Patrick Smith

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg

Grid for Puzzle Pieces crossword puzzle with numbered squares.

- ACROSS: 1 One who's a different person at work? 6 Excessively exacting 10 Tesla 14 Brownish gray 15 Takes shape 16 Prefix for "potent" 17 How a recluse might live 19 Name's go-with on a worksheet 20 One lives rent-free 21 Name that's a verb meaning "eat" backward 22 Needle droppers 23 Eat enough 26 What's in the eye of the beholder 29 Picture of a bone, maybe 30 May, to Peter Parker 31 Software iteration 33 Name within "madam" 36 Puzzle fan suggested by the ends of 17-, 23-, 46- and 57-Across 40 Sugar substitute? 41 Mischievous sprite 42 Swine's squeal 43 It goes whichever way the wind blows 44 They can be argumentative 46 John Williams leitmotif named for Harry Potter's owl 51 Sync up 52 Job-related move, for short 53 Agent Roy Petty's org. in "Ozark" 56 Prosecco, e.g., in Italian 57 Kids' show with a Thinking Chair 60 And others: Abbr. 61 Tear apart 62 Sorta 63 Foam dart maker 64 Queries 65 Like bubble baths DOWN: 1 Situated on 2 Business with free Wi-Fi, usually 3 Cluster of hair 4 Decide 5 Nuke in the kitchen 6 Texas A&M athlete 7 Like a 36-Across, in a good way! 8 "One Night in Miami..." boxer 9 Certain psychedelic 10 Legally systematize 11 Neighbor of a Saudi 12 Computer chip maker 13 Eldest von Trapp child 18 Jealous feeling 22 Art museum in 37-Down 23 Some seaside lodgings 24 Zinc (sunscreens additive) 25 WWW addresses 26 Composer J.S. 27 Coin with a continent on it 28 Unknown commenter, informally 31 Prepares to ship 32 Sch. in the smallest state 33 Sneaker brand 34 Not accept 35 Boats of biblical proportions 37 Alhambra's country 38 Piece of fried chicken 39 Come in last 43 Popular German hatchback 44 Fish that are slithery 45 Garments with colorful stains, often 46 Refuge 47 Cream of the crop 48 Tunisian currency 49 Elephant's proboscis 50 Obeys 53 Finance 54 Cots, e.g. 55 "Deary me!" 57 Supportive garment 58 "___ Miz" 59 Lucy of "Lucky Number Slevin"

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022 Pluto Retrograde and Mercury Change



The Pluto retrograde has us taking stock of what matters most to us. Old things, systems and beliefs will break. We'll realize instances in which we were relying unnecessarily on things that have diminishing relevance to our future. We'll be inspired to change and, as Mercury shifts, talk about it to anyone who might benefit from the sharing.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Preconceived notions are obstacles to overcome. Having zero expectations makes it easier to accept what is. You'll be amazed at what you can do when you deal in realities instead of fantasies.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Usually, the things you spend the most time doing will bring you the most results. Today is different. Something you do for only a few moments will be the source of your joy and good fortune.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Don't think about how fun a job is. If it needs to be done, the mature person gets in there and gets it done with as little resistance as possible. The fun happens quite by accident.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The problem may not seem to be about you. And yet, if you're the one having it, it's unlikely a cosmic mistake. The interesting challenge of the day is in figuring out how much responsibility to take for what's happening.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Social excitement erupts like a fire. Getting it started might take a moment, but once it gets going it will keep going until the fuel is exhausted. Fun times!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Before you add anything, you should think twice because even a small addition can change the entire picture. This cannot be avoided. More moving parts result in more complexity.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If you're embarrassed by what you did a few years back, that's an excellent sign of your growth. If you're embarrassed by what you did a few weeks back, good! It's a sign of rapid improvement.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you want to get good at something, there's much you could add to your practice. But if you want to get great, this will require you to go the opposite direction. Eliminate the extraneous and isolate only what works.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Energy has dipped and progress has slowed down. Things will pick up after a good rest. If you needed an excuse to take one, consider this your permission slip.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You will connect the dots of a formerly fuzzy sketch. When you help someone learn things for the first time, you will relearn them in the process -- everybody wins!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People are always trying to influence what you think. Take note of what you thought before you thought what they wanted you to think. Trust your free associations, first impression and gut responses.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's true that things have taken a different shape from what you'd once envisioned. You'll note how fewer things frustrate and irritate you now. You are growing in compassion, including self-compassion.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 29). Where there is a lack of community, you bring people together. Attractions develop. A warmhearted someone opens personal and professional doors for you. You'll make money with a talent for speaking, presenting or sales. Summer brings exciting and passionate encounters. A renovation changes your day-to-day life. Leo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 22, 19 and 15.

Universal SUDOKU

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

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers pre-filled.

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

9x9 grid for the solutions to the Sudoku puzzle.

SOLUTIONS

9x9 grid showing the solution to the Sudoku puzzle.

Vertical Lines by Karen Lurie

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg

Grid for Vertical Lines crossword puzzle with numbered squares.

- ACROSS: 1 Doubtful 5 Clear, as a windshield 10 Gentle touches 14 Alone 15 "West Side Story" dubbing legend Nixon 16 Jazz's home 17 In ___ of (replacing) 18 Cook over boiling water 19 Otherwise 20 Vote in 22 Encourage, like growth 24 Intend 26 Whistle blower 27 Full collection 28 Inner ear parts? 33 Youngest woman to serve in Congress, briefly 35 Fired 36 SAT prep list 38 Spoken 42 "___ 911!" (comedy series named for a Nevada city) 43 Typo, for one 44 Speck of dust 45 Prefix for "freeze" 46 Ridiculous 47 Send forth 48 Preschooler 50 Jackets originally worn by sailors 52 Core components? 55 Reduced-___ milk 57 Relatives 58 Beachy footwear 62 Show flexibility 66 Uber or Lyft alternative 67 Animal also called a forest giraffe 69 Twisted treat, perhaps 70 Paradise in Genesis 71 Buddha's birth country 72 Bird feature 73 Take five 74 Twisted tree part 75 Perseverance's org. DOWN: 1 Man, for one 2 Prevent, as a plan 3 Beat it 4 "Keep trying!" 5 You can slide into them on Twitter 6 Has a snack, say 7 Guitar ridge 8 Broadcasting 9 "Oh, puh-lease!" 10 "Hamilton" faceoff 11 Map book 12 Moistened while roasting 13 Word following "cookie" or "ice" 21 Nervous twitch 23 Sci-fi ride 25 "Nothing to see here!" 28 Oscar and Grammy winner Irene 29 Yoked pair 30 Monthly expense 31 Brought into the world 32 Abandon, as a plan 34 "The Price Is Right" catchphrase, or a hint to the meaning and direction of each starred clue's answer 37 Top-notch 39 Capital of Italia 40 Toiling away 41 "Shall we?" reply 49 Not quite right 51 Operative Carrie Mathison's org. in "Homeland" 52 Later on 53 Grass unit 54 Boxcars, in dice 56 Old-school subway fare 59 Pub serving size 60 Bear whose porridge was too hot 61 Trade jabs 63 Soprano's showstopper 64 They're used to sign checks 65 Garment worn in the Forum 68 Unwell

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022

Solar Eclipse, New Moon and Venus/Jupiter Conjunction



The cosmic hits keep coming with today's solar eclipse, new moon and a conjunction of Venus and Jupiter. It is only by temporarily losing our sense of grounding that we appreciate the security of reliable things. The new moon reminds us what and who we can count on. Venus and Jupiter align to bring good fortune from dependable sources.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Do you dare risk your heart? It's one of the more precious things you can put on the line. And though you're likely to get hurt at some point, it will also be completely worth it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Something is weighing you down. As soon as you make a decision, the weight will lift. What matters is not the decision itself, but that you made it. No matter which way you go, you'll be freer.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be a magnet for temptation, especially of the retail variety. You'll identify with certain possessions. They represent who you want to be. Don't spend money you haven't made yet and you'll do just fine.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Keeping up with someone for a few minutes each day builds more of a relationship than talking for hours but once a month. What else might improve with just a few minutes of daily attention?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Do not get caught up in worrying about someone's approval. There are billions of people in the world. If you're not getting the response you need, move to the next.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll appreciate a story that doesn't spell out every last detail. You'll like a plan that leaves room for freestyling. And you will prefer relationships that are a little ambiguous in their rules.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're an adept conversationalist and you know better than to try to control conversation. You steer to the feel-good topics, then hope for the best. Some people have their own conversational agenda, and you'll roll with that too.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't let the vibes around you get too heavy. A degree of detachment will help. Your choices matter, but they do not define you. You are the person making choices, not the choices themselves.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Today, you'll fall into a pleasant social groove. Your specialty is knowing how people like to be acknowledged and giving that to them. A Leo helps you trust the guidance of your heart.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You love a challenge but are reticent to challenge others because you don't want to inconvenience anyone or make them work harder than they want to. Don't worry about today. People will show you what they're willing to do.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Even though you try your best, you'll still make mistakes. This is how it should be. Life would be so boring if things always came easily. By getting it wrong a few times you'll learn what you need to do to get it right.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). People talk. It's what they do. There's no choice you could make that others wouldn't mention, so just make the choices you can stand behind regardless of what they say.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 30). You'll do important work, driven by deadlines. Although you might not succeed easily, you will certainly succeed. You like doing hard things -- it's what makes you awesome. Your influence will grow, and you'll be far more powerful than you imagine yourself to be. Test it. Make bold moves and watch how others copy you. Gemini and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 2, 26, 13 and 7.

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