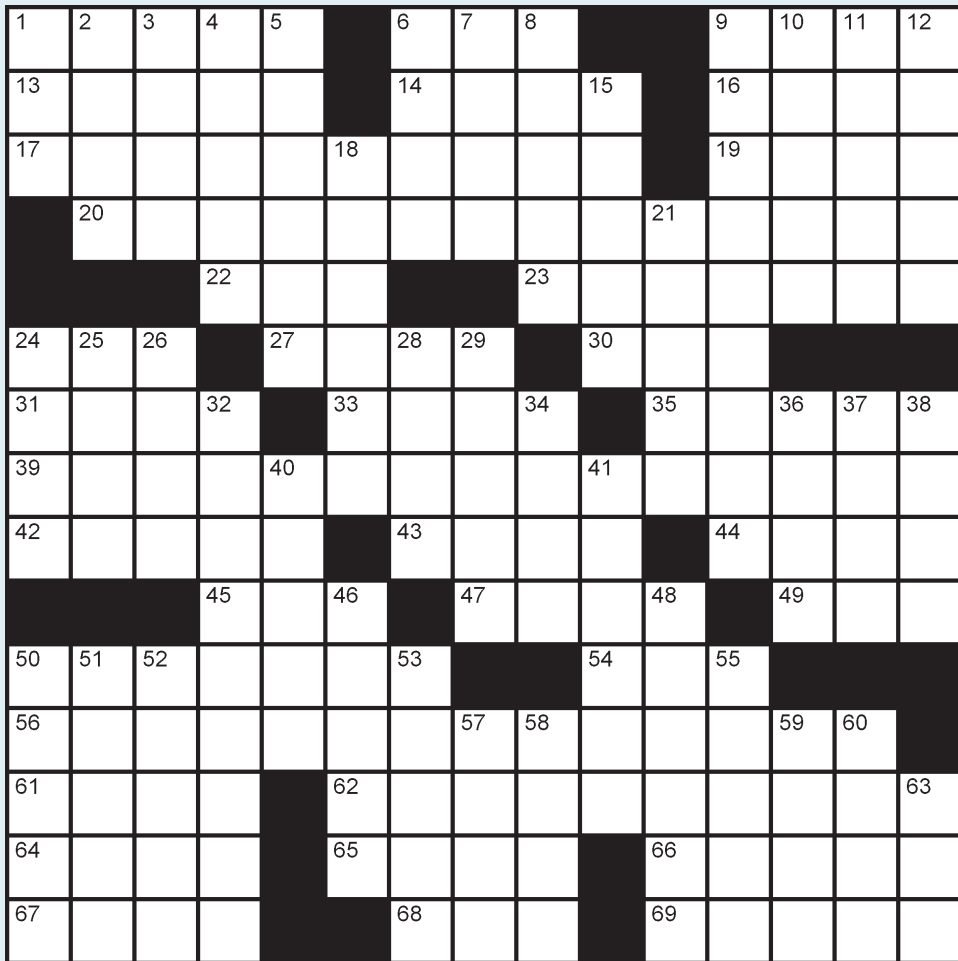


Rock Out! by Emily Carroll

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Unexpected win, 6 This instant, 9 Tijuana's peninsula, informally, 13 Authorized substitute, 14 The "A" in UAE, 16 Bad day for Caesar, 17 Uvula's location (In this answer, note the first letter + the last 4), 19 Beds that aren't luxurious, 20 Reason for couples therapy (... first 3 letters + last 3), 22 Digital communication, for short?, 23 Martial arts masters, 24 Guess ___? (board game), 27 Diplomatic delicacy, 30 What's left at the end of a meal?, 31 Sioux City's state, 33 Clog or wedge, 35 Lubricate, 39 Certain American employee (... first 3 letters + last 2), 42 "Old MacDonald" refrain, 43 Work, like a bar, 44 Word after "baking" or before "bread", 45 Young 'un, 47 Hurt badly, 49 Maritime distress call, 50 Cure-all, 54 Madre's brother, 56 "Death on the Nile" author (... first 4 letters + last 1), 61 Hunter's attire, briefly, 62 Impossible to change, or like 17-, 20-, 39- and 56-Across?, 64 At least once, 65 Orange-nosed puppet, 66 Repairs, 67 Some wines, 68 Key by the space bar, 69 Wipe away, DOWN: 1 FedEx rival, 2 Event with teen royalty?, 3 Den fixture with cushions, 4 Actor in a crowd, 5 Keyboard whiz, 6 Simba's mate, 7 Taken by mouth, 8 Lightbulb units, 9 Teeth bordering canines, 10 Photoshop maker, 11 Martial artist in 2020's "Mulan", 12 Beasts of burden, 15 Hat worn in Paris, 18 "Finally!", 21 Gibson garnish, 24 One of six for Henry VIII, 25 Colorful Hindu festival, 26 Injury, to a 45-Across, 28 Have a conversation, 29 Spiritual emblem, 32 They stir things up, 34 Volcano known as Vulcan's chimney, 36 Neighbor of Vietnam, 37 Ctrl+Z, 38 Grps. involved with Scholastic Book Fairs, 40 Illegal liquor, 41 Add to a photo, perhaps, 46 Provoke playfully, 48 Long-distance lover's query, 50 Indiana baller, 51 Source of mescal and tequila, 52 Appointed, 53 Train along the Northeast Corridor, 55 Furry, aquatic frolicker, 57 Web page code, 58 Hilarious person, 59 Gaels' Division I college, 60 Partner of "odds", 63 Language suffix

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022 Vision of Mars and Neptune



Oh, to have the soaring confidence of the eagle, so high above the atmosphere that the opinions of the scurrying creatures below cannot bring him down. And yet, from a mile high, the eagle can still see what the mouse is saying about him. Without this ability, he'd be one hungry eagle. Bare your sensitivity with pride, knowing it serves a purpose.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Does it all seem to be happening all at once? Maybe so, and it's all the more reason to narrow your focus to one manageable section of the scene. You got this!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). While nothing in life is free, sometimes (in the moments before you realize what currency you're paying in) life feels free, which can be its own kind of youthful thrill.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may have a playful approach to life, but your good taste is indispensable. You know what you like and you keep learning about it. Study can be a kind of worship.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As luck would have it, some days you benefit from holding out an expectation, and other times, not. Today is a "not" day -- better to let go of expectancy and let life surprise and delight you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The choices you make today reflect your original and creative mind. Simple things like the color you wear or the words you use will attract favorable attention.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Do you believe in the supportive magic of invisible forces? The forces are indifferent to your belief and will render aid as needed, as you may notice with today's unexplainable phenomenon.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You feel successful as you live by your values. You may notice that, in the natural course of your evolving interests, your values have changed. Something that used to be fulfilling isn't -- an invitation to inquiry and self-knowledge.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The winner of today's game won't get a trophy but will instead receive a feeling -- a swelling of joy through the heart and soul. The score that matters is kindness given and love shared.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Here or there? This one or that? No small choice will drastically alter the outcome, so you can decide with a light heart and know all roads converge in a smile.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When you are with someone you love, you have this ability to make them feel that whatever the two of you are doing together, it is better than anything the rest of the world could possibly be doing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're aware of the ledger of your life. You know who you owe and why. You know who owes you. Stay alert to con artists who will use a sense of guilt and obligation to make you feel indebted when, in fact, you are not.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It may feel as though you are toning down something about yourself to avoid challenging, upsetting or offending people around you. When you're around the right people, you won't have to do this.

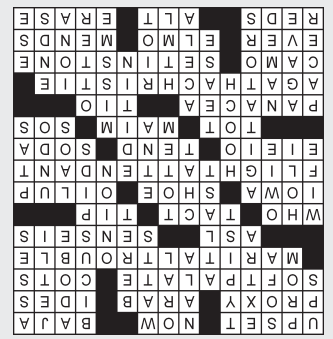
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 18). Winning confidence and fun moods prevail. You won't miss the chance to be playful, share the joke, take part in the experiment or approach the stranger with a smile. You'll easily win new connections, allies and opportunities, which will lead to making more money, and in a different way after the summer. Aquarius and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 25, 10, 17 and 40.

Universal SUDOKU

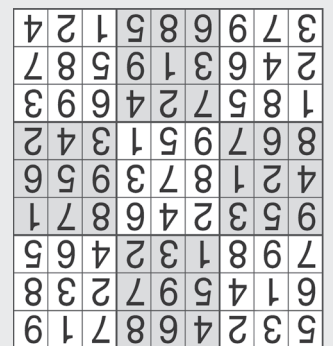
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

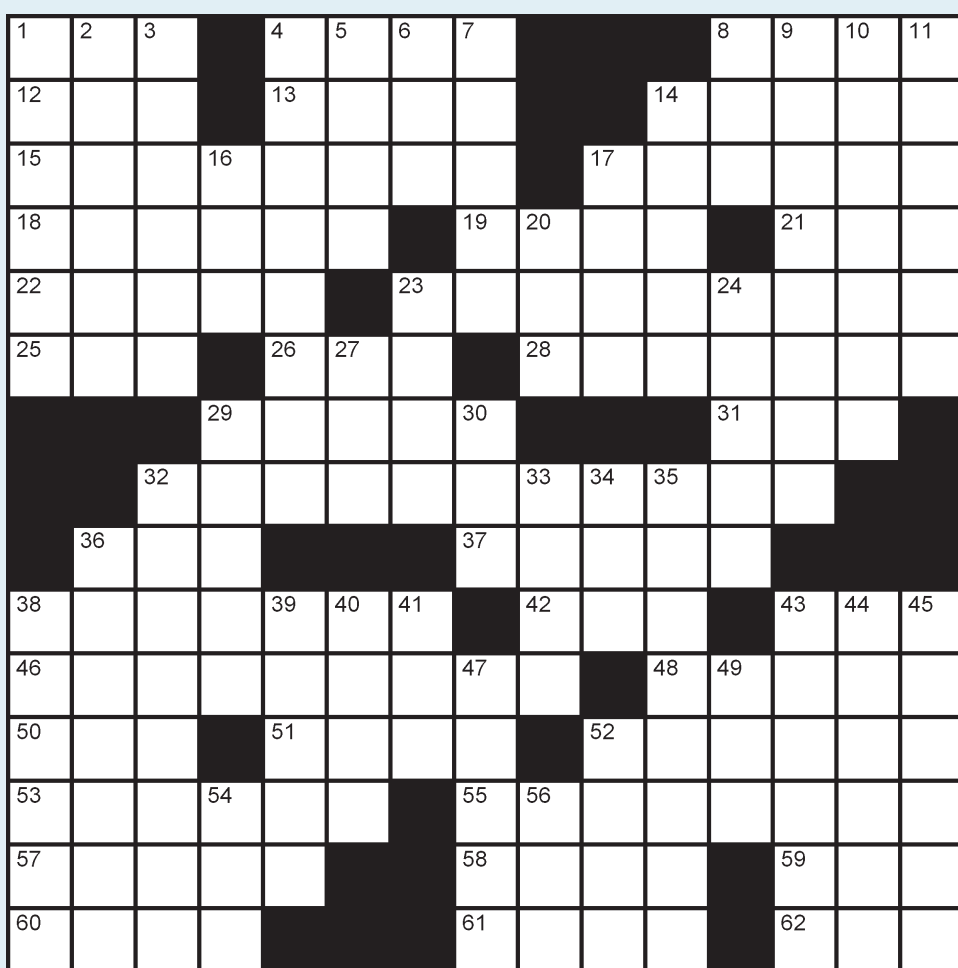


SOLUTIONS



Variety Packs by Brooke Husic

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg



- ACROSS: 1 Container for olives, 4 In ___ (coordinated), 8 Summons that may precede a poke, 12 Beehive State people, 13 Chase known as the Queen of Creole Cuisine, 14 Suzy Sheep's friend ___ Pig, 15 "Second part of a plan (swag, tote)", 17 Gather together, 18 Capital of Taiwan, 19 Admired person, 21 Diminutive Spanish suffix, 22 Word before "book" or "paper", 23 "What to do with a new baseball glove (Birkin, tea)", 25 "Ex's & ___" (Elle King hit), 26 Brew such as Audrey Hopburn, 28 Some have ABAB rhyme schemes, 29 Certain facial spa treatments, 31 ___ Aviv, 32 "Dances all night, say (diaper, trash)", 36 The "L" in UCLA, 37 Herbivore with a horn, for short, 38 Mailed off, 42 Author Tan, 43 "___! Humbug!", 46 "State of being current (dirt, money)", 48 Fuming, 50 French for "a", 51 Spinning studio ride, 52 Loved a lot, 53 "Drat!", 55 Diverse assortment, and one of two anagrammed words combined to make each theme answer, 57 "Sounds amazing!", 58 "Don't go!!" is one, 59 Suffix with "Japan" or "crossword", 60 "Electric Avenue" singer Grant, 61 Poet Sharon who won a Pulitzer, 62 Stop sign color, DOWN: 1 In this precise way, 2 Snap on, perhaps, 3 Puts on TV again, 4 Less bustling, 5 Abominable Snowman, 6 "Uh-uh", 7 Group of singers, 8 The "P" in WPM, 9 Sprayed water on, 10 Relating to objects' positions, 11 Falcon's claws, 14 Bohemian folk dance, 16 Phi Beta Kappa stat, 17 Mascara layer, 20 ___ Moines, Iowa, 23 Indonesian island with a Hindu majority, 24 101 course, 27 Cat or dog, e.g., 29 Glue alternative, 30 "To be" in Spanish, 32 Mused, 33 "Pretty Little Liars" actress Mitchell, 34 He/___ pronouns, 35 "What should we do about it?", 36 Two-time NBA Finals MVP Kawhi, 38 Mascara mishap, 39 Planetary path, 40 Syllabus section, 41 ___ Tok, 43 One making the cut?, 44 Totally relaxed, 45 Qualified with disclaimers, 47 Musical pace, 49 Curtain holder, 52 Suddenly canceled, 54 Aye's counterpart, 56 "How Far ___ Go" ("Moana" song)

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2022 An Earthy Alliance



The sun comes into a lucky agreement with Pluto. "Let's put our money into what matters," they say. It's people, yes, but it's more than that, because people cannot be without an environment that sustains them. And so, the money flows to protect what might still be protected about this place.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Working harder than is necessary is the very definition of inefficiency. In a good system, momentum will carry some of the load. Reduce friction. Get all the elements aligned in the same direction.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your bright mind only gets brighter as you learn something from each and every interaction. Exactly what you're learning isn't always clear in the moment and will, in some cases, become more obvious in retrospect.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Ambitious people are less afraid of the word "no" and if it's coming, they want to get it out of the way as fast as possible. A wishy-washy "yes" is essentially worthless and wastes everyone's time.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sins fall in and out of style, get recategorized, and can seem absurd when viewed in the light of a different place and time. What was once considered wicked is now merely uncommon.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If your schedule is filled but your time feels oddly unfulfilling perhaps your activities are rich in quantity and poor in soul nutrients. It is also possible that better company can make the minutes sparkle.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's important to you that someone understands where you're coming from. Knowing that each communication is unique to the particularities of the moment, you adjust to ensure you will be heard.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's tempting to volunteer for the hard tasks and there's a reason this appeals to you. You have an inkling about what you can do, and when you actually do it, you will be amazed.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you talk about the change you want, frame it in kind and constructive terms. This is especially true when you're talking to yourself. It's not helpful to make things more intense or challenging than they need to be.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Where there's a lack of structure, there is opportunity. Your skills are needed in an unruly environment. You may eventually be beloved for the order you bring, though not at first. Give it time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your creative whims may seem frivolous, and this is only because they are. Don't discount the importance of frivolity. Often what buoys the spirit and provides motivation is wholly unnecessary.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Someone wants you to do things differently. You will respect their need to offer an opinion whilst respecting your own need to make choices independently.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). With grocery store lines, Band-Aid rips and intergalactic travel, faster is better. For many other things, speed is a thief of experience. If you're doing fast what should be accomplished slowly, you'll miss the prize.

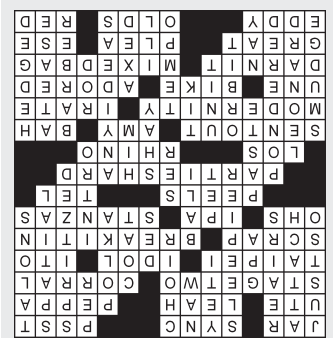
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 19). Love brings out the best in you this year, amping up your creativity and talent. Furthermore, when you have to be strong for someone else, you'll realize (and enjoy) your own strength! Intelligent choices lead to unlikely scenarios and strange wins; at points it will be downright cinematic, and you'll tell the story for years. Aquarius and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 11, 3, 38, 20 and 16.

Universal SUDOKU

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



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆



SOLUTIONS

