

Universal Freestyle 29 by Hoang-Kim Vu

Universal Crossword edited by Amander Rafkin

12x12 crossword grid with numbers 1-66 indicating starting positions for clues.

- ACROSS: 1 Sports headwear, for some; 6 It can be cleaned or analyzed; 10 Large deer; 13 What's possessed by the overly self-possessed?; 16 Espionage org.; 17 Doesn't rush; 18 Donations that get frozen; 19 Pile; 20 Beau ____ (gracious act); 22 Landlocked West African country; 26 Runs out of juice; 28 Dongdaemun Market's city; 30 "Is it already over?"; 33 Chrysalis; 34 Interrupts on the dance floor; 35 Some hotel room door openers; 37 Like last week's bread compared to this week's; 39 "Will it play in ____?"

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2022 Heart Synching Seaside Scene



Mercury sends a message in a bottle. Neptune keeps it bobbing on the surface of the Piscean sea. The sun, in the sign of the crab, shines a light on the object. The glint catches the eye of Venus, surfing the Cancer tide on her clamshell, who snatches the glass and reads aloud, her voice synching hearts everywhere. Message received.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can be tender or jovial, protective or daring. Different sides of you will be highlighted before the day is through as you fulfill the need and flesh out the potential of various moments and environments.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you choose to venture into the unknown, new situations will open to you. Lower your expectations or eliminate them altogether, and you'll be in the perfect position to make the most of what's there.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You've had to compromise often enough lately, and it's time you had a whole day to do it your way. If this doesn't work with what you've already got going on today, at least put it on the schedule for soon. Declare it and follow through.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll do everything you can to make your people happy. There are no guarantees when it comes to other people's happiness, but you have a solid sense of how to push things in that direction.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be in a position to make up with someone you've been at odds with. It won't be necessary to admit you were wrong, which is so good because you still feel that you weren't. Could you just agree to start anew?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Show up and see what there is to discover. If it seems like there's nothing, take it as an excuse to think a little deeper into things to get to a more profound level of observation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Perhaps the people who can assist you don't realize that you need them, or maybe they don't know exactly how to help. Tell people what you want, and they'll support you in more ways than you can imagine. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Sometimes hard work is a choice, but right now it feels like a necessity. Before you wear yourself out, take a step back. There are more options available to you than you'll see at first. How can you work smart instead of hard?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A task you would usually do by rote will seem somehow strange to you, profound or perhaps absurd or meaningless. There's a change in you, and certain things won't fit like they used to. You're heading for a breakthrough.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Criticism is valuable to you. Admittedly, it can be difficult to listen to what you could have done better, but if you can consider feedback in small doses, you'll develop skill quickly and be offered opportunity for advancement.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You won't give into the urge to complain because complaining is an indicator of weakness, and you'd rather put everything you have into fixing the situation. The solution you come up with will be brilliant.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your mind doesn't like an open loop. Resolution calms you and readies you for the next thing. If resolution is not forthcoming, your mind will make something up just to close the circle. It's a necessity to moving along.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 17). This solar return brings a sweet serving of poetic justice. The plot comes full circle with connections that satisfy on multiple levels. A new venture will begin with a risk, and then relationships and alliances form. You'll get to choose your speed: an immersive experience with quick results or a languid stroll with beautiful scenery. Gemini and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 2, 11, 38 and 17.

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 completed Sudoku puzzle.

Themeless Sunday 7 by Jared Goudsmit

Universal Crossword edited by David Steinberg

12x12 crossword grid with numbers 1-62 indicating starting positions for clues.

- ACROSS: 1 Wind in a marching band; 5 Deception; 9 Word after "breaking" or "evening"; 13 Hansen in a musical; 14 Newbie astronaut; 16 Original source of penicillin; 17 Show like "Yo soy Betty, la fea"; 18 ____ Peacock (Clue suspect); 19 Name that's a covering backward; 20 Like a hot desert; 21 Accountant's asset?; 25 Sheet under a tent; 26 ____ dry (stop flowing); 27 "Scrumptious!"; 30 1970 Kinks song; 31 Privileged info; 35 On vacation; 36 Starbucks size; 37 Junkyard car's buildup; 38 Site of a 1919 treaty; 40 The "A" of MMA; 41 Sleeve filler; 42 ____ Taco (restaurant chain); 43 Tilapia, e.g.; 44 Lecturer's tool ... or cat owner's toy; 49 41-Across muscle, informally; 52 Poetic foot; 53 Issa who will voice Spider-Woman; 54 Pass line?; 57 Back financially; 58 Diana Ross, for the Supremes; 59 Saxophone type; 60 Has a bagel, say; 61 Adored celebrity; 62 Color changers; 4 Z's spot, alphabetically; 5 About 343 meters/second, for sound; 6 Split in two; 7 Expert pilot; 8 "It's Raining ____" (song by The Weather Girls); 9 Like warships; 10 Tree of knowledge's garden; 11 Bond, as metal; 12 "Don't move, Rex!"; 14 Ramen instruction; 15 1/sec, in trig; 19 Cut (off); 22 Becomes ragged; 23 Done to death; 24 The Q8 SUV and others; 27 Sincere signoff in an email; 28 Makes things more high-stakes; 29 Team in Queens; 30 Molten hazard in Mario games; 31 Penn and Yale; 32 Name found backward in "excellent"; 33 NBC show that Norm Macdonald was on, for short; 34 Shower feature; 39 Is flexible, figuratively; 43 Lie a little; 44 Gives temporarily; 45 "Octopus's Garden" writer Starr; 46 Word after "solar" or "control"; 47 Ilhan in Congress; 48 Mulligans, say; 49 Vitriol; 50 Lightbulb, in a comic; 51 Garment for a Siberian; 55 Game console released in 2006; 56 Wine ____ dine; 57 Mood rings or fidget spinners

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

MONDAY, JULY 18, 2022 A Message From Mercury



As savvy marketers know, people don't strictly buy products, rather they buy hope for a particular result and the feelings to match that outcome. A planetary opposition warns against using external diversions to fix internal tension. Distractions can be expensive and may not do the job. Face inward and manage what's happening there.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The conventional wisdom says to state what you want because people are not mind readers. Today you'll experience the opposite phenomenon -- one person having a fuller sense of the mind of the other than words could convey.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It is the messiness of life that makes it fascinating. You won't get that version on social media. Intimacy occurs up close and in real time, which is what you get today. Nothing beats the insider's perspective.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You shouldn't have to impress anyone with a grand gesture. If you feel you must, there's an imbalance at play in the relationship. The small moments of shared understanding or tenderness will make the impression.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Using your talent will be not only satisfying but a reminder of how good life can be when you are doing what you love. A bit of appreciation from others is a cherry on the sundae.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Rarity makes a thing special. What's always available will not be valued, no matter how intrinsically valuable it is. Uncertainty and infrequency are part of the equation. If you have a thing every time you want it, it's not a treat; it's a habit.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A new scene awaits. There's no way to prepare for it; you just have to go and find out what it's like. Experience is the only teacher around today, and you're a quick study. You'll start feeling comfortable right away.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Don't try to provide all the answers or do too much of the work yourself. Make it easy and necessary for everyone to help. In the process, they will become a team, and you'll all be more productive. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll learn faster when you stop caring what others think. Maybe no one will notice a mistake, or if they do it won't matter much. Confidence isn't self-conscious because it's too busy playing the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You seek a certain type of relationship. Another type of relationship seeks you, and it's a tiring roundabout chase. Then there are those relationships that just fall together beautifully, as though by fate. Lucky you!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The discussion that seemed so promising may ultimately meander and devolve. It's all part of the process of figuring out what really interests you, sharpening your skills and honing your criteria for worthy pursuits.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There is a temptation to "give away the farm" since, let's face it, even metaphoric farms can be a lot of hard work. Prize what you've built so others will, too, and then be sure to keep a controlling interest.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your encouragement is needed more than you know. And though you may feel ill-equipped as a cheerleader, you're actually well-suited to the job. What you say will make a difference in the morale.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 18). You will live as the philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche did -- by the concept of amor fati, "a love of one's fate." Whatever destiny hands over, you'll polish it until it gleams. Your solar return raises the stakes. You'll be trusted with treasures of finance and heart. The prize for doing well will be life-changing. Capricorn and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 3, 33, 38 and 45.

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