# **DIVERSIONS**

#### THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

# Movie violations: Shortened titles

#### **BY PAT MYERS**

In Week 1323 we asked you to chop one or more letters off the beginning and/or end of a movie title, then describe the resulting movie. Among the thousands of entries, REAR WIND[ow] generated 39 fart jokes, [J]AWS a dozen entries about cute baby sharks.

## 4th place:

DUDE, WHERE'S MY CA[r?]: A couple of stoners wake up the morning after the Big One hits the West Coast. (Craig Dykstra, Centreville)

## 3rd place:

[P]ORGY AND BESS: The neverbefore-told story of Mrs. Truman's wild years in the White House (Neal Starkman, Seattle)

### 2nd place and the 'Walter the Farting Dog' promotional toilet paper:

[Ba]CK TO THE FUTURE: Louis builds a time machine to go forward a whole generation, but it's still too soon to hear his jokes again. (Jerome Uher, Alexandria)

#### And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

[The L]EGO MOVIE 2: Slated to open Jan. 20, 2021, but cancellation is highly possible. (David Peckarsky, Tucson)

## [Bla]ZING SAD[dles]: **Honorable mentions**

A BOY AND HIS D[og]: A New York "fixer" threatens a military academy with destruction if it releases the transcript of a longago graduate. (Seth Tucker, Washington)

[A]LIENS: When the mortgage company is on your trail, the only place you can run is outer space ... or is it? (Lee Graham, Derwood,

[A]MADEUS: Tyler Perry plays a zany lady who's jealous of her musically gifted, and even zanier, twin brother. (Greg Dobbins, Boynton Beach, Fla.)

[B]LACK PANTHER: After a lastminute discovery, N'oah must turn the ark around. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

[0]LIVER!: Please, sir, I want less. (Jesse Aronson, Arlington; Michelle Gluck, Bethesda)

[Cr]OUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DR[agon]: A zoo vet lurks in the jungle to help ailing predators. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

(G)ROUNDHOG DA[y]: After repeated questioning, a spy finally divulges Trump's Russian code name. (Frank Osen)

[B]**ATMAN:** An origin story about Raymond Tomlinson, the inventor of email. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn)

### [Dr. Strangelove or:] HOW I **LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING** AND LOVE THE BO[mb]: A

Washington commuter comes to grips with the reality of riding the Metro. (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

FRIED GREEN TOM[atoes]: Hannibal Lecter opens a restaurant in a Southern town. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

[R]AIDERS OF THE LOST A[rk]: Wealthy parents will stop at nothing to snag a coveted grade for their offspring. Upcoming sequel: MILLION DOLLAR BA[by]. (David Peckarsky; Karen Van Buren, Los

Altos, Calif.)

[C]LICK: An Adam Sandler movie that doesn't quite suck - but comes awfully close. (Jerome Uher)

[T]ANGLED: Rapunzel is trapped in the Leaning Tower of Pisa. (Sam Mertens, Silver Spring, a First Offender)

JURASSIC PAR(k): A year on the PGA senior tour. (Bird Waring, Larchmont, N.Y.)

[Li]FE IS BEAUTIFUL: An athlete is propelled to success with the magic of iron supplements. (Mike McCumber, Gambrills, Md., a First Offender)

[A]POLLO 13: A Peruvian chicken joint acquires Colonel Sanders's original recipe, but disaster strikes after it adds two more herbs and spices. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

[Na]SHVILLE: Ten varied characters spend a morning at a strictly run Tennessee library. (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)



# New contest for Week 1327: Mess with our (or anyone's) heads

Real headline from ad: 0% Interest for 5 Years Bank head: Dad Still Makes Family Take Annual Road Tour of Historical Markers

The Meat Industry Is at a Tipping Point Stop Playing Pranks on the Cows, Stockyards Order Employees

**Prosecutor Defends Dropping Charge** DA's toddler grandson 'just the wiggliest thing,' falls off during piggyback ride

As long as we have headlines, we'll have Mess With Our Heads, our perennial "bank head" contest. You'll have 12 days' worth of headlines to use — and you can use the heads from any print or online publication that are published in that period. This week: Reinterpret (or comment wryly on) a headline (or a big part of a headline) by writing a bank head, or subtitle, as in the examples above, which play on recent headlines in The Post. The headlines may be from The Post or another publication, print or online, dated April 11-22, 2019. Please give the source and date for the headline so the Empress can verify it.

Submit entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1327 (all

Winner gets the Lose Cannon, our Style Invitational trophy.

Second place receives a special custom-made item for right-thinking baseball fans everywhere: It's a nice big "Barves" T-shirt — as in plural of "barf" — mocking the Atlanta Braves and their pukily offensive "Tomahawk Chop" and other mortifying references to Native Americans. Made and donated by Loser John Kupiec, who a few years ago donated some "Barves bags.

Other runners-up win our "You Gotta Play to Lose"
Loser Mug or our "Whole Fools" Grossery Bag. Honorable
mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, "We've Seen Better" or "IDiot Card." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). Deadline is Monday night, April 22; results published May 12 in print, May 9 online. See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Movie Violations" is by Jon Gearhart; Danielle Nowlin and Jesse Frankovich both submitted the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the Style Invitational Devotees on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" Style Invitational Ink of the Day at bit.ly/inkofday; follow @StyleInvite on Twitter.

**● THE STYLE CONVERSATIONAL** The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter this week's contest, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.



**Braves anti-fan Nancy Kupiec** models this week's second prize, designed by her husband.

THE THIEF OF BAG[dad]: Who keeps stealing lunches from the office fridge? (Stephen Gilberg, Silver Spring)

[Mu]TINY ON THE BOUNTY: The story of a courageous leader who brings aid - rolls of it - to a disaster-struck island. (David Peckarsky)

MY FAIR LAD[y]: Henry Higgins sings, "Why can't a woman be more like a man?" — then finds the real thing. (William Kennard, Arlington)

[Off]ICE SPACE: Workers are frustrated when their boss keeps the AC set to 59 year-round. (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station)

[Off]ICE SPACE: Bad: Life in a cubicle. Worse: Life in a cage. (Ben Aronin, Washington)

BAM[bi]: The heroine is killed by a hunter with a bazooka. Running time: 11 minutes (George Smith, Frederick; Gillian Smith, Bethesda, a First Offender)

MY BLUE HEAVE[n]: A man

upchucks after taking too many Viagra pills. (Roy Ashley, Washington)

[Star Wars: The Phan)TOM **MENACE:** The adventures of Dennis's mischievous great-greatgreat-great-grandson. (Edward Gordon, Austin)

[S]TAR WARS: Cigarette companies battle the nicotine overlord Darth Vaper. (Donna Roscoe, Olney, a First Offender)

A HARD DAY'S NI[ght]: The Beatles team up with the Monty Python gang in a madcap search for a shrubbery. (Terri Berg Smith, Rockville)

[A]LICE IN WONDERLAND: A little girl regrets sharing a fedora with the Mad Hatter. (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

[Trea] SURE IS [land]: Billy Bones directly answers the question "Is that where you buried your loot?" (Danielle Nowlin)

[The] TEXAS CHAINSAW MASS[acre]: Tired of parishioners dozing in the pews, a priest in

Dallas decides to rev up the service. (William Pifer-Foote, Carmichael, Calif.) [Juras]SIC WORLD: The life of a

copy editor tasked with reviewing Donald Trump's quotes. (Mike Gips, Bethesda)

More honorable mentions in the online Invite at wapo.st/invite1327.

Two contests still running deadline for both is Monday night, April 15:

- Week 1325, jokes for the White House Correspondents' Association Dinner. See wapo.st/invite1325.

- Week 1326, our annual horse name "breeding" contest. See wapo.st/invite1326.

#### L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

# HOROSCOPE

xwordeditor@aol.com

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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84 Some beer
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86 Immature

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88 Moved 90 Okinawa okay

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | April 14: This year, you express fiery enthusiasm and a willingness to follow through. Others admire your zest for living, as well as your confidence. If single, you might be more inclined to alter that state this year. If you're attached, you and your partner keep an innate closeness that seems to be more important than it was in the recent past. Leo knows how to fire you up.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You start the day on the right foot. Feelings intensify with someone you put on a pedestal. This person feels lucky to be around you. You might want to look at the long-term implications of what's going on with both of you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Despite someone's ups and downs, stay centered. A partner or someone from a distance could transform before your eyes. Lady Luck seems to be on your side, but don't take that as a given.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) Defer to a partner, who seems to feel that they understand more and can handle a situation differently. One-on-one relating brings in many possibilities. A conversation with a loved one helps you understand where this person comes from.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Others want to control your plans and what occurs. You can go along only so far. Also, you might choose not to share your feelings on a personal matter. Don't feel as though you must.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) Your energy soars. Let go; enjoy yourself with friends or whomever surrounds you. Your ability to make the most of a situation wherever you are amazes others. They would like to have that same skill.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) One-on-one relating proves to be your strong suit. If you have a problem, open up and discuss the issue at hand. You could be too worried or concerned about hurting another person's feelings. Be sensitive, but think about how you'd like to verbalize what ails you.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

by all the invitations that you might get. Prioritize, and you'll be okay. Fortunately, you communicate well, and others get the essence of your feelings. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Zero in on what's going on with a

friend. You could be overwhelmed

You have a lot to offer someone and will do so, if given the space. Others look to you to take the lead. On one level, you might want to vanish. Use caution with spending.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your positive attitude creates an opening where there was none, or so it seems. Look beyond the obvious; you'll see yet another path. When dealing with a key person over a money matter, you could feel out of sorts.

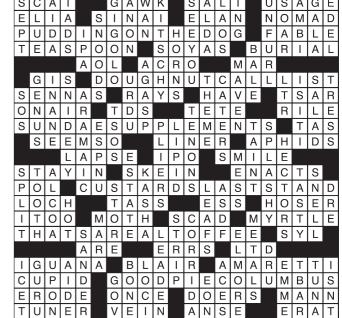
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) One-on-one relating opens a door that you might not have known existed. At first, you might be reticent to walk through, but you will. Know that you don't need to make any major decisions at this moment in time.

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AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Your awareness that someone needs to play a stronger role in your life emerges. Remain caring; let others do what they need to do to express their feelings. You might also have strong feelings about a person.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) When making choices, be practical. Know that every day cannot be perfect. You'll enjoy the company of a usually cantankerous friend. Fortunately, your sense of humor kicks in. Be more in touch with your feelings.

# Answers to last week's puzzle.



4/7/19