

## DIVERSIONS

## THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

## Quotation Mocks: Report from Week 1067

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1067, we asked you to change a well-known quote slightly and then attribute it to someone else. The invite did this contest once before, back in 1998; while a number of fake quotemakers from Week 251 were a lot more famous than now — Terry Nichols, Cecil Jacobson, Harry Helmsley, even Dan Quayle — others got ink both then and now: perennial Invite fodder Donald Trump, Jeffrey Dahmer, John Bobbitt and, of course, Bill Clinton.

Among the funny quotes submitted too often for individual credit: “If at first you don’t succeed, pry, pry again” — Barbara Walters, the NSA, Wolf Blitzer, etc.; “You had me at Jello” — Bill Cosby; “Show me the hunny” — Winnie the Pooh. The Empress was ready to give ink to one entry when she realized that it didn’t fit the contest because it didn’t attribute the altered quote to someone else: kudos but no magnet to Mike Gips for “I did not hate sex with that woman” — Bill Clinton.

Not getting the joke? See the online version of the Invitational at [bit.ly/invite1071](http://bit.ly/invite1071) for links to many of the original quotes in this week’s results, and the people doing the quoting.

## The winner of the Inkin’ Memorial

**If you like your wealth care plan, you’ll be able to keep your wealth care plan.** — The GOP (Nan Reiner, Alexandria)

**2nd place** and Pest World, the set of Russian-style nesting dolls with household critters painted on them:

**Frankly, Madea don’t give a damn.** — Tyler Perry (Doug Frank, Crosby, Tex.)

## 3rd place

**“Rooghzmeeb.” — John Travolta’s audition for the “Citizen Kane” remake** (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

## 4th place

**“Take, my wife, please!” — Bob McDonnell** (Nan Reiner)

Bartlett’s spares:  
honorable mentions

**“All men are cheated equal.” — P.T. Barnum** (Craig Dysktra, Centreville)

**“I’m the kin of the world!” — Adam** (Danielle Nowlin, Woodbridge)

**“I’m sorry, Dave, I’m afraid I can do that.” — Stephen Colbert** (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)

**“Thou shalt not admit adultery.” — Bill Clinton** (Brad Alexander, Wanneroo, Australia)

**“Let meth entertain you.” — Vince Gilligan** (Nan Reiner)

**“Eat two, Brute!” — Brutus’s mother** (Rob Cohen, Potomac)

**“Don’t taste me, bro!” — former friend of Jeffrey Dahmer** (Bruce Carlson, Alexandria)

**“The rug really tied the groom together” — Joan Rivers commenting on Elton John’s wedding toupee** (Steven Steele, Cawman, Poughquag, N.Y.; Warren Tanabe, Annapolis)

**“I have no god in this fight” — the family dog** (Susan Collins, Charlottesville)

**“I’ll be Bach.” — Peter Schickele** (Todd DeLap, Fairfax)

**“First, do no harm.” — Moses** (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

**“The best things in life are me.” — Kanye West/Donald Trump** (Danielle Nowlin; Jim Stiles, Rockville)

**“Omission accomplished!” — Rose Mary Woods** (Bruce Carlson)

**“There are no second acts in American lives.” — O’Neill, Faulkner, Hemingway et al.** (Lawrence McGuire)

**“Now is the winter of our discontent made glorious summer by this ton of pork.” — the U.S. Congress** (Miriam Nadel, Vienna)

**“L’état, c’est Ma’s.” — Prince Charles** (John O’Byrne, Dublin)

**“A thing of beauty is a job forever.” — Cher** (Chris Doyle, Ponter, Tex.)

**“It’s like making candy from a baby.” — Jonathan Swift** (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

**“Uneasy lies the head that wears a crow.” — Johnny Depp** (Chris Doyle)

New contest for Week 1071:  
A pair of threes

**BFS: Basketball Federation of Slovenia and Belfast International Airport (the IATA code):** You don’t want to be caught traveling in either one.

**ABC: African Black Coalition and Aerial Bundled Cable:** Both aim to bring power to the people.

**WAA: Wisconsin Arborist Association and Women’s Action Alliance:** Both get really ticked off about the indiscriminate use of wood.

This week’s contest comes courtesy of Loser Forever Elden Carnahan, also known as the Keeper of the Loser Stats on his Web site, [nrars.org](http://nrars.org). Elden alerted the Empress to a Wikipedia page containing — of course it does! — nothing but thousands of three-letter combinations. Actually, each combination on the page, covering AAA through DZZ, is a link to a list of words and abbreviations represented by those three letters. Elden’s idea is this: **Choose two or three entities represented by a single three-letter combination on this page — find it at [bit.ly/3letterabs](http://bit.ly/3letterabs) — and say how they are alike or different**, as in Elden’s own examples above. The entity could be something abbreviated by the three letters, as above, or it can be a three-letter word or name: “ADS” or “ads,” say. And it doesn’t have to be mentioned in the Wikipedia link, as long as it’s real.

Winner gets the Inkin’ Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a fabulously icky back scratcher consisting of a genuine baby alligator foot, complete with scales and claws, impaled on a stick. Driven up from Florida in the car of Loser Nan Reiner.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug or the ardently desired “Whole Fools” Grossery Bag. Honorable mentions get a lusted-after Loser magnet, either the Po’ Wit Laureate or Puns of Steel. First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air “freshener” (FirStink for their first ink). E-mail entries to [losers@washpost.com](mailto:losers@washpost.com) or, if you were born in the 19th century, fax to 202-334-4312. Deadline is Monday, May 19; results published June 8 (online June 5). No more than 25 entries per entrant per contest. Include “Week 1071” in your e-mail subject line or it might be ignored as spam. Include your real name, postal address and phone number with your entry. See contest rules and guidelines at [wapo.st/InvRules](http://wapo.st/InvRules). This week’s honorable-mentions subhead is by Mark Raffman. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](http://on.fb.me/invdev), and click “like” on Style Invitational Ink of the Day at [bit.ly/inkofday](http://bit.ly/inkofday).

**STYLE CONVERSATIONAL** The Empress’s weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at [wapo.st/styleconv](http://wapo.st/styleconv).

**“Mission accomplished!” — Dick Cheney** (Frank Osen)

Reiner; Paul Burnham, Gainesville, Va., respectively)

**“Here’s licking at you, kid.” — Miley Cyrus** (Jim Stiles)

Someone might challenge you. This person may have listened to you for so many years that he or she has been waiting for this moment to stand up to you.

**“I feel the need — the need for seed!” — Octomom” Nadya Suleiman** (Sandra Hull, Arlington)

Recognize the inevitable change of roles.

**“There’s no business like ho business” — Heidi Fleiss** (Seth Tucker, Washington)

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Make this a supremely lazy day.

**“And we’ve lived Harper Lee ever after.” — J.P. Lippincott and Co., publisher of “To Kill a Mockingbird”** [at least until Lippincott was bought out in 1978] (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

Don’t feel obligated to do anything but sleep and maybe watch some TV. You might not even pick up the phone.

**“Killjoy was here.” — Women’s Christian Temperance Union** (Mae Scanlan)

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) Allow greater give-and-take between you and a child. Perhaps you’ll opt to join him or her for a fun activity. Don’t take this time together for granted.

**“There’s a stocker born every minute.” — Sam Walton** (Doug Frank)

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) Be more sensitive to a family member who might need a little encouragement. Arguments may

**“All my children, except one, grow up.” — George H.W. Bush** (George Randels, Port Townsend, Wash., a First Offender)

erupt, especially as others seem to be controlling.

**“Blonde. Lame blonde.” — the Human Barbie** (Konrad Schwoerer, Durham, N.C.)

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) You might feel a bit burdened by what needs to be done, but a phone call may cheer you up.

**“That which does not kill us makes us stronger.” — Gary Busey** (David Clayton, Alexandria, a First Offender)

Don’t be surprised if you suddenly veer in an unanticipated direction. Your spontaneity will encourage others to be more upbeat.

**“Four scores were seven years ago . . . ” — the Redskins/Capitals/D.C. United** (Tom Panther, Springfield; Nan

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Be conscious of a need to go overboard. This might be okay once in a while, but in general it does not work out well. Use care with your funds.

**“And what is so rare as a day in tune?” — Joe Cocker** (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You may be involved in an argument involving a child or loved one. Later you might wish that you had not lost your temper. Consider making amends when you feel you are able to do so.

**“Long time no she.” — Chaz Bono** (Chris Doyle)

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**“Plus ça change, plus c'est les mêmes shows.” — Washington Post TV critic Hank Stuever** (Kathy El-Assal, Middleton, Wis.)

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Take some much-needed personal time off. If you want to head out and take a walk alone, do. Listen to some good music. Take it easy.

**“You are my part’s desire.” — Bill Clinton to various ladies** (Nan Reiner)

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Join a group of friends in an activity that you all enjoy. You will feel far more relaxed than you have in a long time.

**“Well, here’s another fine miss you’ve got me into.” — Casanova** (John O’Byrne; Kelly Ronayne, Alexandria)

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Defer to someone else. You will be far more content if you let others take control and make choices accordingly. An older friend or family member might be difficult to deal with.

**“And Last: ‘You’re gonna need a better quote.’ — The Empress** (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Someone may make an overture that is quite touching. Decide to let go and not worry so much. A friend might become testy if you don’t make time for him or her.

**“Still running — deadline Monday night: Our “grandfoals” contest: See [bit.ly/invite1070](http://bit.ly/invite1070).**

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) Remain responsive to a loved one, even if you have had a tiff or two. You may get sucked into the blame game. Listen without getting angry. Indulge in a favorite pastime or hobby.

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## POST PUZZLER

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ACROSS	35	Vending machine feature	DOWN	12	Former attorney general Gonzales	41	Be great at Maine breed
1 Novel featuring Wonderboy	37	Abode	2 "Moral Alphabet" poet Bellac	13	Antlered animal of Eurasia	43	Japanese side dish
11 Next-door neighbor, in a way	39	Impersonate	3 Put forth	14	R cause, often icon	44	Job of a World War II
15 "Probably"	42	Maurice's lover in E.M. Forster's "Maurice"	4 X ("Saturday Night Live" character played by Chris Rock)	21	Pests	45	Cassandra, for example
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18 Goat with curved horns	51	British actress Frost	25 Give support to, maybe	24	Marsh bird	48	president Préval
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20 Put back into alignment	55	Go crazy	27 Boneless limb	26	Marsh bird	50	2004 biopic
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