

## DIVERSIONS

## THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

## Har replacement: The 'Vowel Movement' winners

BY PAT MYERS

In Week 1155, the Empress asked you to take the title of any book, movie, play or TV show, **delete all the vowels, then put your choice of vowels back in** — whichever and as many as you liked — to create a new work. Numerous Losers suggested "The Farce Weakens."

## 4th place

**"The Art of the Deal"** ▶ take out the vowels and get **THRFTFHDL** ▶ add vowels and get **"I, the Rat Fathead, Lie"**: Confessions of a demagogue. (George-Ann Rosenberg, Washington)

## 3rd place

**"Annie Hall"** ▶ **"Ennui Hill"**: While sitting through endless congressional debates, two staffers make eye contact and find love. (Howard Walderman, Columbia, Md.)

## 2nd place and the jaunty shell sculpture of a conga player:

**"The Interview"** ▶ **"The Nature View"**: Satire about two wildlife photographers who sneak across the DMZ to shoot an elusive North Korean cuckoo. (Christopher Lamora, Arlington)

## And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial

**"Much Ado About Nothing"** ▶ **"A Much-Eyed Booty in a Thong"**: Kim and Kanye play Beatrice and Benedick on Broadway. (Chris Doyle, Ponder, Tex.)

## E: IOUA Magnet:

## Honorable mentions

**"Alice's Restaurant"** ▶ **"Alec's Restraint"**: Baldwin orders the diet plate, doesn't get everything he wants. (George-Ann Rosenberg)

**"Emma"** ▶ **"Ammo"**: At the next theater over, an alternative for guys who've been dragged to see a chick flick. (Nancy Della Rovere, Silver Spring)

**"The Hangover"** ▶ **"The Hung Oeuvre"**: A documentary exploring the male nude in statuary. (Steve Honley, Washington)

**"Chinatown"** ▶ **"Chin Twin"**: Jay Leno meets a brother he never knew existed. (Paul Comstock, Lancaster, Pa., a First Offender)

**"Amadeus"** ▶ **"Mad U.S."**: It's subtitled "The Making of the President 2016." (Drew Bennett, West Plains, Mo.)

**"Big"** ▶ **"Bag"**: At a carnival, a 12-year-old girl makes a wish to be older. (Deb Stewart, Damascus, Md.)

**"Blazing Saddles"** ▶ **"Blue Ozone Gas Doodles"**: Estranged scientists come together as Earth's stratosphere comes apart. (David Friedman, Arlington)

**"Bonanza"** ▶ **"Bunnz"**: A hunky father and his three hunky sons maintain excellent gluteal muscle tone through endless hours of horseback riding. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)

**"Candide"** ▶ **"Cyanided"**: Voltaire's story of an eternal optimist, updated: "If this is the best of all possible worlds, then ..." (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

**"Chasing Amy"** ▶ **"Aches Nag Me"**: A going-of-age story. (David Friedman)

**"Love Story"** ▶ **"Elvis Eatery"**: Oliver orders Jenny a peanut butter, banana and bacon sandwich, and boy is he sorry. (Chris Doyle)

**"Masters of the Universe"** ▶ **"Mis-tiaras of the Universe"**: Starring Steve Harvey as Emcee-Man. (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

**"Eat Pray Love"** ▶ **"Tip or Leave"**:



How better to say "Get the L over here" than with this metal sign, this week's second prize?



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

## New contest for Week 1159: It's all in the game

**"Ewww, Who Tooted? In this rip-roaring game of gassy good times, everybody gets a whoopee cushion-shaped controller to control the character's flatulence. When the controllers light up, only one person will 'toot' and the other players have to guess who did it! Can you keep a straight face, or will your friends know that YOU are the one Who Tooted? Requires 2 AAA batteries (not included)."**

The example above would be a great entry for **this week's contest — come up with a funny/ridiculous board-type game and describe it** — except that . . . the Empress simply copied it from the Toys R Us website; it's a real thing. (And yours for \$22.99.) Loser Inger Pettygrove posted it on the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook, prompting Loser Kristen Rahman to suggest it as a contest. Sounds like a plan. Entries shouldn't be longer than the description above (shorter could well be better).

Winner gets the Inkin' Memorial, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a handsome 12-by-15 "Hello Loser" sign, complete with a debonair "Mad Men" kind of guy on it. We've been using it at the door at various Loser events; now's a chance to advertise your own home as a Loser-friendly site.

**Other runners-up** win their choice of a yearned-for Loser Mug, the older-model "This Is Your Brain on Mugs" mug, or one of various models of vintage Loser T-shirts. Honorable mentions get one of our brand-new Loser magnets, "Magnet Dum Laude" or "Falling Jest Short." First Offenders receive a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). Email entries to losers@washpost.com. Deadline is Monday night, Feb. 1; results published Feb. 21 (online Feb. 18). You may submit up to 25 entries per contest. Include "Week 1159" in your email 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. "Har replacement" is by Beverley Sharp; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Kevin Dopart. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook 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, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.

A woman learns two things the world wants most from Americans. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

**"Taxi Driver"** ▶ **"Tuxed Rover"**: Story of an embittered, nihilistic, wandering penguin. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

**"The Honeymooners"** ▶ **"The Hiney Miners"**: Adventures of a hospital colonoscopy team. (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

**"The Vagina Monologues"** ▶ **"The Vegan Menu Logs"**: A play in which A-list actresses rant for 2½ hours about their struggles to find tofu burgers. (Christopher Lamora)

**"Titanic"** ▶ **"Ta-ta on Ice"**: Same movie. (Jesse Frankovich)

**"8mm"** ▶ **"8 Muumuu"**: Detective Nicolas Cage is hired by a woman to hunt for a medium-size housedress that doesn't make her look fat. (Jeff Contompassis, Ashburn, Va.)

**"High Noon"** ▶ **"HGH! No! No!"**: A missive from the Peyton Manning Fan Club. (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.; Tom Witte)

**"Bambi"** ▶ **"Bambo"**: This stag is out for revenge. (Barbara Turner, Takoma Park)

**"Hook"** ▶ **"Ahoy, Okay?"** Peter Pan makes nice with a notorious pirate. (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

**"Hoosiers"** ▶ **"He's Ours"**: A basketball coach in rural Indiana employs ringers to help his team. "Shaquille? Oh, he just moved here in August . . . Mikey Jordan? Yeah, him too" (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

**"Gypsy"** ▶ **"GPS"**: A stripper and her stage mother struggle to find themselves. (Brendan Beary)

**"Left Behind"** ▶ **"Left by Honda"**: As the Apocalypse nears, a group of believers miss the last ride to the Rapture when their Civic hatchback makes a wrong turn. (Roy Ashley, Washington)

**"Network"** ▶ **"Not War, OK?"** "I know we're mad as hell, but let's all just chill out." (Mike Gips,

Bethesda)

**"Pulp Fiction"** ▶ **"Plop of Caution"**: This time, John Travolta's character doesn't leave his rifle outside the door while he does his business. (Mike Gips)

**"Roger and Me"** ▶ **"Our Ego Ruined 'Em"**: A doc about Roger Smith and his city — and Michael Moore and his films. (Ellen Ryan, Rockville)

**"Scorpion"** ▶ **"Is Crap, No?"**: French hosts review all things American. (William Verkuilen, Brooklyn Park, Minn.)

**"Smokey and the Bandit"** ▶ **"Smokey and the Bond-It"**: A heap o' hoot'n trouble rollicks through the county when someone glues the sheriff's wheels to the pavement. (Barbara Turner)

**"Stand by Me"** ▶ **"Satan Aide Obama"**: Rush Limbaugh's book on how the president does the Devil's bidding. (Jesse Frankovich)

**"Star Trek"** ▶ **"Astro Trike"**: No one wants to be the test pilot for the Enterprise's new "right-sized" shuttle craft. (Bill Lieberman, Ellicott City, Md.)

**"The King and I"** ▶ **"The Kong and I"**: In this legal drama, the Supreme Court upholds marriage between primates. (Howard Walderman)

**"Toy Story"** ▶ **"Toaster"**: In this heartwarming tale of a bagel's risky adventures with an English muffin, Pixar finds yet another way to make a lot of bread. (Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

**"The Exorcist"** ▶ **"The Exorcist"**: "Okay, give me 10 more head spins . . ." (Rob Huffman, Fredericksburg, Va.)

**"Concussion"** ▶ **"Concession"**: The sequel the NFL will never make. (William Verkuilen)

**"The Apartment"** ▶ **"The Part Monty"**: A rom-com dodges an X-rating. (Chris Doyle)

**Still running — deadline Monday, Jan. 25: our contest to say what various common objects "really" are. See bit.ly/invite1158.**

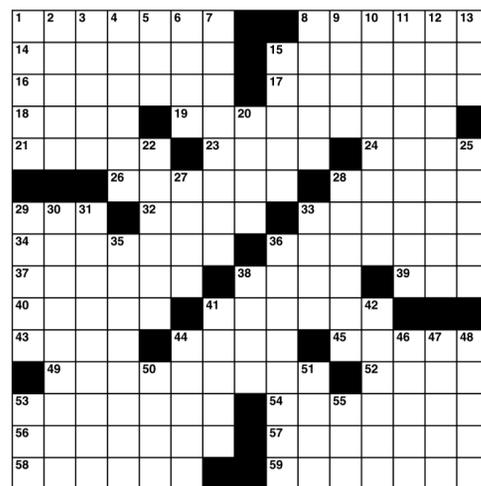
## SUNDAY CHALLENGE

BY DOUG PETERSON © 2016 CROSSYENERGY SYNDICATE LLC

| ACROSS   | DOWN  |
|--|---|
| 1 Boogied  | 1 "70s toy with a                                 |
| 8 Limber   | 2 "Kung Fu Grip"                                  |
| 14 Show on The CW about a morgue assistant who eats brains | 3 Longtime Boston Symphony director               |
| 15 Western grouse  | 4 Key of Beethoven's Ninth                        |
| 16 State that borders Zacatecas                            | 5 Docs doing deliveries                           |
| 17 "It's only a scratch"                                   | 6 Keeper of the flame?                            |
| 18 Wilson of the "Night at the Museum" film series         | 7 Sight in a bar window                           |
| 19 1982 World's Fair setting                               | 8 Aloe, for one                                   |
| 21 Big name in stationery                                  | 9 Trademarked fruit name                          |
| 23 Stuff to the gills                                      | 10 Helter-skelter                                 |
| 24 Fountain treat  | 11 Risk scandal, in a way                         |
| 26 Formally confirm  |   |
| 28 Touch, e.g.   |   |
| 29 Org. established by Nixon                               |   |
| 32 Some boxers   | 12 Flattens                                       |
| 33 "Whoa, there!"  | 13 Organic chemistry suffix                       |
| 34 Stadium ticket detail                                   | 15 Best possible score on a single throw in darts |
| 36 Scientific center?                                      | 20 Big lugs                                       |
| 37 Meet component  | 22 Literature Nobelist                            |
| 38 Fin fifth   | 25 Grammarian's subject                           |
| 39 GPS suggestion  | 27 Bender   |
| 40 United in purpose                                       | 28 Charger's home                                 |
| 41 "Holy smokes, mate!"                                    | 29 ___ question                                   |
| 43 Litter cries  | 30 Beverage named for a digestive enzyme          |
| 44 Lane of fiction   | 31 Parthenon locale                               |
| 45 Score marking   | 33 Finn from Missouri                             |
| 49 Option at the drive-through window                      |   |
| 52 Alphabet ___  |   |
| 53 Leaves  |   |
| 54 "Ask me later"  |   |
| 56 Flashy nail polish component                            |   |
| 57 Took a Carnival ride                                    |   |
| 58 Robe accessories  |   |
| 59 Major courses   |   |

Answer to last week

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| N | A | T | A | S | H | A | C | H | A | R | A | D | E |
| G | L | A | C | I | E | R | H | A | L | I | B | U | T |
| R | O | L | O | S | D | U | M | L | U | C | C | I |   |
| O | R | E | S | K | A | Z | O | O | S | O | A | R |   |
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## HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY | JAN. 24:** This year you often weigh the pros and cons of various situations. You can identify with many different points of view. As a result, you have difficulty making major decisions and often put them off. If you are single, you have a plethora of possibilities of people to date. You also know what you want. Make decisions accordingly. If you are attached, your ability to see both sides of an issue brings you and your sweetie closer to each other. Laughter often surrounds you as a couple. Leo challenges you to reach your highest level of performance.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) You might wake up angry or out of sorts. Be careful with how you handle this energy. If you make sarcastic remarks to a family member, you can expect a little hostility in return. Go for a jog instead. Decide that the unexpected is okay.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Everyone, including you, will put his or her best foot forward. However, it also is important to reveal your true self. It might be nice to be light and flirtatious; however, you're dealing with someone who has lots of depth and perception.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) As much as you like communication, you could become overwhelmed by the amount of calls, texts and emails you receive today. Be flattered and appreciate the attention. A positive attitude will create a stronger bond.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) You might decide to check your budget before making any major purchases. The problem is having

so many exciting options. You are likely to see and want a lot of tempting items. Be imaginative and decide how to augment your income.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) You are the cat's meow. Wherever you go, you experience popularity. You'll have invitations dropped on you. You might be concerned that you are raining on someone else's parade by saying "no" to his or her offer. Do what you want to do.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You might be wondering what is ailing you. Perhaps you feel tired and are wishing for a change. You are capable of doing much more, but remember to schedule some downtime. Demands will be made on you soon enough.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Focus on what you want. Don't allow a friend to bully you into doing something that you don't want to do. This person could be quite provocative. Be your own person, and make choices and please you. Don't forget a call to an older friend or relative.

## Woman ponders gym-side fantasy

## Ask Amy

AMY DICKINSON

obsessing over a woman that I see at my gym.

I hate myself for having intimate thoughts about her, but I can't seem to get her off my mind. I've had sexual relationships with women before, but I've never had an emotionally intimate relationship with a woman, and I find myself fantasizing about this woman more than just sexually.

She doesn't even know me, and I don't even know if she's interested in women, so nothing has really "sparked" between us. I feel like I'm going crazy. I would never do anything to jeopardize my marriage, but I want to stop obsessing over this woman that I am so strongly attracted to. Please help me erase this fantasy from my mind. I am very much in love

with my husband and still attracted to him, so I don't know why this is happening to me.

Obsessed With a Fantasy

**Obsessed With a Fantasy:** I love doughnuts. I'm talking l-o-v-e, here. But my rational mind has decided that I should not have doughnuts, at least for now. I exercised my ability to make a choice that would ultimately benefit me, and so I decided to change my commute so that I no longer pass Dunkin' Donuts on the way to work. After about a week, no more doughnut lust (at least for now).

It's time for you to change gyms. Removing this regular visual trigger should help you to recover from your obsession. This does nothing to deal with the deeper issues that seem to be arising for you, but easing the pheromonal tension you are feeling should help you to clear your head.

If you have had sexual relationships with women in the past, surely it's not unusual to

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-No. 21)

You might be the centerpiece of several people's weekend. On some level, you could feel an obligation to perform to the max. You will want to express your appreciation to others by making sure they have a fabulous few days.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Reach out to a friend at a distance. You have not visited for a while or even chatted on the phone. Enjoy each other's company however you can. Consider scheduling a trip, meeting halfway and visiting for a weekend. The two of you have a ball together.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

One-on-one relating dominates your day. You might wonder about a recent decision you've made. If need be, revisit the decision-making process. Make it okay to change your mind. Put yourself on the back for not having announced your decision yet.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You could not be any happier with a friendship than you are right now. Spend time with dear friends and family members. You might run into a blast from your past. The planets are testing you to see how well you can handle volatile situations.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

You have a preferred pastime or hobby that you will want to partake in today. Through this activity, you are likely to relax and feel more like yourself than you have in a while. When you return home, it will be as if you went away for the weekend.

have sexual fantasies about a woman now. This is nothing you should hate yourself for. Most of the time, these fantasies are benign, but when they start disrupting your life and relationships, it means you have some work to do.

If you remove yourself from this woman's orbit but find that you are still obsessed with her (or become obsessed with someone else), you should talk this through with a therapist.

**Dear Amy:** I was horrified by the letter from "Puzzled" concerning a "white elephant" party where live baby chicks were traded as a joke gift. This is animal abuse, pure and simple.

Horriified

**Horriified:** I agree.

Write to Amy Dickinson at askamy@tribune.com or Ask Amy, Chicago Tribune, TT500, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

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