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Entertainment

Style Invitational Week 1321: Pumping Prime – Amazon product reviews

Plus the winning Punku — haiku with puns



(Bob Staake for The Washington Post)

By **Pat Myers** February 28

(Click here to skip down to the winning punny haiku)

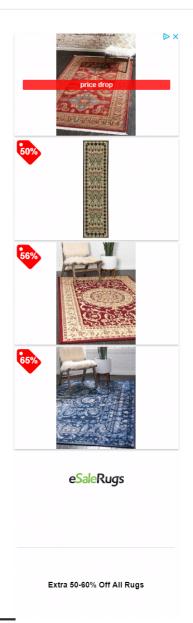
Toenail clippers (2017): This is a great product! Pretty sure I set a new distance record this weekend. I even shot one into the trash can without leaving the couch! (#nailedit!) (Danielle Nowlin, Week 1244)

Paper clips (2014): This product is hopelessly confusing. I can never tell whether the small inside loop is supposed to go on top, or the big outside end. Where is the instruction manual? (Ken Gallant, Week 1098)

It's been a year and a half since we last sought your creative product reviews for various everyday items sold on Amazon.com. Given that its owner keeps the Empress outfitted in a proper ermine stole, we want to make sure that our readers don't forget about this little-known website.

This week: Send us a humorous "review" (like the samples above from our earlier contests) for any of the items below that are listed on Amazon.com. The reviews must not cause harm to the manufacturer or seller. Feel free to post the reviews on Amazon itself *after* we post the results online March 28. While some reviews on Amazon run hundreds of words, we're looking for much shorter entries; 75 words would be lengthy for us.

Click on the links below to see the exact Amazon listings we're referring to



Most Read Entertainment

Oprah Winfrey aired a powerful interview after 'Leaving Neverland, and is ready for the backlash



Who is Wade Robson? The choreographer accuses Michael Jackson of sexual abuse in 'Leaving'



11. 1

this week.

12-pack of men's white cotton handkerchiefs

Flat shoelaces, 5/16 -inch wide

5-pound dumbbell

Velveeta Original Pasteurized Recipe Cheese Product, 64 oz.

Swivel vegetable peeler

60 binder clips, assorted sizes

Amazon Basics standard toilet paper holder

Submit entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1321 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the Lose Cannon, our Style Invitational trophy.

Second place scores a real collector's item, complete with wonk-celebrity provenance: We offer four-count-'em-four K-cups of genuine Select by Trump coffee, two each of Clubhouse Medium Roast and Tower Light Roast. They are from the personal collection of The Post's David A. Fahrenthold, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for his dogged work uncovering then-candidate Trump's fascinating "charity" (non)payments. David bought two boxes of the pods on eBay a couple of years ago (you think he'd accept compromising Trump swag?) and reports that they tasted "bad even then." The line was discontinued in 2017 partly because of poor sales. And no, they're not on Amazon.

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, March 11; results published March 31 (online March 28). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Ha-ku" in this week's results is by Tom Witte; Tom, Kevin Dopart and Bill Dorner each submitted the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the Style Invitational Devotees on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. "Like" 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, published late Thursday afternoon, discusses each new contest and set of results. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at wapo.st/styleconv.

And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago . . .

HA-KU: PUNNY POEMS FROM WEEK 1317

In <u>Week 1317</u> we once again asked for Punku — haiku that contain one or more puns. (Yes, we know, these aren't true haiku; we welcomed anything with three lines and 5-7-5 syllables.) Many Losers wrote about the "Stupor Bowl," that the Mueller probe would "leave no [Roger] Stone unturned," even ancient saws like "no pun in ten did." No ink for youse.

4th place:

Stormy Daniels films?

I have the full collection —

It's the whole she-bang.

(Seth Tucker, Washington)

Neverland.

 The 4 most striking moments from Part 1 of 'Leaving Neverland,' HBO's Michael Jackson documentary



1 Perspective

Luke Perry came full circle, from heartthrob rebel to sensitive dad



5 Professional wrestler King Kong Bundy dead at age 61





Latest episode

A surge in border crossings that wouldn't be solved by a wall

▶ Listen 24:46

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2nd prize: The best coffee that was ever made

3rd place:

The #MeToo movement Has had it up to here with Male pattin' boldness. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

2nd place

and the electric Sorry Button: Coddling Kim Jong Un: I just hope this policy Won't leave us Seoulless. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

Whichever's Northam, In shoe polish or a sheet, He's now in redface. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

Nigh-ku: Honorable mentions

More on the Virginia scandals:

Blackface as Jacko?

Doesn't the governor know Polish jokes are out? (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)

If Ralph denies pix but later moonwalks, then it Doesn't mean jack, son. (Kevin Mettinger, Warrenton, Va.)

Stupid move, Northam! Fairfax, Herring? You too! Sigh... The Old Dumbinion. (Hildy Zampella, Alexandria, Va.)

Northam's new story: It was a passing phase - his Minstrel period. (Duncan Stevens)

All over the world We're waging war: Sic transit Gorier mundi. (Chris Doyle)

The nuanced discourse At a Trump MAGA rally Is quite inciteful. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

I love Maroon 5! If you haven't heard them yet, You Auto-Tune in. (Frank Osen)

Speaker Pelosi's

One tough cookie, but has a

Wall nut allergy.

(Kathy El-Assal, Middleton, Wis.)

Chants of "U.S.A.!"

It's like a Riefenstahl film:

"Triumph of the Swill."

(Patty Harbison, Nashville, a First Offender)

They told Beethoven

He couldn't compose while deaf.

He didn't listen.

(Jim Villani, Gainesville, Va., conductor of the Manassas Symphony, and a

First Offender)

Pew, Gallup, Harris,

Rasmussen, Quinnipiac...

A poller vortex!

(Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

Measles in Portland?

Time to cut out the fiction

And stick to the vax.

(Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

"Big, beautiful wall"?

Mexicans are upset, but

They'll get over it.

(Laura Clairmont, Ashburn, Va.)

What to call a speech

Full of wild absurdities?

State of the Onion.

(Jonathan Jensen, Baltimore)

At the National

Enquirer, blackmail's just a

Wee Peckerdillo.

(Duncan Stevens)

Bezos types revenge

Using just one finger — he's

A-huntin' Pecker.

(Rob Cohen, Potomac, Md.)

Pigeons overtake

Venice's San Marco. It's

A real coo d'état.

(Kathy El-Assal)

Please don't mock the Prez

For his revised border plan:

Stop the slat shaming!

(Mark Raffman)

I have to admit:

With Brady's sixth ring, he goes

From hero to GOAT.

(Bill Dorner, Indianapolis)

All those angry tweets

POTUS sends from the toilet:

You'd expect calm odes. (Kevin Dopart)

The "most productive"

President ever? More like

The Mar-a-Laggard.

(Warren Tanabe, Annapolis, Md.)

Stoner Loner

Her ad said, "Hot chick

Seeking mate to share my stash."

Alas, she meant "'stache."

(Bill Dorner)

Fair Catch

Huge men bearing down,

They mean you harm! Wave your arm!

Punt of no return.

(Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

Nancy teaches Trump:

You screw with the wrong woman,

You might get the clap.

(Duncan Stevens)

It's not nice to talk

About one's perineum.

Taint appropriate.

(Bill Dorner)

No poem from Trump?

Does he fear he'll be deemed a

Man of low haiku?

(Bob Kruger, Rockville, Md.)

.Still running — deadline Monday night, March 4: Our classic Questionable Journalism contest. See wapo.st/invite1320.

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Pat Myers



Pat Myers is editor and judge of The Style Invitational, The Washington Post's page for clever, edgy humor and wordplay. In the role since December 2003, she has posted and judged more than 700 contests. She also writes the weekly Style Conversational column and runs the Style Invitational Devotees page on Facebook. Follow \$\mathbf{y}\$