

Entertainment

Style Invitational Week 1240: We GIVE you Limerixicon XIV

Send us a limerick featuring a word beginning with gh- or gi-; plus winning alliterative headlines (early!)



(Bob Staake for The Washington Post)

By Pat Myers August 10, 2017 [Email the author](#)



(Click [here to skip down](#) to the winning alliterative headlines from Week 1237)

Most election reformers believe
 Contributions are bad. (How naive!)
 But my Bible instructs
 What to do with my bucks:
 Says it's better to **give**, *then* receive.

Well, hickory dickory dock — or, we should say, gickory gickory gock: It's time once again for the Limerixicon, our 14th annual check-in with [OEDILF.com](#), the project by Chris J. Strolin and his merry team to compile a dictionary of limericks featuring every word in the English language. OEDILF projects a completion date of Sept. 25, 2076 (exactly what it was last August), and more than 99,000 limericks have been submitted to the website — which means that with this week's contest, the Loser Community could very well turn over Chris's limerodometer. Last August the Oedilfers asked us for ge- words; the year before that, we did the ga-. **This**



Most Read Entertainment

- 1 First glimpse of Kennedy Center's much delayed expansion unveiled 
- 2 Celebrities, fashion insiders react to death of Kate Spade 

week: Supply a humorous, previously unpublished limerick significantly featuring any English word, name or term beginning with “gh-” or “gi-,” as in the example above by Chris Doyle that got ink in the bd-to-bi- contest in 2005. See wapo.st/limericks2017 for our fairly strict rules on limerick rhyme and meter (in a nutshell: “perfect” rhyme, and a strong “hickory-dickory-dock” rhythm in Lines 1, 2 and 5; a “dickory-dock” in Lines 3 and 4; plus “weak” syllables on either side). See OEDILF.com about submitting limericks there after this contest is over.

Submit entries at this website: wapo.st/enter-invite-1240 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Inkin’ Memorial**, the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy — one of the last few before we come out with a new design. Second place receives — brought back from Italy by Loser Elden Carnahan — a T-shirt listing 66 *parolacce*, or extremely crude Italian terms, complete with English (or in some cases, broken-English) translations. Note: If you have the *slightest* amount of decency, the Empress will happily substitute a more decorous prize.

Other runners-up win our “[You Gotta Play to Lose](#)” Loser Mug or our Grossery Bag, “[I Got a B in Punmanship](#).” Honorable mentions get one of our lusted-after Loser magnets, “[No Childishness Left Behind](#)” or “[Magnum Dopus](#).” First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air “freshener” ([FirStink](#) for their first ink). Deadline is Monday night, Aug. 21; results published Sept. 10 (online Sept. 7). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week’s results is by Nan Reiner; the honorable-mentions subhead is by William Kennard. Join the Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at on.fb.me/invdev. “Like” Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at bit.ly/inkofday; follow [@StyleInvite](https://twitter.com/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 . . .](#)

HAR HEADS: THE ALLITERATIVE HEADLINES OF WEEK 1237

We’re bringing you the results of **Week 1237** a week early — does the Empress have it together or what! Actually the answer would be (b), “what”: In a stunning achievement not equaled in Invite history except perhaps When the Czar Totally Skipped Week 64, the E spent the week judging 1237, not realizing until too late that it was Week 1236’s turn. So the bogus-portmanteau words will be here next week.


In [Week 1237](#) we asked you to rewrite a headline from July 21-31 using alliteration, with most of the words beginning with the same letter or letter-sound (e.g., C and K). That period turned out to be one heck of a news week — encompassing the entire career of Anthony Scaramucci as White House Communications Director in Waiting.

The inking headlines below are accompanied by either the original headline or a paraphrase.


4th place

Original: North Korea tests ballistic missile that experts say could hit California


Mini-Me meshuggenah’s mighty mega-missile might make Malibu
(Phil Frankenfeld, Washington)




3 Perspective
President Trump’s power to pardon himself, as skewed by cartoons

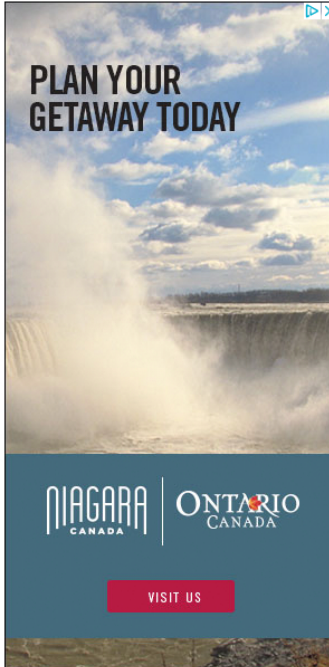


4 Review
Sex, politics and art painted in broad strokes in ‘Botticelli in the Fire’



5 Analysis
Do the dismal box-office returns of ‘Solo’ signal a problem for Star Wars?






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3rd place

Kelly steps in to impose order for president

**Hardy Homeland headliner hastily hired to hamstring Head
Honcho's harebrained histrionics in hotbed of haphazard, hostile
happenings; holds high hopes for harmony in hobbled
headquarters**

(Mae Scanlan, Washington)

2nd place

and the [leggings with a human-muscles pattern](#):

CEO pay 271 times that of a typical U.S. worker

**Exploited exclaim, '[Expletive] executives expect [expletive]
extraordinary [expletive] excess!'**

(Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

And the winner of the Inkin' Memorial:

Random recipients rejoice reallocated riches' release

Original: "Lotteries"

(Jeff Contompasis)

Seconds. So sad: honorable mentions

Abrupt chain reaction for Trump

**Spin shop staff shake-up: Spicer splits, Sanders supplants Sean;
sycophant schmoozer Scaramucci slithers in; sources cite satanic
snickering**

(Kevin Dopart, Washington)

Trump ousts Priebus as chief of staff

**POTUS punts previously precious Priebus Pluto-ward, points to
puny, pathetic production**

(Roger Dahrymple, Gettysburg, Pa.)

Scaramucci unloads on Priebus in vulgar tirade

**Volatile vermin vehemently voices vulgar, vindictive, violent, vile,
vituperative vortex of vomit**

(Nan Reiner, Boca Raton, Fla.)

**Missed manners: Mooch's manure-mouth makes mockery of
managed media messaging**

(Kevin Dopart)

Scaramucci out as White House communications director

Foulmouthed financier fails to finish first fortnight

(Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

**Marine makes Mooch march; motormouth multimillionaire
media manager muted**

(John Glenn, Tyler, Tex.)

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Sessions plans to stay, despite Trump's remark

Yikes! Yikes! Yikes! Yikes! Yikes! Yikes! Yikes! Yikes!
(Jesse Frankovich)

These college students lost access to legal pot — and started getting better grades

Could kibosh on crimeless cannabis cause climb in college kids' cognitive caliber? 'Course, clowns!

(Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

Rick Perry thought he was talking to a world leader about pig manure. It was a prank call.

Putative politico pranks Perry with palaver pertaining to pig pies. Piffle? Persiflage? P'Ooops . . . ?

Nan Reiner)

Kushner details more than 70 assets that he failed to disclose

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Derelict in duty? Da Donald's darling daughter's dearie didn't disclose dozens and dozens of denominations, deductions, distributions, Deutsche debits

(Mae Scanlan)

'I did not collude,' Kushner asserts

Collusion? Cray-Cray, Claims Kid K

(Dave Airozo, Silver Spring, Md.)

Trump lawyers asking about presidential pardon powers

Pettifoggers plan to proffer plenty of potentially practical pretexts for pardoning political pals

(Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

Trump dictated son's misleading statement on meeting with Russian lawyer

Disclosure: Dad Donald drafted dauphin's deceptive declaration on discussion of disrupting, diddling Democrats

(Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

(Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Obituaries: By being himself, the pioneering news anchor Jim Vance broadcast straight into the heart of the District

Vance: a valiant video voice, with a vigilant viewpoint in a volatile village; venerated for verve, versatility. With his vanishing:

(Annette Green, Lexington, Va.)

Trump announces ban on transgender people in U.S. military

Prohibitive president proclaims: Privates, preserve privates!

(Jesse Frankovich)

The military spends five times as much on Viagra as it would on transgender troops' medical care

Defense doctoring dollars dealt to dingus dysfunction drugs demonstrate dubious deliberation on discriminatory decision

(Nan Reiner)

Local crime & safety email alerts

Important breaking news alerts for crime, public safety and the courts in the D.C. area.

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There are a lot of gross microbes on a dollar bill

Begrimed banknotes bear bounteous bugs, bacteria, butt-borne bits (Jesse Frankovich)

Heroic effort by Seychellois man saves 5 people in distress at sea

He saved sailors to the seashore in the Seychelles (Roy Ashley, Washington)

Still running — deadline Monday night, Aug. 14: our contest to combine two movie titles. See wapo.st/invite1239.

0 Comments



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 @patmyersTWP

The Post Recommends

Style Conversational Week 1232: The Laffman

There's a lot more to new Style Invitational Hall of Famer Mark Raffman than 'Be Our Guest' parodies

5 days ago



Comic Samantha Bee apologizes to Ivanka Trump for slur

Comedian Samantha Bee apologized to Ivanka Trump and viewers on Thursday for using an obscenity to describe the



