

Entertainment

Style Invitational contest Week 1295: Really now? A matter of degree.

Plus 'Trumpers' Fog' and other winning movie anagrams



(Bob Staake for The Washington Post)

By Pat Myers
August 30 at 11:26 AM

(Click [here to skip down](#) to the winning anagrams of movie titles)

Sign you're dating a loser: He pulls up in a clunker car.
Sign you're really dating a loser: He pulls up in a clunker car that is being towed. (Kenny Burrow)

Sign you are getting old: You forget to zip.
Sign you are really getting old: You forget to unzip. (Chris Doyle; Alan Rubin)

Sign you might be in trouble: Your mother uses your middle name when she calls for you.
Sign you might really be in trouble: The newspaper uses your middle name when it writes about you. (Russell Beland)

Here's a contest we did one time, 17 years ago. There were lots of good entries back in Week 401, including the ones above, but heck, 17 years — even the Empress is optimistic that some more material has cropped up since Russell Beland suggested this contest to her predecessor, [the Czar](#). **This week: Tell us an indication to some problem, followed by an even more dire sign.**

Submit entries at the website wapo.st/enter-invite-1295 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our new Style Invitational trophy. Second

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place wins, from the cute Danish chain Flying Tiger, a [notepad](#) that looks like a chocolate bar with a corner nibbled away, and also a rubbery elephant trunk that you fit over your finger and wiggle around for whatever reason. Found in Spain by Inge Ashley.

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, “[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, Sept. 10;** results published Sept. 30 (online Sept. 27). See general contest rules and guidelines at [wapo.st/InvRules](#). The headline for this week’s results is by Tom Witte; Jesse Frankovich wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the lively 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 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](#).

[And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago . . .](#)

MOTION MIXTURES: THE MOVIE ANAGRAMS OF WEEK 1291

In [Week 1291](#) we asked you to rearrange the letters of a movie title, then describe the new movie. If you get a kick out of these anagrams, join the Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](#), and the Losers and other Devs will anagram your name.

4th place:

An American in Paris → **MANIACS! PAIN IN REAR!**: An artist from Omaha finds that the City of Light isn’t all it was cracked up to be. (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)



A notepad that’s not really a candy bar, plus an elephant trunk for your finger: We’re all about practicality in our prizes. (Pat Myers/The Washington Post)

3rd place:

Forrest Gump → **TRUMPERS’ FOG**: A mentally challenged man’s bizarre actions and personality cast a spell over millions of previously sensible people. (Rick Haynes, Ocean City, Md.)

2nd place

and [Who Gives a Crap toilet paper](#):

Oedipus Rex → **DO I RUE SEX! :P** : A man suffers the ultimate morning-after remorse. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

All the President's Men → **THE ILL-MANNERED PESTS**: Swarms of uncontrollable vermin invade the White House! (Chuck Helwig, Centreville, Va.)

Honorable mentions → MORE BLAH ONES NOT IN

Conan the Barbarian → **ON CAN: THE BARBARIAN**: The title character unleashes a barrage of late-night tweets from his favorite room.



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(Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

Les Miserables → **LESS MISERABLE:** Only some of the cast die and nobody asks Russell Crowe to sing. (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station, Va.)

Les Miserables → **AIMLESS REBELS:** Disaffected Parisians can't seem to muster interest in a revolution, muttering out tunes like "Do You See the People Shrug?" (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Hillary's America: The Secret History of the Democratic Party → **RACIST CADS YELL OF 'THE OTHER AMERICA,' TRY TO HYPE THEIR RACISM:** The not-so-secret history of the Republican Party. (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

Cinderella → **NICER LADLE:** A girl forced to cook and clean for her stepfamily isn't quite thrilled by her fairy godmother's gift. (Duncan Stevens)

Cinderella → **I'LL NEED CAR:** I appreciate the gown and slippers, Fairy G, but I don't see how I can get out of the ball before midnight. (Eric Nelkin, Silver Spring, Md.)

Cinderella → **I'LL END CARE:** Paul Ryan's fairy godmother grants him one wish. (Duncan Stevens)

10 → **01:** Age takes its toll on a former hottie. (Jeff Contompasis, from the cruise ship Norwegian Dawn, Atlantic Ocean)

Gone With the Wind → **WHITE-OWNED THING:** Spike Lee's brutally honest remake. (Kevin Mettinger, Warrenton, Va.)

Gone With the Wind → **DONE WITH THE WING:** Savoring the last piece of fried chicken at Tara, Scarlett vows never to go hungry again. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

Gone With the Wind → **NOTHING WITH WEED:** A Southern plantation clings to tradition by planting tobacco instead of marijuana. (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

Gone With the Wind → **I WON THE DEW THING:** A day in the life of Kentucky's 2017 Grand Champion Soda Pop Chugger. (Diane Lucitt, Ellicott City, Md., a First Offender)

Gone With the Wind → **TONIGHT WE WHINED:** But tomorrow IS another day! The irrepressible Scarlett remains ever hopeful . . . (Beverly Sharp)

Animal Crackers → **CRANIAL SMACKER:** Marx Brothers remake starring the Three Stooges. (Ray Gallucci, Frederick, Md.)

Beauty and the Beast → **THE NAUSEATED TABBY:** Animated musical featuring that hit song: "Rug gets messed! Rug gets messed! Some things cats cannot digest! . . ." (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

Bridesmaids → **BRIDE SADISM:** A woman chooses hideous and expensive dresses for her wedding attendants and expects a destination bachelorette party. (Amy Harris, Charlottesville, Va.)

Honey, I Shrunk the Kids → **HIDE THE HORNY SKUNKS I:** Fox News covers up sexual harassment. First in a series. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

Hook → **OH, OK.** Turns out the renowned pirate is just a regular guy. (Ann Martin, Brentwood, Md.)

It's a Wonderful Life → **IT'S AWFUL, OLE FRIEND:** Clarence the angel effs George Bailey "thoughts and prayers" then lets George continue

angel ones George Bailey thoughts and prayers, then lets George continue on his suicidal path. (Sarah Jay, Churchville, Md.)

Debbie Does Dallas → **DEBBIE DOLES SALAD**: Debbie sells vegetables by day, but shares freely from her secret garden by night. (Jon Gearhart)

Deliverance → **LEARNED VICE**: A backwoods Appalachian teaches his sons the ways of life on the river — and how to treat them city folks. (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf, Md.)

Forrest Gump → **FOREST GRUMP**: In this dystopian fantasy, the man put in charge of America's forests and parks tries to shrink and despoil them. (Kyle Hendrickson, Urbana, Md.)

Field of Dreams → **MERE DAFFODILS**: A celebrated Iowa farm disappoints a busload of out-of-state tourists. (Chris Doyle)

Saw → **AWS**: Sadistic assailants force their victims to watch cat videos until they go insane. (Steve Honley, Washington)

The Fault in Our Stars → **THE RUINOUS LAST FART**: While plotting with Cassius, Brutus abruptly excuses himself to change his undertoga. (Chris Doyle)

The Godfather → **THE FROG DEATH**: "Nice lily pad you got here. It would be a shame if something happened to it." (Eric Nelkin)

The Godfather → **THE DOG FATHER**: "I knew it was you, Fido." (Larry Neal, McLean, Va.)

The Godfather → **THE HOG FARTED**: A Mafioso wakes up with a live animal in his bed. (Ann Martin)

All the President's Men → **ALL THE DERN INEPT MESS**: They thought no staff could outdo Nixon's . . . (Chris Doyle)

All the President's Men → **TEND THE SMALLER PENIS**: A gang of shifty White House staffers conspire to keep their jobs by jointly flattering their boss. (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

A Bug's Life → **'AS-IF' BULGE**: The ladies don't buy it when a scrawny guy tries to make clever use of a banana. (Jesse Frankovich)

Captain Blood → **CAT: PAIN, BLOOD**: A brief documentary for the would-be pet owner. (David Peckarsky, Tucson)

Braveheart → **AH, VERTEBRA**: William Wallace winds up being beheaded once again. (Mark Calandra, Sudbury, Mass.)

Slumdog Millionaire → **SELL DOOM, MR. GIULIANI!**: The president's lawyer tries to convince him that a Mueller interview is a perjury trap: "You won't even get to phone a friend." (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.)

Snow White → **WOW, THE SIN!**: Nubile lass cohabits with seven weird men. (Ann Martin)

Mr. Smith Goes to Washington → **MR. MOST EGO HITS WASHINGTON**: The smartest, bestest man wins the Presidential election, but the news media try to destroy him with fake scandal after fake scandal. Expected running time 8 years; actual running time TBD. (Jon Gearhart)

The Bridges of Madison County → **THE STUDY OF BORING COMEDIANS**: The Empress slogs through yet another dull batch of entries. (Jesse Frankovich)

Singin' in the Rain → **A-GRINNIN' IN THE SI:** What a glorious feeling, I'm happy again! (Jesse Frankovich)

Clueless → **CLUELESS:** What was the contest again? (Luke Baker, Columbia, Md.)

Still running — deadline Tuesday night, Sept. 4: Our contest to “discover” new words in a word search grid. See wapo.st/invite1294.

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0 Comments



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](#)

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