

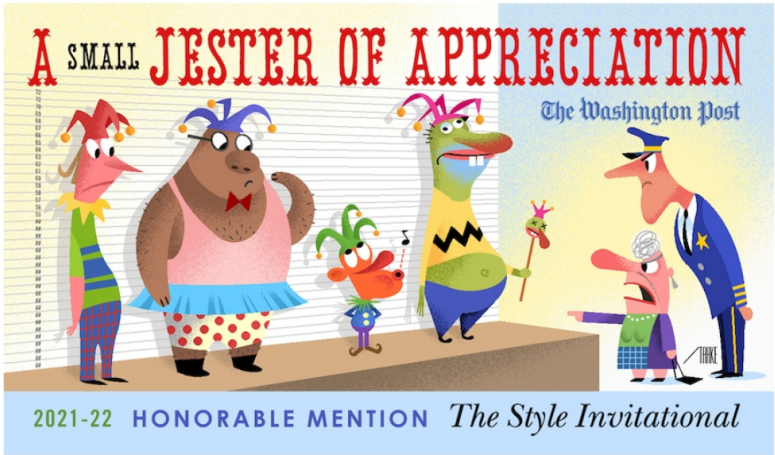


Arts & Entertainment Books Movies Music Museums Theater & Dance TV Comics Going Out Guide Crosswords

Entertainment

Style Invitational Week 1453: Haven’t read it — write a misleading book subtitle

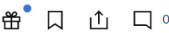
Plus ‘Eminemily Dickinson’ and other winning portmanteau names



Coming soon: Our latest pair of magnets for honorable mentions. Bob Staaake has been making them since 2003. (Magnets designed by Bob Staaake for The Washington Post)

By Pat Myers

September 9, 2021 at 10:09 a.m. EDT



(Click [here](#) to skip down to the inking portmanteau names)

One Hundred Years of Solitude

Wrong subtitle: *The Covid Hoax Continues*

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

Spice Up Your Love Life With Costumes

MOST READ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Small Vices

The Best Tools for Making Doll House Furniture

This week's contest was suggested by 292-time Loser Jon Gearhart, who couldn't sleep and so thought up this contest along with about 20 examples: **Choose any book title listed on Amazon and misinterpret it by adding a subtitle**, as in Jon's examples above; famous titles, or ones whose real subjects are obvious, might work best for this contest. [All together now: Amazon founder Jeff Bezos owns The Washington Post.]

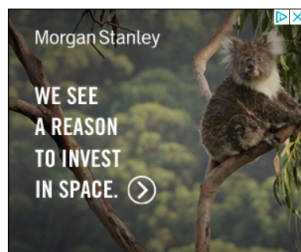


We suggest you just make them glow outside your body. This week's second prize. (Newport Jerky Co.)

ANNOUNCING THE 2021-22 LOSER

MAGNETS! Each year since 2003, Our Art Guy Bob Staake has created a pair of magnets for the Invite's honorable mentions. They may be the size of a business card, but you can also think of them as limited-edition (500 each) Staake prints. The ideas were inking entries in our 2015 contest for magnet slogans; "A Small Jester of Appreciation" is by Elizabeth Molyé; Nancy Della Rovere had suggested "No Cigar," and Bob turned it into an homage to Magritte's painting "This Is Not a Pipe." Elizabeth and

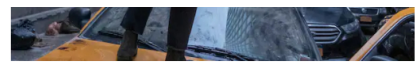
Nancy each win a magnet, six years later.



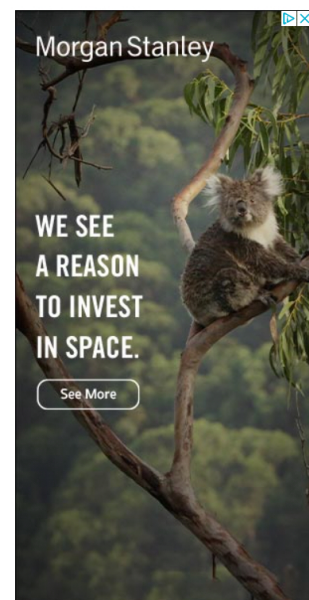
For this week's contest: **Submit up to 25 entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1453** (no capitals in the Web address). **Deadline is Monday, Sept. 20;** results appear Oct. 10 in print, Oct. 7 online.

Winner gets the Clowning Achievement, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a set of three genuine dried "**naturally glowing edible scorpions**" — along with a black-light flashlight that's supposed to create that natural glow. Edible? Well, that's what the package says. It also says, "Amaze your friends." We suggest not edding them. Donated by Dave Prevar.

Other runners-up win their choice of our "**For Best Results, Pour Into Top End**" Loser Mug or our "**Whole Fools**" Grocery Bag. Honorable mentions get either one of the new lusted-after Loser magnets **or the current "No 'Bility"** or "**Punderachiever.**" First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (**FirStink** for their first ink). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline "Look Both Ways" is by Beverley Sharp; Jeff Contompasis wrote the honorable-mentions subhead. 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; and follow [@StyleInvite](https://twitter.com/StyleInvite) on Twitter.



- 1 Review**
In the sci-fi drama series 'Y: The Last Man,' half of society drops dead, and it's ponderous picking up the pieces
- 2 Perspective**
A Broadway musical on the National Mall opens hearts to memories of 9/11
- 3 Review**
Why O. Henry is so much more than those short stories you had to read in school
- 4** Kacey Musgraves has joined country's long tradition of divorce albums — familiar refrains that help listeners wallow and heal
- 5** Pauli Murray should have been a civil rights icon. Now Murray's moment has finally come.



The Opinions Essay newsletter

Get notified of new installments in Opinions' long-form commentary series.

[Sign up](#)

By signing up you agree to our [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#)



The Style Conversational: The Empress's weekly online column discusses each new contest and set of results. See this week's at wapo.st/conv1453.

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

Look both ways: Before-and-after names from Week 1449

In [Week 1449](#) the Empress put up a "Before and After"-type wordplay contest in which you start with a name and append another name, word or phrase (sometimes bending the spelling along the way).

4th place:

Dwayne Johnson's Wax: Quite impressive when buffed. (*Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase, Md.*)

3rd place:

Roald Dolly Parton: Beloved author of "James and the Giant Melons." (*Pam Sweeney, Burlington, Mass.*)

2nd place

and the 'Scream' lapel pin:

F. Scott FitzGerald Ford: "So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the . . . oops, man overboard!" (*Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.*)

And the winner of the Clowning Achievement:

Giannis Antetokounm-Poe:

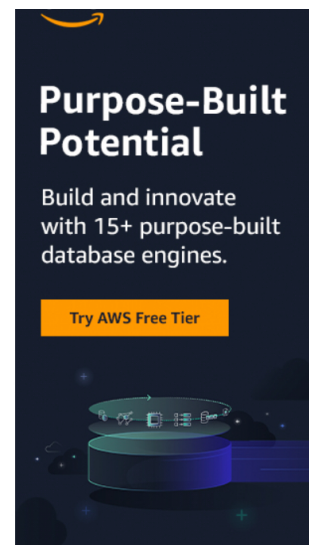
Once upon a playoff mission, 2021 edition,
After sitting out two games (his knee was feeling really sore) —
Wearing Nike sneakers squeaky, showing off his talents freaky,
Six-eleven, strong and Greek, he made amazing moves to score.
Named the Finals MVP, the finest player on the floor:
Giannis, Number 34.
(*Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.*)

ImPAiRed: Honorable mentions

James Madison Cawthorn: "Knowledge will forever govern ignorance . . . well, until now." (*Mark Raffman*)



Lin-Manuel Miranda Warning: (to "You'll Be Back" from "Hamilton")
You'll shut up! Close your mouth,
Sass the cone and it could all go south



MOST READ



1 Chris Christie comes back to reality

2 Yes, the Jan. 6 insurrectionists were terrorists. George W. Bush just indicted them.



3 A hospital will no longer deliver babies after staffers resign over coronavirus vaccine mandate



4 **Perspective**
Carolyn Hax: Brother's wife skipped the family matriarch's funeral. Time to call her out?



5 The traffic patrol officer at this school is a chicken. And it wears a fluorescent vest.



Save the cops and it could all go south.

You'll shut up — do not talk.

There's a chance that they could let you walk.

Motions rise, DAs fall;

You'll remain impassive through it all,

And when you need support,

They will send a public (free!) defender to stand up for you in court!

(Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Dalai Lamazon: Offers enlightenment and wisdom in two days, guaranteed. (Jonathan Jensen, Baltimore)

Dan Snydermatitis: A rash in which the patient's skin turns . . . uh . . . rashlike. Also caused by abnormally thin skin. (Frank Mann, Washington)

Eminemmanuel Macron: "Yella vesta protesta / Be a pest 'n' I'm gonna arrest ya!" (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village, Md.)

Eminemily Dickinson: "Hope is the @\$&* thing with feathers." (Mark Raffman)



LeBron James Joyce: Working on "Finnegans Wake 2: Space Jammier." (Coleman Glenn, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.)

Lyndon B. Johnson & Johnson: "One and done." (Greg Dobbins, Boynton Beach, Fla.)

Madame Curious George: A radioactive monkey escapes into the arms of a man in a yellow haz-mat suit. (Laurie Morrison, Rockville, Md.; Josh Feldblyum, Springfield, Pa.)

Marlon Brandonald Trump: "Steallllla!" (Harold Mantle, Walnut Creek, Calif.)

Lewis Carroll of the Bells:

"Hark how the bells go dongleding

And with a swilvy twankling say,

'Let all your cares go flarrowing

This frabjous Christmas Day!' " (Coleman Glenn)

Mister Ed Sheeran: Singing horse who wrote the hit single "Shape of U," about his favorite shoe. (Jesse Frankovich)

Ogden Nash Equilibrium: "Game theory / Makes me weory." (Daniel Galef, Tallahassee)



Dr. Paul Bunyan: He's a lumberjack and he's okay. (Edward Gordon, Austin)

Kurau Bunyan: He's a lumberjack and he's okay. (*Lawrence Gordon, Austin*)

Won't You Be My Neighbor Boris Johnson: A man leaves his community in a huff, then hangs out next door spreading a virus. (*Kevin Dopart, sojourning in Naxos, Greece*)

Andrew CuoMotown: "I Heard It Through the Gropevine." (*Bruce Carlson, Alexandria, Va.*)

Cuomodo dragon: A nearly extinct lizard that makes a lot of noise and whose touch is repellent. (*Henry J. Aaron, Washington, a First Offender*)

Archduke Ferdinand the Bull: His assassination led to the Wars of the Roses, Lilies, Gardenias and Hyacinths. (*Roy Ashley, Washington*)

Bonoprah Winfrey: "You get a car! You get a car! U2 get a car!" (*Jesse Rifkin, Arlington, Va.*)

Captain Morgantivaxxer: "Avast conspiracy!" (*Jeff Shirley, Richmond, Va.*)

Clint Eastwoodsy Owl: "Give a hoot — don't pollute — or I'll shoot." (*Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.*)



Paid content from **DISCOVER**

Content from Discover ⓘ

Meet the mug maker breaking the internet

The founder of this super hot ceramics startup is reimagining what it means to be a creative entrepreneur

CriscOsteen: Truly inspired by the Lard. (*Ellen Raphaeli, Falls Church, Va.*)

Dirty Harry Belafonte: "Go ahead. Make my day-o, day-ay-o!" (*Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.*)

Dustin Hoffmanifest Destiny: "Mrs. Robinson, it is both justified and inevitable that you will seduce me." (*Sara Walsh, Rockville, Md.*)

Kim KardashIan Fleming: Author of "For Your Eyes Only, Except for Everyone Else Who Saw the Sex Tape" (*Bruce Alter, Fairfax Station, Va.*)

Lauren Boebert Lahr: A cowardly lyin' congresswoman. (*Chris Doyle*)

Mae Westmoreland: Led our troops astray in Vietnam. (*George Thompson, Springfield, Va.*)

George R.R. Martin Luther: He was actually going to write 250 theses. (*Hannah Seidel, Alexandria, Va.*)

George Washington Football Team: First in . . . no, uh . . . hmm . . . never mind. (*Mark Turco, McLean, Va.*)



Content from Comcast ⓘ

Helping millions of people stay connected when it matters most

[Learn more](#)

Jos. A. Banksy: He surreptitiously painted the side of a building in a jaunty argyle pattern. *(Stephen Dudzik, Olney, Md.)*

Kamala Harrison Ford: Star of the movie “Air Force Two,” where she foils the terrorists with a bucket of warm spit. *(Kevin Dopart)*

Meryl Streeptease: Starred in “The Devil Wears Nada.” *(William Kennard, Arlington, Va.)*

Scooby-Doobie Brothers: “Ruh-roooh, risten to the rusic!” *(Coleman Glenn)*

Stephen Breyers Ice Cream: The manufacturer can’t seem to understand when this should go on the shelf. *(Duncan Stevens)*

Benjamin FrankLin-Manuel Miranda: Creator and star of the electrifying sequel to Hamilton:

“Hey yo, I’m just like my city:

I’m lewd, well fed and witty;

Now this kite’s gonna convey my shock!” *(Coleman Glenn)*

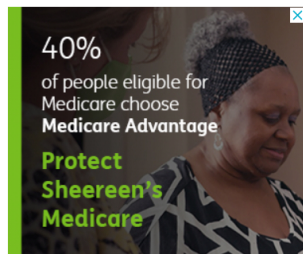
Clerihew Hefner:

The man known as Hef

For modest living got an F

But the bunnies in his clutch

At least got a solid gold hutch. *(Ann Martin, Brentwood, Md.)*



Sharon Stonehenge: A monument to basically framed, yet instinctually inviting open spaces. *(Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf, Md.)*

Sir Lancelothario: “Came-a-lot!” *(Jeff Shirley)*

Gov. Greg AbButt-Head: He and Top Florida Man Ron DeBeavis continue to make trouble in schools. Heh-heh. *(Kevin Dopart)*

Michael J. Fox News: “We’ve got to get back to 1955!” *(Jesse Rifkin; Jesse Frankovich)*

And Last: **Pat Myers-Briggs Type Indicator:** No matter how you take the test, you lose. *(Craig Dykstra, Centreville, Va.)*

Still running — deadline Monday night, Sept. 13: Our contest to find new words in a word search grid. See wapo.st/invite1452.

DON’T MISS AN INVITE! [Sign up here](#) to receive a once-a-week email from the Empress as soon as The Style Invitational and Style Conversational go online every Thursday, complete with links to the columns.

0 Comments

Gift Article



By 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. [Twitter](#)

Carolyn Hax: Brother's wife skipped the family matriarch's funeral. Time to call her out?

Perspective · Today at 12:00 a.m. EDT



A metal grid over part of Roaches Run is designed to keep animals out, plants in

Perspective · September 11, 2021



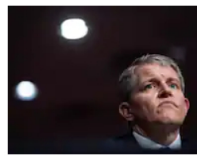
A history of the United States, according to statues

Opinion · September 11, 2021



A highly qualified candidate to run the federal firearms agency is the latest casualty of an extremist gun lobby

Opinion · September 11, 2021



Just weeks in, Washington-area families confront the reality of this school year: Quarantines

September 11, 2021



NEWSLETTER MONTHLY

The Opinions Essay newsletter

Get notified of new installments in Opinions' long-form commentary series.

Sign up

PAID PROMOTED STORIES

Recommended by Outbrain



30 Actors Who Hated Their Most Iconic TV Roles

ItsTheVibe



Protect your eyes from blue light

Zenni



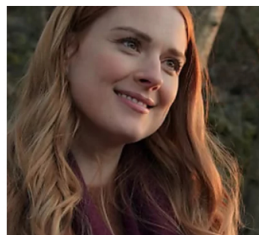
Netflix Cancels Another Round Of Great Shows

MoneyPail



[Pics] Wife goes to the bathroom, waitress tells husband this

WorldLifeStyle



Netflix Cancels Another Rounds Of Great Shows

Investing.com



Stop paying too much for your prescriptions. Let GoodRx help.

GOODRX

