

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Good Will punning: Fun with the Bard

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1275** the Empress asked you to quote a line from Shakespeare, then supply a question that quote might answer. Many entries reminded us how often Bardy quotes are regularly used as jokes — “too, too solid flesh” for dieters, “loved not wisely but too well” for STDs, etc. — but as usual, the Loser Community fortunately labour’d to outjest.

4th place

A. “Give not this rotten orange to your friend.” (“Much Ado About Nothing”)
 Q. “Shall I introduce Donald to my pal Melania?” (Thor Rudebeck, Chicago)

3rd place

A. “Dog!” (“Troilus and Cressida”)
 Q. Mr. President, for your last question on your cognitive assessment: Is this a dog, or a dog? (Dave Prevar, Annapolis)

2nd place and the dragon-head hat:

A. “By my soul I swear, there is no power in the tongue of man to alter me.” (“The Merchant of Venice”)
 Q. What were the sadly inaccurate last words of the Tootsie Pop? (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

A. “He jests at scars that never felt a wound.” (“Romeo and Juliet”)
 Q. “Why does McCain care about my bone spurs, anyway?” (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

Let slip the dogs: Honorable mentions

Which of you shall we say doth love us most? (“King Lear”)
 How shall we begin the Cabinet meeting, Mr. President? (Gil Glass, Washington)

Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow . . . (“Macbeth”)
 Honey, when will you fix the screen door? (Dinah Rokach, Silver Spring)

I crave your highness’ pardon. (“Antony and Cleopatra”)
 What’s the best-selling Hallmark card in Washington these days? (Robert Schechter, Dix Hills, N.Y.)

Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day? Thou art more lovely and more temperate. (Sonnet 18)
 No, seriously. What did you get me for Mother’s Day? (Danielle Nowlin)

Tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones . . . (“As You Like It”)
 Are we all set up for the church scavenger hunt? (Claire Walsh, Herndon)

Why didst thou promise such a beautiful day, and make me travel forth without my cloak, to let base clouds o’ertake me? (Sonnet 34)

What’s the most common complaint in Topper Shutt’s inbox? (Kathleen DeBold, Burtonsville)

I thank thee, Jew, for teaching me that word. (“The Merchant of Venice”)
 How did the D.C. Council member respond when his colleague explained the term “anti-Semitism” to him? (Rick Haynes, Boynton Beach, Fla.)

Your means are very slender, and your waste is great. (“Henry IV, Part II”)
 Why do I keep running out of toilet paper? (Jeff Shirley, Richmond)

To boot, and boot! (“King Lear”)
 What’s the motto of Windows 10? (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

To sleep — perchance to dream. (“Hamlet”)
 What is on Ben Carson’s calendar today? (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

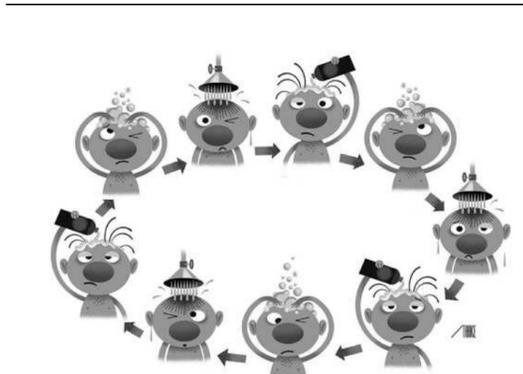
I’ll not be juggled with. (“Hamlet”)
 What did Peter Dinklage say to Shaquille O’Neal? (Duncan Stevens)

Think but this, and all is mended. (“A Midsummer Night’s Dream”)
 What is the motto of the Association of Transcendental Plumbers? (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

Tush, that’s a wooden thing! (“Henry VI, Part I”)
 What answer caused the medical student to flunk the anatomy exam? (Mark Raffman, Reston)

For my voice, I have lost it with hollaring and singing of anthems. (“Henry IV, Part II”)
 What was it like performing with the flu at the Super Bowl, Pink? (Jeff Contompassis, Ashburn)

It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath.



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1279: Justly do it — the ‘real’ way

- Shampoo:**
 1. Lather.
 2. Rinse.
 3. Repeat.
 4. All right already, stop washing your hair, you overliteral fool.

This week’s contest was suggested by Stuart Rogers of the Toronto Loser Bureau, which consists of Stuart Rogers and the occasional other nice person. Stuart was inspired by a tweet from someone/thing named Meanwhile in Canada that instructed how to cook a can of soup, with steps including “Immediately slice fingertip on edge of lid” and “Dump cold glob into microwave-safe bowl. Lose appetite.” In that vein: This week: List some “accurate” directions for using some product or completing some task.

Submit entries at the website wapo.st/enter-invite-1279 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives a big puffy foamy top hat in psychedelic colors and printed with all sorts of groovy peace signs and flowers and smileys. Willy Wonka would have refused to wear this hat because it was too gaudy. Donated by Dave Prevar and modeled at a recent Loser brunch by Kyle Hendrickson.

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 tree ink). **Deadline is Monday night, May 21;** results published June 10 (online June 7). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline “Good Will Punning” is by Tom Witte; William Kennard 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.



PAT MYERS/THE WASHINGTON POST

Groovy Loser Kyle Hendrickson models our second prize.

“The Merchant of Venice”)
 What happens when you flush an airplane toilet? (Gary Crockett)

Never, never, never, never, never. (“King Lear”)
 When will you finally get over the fact that Hillary Clinton lost the election? (Robert Schechter)

O, had I but followed the arts! (“Twelfth Night”)
 How could I have gotten more student debt? (Gary Crockett)

O, no — it is an ever-fixed mark. (Sonnet 116)
 Thanks again for pet-sitting my cat — a little Resolve cleaned up that accident on the rug, didn’t it? (Brendan Beary)

The end of life cancels all bands. (“Henry IV, Part I”)
 Is there anything that can stop the Rolling Stones from touring? (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

How if I answer no? (“Hamlet”)
 Do you always answer a question with another question? (William Kennard, Arlington)

So let it be with Caesar. (“Julius Caesar”)
 Hi, umm, that house salad you ordered? So I checked with the kitchen? And they’re like, out of the Thousand Island? (Brendan Beary)

The poop was beaten gold. (a deck on Cleopatra’s barge)
 What impressed you most about the bathrooms in Trump Tower? (John McCooley, Rehoboth Beach, Del.)

Speak what we feel, not what we ought to say. (“King Lear”)
 What’s the new slogan for Twitter? (John McCooley)

O that I were a glove upon that hand . . . (“Romeo and Juliet”)
 On second thought, Prince Charles, is there another object of Lady Camilla’s that you might wish to be? (Mark Raffman)

Some carry-tale, some please-man, some slight zany, Some mumble-news, some trencher-knight, some Dick. (“Love’s Labour’s Lost”)
 Who’s applying for jobs at the White House these days? (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

Is she not passing fair? (“The Two Gentlemen of Verona”)
 What’s Rachel Dolezal up to now? (Roy Ashley, Washington)

The rankest compound of villainous smell that ever offended nostril. (“The Merry Wives of Windsor”)
 Hey, what do you think of the new Axe body spray? (Danny Wysong, Crozet, Va.)

The wheel is come full circle. I am here. (“King Lear”)
 Whoa, are you seriously a talking hamster? (Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

As many farewells as be stars in heaven. (“Troilus and Cressida”)
 What’s on next week’s White House schedule? (Jeff Contompassis)

So withered, and so wild in their attire, that look not like th’ inhabitants o’ th’ earth. (“Macbeth”)
 Wow, you see all sorts of folks at Coachella, don’t you? (Hildy Zampella, Alexandria)

And Last: With inky blots and rotten parchment bonds (“Richard II”)
 How did the Empress reward her children for good grades? (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

See this week’s Style Conversational for more Invite-themed quotes/questions.

Still running — deadline Monday, May 14: our annual “grandfoals” contest. See wapo.st/invite1278.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

“MOTHER’S DAY” By AMY JOHNSON

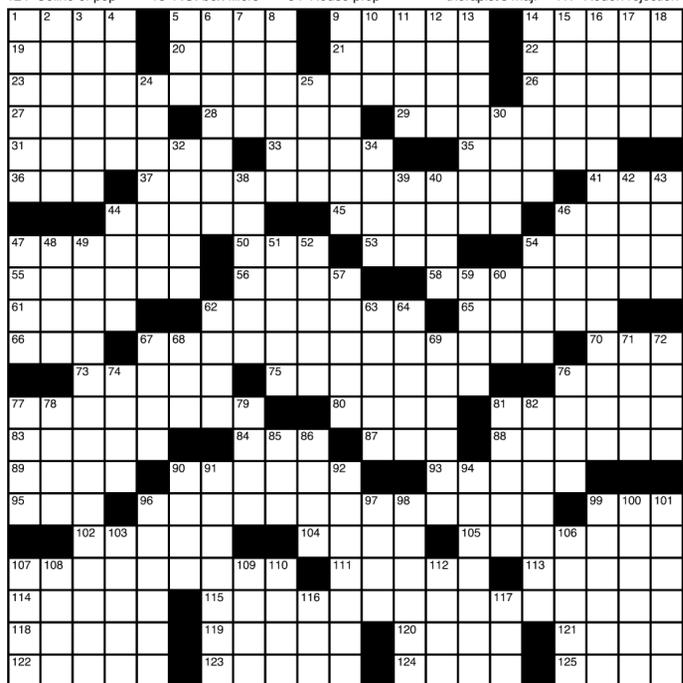
ACROSS

- 1 Stops up
- 5 Some shells
- 9 Blokes
- 14 Bee’s landing place
- 19 Abbr. covering unlisted items
- 20 Part of the rural scenery
- 21 Yoga term meaning “force”
- 22 Elevate
- 23 Foppish fed?
- 26 National capital on Cape Verde
- 27 Dr. ___ Hahn on “Grey’s Anatomy”
- 28 Best possible
- 29 They hang at parties
- 31 Word from the French for “little wing”
- 33 Tech tutorials site
- 35 Dadaism pioneer
- 36 Federal hush-hush org.
- 37 Hotel housekeeper’s concern?
- 41 Easter entrée
- 44 Rockies roamer
- 45 Some HDTVs
- 46 Like San Francisco’s Coit Tower
- 47 It’s everything, they say
- 50 1910s conflict
- 53 Spike with films
- 54 Two mits in one? sloganeer
- 55 Brazen
- 56 Muppets’ address, briefly
- 58 Muppets’ address, briefly
- 61 Upscale retailer
- 62 Gave a leg up
- 65 Rattler’s weapon
- 66 Air pump letters
- 67 Woman’s surprise party for her kids’ kids?
- 70 Edwards, e.g.: Abbr.
- 73 Net, but not Jet or Met
- 75 Like some massages
- 76 Bitter ___
- 77 Certain dietary abstinence
- 80 Civil War topper
- 81 Part of a squirrel’s stash ___ for the ride
- 83 BOLO equivalent
- 87 Old atlas letters

DOWN

- 1 Hardly dignify or passing
- 2 Pioneering game consoles
- 3 Heavy envelope makeup
- 4 Pizza purchase in nonstick cookware
- 5 Monkey in “Aladdin”
- 6 Places to tie up
- 7 “A horse, of course, of course”
- 8 In a circle near a diamond
- 9 Skiers’ retreats
- 10 Hesitate while speaking
- 11 24-hr. banking spots
- 12 Old-style “Wicked!”
- 13 Riviera resort
- 14 Know-it-all
- 15 High school hurdles
- 16 Ask for a doggie bag?
- 17 Banned orchard spray
- 18 P.O. box fillers
- 24 Copies made on onionskin, probably
- 25 Word with fast or passing
- 30 Baseball stats
- 32 Informal science
- 34 Big name in nonstick cookware
- 38 Unit of force
- 39 Scrabble vowel value
- 40 Bartender’s array
- 42 Fifth book of the New Testament
- 43 More than half
- 44 Unsuccessful swing
- 46 Test-drive car, e.g.
- 47 Recipe meas. may do
- 48 Some S&L plans
- 49 Frequent February craft project?
- 51 “The ___ are lovely, dark and deep”: Frost
- 52 “Who’s there?” reply
- 54 House prop

- 57 Really bombed
- 59 First name in ramp-to-ramp jumping
- 60 Univ. term
- 62 You may hum a few
- 63 Trio of asses?
- 64 Bikini specs
- 67 Funk band Kool & the ___
- 68 Outdoorsy sort’s retailer
- 69 Dresser’s concern?
- 71 Harmful gas outlet
- 72 Crunchy lunches
- 74 Nemesis
- 76 Favorable aspect
- 77 What prices may do
- 78 Wiesel with a staple
- 79 Halloween
- 81 Bait, often
- 82 Hot wings chaser, perhaps
- 85 Aspiring therapist’s maj.
- 86 Black or brown critter
- 90 “No cellphone at dinner,” say
- 91 Dig up
- 92 Shakespearean genre
- 94 Back in the day
- 96 Unexpectedly and unhappily single
- 97 Starr-struck one?
- 98 Held
- 99 For each one
- 100 Tries to prevent
- 101 Pharaoh, for one
- 103 Space cadet
- 106 Egypt’s Sadat
- 107 Cartographer’s speck
- 108 Hollywood rating gp.
- 109 Sitcom that starred a singer
- 110 Windsurfing need
- 112 Wrapped wear
- 116 “Compton” album maker
- 117 Rouen rejection



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Answers to last week’s puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | May 13: This year, you might want to review your responses to different situations. You are more put-together than you have been in a while. If you are single, you are likely to enjoy the dating process. If you want to start a relationship, this is a good year to meet the one. If you are attached, your commitment to your sweetie becomes even stronger. A fellow Taurus could be somewhat of a drag.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Use the morning just for you. What you can accomplish as a result will feel great. By the afternoon, you might want to indulge in a favorite leisure activity. The element of excitement that often surrounds you is likely to pop up later in the day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You might feel off in the morning. By midafternoon, your confidence is likely to soar. You might feel as if you can handle anything. Bring your friends together for a fun, spontaneous happening. Think before you leap into action.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You might feel as if someone close to you cherishes your actions. Your sense of humor emerges when dealing with this person. For some reason, you could become easily irritated right now, so do your best to work through any frustration or irritability.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) A public appearance won’t be avoidable. You might find that you enjoy yourself much more than you had anticipated. A friend lets you know how much you mean to them. Maintain a sense of humor, as you might be surprised by a series of events.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Your fun personality comes out in the morning. Your sense of humor sees the uniqueness of what is happening. You see a situation develop that could be irritating.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) One-on-one relating emerges. You could be surprised by what is happening with a partner. Listen to what this person has to say. Someone at a distance will go to great lengths to speak with you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) One-on-one relating helps you to

accomplish what you feel is necessary. Make sure that the other party involved feels appreciated. You make a powerful team together. Do not allow someone else to minimize what is happening.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Deferring to others is not always easy for you, but sometimes it is necessary. Just allow the situation to occur. Often, you sabotage situations where you feel as if you do not have enough control. A partner or loved one has some news to share.

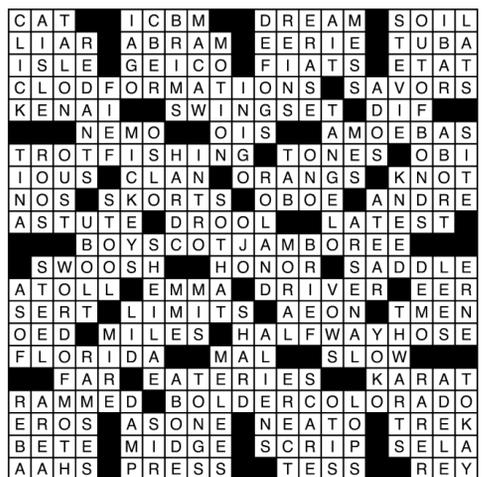
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Allow your inner child to emerge in the morning. Those around you will be delighted by this side of your personality. In the afternoon, you might dive into a fun project or happening.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your creativity emerges, which allows others to relate more easily to you than before. Enjoy yourself to the max. The unexpected occurs within your personal life. You also have more energy than usual.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You might want to get down to the basics. Family or domestic issues could come up. Allow others to express their thoughts, but be willing to take a stand if need be. Absorb others’ opinions before deciding.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You might want to say “enough is enough” to someone who can’t seem to stop gossiping. The real issue is how to curb this conversation without contributing to the drama of the moment. Deal with a financial change that could affect your daily life.

Answers to last week’s puzzle.



5/6/18