

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Bard har day: Shakespeare tailgaters

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1329** we asked for Shakespeare "tailgaters" — rhyming couplets in which you pair a line from the Bard with one of your own.

4th place

Methinks no face so gracious is as mine (Sonnet 62)
Is my least successful pickup line. (Pete Morelewicz, Fredericksburg, Va.)

3rd place

Assume a virtue, if you have it not: ("Hamlet")
"I am the smartest man this country's got." (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

2nd place and the Shakespearean Insult Gum:

That which hath made them drunk hath made me bold ("Macbeth")
Now watch this, if my beer thou wouldst but hold! (Sam Mertens, Silver Spring)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

'Tis not the many oaths that makes the truth; ("All's Well That Ends Well")
"Believe me" often signifies fake news. (Marni Penning Coleman, Falls Church)

Avon culling: Honorable mentions

Be wise as thou art cruel; do not press (Sonnet 140)
To ask if thou seem'st fat in thy new dress. (Larry Neal, McLean)
Is not my sorrow deep, having no bottom? ("Titus Andronicus")
A surgeon botched my buttock lift last autumn. (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

My bosom franchised and allegiance clear ("Macbeth")
One-thirty K will make me disappear. — S. Daniels (Steve Langer, Chevy Chase)

That one may smile, and smile, and be a villain ("Anthony and Cleopatra")

And still enthral a base of several mill'n. (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)

What's done can't be undone. ("Macbeth")
Till 2021. (Jonathan Jensen, Baltimore)

We'll yoke together, like a double shadow. ("Henry VI, Part 3")

You watch Tucker Carlson; I'll watch Maddow. (Chris Doyle)

"A mess of Russians left us but of late." ("Love's Labour's Lost")
(Don Jr. to his dad, Page 58) (Frank Osen)

And, being intercepted in your sport, ("Titus Andronicus")
Is how the Rskins keep their season short.** (Kevin Dopart, Washington)

As cannons overcharged with double cracks ("Macbeth")
Is Boeing's 737 Max. (Michael Rolfe, Cape Town, South Africa)

Come not between the dragon and his wrath: ("King Lear")
As "Game of Thrones" has shown, he'll kick your ath. (Craig Dykstra, Centreville)

Do you think the Nats will win two games this week? (Clifford Fishman, Rockville)
Stones have been known to move, and trees to speak. ("Macbeth")

She's knitted hats in corals, roses, pinks. (Danielle Nowlin, Fairfax Station)

The lady doth protest too much, methinks. ("Hamlet")

Get thee to a nunnery. ("Hamlet")
You're having too much funnery. (Nancy Della Rovere, Silver Spring)

I sigh the lack of many a thing I sought: (Sonnet 30)
My keys, phone, wallet, glasses, my last thought. (Frank Osen)

Men at some times are masters of their fates ("Julius Caesar")
Unless they live in gerrymandered states. (Jesse Rifkin, Arlington)

No profit grows where is no pleasure ta'en, ("The Taming of the Shrew")
So all our dishes come with extra ba'on. (Chris Doyle)

O poor Orlando, thou art overthrown! ("As You Like It")



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1333: Check your (homo)phones

Amfibian: A frog who, after you kiss him, remains a frog. (*Milo Sauer*)

Boredello: A brothel where everyone looks and acts exactly like your wife. (*Dion Black*)

Eyesickle: The coldest of stares. (*Michelle Stupak*)

This week we repeat a contest that the Empress ran in 2009 and her predecessor, the Czar, did in 2002: **Invent a homophone — a word that sounds the same as an existing word but is spelled differently — and define it,** as in the examples from Week 849. What is "the same"? Isn't that "eye" in "eyesickle" a bit different from the "i" in "icicle"? We rule (as that is what Empresses do) that it's close enough. Eye-I-ai!

Speaking of quibbles: In both previous contests we referred to these words as homonyms — which they are, at least according to the Webster's New World and Merriam-Webster dictionaries. But "homonym" can also refer to a word that has totally different meanings with the same spelling, like pen (writing implement) and pen (pig holder). We don't want those. So here you are, purists: "homophones" it is. The previous headline "Homonymphomania" is hereby retired.

Submit entries at wapo.st/enter-invite-1333 (all lowercase).

Winner gets the **Lose Cannon**, our Style Invitational trophy. Second place receives, perfectly apropos of this contest, a T-shirt depicting a "Dali Llama" — a shaggy white llama with a big crazy Salvador Dali mustache. *Two* homophones! Donated at this month's Loser brunch by Dave Prevar.

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, "Too-Weak Notice" or "Certificate of (de)Merit." First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air "freshener" (FirStink for their first ink). **Deadline is Monday night, June 3;** results published June 23 in print, June 20 online. See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline for this week's results is by Chris Doyle; both Beverley Sharp and Jeff Contompasis submitted the honorable-mentions subhead. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](https://www.facebook.com/on.fb.me/invdev). "Like" the Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bit.ly/inkofday](https://www.facebook.com/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.



This week's second prize: a two-homophone T-shirt.

Now China's built the biggest theme park known. (Frank Osen)

One that loved not wisely but too well: ("Othello")

The mother of the Duggars, I'm Michelle. (Jesse Frankovich, Grand Ledge, Mich.)

Against the stormy gusts of winter's day (Sonnet 13)
Trump found no shelter in the NDA. (Steve Smith, Potomac)

Out damned spot! Out I say. ("Macbeth")

You're loaded with my DNA. (Bob McKenty, Matawan, N.J.)

"The wise man knows himself to be a fool!" ("As You Like It")
Seems something not taught at the Wharton School. (Jon Ketzner, Cumberland, Md.)

This day is called the feast of Crispian ("Henry V")
Perchance we fit a game of Frisbee in. (Brendan Beary, Great Mills, Md.)

Those parts of thee that the world's eye doth view: (Sonnet 69)

You see, commando cartwheels just won't do. (Kevin Dopart)

So long as men can breathe, or

eyes can see, (Sonnet 18)
Thy drunken Facebook pics will follow thee. (Melissa Balmain, Rochester, N.Y.)

Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown ("Henry IV, Part 2")
Especially when the Novocain wears down. (Ward Kay, Vienna, Va.)

If we should fail? We fail! ("Macbeth")
Mom says we'll still get into Yale. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

The time is out of joint. O cursed spite! ("Hamlet")
I dropped my Rolex in the loo last night. (Duncan Stevens)

This Duncan hath borne his faculties so meek ("Macbeth")
And still gets contest ink most every week. (Chris Doyle)

I have not slept one wink ("Cymbeline")
And shan't till Empress grant me . . . ZZZZZZZZZZ (Dave Zarrow, Reston)

Better a witty fool than a foolish wit, ("Twelfth Night")
But best to be both for the Style Invit. (Heather Spence, Arlington)

Most noble empress, you have heard of me? ("Antony and Cleopatra")
I send stuff in, yet ne'er the crap I see. (Bill Spencer, Cockeysville, Md.)

There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so. ("Hamlet")
So you think about how this has a perfect meter and an awesome rhyme, okay? (Todd DeLap, Fairfax)

Still running — deadline Monday night, May 27: our limerick-acrostic contest. See wapo.st/invite1332.

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

"ABRACADABRA!"

By KEVIN SALAT

- ACROSS**
 1 Mosque leader
 5 Language from which "cumberbund" is derived
 9 Banjo sound
 14 Social division
 19 Nixed, at NASA
 20 Sisters
 21 Oklahoma Air Force base
 22 Lift up
 23 For-display-only Greek deli items?
 25 Twenty minutes of juggling and acrobatics?
 27 Live
 28 Stumble over
 30 Capital south of Oklahoma City
 103 Bills featuring Ben
 105 Five o'clock phenomenon?
 107 Microwaved
 111 Musician evoking compassion?

- 38 Game winner
 41 Dietary claim
 43 Salsa singer
 Cruz
 45 "If u ask me ..."
 46 Alien with high heat tolerance?
 48 Einstein's asset?
 50 Backup group
 51 Starts after a crash
 53 Get a feeling
 54 Racetrack ratios
 55 "SpongeBob SquarePants" setting
 58 Maryland coll. team
 59 Season trio: Abbr.
 60 Milne hopper
 61 Herulean acts
 63 It may be matched
 64 Hogwarts' first High Inquisitor
 Umbridge
 68 Magic words ... and a hint to four side-by-side pairs of puzzle answers
 72 Hosp. triage expert
 73 Ear piece?
 74 Rush's Neil known for his 360-degree drum set
 75 Foalike
 76 Shares an email with

- 77 It's fed on streets
 79 Driller's deg.
 80 Recover
 81 Old calculators
 84 Tranquilized
 86 New Zealand native
 87 Play part for a giant god?
 89 Bachelor pad?
 93 NBA's Magic
 94 Cats in Cádiz
 95 Simon & Garfunkel genre
 96 Rent
 97 Palindromic bread
 99 "Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown" channel
 100 Toon collectible
 101 Après-ski drink
 103 Bills featuring Ben
 105 Five o'clock phenomenon?
 107 Microwaved
 111 Musician evoking compassion?

- DOWN**
 1 Facts and figures
 2 Lamentation
 3 Lo que un desierto no tiene
 4 Spunk
 5 Aussie college
 6 Boring routine
 7 MyHeritage
 8 KGB country
 9 Expensive Super Bowl purchase
 10 "Yippeel!"
 11 Auth. unknown
 12 ATM maker

- 113 Resist extra calories at Thanksgiving?
 14 Phi followers
 15 Ventracular outlet
 16 Archimedes, by birth
 17 Dangerous waves
 18 Sci-fi staples
 24 Qualifying match, briefly
 26 Ark unit
 29 Turkish hospice
 32 High-monitor
 33 Grammar best-seller "Woe"

- 35 Crosses paths
 37 Zlich
 38 "One of Us" singer Joan
 39 Like some pet cats
 40 Info in this puzzle?
 42 Backing service
 43 Midriff-exposing shirt
 44 Ruby Red vodka brand
 47 Biological duct
 48 Eames' "Law & Order. CI" partner Bobby

- 13 Earn a perfect report card
 14 Phi followers
 15 Ventracular outlet
 16 Archimedes, by birth
 17 Dangerous waves
 18 Sci-fi staples
 24 Qualifying match, briefly
 26 Ark unit
 29 Turkish hospice
 32 High-monitor
 33 Grammar best-seller "Woe"

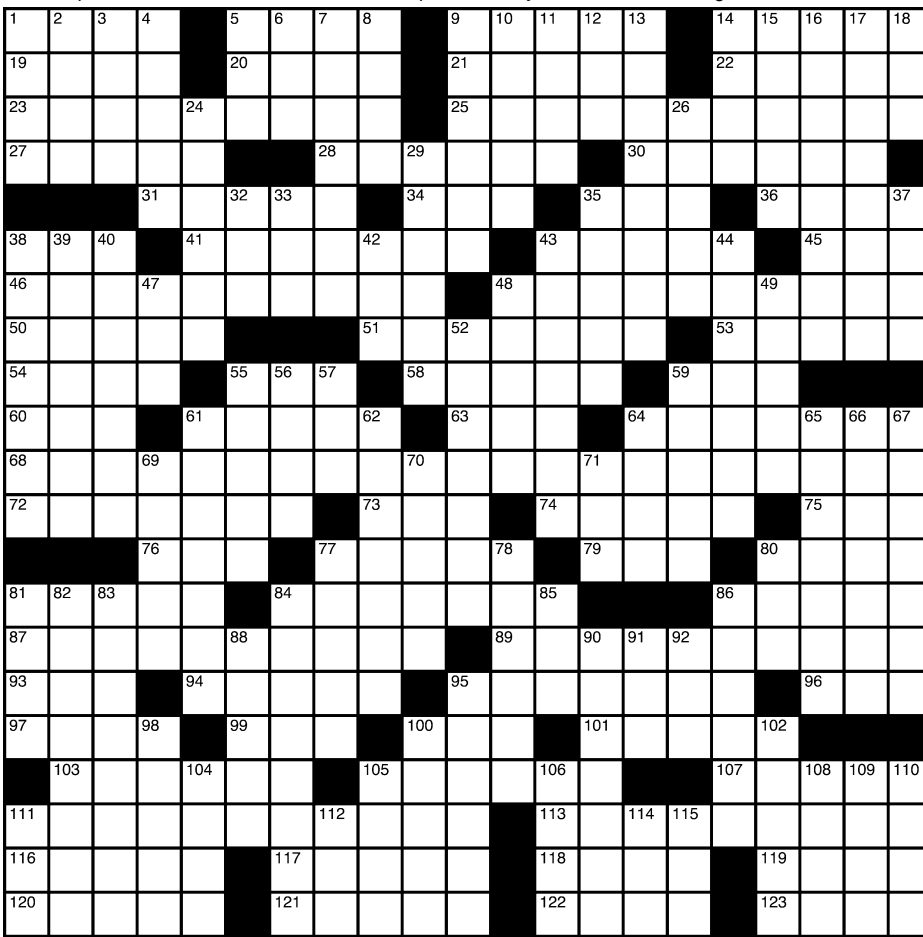
- 35 Crosses paths
 37 Zlich
 38 "One of Us" singer Joan
 39 Like some pet cats
 40 Info in this puzzle?
 42 Backing service
 43 Midriff-exposing shirt
 44 Ruby Red vodka brand
 47 Biological duct
 48 Eames' "Law & Order. CI" partner Bobby

- 49 Fix a lawn
 52 Wisest choice
 55 Gertrude
 McFuzz creator
 56 Effortlessness
 57 "No thanks, I already ..."
 59 Keeps from drifting
 61 Compelling
 62 Formally withdraws
 64 Group of two
 65 Perfume ingredient
 66 Make bigger
 67 Job that requires cutting class?
 69 Joshua tree genus
 70 Minuscule bits
 71 Mary
 77 Runners occupying bases

- 78 Like many used cars
 80 "You ... to be there"
 81 Heaps
 82 Like some children of mixed marriages

- 83 Athens attacker, in Plato
 84 Dizzying
 Playskool toy, at times
 85 Word with party or skinny
 86 Vietnam's ___ Delta
 88 Tied, as skates
 90 Rams' football gp.
 91 Sticky stuff
 92 Partners' abbr.
 95 Diver's quest
 98 Racket
 100 Copier, maybe
 102 Hearing-related
 104 Many a gamer genus
 105 Eject
 106 Poems of praise
 108 Healthy salad green
 109 "Why ___ brother?"

- 110 Indigo and herina
 111 Backing
 112 Suffix with chlor-
 114 Seminoles' sch.
 115 "... the dew of ___ high eastward hill": "Hamlet"



5/26/19

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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | May 26: This year, you evolve to a new level of sensitivity dealing with an older association. You become more in tune with others. If single, you meet someone whom you care a lot about, probably through a dear friend. If attached, the two of you strengthen your bond, despite a Pisces who always interjects their opinions into your life together. Be your own person.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 You might want to take in more information but ask fewer questions. Others relax more easily with you and come up with more information. A family member is difficult — no matter what.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 You could be more difficult and irritated than you are aware of. A friend shares a piece of information that might not feel grounded. You are too practical to value what is being shared. Use care with sarcasm.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 Deal with another person directly. You could feel as if your efforts are not paying off when dealing with an older relative or friend. They can be very sarcastic at times. Let this person's comments wash right over you. They reflect the person — nothing more.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 You might want to head in a new direction despite another person's need for the tried and true. Avoid an argument at any cost. You do not want to hear anything that could lead to a potential conflict.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 You could want to change directions. You open up a conversation with a partner or close associate. How you see a personal matter makes a big difference. A partner views the issue in a different light. Try to find a midpoint.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 Understand that a partner or associate holds others' attention. You could deal with a problem with ease as long as a family member can be easygoing. Be careful with a friend who could be angry.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 You find out that another person

might not be as strong or willful as you think. Your creativity emerges dealing with this person. Emotions might be a lot closer to the surface than you think.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 You could be more in touch with your feelings than you have been for a long time. Touch base with the long-term desires and expectations you have for a friendship. Flow with the moment. A close loved one continues to act in an erratic manner.

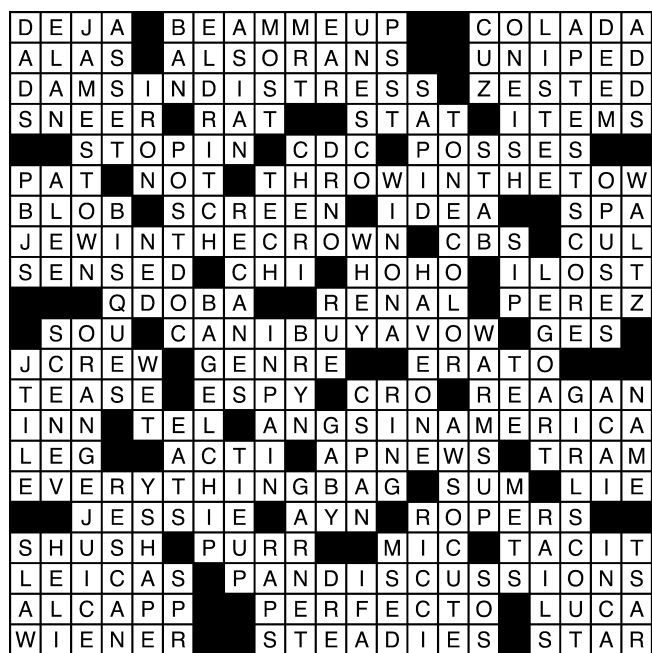
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 You could be a lot closer to a family member than you have been for a while. Conversations on a one-on-one level seem to work and give you a lot of information and feedback. Do not feel pressured by a family member or roommate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 You could cause yourself a lot of problems. You might not be as clear as you think. You are changing your opinions about a neighbor or how you relate. You could be getting a lot of information from left field.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 Be aware of the potential costs of proceeding as you have. Be more aware of your expenses. Feelings could go to an extreme as you try to deal with them. Avoid a shopping trip if possible.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 Your way of dealing with another person might surprise a loved one. You feel the need to let an older person or an authority figure in your life know how much you appreciate them. You experience many changes at the last minute.

Answers to last week's puzzle.



5/19/19