

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Box office flips: ‘Opposite’ movies

BY PAT MYERS

In **Week 1353** the Empress asked the Loser Community to change a word in a movie title to its “opposite” — stipulating that the word would be interpreted with some generosity — and describe the new movie. At least 30 people offered up some sort of “Undocumented Immigrant Kane”; 23 had “All the President’s Women.”

4th place:

Drop-22: Experience an NFL game from the perspective of Redskins wide receivers. (*Mike Gips, Bethesda*)

3rd place:

Moby Niceguy: Seafaring yarn about an eco-conscious mariner and his quest to rescue endangered whales. (*Jon Ketzner, Cumberland, Md.*)

2nd place and the Twinkle Tush ‘jewel’ to hang under a cat’s tail:

Don’t You Be My Neighbor: Lindsey Graham becomes the host of a children’s show on Fox. (*Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.*)

And the winner of the Lose Cannon:

The Lion Queen: Nala overthrows Scar and saves the kingdom, but is still criticized for seeming shrill and unlikable. (*Jesse Rifkin, Arlington*)

The plot thins:

Honorable mentions

Melted: When fearless Princess Anna sets off on a journey to the Arctic to reunite with her sister, all she finds is a carrot in a puddle. (*Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.*)

Bald: The sunset of the Aged of Aquarius. (*Bruce Carlson, Alexandria*)

Woke Beauty: Disney’s newest princess doesn’t need a kiss — without consent while she’s unconscious, no less — from some rando prince for validation! She knows what time it is, and she’s a true warrior for equal rights and social justice. (*Bill Dorner, Indianapolis; Mary Shawhan, Silver Spring*)

White Hawk Down: The latest chapter in the John Bolton story. (*Tom Witte, Montgomery Village; David Kleinbard, Mamaroneck, N.Y.*)

20,000 Leagues Over the Sea: The Navy introduces a massive bowling program on its ships to help the sailors cope with long voyages. (*Jeff Shirley, Richmond*)

Avengers: Beginning-Game: Prequel chases these heroes back to days of deadly spitballing and ridiculous four-square skills. (*Dan Helming, Trenton, N.J.*)

Hygienic Harry: “Go ahead, punk, make my bed!” (*Lee Graham, Rockville*)

Sadiator: It’s hard to get happy when you’re fighting for your life XXIV hours a day, VII days a week. (*Larry Gray, Union Bridge, Md.*)

Death of Pi: A very short film about a boy on a raft with a tiger. (*Stuart Anderson, Seattle*)

Sober Noon: An Old West marshal faces the hardest morning of his life when he discovers that the saloon won’t open till 2:30. (*Larry Gray*)

High Midnight: The Hadleyville pizza joint just closed, and this burrito ain’t big enough for the both of them! (*Doug Frank, Houston*)

12 Happy Men: An all-male jury reaches a quick unanimous decision so that they can all get home in time for “Monday Night Football.” (*Rick Haynes, Boynton Beach, Fla.*)

The Dropout: “Ben, there’s a great future in plastics — but I’ll have the paper bags today, thanks.” (*Marco Di Pietro, Germantown, a First Offender*)

Mission: Possible: Agent Ethan Hunt is tasked with getting more toner for the IMF office printer. (*Jesse Rifkin*)

Raging Cow: Trump uses a focus group to finalize nicknames for Warren, Harris and Klobuchar. (*Dave Zarrow, Reston*)

Big Little Woman: Amusing tale of the forgotten 121-year-old March sister who was kidnapped and raised by the Cheyenne. (*Jon Ketzner*)

Around the Block in 80 Days: An aging Phileas Fogg pulls out his walker for one last adventure. (*Mark Raffman, Reston*)

Small: An old man who wishes to be young again goes back to



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New contest for Week 1357: It’s parody time!

Oh, the climate inside is frightful, But to fire is so delightful! My staffers? All friends-turned-foe — Let ‘em go, let ‘em go, let ‘em go!

And it doesn’t show signs of stopping; (Truth be told, I’m fond of chopping!) I’ll give ‘em the old heave-ho — Let ‘em go, let ‘em go, let ‘em go! — Beverley Sharp, Week 1304

Last year around this time, the Empress asked for songs about topics in the news, set to a winter holiday tune. This time, as we usually do in our songbook contests, we’ll let you loose on the entire songbook. **This week: Write a satirical song about anything in the news right now, set to a familiar tune (or even one of your own, if you perform it on video).** If you make a video, we might feature it in the online Invite, but it’s the quality of the lyrics that matters most. If you do, send us a link that will be public by the time the results are published. If you’re sending just the lyrics, it’s helpful to include a link to a video or audio file so an online reader can follow along and hear the melody.

Submit up to 25 entries — really, we’ve had people send us 25 songs — at wapo.st/enter-invite-1357 (no capitals in the Web address). **Deadline is Monday, Nov. 25 — we’re giving you an extra week;** results publish Dec. 8 in print, Dec. 5 online.

Winner gets the Lose Cannon, our Style Invitational trophy. Now, I usually don’t like to award costly prizes, lest losing Losers start filing grievances, but this week, **second place receives money!** First we have a 10-dollar note from the Federal Bank of Zimbabwe, marked “Harare 1997”; in the early 2000s, the country’s currency suffered such insane hyperinflation — eventually 231 million percent — that the bank was printing out 100-trillion-dollar bills. (The government abandoned the currency in 2009 and switched to foreign money, and just this year brought back a Zimbabwean dollar — which is now inflating at 290 percent per year.) But that’s not all! Also included is a 10-pack of \$100 bills, or, more precisely, mini-pictures of the same on facial tissues.

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). See general contest rules and guidelines at wapo.st/InvRules. The headline “Box Office Flips” was sent separately by Marco Di Pietro and Jesse Frankovich; Beverley Sharp wrote 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/conv1357.



Who says we don’t give out the big bucks? Both go to this week’s second-place winner.

middle school, doesn’t do his homework and calls everyone silly nicknames. (*Deb Stewart, Damascus*)

Warm Hand Luke: The other prisoners decide to play a prank on the new guy with a bowl of water while he’s sleeping. (*Jeff Shirley*)

Triumph of the Won’t: Parents attempt to manage a 2-year-old would-be dictator. (*Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.*)

The Godmother: Cinderella skips the ball and arranges for her stepisters to sleep with the fishes. (*Bruce Johnston, Churchville, Md.*)

One Flew Into the Cuckoo’s Nest: The president welcomes this

month’s acting secretary of homeland security. (*Howard Walderman, Columbia*)

Partial Recall: The true story of (someone) who (did something). (*John McCooy, Rehoboth Beach, Del.*)

Performance Improvement Plan on the Bounty: Captain Bligh agrees to reduce keelhauling by 90 percent over six weeks. (*Pamela Love, Columbia*)

More opposite movies in the online Invite at wapo.st/invite1357.

Still running — deadline Monday night, Nov. 11: our Ask Backwards contest. See wapo.st/invite1356.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

“FOWL PLAY” By ED Sessa

ACROSS

- 1 Alerts that may lead to roadblocks, briefly
- 5 Bela Lugosi was buried in one
- 9 Orkney components
- 14 Egg boiler’s aid
- 19 Ball game
- 20 “You said it!”
- 21 Steel plow pioneer
- 22 Ask for “fish ‘n’ chips,” say
- 23 Action at a coop dance?
- 26 Catkin producer
- 27 Make a bundle farming?
- 28 Fella
- 29 The Tempter
- 31 fide
- 32 D.C. fundraisers
- 33 Confederacy foe
- 35 See 16-Down
- 36 Guitarist Clapton
- 37 Primo
- 38 Car in a ‘60s hit
- 39 Nestling tossed out of a bar?
- 43 Eggy quaff
- 44 Mad fad
- 46 Silver, to Long John
- 47 Story subtitled “Murder Most Fowl?”
- 50 Cotton Club site
- 54 Imam’s faith
- 55 Towels off gently
- 58 Neutral tone
- 59 Part of a house profile
- 63 Puffin relative
- 65 Gp. with many sub-par members
- 66 Rooster’s wake-up call?
- 69 Tiny hatchling group?
- 73 Promgoer’s concern
- 74 Television station?
- 75 One of two on a three-speed
- 76 Inuit transport
- 79 Income for Inc., say
- 82 Tailor
- 86 Unleash a tirade
- 88 What fussy hens do?
- 92 Intermittent drip cause
- 95 Ristorante pitiful
- 96 Home-school link: Abbr.
- 97 Fowl haulin’ a semi?
- 101 Some boxing wins
- 102 Disappearing ski resort feature

DOWN

- 1 Phone programs
- 2 Plays down
- 3 Navy aerobatic team member
- 4 Pain relief
- 5 Give a hoot
- 6 “Clueless” director
- 7 Heckerling
- 8 Loose dressing gown
- 9 Same old same old feeling
- 10 Sister of Luke
- 11 X-rated works
- 12 Legislative councils
- 14 Leaves in a cup
- 15 “You know where to find me”
- 16 With 35-Across, Japanese Olympian
- 17 Like paradise
- 18 Start another eight-ball game

DOWN

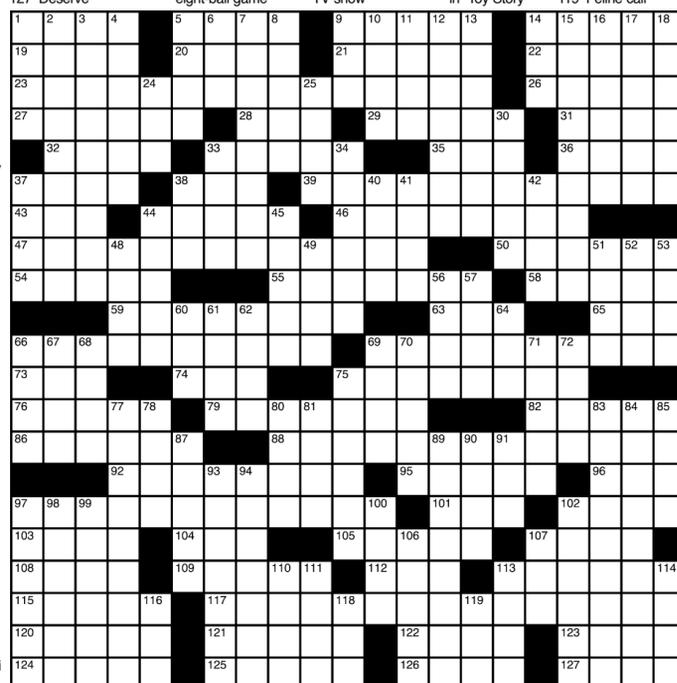
- 24 Controversial “babysitters”
- 25 Brief warning to a busybody
- 30 “Like, obviously!” magazine
- 33 Eclectic
- 34 Write, as music
- 37 Naysayer
- 38 Part of LGBTQ
- 40 Online addresses
- 41 Scholarship consideration
- 42 Seabed sifter
- 44 1983 Keaton film with a kiss
- 45 Jelly garnish
- 48 “M*A*S*H” actor
- 49 Go south
- 51 Fat-reducing procedure, briefly
- 52 Thick & Fluffy waffle brand
- 53 Beverage that goes back millennia
- 56 Speed competition
- 57 Mongolian tent
- 60 Monk’s condition, in the TV show

DOWN

- 61 No friend of Fido
- 62 Swedish university city
- 64 Colorful pond fish
- 66 Color of el mar
- 67 Mojito component
- 68 Having a spat
- 69 “The ...”: classic Yankee nickname
- 70 Furniture stores that sell meatballs
- 71 Astronomer
- 72 Move, in real estate lingo
- 75 Start to parallel park
- 77 Torchbearers?
- 78 Firing site
- 80 Blueprint detail
- 81 Crowning point
- 83 Head honcho wagon
- 84 London station
- 85 End of the line
- 87 Annie who voiced Bo Peep in “Toy Story”

DOWN

- 89 Man, in a Desmond Morris best-seller
- 90 Tango groups
- 91 Emails a dupe to
- 93 Encircle, as with a lei
- 94 Had a midday meal
- 97 Video game makers
- 98 2001 Audrey Tautou title role
- 99 Game with ghosts
- 100 High time?
- 102 Minor pain
- 106 ___ Hall
- 107 Mae West’s “___ Done Him Wrong”
- 110 Disney collectibles
- 111 Tony relative
- 113 Iraq War concerns, briefly
- 114 In stitches
- 116 ___ kwon do
- 118 2015 Verizon acquisition
- 119 Feline call



11/10/19

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Answers to last week’s puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | Nov. 10: This year, some people will think of you as a hot tamale. Others will see you as lucky and in sync. If single, your multifaceted personality sometimes confuses others. If people cannot accept and enjoy your multiple dimensions, do not waste your time — move on. If attached, the two of you note an increase in the passion that lies between you. A newfound intensity delights you. Taurus often challenges you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your high energy might be disconcerting to another party who spends time with you. You need an outlet for tension and stress, even if it is just a brisk walk. You can be more indulgent when you are relaxed.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Use the daytime hours for you — read the Sunday paper or luxuriate in bed watching a favorite movie. You might have a call or two to make, but you’ll do it at your leisure. An invitation appears later in the day.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Use the daylight hours when you feel good and energized. Your energy might be accelerated by a difficult and volatile discussion with a friend. You do not need to agree with each other.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Be more aware of your responsibilities and others’ needs. Someone will follow your lead. Bring friends and family together for a late brunch. Discussions could be quite animated.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Reach out for a loved one at a distance. You could spend a lot of time catching up on news with each other. You may feel pressured later to bring others together.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Reach out for a friend or loved one who cares about you. Discussions prove to be animated and you both express very different ideas. Do not attempt to resolve a problem just yet. You will gain perspective, nonetheless.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Others come toward you; however, you could be feisty when dealing

with a loved one or a close friend. Tempers could flare out of the blue. One-on-one relating takes over later in the day.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You have a lot to do, and you want to clear out those chores. Some of you will be busy preparing your home for winter. By evening, get together with a family member.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You cannot help but be frisky and fun-loving. A loved one or child could get frustrated and angry when with you. They have too much energy. Remain positive and all will work out.

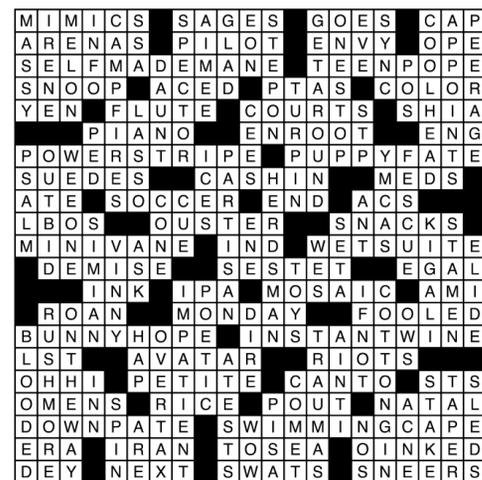
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Basics count when having a

discussion with a child or loved one. Keep the conversation going, but base it on shared values. Later in the day, a sense of mischief emerges. You could do anything.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Speak your mind and be as clear as possible. A discussion could be lively but not always in sync. The other party could disagree vehemently and let you know.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) How you see a financial question and spending this weekend could be a lot different from many of your associates and your loved one, as well. Hold up your end, but do not get into a fight if you can avoid it. Everyone has the right to their opinions.

Answers to last week’s puzzle.



11/3/19