

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ W O N B E H U L K Z K F L S J B I H C K
S Z G O H U A L Y K F Z V Z H V T Z . . . L
X H S ’ K K F L S A V Z H V T Z U Z B T L R Z F H G
A L S X S Z G O H U A V Z H V T Z B U Z . ”
— I L T T W C U U B O

Previous Solution: “I’m a fan of music, first and foremost. So I do things from the perspective of a fan.” — Pharrell Williams

TODAY’S CLUE: $V \neq uals E$

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ACROSS

1 Parting word
4 Conspiracy
8 “—, poor Yorick ...”
12 Free electron
13 Uncommon
14 Go the extra —
15 Everybody
16 Advantage
17 Foundation
18 Small boat
20 Nerve cell
22 “Golly!”
23 “Certainly!”
24 Sticks
28 Tibetan city
32 Unpretentious pup
33 Quite a few
35 Throw high
36 Undivided
37 Author Victor —
38 Exhaust pipe

DOWN

39 Meaning
41 Investigate
43 Curved path
45 “And —!”
46 Frankness
49 Come to
52 Roman poet
53 — mater
56 New Deal org.
57 Wine and —
58 Town in New Mexico
59 Simple bed
60 Paradise
61 Irish river
62 Female sheep

1 Partiality
2 Egg part
3 Make aware
4 Like better
5 Youth
6 Assn.
7 Itty-bitty

Answer to Previous Puzzle

P	E	A		S	P	A	T		T	U	B	A	
A	W	L		A	L	M	A		A	N	E	W	
R	A	I	N	C	O	A	T		L	A	T	E	
K	N	E	E		T	H	E	B	L	U	E	S	
				W	I	T		R	I	O			
S	W	A	T	T	E	D			O	W	N	E	D
C	A	M		E	D	O			E	L	I		
A	V	E					T	W	O		A	B	E
T	E	N	T	H			H	A	B	I	T	A	T
				H	A	M		T	I	P			
E	S	S	A	Y	I	S	T		S	A	G	E	
D	O	O	M			D	I	A	G	O	N	A	L
G	A	L	E			A	L	G	A		D	I	M
E	R	O	S			S	T	E	P		S	T	S

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The Grizzwells® by Bill Schorr

COME QUICK! THERE'S FRESH ROADKILL ON THE HIGHWAY!

DARN!

SO MUCH FOR MY NEW YEAR'S DIET RESOLUTION

SO LINFAIR

The Born Loser® by Art & Chip Sansom

GOOD NEWS! THANKS TO A.I., YOUR PERFORMANCE HAS IMPROVED BY TWENTY PERCENT!

THAT'S GREAT, CHIEF! DOES THAT MEAN I'M IN LINE FOR A RAISE?

NO, BUT A.I. IS!

Arlo and Janis Dailies® by Jimmy Johnson

BAYOU BISTRO

I HAVE SO MANY FOND MEMORIES OF THIS PLACE!

AND NOW IT'S LIKE OUR OWN PLAYHOUSE!

SOMEHOW, I CAN'T THINK OF IT AS A PLAYHOUSE.

OK, OUR OWN COFFEE SHOP, THEN!

SO WHERE'S THE COFFEE? YOU'RE NOT A GUEST ANYMORE, YOU KNOW!

Brevity® by DAN

I'M LOOKING FOR A MEAT SUBSTITUTE THAT I CAN EASILY EAT ON THE GO.

I'VE GOT JUST THE THING: PORTOBELLO MUSHROOMS!

Alley Oop® by Dave Graue and Jack Bencer

DOC, WE'RE NOT GOING TO SOLVE MEDDLER'S RIDDLE? WON'T EVERYONE DIE?

WE'RE ON A GORGEOUS OCEAN LINER. I DON'T WANT TO DO PUZZLES.

WE'RE GOING TO TRAP HIM WITH HANDCUFFS I MADE WITH PARTS FROM THE ION DRIVE.

UH, DOC, I WAS PLAYING AROUND AND...

AND THIS IS PRECISELY WHY I MADE TWO PAIRS.

Cul De Sac® by Richard Thompson

Today, we have a special visitor here at Blisshaven Preschool!

Timmy Fretwork has brought his banjo and...

DID HE EVER MARRY YOU, MISS BLISS?

ARE YOU KIDDING? YOU CAN'T TIE DOWN A BANJO MAN!

OH, YEAH! I FORGOT! HEY! MISS BLISS!

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN'T TIE DOWN A BANJO MAN?

ASTROGRAPH

By Eugenia Last

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Trust your instincts and be straightforward with your instructions and any questions you might have. Leave nothing to chance or up to someone else to complete.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Do your thing; don't give anyone a chance to interfere. A disciplined approach will get you where you want to go and encourage positive change and feedback.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Set yourself up to win. No matter what comes your way, summon your charm, turn up your energy levels and manufacture enough kindness and courage to make a difference.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Consider what makes you feel content and what it might take to incorporate it into your daily routine. It's time to please yourself and to take responsibility for your happiness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Let your emotions

and passion lead the way. No matter what you take on, do it with gusto. Be the one to make a difference, and you'll gain leverage that surpasses expectations.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Communication is necessary if you want to maintain healthy connections with those you regularly deal with. Setting boundaries will put your mind at ease and allow you the freedom to start new adventures.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Send a message; make your position and motives clear. A moneymaking idea, investment or professional change looks promising. Discuss your feelings with someone you love.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Take a break, do something different and explore possibilities, and you'll discover a lifestyle that excites you. Step outside your comfort zone and embark on a journey that makes you feel alive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Think big but budget wisely. How you manage your life will determine your state of mind. Observe how others manage their money, expenses and relationships.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Pay attention to how you look and feel. Don't take risks with your health or your physical well-being. When in doubt, sit tight, observe and wait to see what unfolds.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Put your money where your mouth is and follow through on your plans. There is money that can be yours if you invest more in yourself and how you participate in life. Start by lowering your cost of living.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Search, and you will find. Be on the lookout for something that will turn a skill you have or items you possess into source of cash. Using your money in meaningful ways will lead to satisfaction and peace of mind.

DEAR ANNIE

By Annie Lane

Dear Annie: I'm a 73-year-old married woman, and my husband and I have a full social life. We regularly host other couples for happy hour, dinner and holidays. I enjoy it, and I'm grateful to have good friends at this stage of life.

One friend in particular is a woman my age whom I've known for years. We generally get along well, which is why this has caught me off guard. Lately, she has started making comments about my height. I'm 5 feet, 1 inch tall, and she's 5 feet, 3 inches, so it's not as if there's some dramatic difference. Yet in front of our friends, she calls me "Shortie" and sometimes pats the top of my head like I'm a child.

She does it in a joking way and laughs, as if it's harmless. But I do not find it funny. I find it degrading and disrespectful, especially because it happens in front of other couples in my own home. It also pushes a sore spot for me, and I can feel myself getting tense and defensive, which then makes me look touchy while she looks playful.

I have tried reacting with a smile, reacting with silence and even reacting sharply. None of it has stopped her. I do not want to create an awkward scene or embarrass her, but I also do not want to keep tolerating something that makes me feel small in every sense of the word.

What is the best way to respond in the moment, and what should I say privately so she stops for good? — Feeling Degraded

Dear Feeling Degraded: You are not being overly sensitive. Patting an adult on the head is not "cute." It is condescending, and doing it in front of others puts you in a spot where you can't win because, as you described, you could end up looking like the immature one.

Next time, handle it calmly in the moment with a steady line and a small smile. Ask her to please not pat your head. If she laughs, repeat yourself once, followed by, "I'm serious. Don't." Then move on to another topic. There's no speech or debate necessary.

Afterward, tell her privately and plainly, "I

know you mean it as a joke, but it feels disrespectful to me. I'm asking you to stop." A real friend will apologize and quit. If she keeps doing it, you have learned something important about her.

People only keep pressing a button when it keeps ringing. Try not to let her know it bothers you, but if she persists, then you could stop inviting her over.

"Out of Bounds: Estrangement, Boundaries and the Search for Forgiveness" is out now! Annie Lane's third anthology is for anyone who has lived with anger, estrangement or the deep ache of being wronged — because forgiveness isn't for them. It's for you.

Moderately Confused® by Jeff Stahl

WAIT A MINUTE... HOW MANY MORE WEEKS OF TRUMP?

STAHLE 2/2

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Peanuts® by Charles Schultz

HERE'S THE WORLD WAR I FLYING ACE BEING CHASED BY THE RED BARON...

HE HATES ME!

EVERYONE ASKS HOW I KNOW HE HATES ME...

I CAN TELL!

Adam Dailies® by Rob Harrell

WORKIN'? YEP.

BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD.

IS THIS AN EXCITING SEQUEL TO YOUR BOOK?

NEWSLETTER FOR A SPONGE COMPANY. BILLS MUST BE PAID.

Frank and Ernest® by Thaves

ACE EXPLOSIVES DETONATORS WITH EASY-TO-READ DISPLAYS

THE FIRST DISPLAY TELLS YOU HOW FAR AWAY TO GET, AND, IN CASE IT'S WRONG, THE SECOND DISPLAY TELLS YOU YOUR ALTITUDE.

Monty® by Jim Meddick

YOU'VE BEEN LOOKIN' OUT THAT WINDOW FOR LIKE, HALF AN HOUR.

(NO.)

I'M STUCK.

I TOOK A SWIG OF FREZZA THEN ACCIDENTALLY PRESSED MY BEAK AGAINST THE GLASS...

OH... NOW?

YOU GOTTA FROZEN FREZZA MUSTACHE.

WHOA-YOU'RE REALLY STUCK!

OW! OW!

INSTEAD OF PLAYIN' TUS-OF-WAR WITH MY SPINE, NOW I'VE GOT MELTIN' IT WITH A BLOW DRYER!

I DON'T OWN A BLOW DRYER!

(OH, RIGHT! BAWDY!...)

(I MEAN FOLLICLY CHALLENGED!)