12.3

| 1 | 2 | 3 |  | 4 |  | 5 |  |  | 6 |  | 7 | 8 |  | 9 |  | 10 |
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Across
1 Historic instance of reluctance, refusal or failure to speak out on significant matters (Pius XII in WW2, DNC on moral character of 2020 nominee, God in Ingmar Bergman movies etc.)
6 American epidemic
11 Lovely European girls' name (Herzigová, Mattes, Braun etc.)
12 Essendon Airport (initials)
13 Seminal text of Jewish mysticism written by Moses de León in $13^{\text {th }}$ century Spain whilst purporting to be the work of Rashbi from $2^{\text {nd }}$ century ("Best of gentiles kill him, best of snakes cut its head etc.") redacting oral revelation to Moses on Sinai
14 Character played memorably by Bengt Ekerot and Brad Pitt
16 Character in gloomy Samuel Beckett play portrayed as unable to stand or see
17 Character in Winnie-the-Pooh known for gloomy outlook
19 Non-binary alternative to his/her used to avoid offense to Gen-snowflake

20 Discontinue, cancel, chop
22 New Jamie Oliver bestseller
23 Japanese K-Pop star from girl group Twice known for energetic and cheerful personality and outcry over insensitive remarks honouring Emperor Akihito (on abdication in 2017) regarded as offensive in Korea due to role of Chrysanthemum Throne in period of inhuman Japanese rule of peninsula from 1910 to 1945 (Like Ooh-Ahh etc.)
24 Disgraced Melbourne clown
25 Grassby, Bundy, Jardine, Capp, Gore, Weird 27 Seminal John Wayne character (not Tom Doniphon, Ethan Edwards, Genghis Khan or Longinus)
28 Doc Neeson interview (initials)
29 Greatly loved US artist (1942-95) known for lulling manner, kindness and fro (initials)
30 Greatly loved English author (James and the Giant Peach etc.) (with first initial) $(1,4)$
31 Tragic character played by Richard Davalos in 1955 East of Eden with chilling final scene on train depicting descent into madness (initials)

## 12.3 (contd.)

## Across (contd.)

32 The bodily rising to Heaven of Jesus forty days after the Resurrection often depicted as sandaled feet (with stigmata) disappearing from view at top of picture
36 1,011 (in Roman numerals)
37 New Testament or Nigel Tufnell (initials)
38 Acronym indicating indebtedness ( $1,1,1$ )
39 Fictional beer from Springfield
41 Large, hairy spider thought in earlier times to induce frenzied, bacchanalian dancing in those bitten
44 Grand Inquisitor (initials)
45 Pioneering Australian editor known for male centrefold and sealed section (first name)
46 California Saga: Big ... Mike Love paean to beautiful, rocky, coastal region of California
47 Narrow strait between Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman in territorial waters of Iran (regarded a significant naval "choke point") open to all in accordance with UN Convention on the Law of the Sea subject to exceptions defined in Article XIX regarding "innocent passage" Unsatile US movie actor known for roles as Korean war vet Maje Angelo Maggio, troubled Korean war vet Major Bennett Marco, junkie Frankie Machine, heel Joey and hipster Robbo in Robin and the Seven Hoods
51 Fearsome Hindu goddess typically depicted naked, blue, with lolling tongue, garland of skulls, skirt of body parts and standing on outstretched body of consort Shiva (embraced by radical feminism in West in 70s)
52 The Others (initials)
53 Tiresome US film making siblings
54 Netanyahu arraignment (initials)
56 Metal container (Fancy Feast, Agent Orange etc.)
57 Greatly loved entertainer from Long Beach, CA $(5,5,4)$

## Down

1 Members of conservative Catholic conclave denying legitimacy of popes since Pius XII regarding them as heretics due to embrace of modernism and the papal seat, resultantly, "vacant" since 1958 (Earl Pulvermacher, Hutton Gibson etc.)
2 Toto album with Africa
3 Clandestine identity of US Senator for South Carolina Lindsay Graham (allegedly used in seedy private life online) $(4,1)$

Approaches, draws close to, approximates National treasure (not Nic)
Effusive display of admiration (6, 3, 5)
Villain of Passover punished in genocidal vengeance by as yet unnamed Hebrew god Peculiar name by which unnamed Hebrew god initially identifies himself to Moses on Mount Sinai (after blood-curdling punishment of 7 down) (also civilian population) $(1,2)$ Supreme creator deity of Zoroastrianism (AKA Ahura Mazda)
10 Activity or attitude designated anti-Semitic in IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism (along with questioning historicity, scope or significance of Holocaust, repeating canards of dual loyalty, media ownership etc., likening Israel to Nazi Germany or Apartheid South Africa and Temple location denialism) Africa and Temple location d
Endless occupation (initials)
Slimy fish in Thames enjoyed by English
19 Arresting Russell Crowe role (not Maximus Decimus Meridius, Inspector Javert, Jor-EL, Kenny Larkin or Noah)
21 Lethal benzodiazepine in Billie Eilish song 23 Futuristic virtual assistant with soothing voice 26 Golden-haired goddess of youth, love and beauty promised by Wotan to giants Fasolt and Fafner as payment for building Valhalla in Der Ring des Nibelungen by Wagner
29 Initials designating time period prior to 1 CE (increasingly eschewed to avoid offense to non-Christian community)
33 A place where one stops in a succession of similar places (Jesus falls the third time, Nunawading etc.)
34 Without interruption
35 Sewn up (surgically)
36 Initials shared by celebrated authors of disparate texts The History of Sexuality and Lord of the Dance
40 Controversial 70s TV crow call
42 Awe-inspiring 1985 Kurosawa retelling of King Lear story set in $16^{\text {th }}$ century Japan
43 Latin prefix meaning heavens
44 Brutal Soviet-era prison camp for dissidents
48 El ... Mexican-inspired McDonald's range
50 A cultic offering (initials)
55 Initials shared by greatly loved Australia rock guitar legend and blind, paraplegic spiritual leader of Hamas may the souls of the martyrs rest in perfect peace

