

Across

- Nice way to end a letter (or email) 1
- 3 Philosophical model using binary opposition (mind/body, good/evil, darkness/light etc.)
- 9 Best known Argentinian (after Lionel Messi, Pope Francis and Maradona)
- Japanese lunch box with compartments for 11 foods making up meal (including unpalatable 28 pickled starters)
- Sympathetic secondary character in Tolstoy's 12 Anna Karenina (known for autobiographical elements such as working with peasants)
- 14 Sinister multi-national associated with catastrophic oil spill in Alaska in 1989
- Egyptian god of Underworld brought back to 15 life (after murder by brother Set) and model for Christian resurrection story in contentious thesis about recurring figure of "dying and rising god" in religion
- 17 Not possessing attribute in question inc. truth or existence (contraction)
- 18 Disgraced US music legend known for "wall of sound" in 60s (Be My Baby etc.) (initials)
- English actress best known for lurid murder 19 in Goldfinger (in 60s)
- 21 Eight Elvises or Eazy-E (initials)
- Avid fans of heavy metal music (colloquial) 22
- 25 Ong ... Catchy Blur song with baffling title
- 26 Lurid Stephen King novel about children in New England town terrorized by evil clown

- 27 1920 German silent horror film directed by Paul Wegener about clay monster brought to life by great Rabbi Loew (with magic spells from Cabala) to protect Jews from pogrom in 16th Century Prague and help out around ghetto (English title) (initials)
- Term used for Egyptian obelisks especially when relocated in West such as at Victoria Embankment, London or Central Park near East 82nd Street (behind Met) (popularly, though ahistorically, linked to Cleopatra)
- 29 Soviet secret police associated with creation of Gulag system, suppression of church and detection, arrest and liquidation of anarchists and other dissident factions in early Soviet Union (replaced by NKVD) (and KGB)
- 30 Fatuous, imbecilic, meaningless
- 32 Third president of modern Egypt assassinated in 1981 by clique of religious army officers incensed by US brokered peace accord with Israel perceived as abandoning Palestinian statehood and ceding Aqsa to Zionist Entity
- 36 Famous US doctor (not Spock, Phil, Seuss, Oz or Fauci)
- 38 Sycophancy, obsequiousness, fawning flattery to curry favour with powerful
- 39 Nothing Compares ... Heart-rending Prince song sung by troubled Irish Muslim Shuhada Sadaqat (formerly Sinead O'Conner) (1, 1)

15.3 (contd.)

Down

- 1 Member of percussion section in orchestra featured in Medea's Dance of Vengeance by Samuel Barber (also Holst)
- 2 96 (in Roman numerals)
- 3 Inbuilt capacity to deflect responsibility for criminal behavior through plausible claim of ignorance (Rupert Murdoch phone tapping scandal, Bill Clinton Al-Shifa bombing etc.)
- 4 Lincoln, Saffron, Foxman, Simpson etc.
- 5 Avenue in New York ("I'm waiting for my man / 26 dollars in my hand / Up to ... one two five / Feel sick and dirty, more dead than alive etc." Lou Reed classic used in amusing *Man with a Van* phone waiting music)
- 6 Popular Australian rock band with sadly missed, charismatic singer
- Style of humour (chiefly US) 7
- Enlightenment thinker known for concept of 8 separation of powers profoundly influencing (with John Locke and Thomas Paine) framers of US Constitution
- 10 Having one's services engaged for wages or other payment (as in Matt Gaetz investigation or derisive chapter in controversial biography Churchill's War: The Struggle for Power, Chapter 6: The ... Help)

- 13 Mysterious desert sect of 1st century devoted to ritual purity and separation associated with Oumran, the Dead Sea Scrolls and John the Baptist described by Pliny the Elder, Philo and Josephus though may not have existed
- Island associated with Wu-Tang Clan 16
- Oscar Niemeyer or Ozzie Nelson (initials)
- Underlying intentions or motives of a person or group (often hidden) (and malevolent)
- Assaulted physically in manner intended to humiliate rather than harm while expressing opposition to political views (Fraser Anning after remarks on Christchurch terror attacks)
- times as beast of burden in most moving death scene in cinema history
- 33 Agent Orange (initials)
- Alan Dershowitz (initials) 34
- 37 Adorable movie robot (not David) (abbrev.)

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- 20 23 24
 - 31 Member of horse family used since ancient