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Across

- 1 Trap laid to cause someone to fall; hindrance, obstacle or impediment to progress, belief or understanding (9, 5)
- 12 Beloved Australian writer (From the Inside, Hits and Memories, How to Shoot Friends & Influence People, No Tears for a Tough Guy, For the Term of His Unnatural Life etc., etc.)
- 13 Morally inscrutable new DNI from American Samoa with unusual first name (first name)
- Friendly way to greet 15 down (2, 3)14
- 16 Art movement of early 20th century celebrating dynamism, speed, technology, cars, airplanes, machines and nascent Italian Fascism
- 18 Emperor of Ethiopia worshipped as returned Messiah by Jamaicans (mostly high) (3, 6)
- 19 Celebrated German actor known for roles as homicidal somnambulist in The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari, mutilated hero of The Man who Laughs and Nazi villain Major Strasser in Casablanca (initials)
- 20 ... Liberty (Mill), ... Photography (Sonntag) ... the Buses (Varney)
- Lone nut (initials) 21
- 22 Gag order (initials)

- Holiest prayer in Judaism ("Hear, o Israel") 23 prayed by Jesus and referenced in story about Good Samaritan in question of wily lawyer ("Who is my neighbour?") trying to trick him
- 25 Dye associated with Picts and ferocity in battle
- 27 6th June 1944 (initials)
- 29 Operation: *Overlord* (initials)
- 30 Process of vetting Germans in aftermath of WW2 for residual fascist beliefs prior to re-entry into civilian life (Wilhelm Furtwangler etc.)
- 36 Supreme Canaanite creator god
- Term of respect and affection for senior police 37 officer as seen on The Bill
- 38 French suffix indicating town (Palooka etc.) 39
 - Roy G. Biv (initials)
- 41 International Rescue or Inspector Rex (initials)
- 42 Makes a mistake, commits a faux-pas etc.
- 44 After Hegira or Arnold Horschak or Adolf Hitler or Amber Heard or Alger Hiss or Arthur Harris or Arian Heresy or annus horribilis (initials)
- 45 Monument on Champs-Élysées commissioned by Napoleon after rout of Imperial Austrian army at Austerlitz on 2nd December 1805 (11 Frimaire An XIV FRC)

32.5 (contd.)

Across (contd.)

- 48 Pete, Georgie and Dim in A Clockwork Orange (in Nasdat)
- 49 Sunshine on Nunawading (initials)
- US state known for riverboats, cotton, slavery 50 secession. Ku Klux Klan, Jim Crow and reluctant removal of confederate cross from flag of Magnolia State in 2020
- 54 Society (for) Cutting Up Men (initials)
- 57 Grueling, 60-hour "human potential" seminar devised by L. R. Hubbard acolyte Werner Erhard (J. P. Rosenberg) using isolation and deprivation to instill mindset of pitiless self-interest in 70s
- 58 Mysterious cuboid in Makkah built by Adam (and angels) circumambulated by faithful as pillar of Islam at Hajj
- 59 "Put up your dukes! Put up your dukes!" Greatly loved Bert Lahr role (from 30s) (8, 4) 35

Down

- Cartoon character known for toy piano and 1 obsession with Beethoven
- Best-selling US author of lurid airport fiction 2 inc. Exodus, QB VII and The Haj (called by one reviewer "cheap anti-Palestinian racism parading as literature")
- 3 Sadly missed, 14xmulti-platinum musical artist (Bat Out of Hell etc.) also actor memorable in role as religious father in *Kickapoo* by *Tenacious D* with Dio as spectral deity of rock
- Amusingly named 2008 documentary about 4 cartoon band Gorillaz
- 5 Les Diaboliques or Les Dawson (initials)
- 6 Term meaning people are different
- Bryn Terfel unplugged (initials) 7
- 8 Iconic Ted Cassidy role (in 60s)
- 9 Do you know why Popeye's girlfriend is spelled wrong? WARNING Cryptic (5, 3)
- 10 Cascading Style Sheets or cool Sama set (initials)
- 11 Who's the king of animals in Africa?
- Indefatigable crossword compiler 15
- Popular confectionery item with realistic 16 brown filter and red tip indicating lit end in 60s

17 Tommy Iommi or The Iliad (initials)

- 24 Money (slang) (not lucre, bread or Benjamins)
- 25 Willy Nelson or Walter Neff (initials)
- Strayed from the main subject, thrust or argument 26
- in speech or writing
- Dick Cheney or Don Corleone (initials) 28
- 31 English composer imbued with pomposity of Empire (Land of Hope and Glory etc.)
- Felix Ungar or Francis Urquhart (initials) 32 33 Spineless villain of Leo Tolstoy's Anna Karenina (with first initial) (1, 7)
- 34 Alternative Melbourne rock band known for edgy titles such as Australia the Lucky **** re-released as Censored Due to Legal Advice following litigation by Ken Done for unauthorized use of koala image (with syringe) on cover
 - "And all the people wept when they heard the word of the Law" Exilic Levitical cup bearer of Artaxerxes I in Babylon who led mission to Jerusalem (with Ezra the Scribe) to rebuild walls, nullify exogamic marriages with local Canaanites and read the Law revealed to Moses on Sinai (newly written in Persia) to remnant of people in Judea (who had never heard it) in momentous event of 458 BCE with repercussions felt today
- 40 "Don't tase me ...!!!" Internet meme
- I don't get it (initials) 41
- 43 Radical Islamicists of Sunshine (initials)
- 46 Punctuation mark separating items on list (bread, milk, kale, chocolate biscuits etc.)
- 47 Titular character of 2018 #1 New York Times Holocaust fiction bestseller The Tattooist of Auschwitz (about love affair in death camp)
- 48 Thin circular object such as a CD or solar Aten depicted with rays of light with little hands on each end illuminating visionary, monotheistic Pharaoh Akhenaten, queen Nefertiti and the world in 14th century BCE Egypt
- **51** Sophie Scholl lives (initials)
- 52 Gee, something is missing from this famous Shakespearean villain
- 53 Pierre Brasseur or Pete Best or Pik Botha or Philip Brady or Pat Benataar (initials)
- 55 Conscientious objector (initials)
- 56 Unnecessary war (initials)