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## Across

- 1 Popular photo and short-form video sharing service known for multiple concerns inc. affirmation addiction, FOMO, doomscrolling, sharenting, competitiveness and self-worth issues in teens (and adults)
- 9 A good deed, a creditable thing to do esp. one of 613 acts codified by Maimonides after painstaking study of Torah divining message of G-d to special people in 12<sup>th</sup> century
- Spontaneous expression of admiration in Spanish speaking world such as at a bullfight
- 11 Legendary 2003 black comedy romcom with Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez as lovable mobsters notable for riveting train wreck quality and critical comment such as "rarely has a movie that doesn't star Madonna achieved such a skin-crawling mixture of deluded preening and bungled humour" etc.
- 14 Indefatigable, tiresome crossword compiler
- 16 Inspirational message to people of Berlin in 1963 speech by JFK (English translation) (1, 2, 1, 5)
- 18 Alida Valli *or* Amanda Vanstone (initials)
- 19 Hermann Göring *or* Hans Gruber (initials)
- 20 Celebrated Italian director known for themes of existential alienation and gelato colours
- 24 Shy child pilot of Evangelion Unit-00 with special relationship to Shinji revealed at end of seminal manga Neon Genesis Evangelion
- 25 Legendary Athenian lawmaker (not Draco)
- 26 Distasteful, unpleasant, unappetizing, objectionable, repellent etc. (informal)
- 27 Chthonic Roman deity of underworld

## Down

- Secret childhood friend
- 2 Nuclear Iran (initials)
- 3 Person on whom wounds of Christ miraculously appear due to extreme identification with Passion (Francis of Assisi) or fraud (Padre Pio called "an ignorant and self-mutilating psychopath who exploited people's credulity" also by Pius XI "a noxious Socrates, capable of perverting the fragile lives and souls of boys" etc.)
- 4 The Zombies (initials)
- 5 Minimize contact with someone or something; prevent something from happening; refrain from doing something, eschew, abjure, shun etc.
- 6 ".....! I mean, people, for crying out loud, it's just a TV show" Infamous William Shatner outburst at Star Trek convention (initials)
- 7 Action-packed opera about mighty fortress built by murderous giant transformed into dragon by power of ring forged by megalomaniacal dwarf from gold stolen from deities living in river (sic)
- 8 Kilimanjaro, Everest, Fuji, Olympus, Piz Palü, Sinai, Carmel, Dandenong etc.
- 12 Ivan Albright (initials)
- 3 Backward office associated with enduring legacy of Clinton presidency WARNING Cryptic
- 5 Amusing number plate of Auric Goldfinger
- 7 "What if you knew her and found her dead on the ground?" Heartfelt paean to 1970 Kent State campus shootings with emotional David Crosby adlibs on outro
- 21 Seminal 70s electronic music group from Düsseldorf with albums ...! 1, ...! 2 and ...! 3
- 22 New Scotland Yard (initials)
- 23 Nation of Islam (initials)