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Across

- 1** Villain of Passover whose heart was hardened by G-d in foundation myth establishing tenets of malignant narcissism, eternal victimhood and sociopathic indifference to all outside the group (reappearing improbably as unnamed king of Ninevah having survived drowning in Red Sea (!) who donned sackcloth and ashes after warning by Jonah of impending doom completing story arc of mighty ruler who had defied G-d in Egypt humbled before Zion) (!!)
- 7** Herr Ernst Zündel (initials)
- 8** “ Hamas calls for second holocaust. Condemn them NOW!” Kosovar British singer smeared by Rabbi Shmuley Boteach in full-page NYT ad as an antisemite working for destruction of Israel for supporting BDS and rights of Palestinians in occupied territories (with Gigi and Bella Hadid) (first name)
- 9** Endangered aquatic salamander named after Aztec god increasingly popular as household pet due to extremely cute face
- 11** Member of violin family rich, low, mellow tone
- 12** *The Animals* (initials)
- 14** Little-known name of nightmarish Phantom in 1910 gothic horror novel of Gaston Leroux
- 15** Race of brutish, aggressive, ugly, malevolent, irredeemably monstrous creatures invented by J.R.R. Tolkien controversially echoing racist, dehumanizing wartime propaganda of the day
- 17** Eleventh hour (initials)
- 18** Sinister, illegal, human experimentation program involving sensory deprivation, shock treatment, LSD etc. conducted by CIA during Cold War to develop “truth serum” such as carried out on unknowingly pregnant college student mother creating psychokinetic abilities in unborn daughter Eleven in *Stranger Things*

Down

- 1** “Ghost who walks” Mysterious, masked crime fighter descended from sixteenth century British sailor Christopher Walker working out of Skull Cave in Bangalia (with horse Hero and wolf Devil) primarily against evil Singh Brotherhood (in signature mauve)
- 2** *The ... Girls* Goth grrrl band from *Scooby-Doo!* feat. Thorn, Dusk and Luna
- 3** Shallow, inland sea bordering Ukraine, Russia and Crimea connected to Black Sea to south by narrow Strait of Kerch
- 4** What was Jim Morrison (also Ray Manzarek, Robby Krieger and John Densmore) (greatly loved in 60s)? (1, 4) **WARNING** Cryptic
- 5** Maverick, nonconformist, dissident, radical, recusant, loner, outsider, beatnik etc., etc.
- 6** Body of Jewish law based on revealed Torah, labyrinthine rabbinical commentary and interminable, tortuous responsa
- 10** “I am now occupied with more important matters and your father better be too if he knows what’s good for him” Eldest Von Trapp child in subplot about rise of Nazism and chilling transformation of love interest Rolf from innocent mail boy into merciless fanatic in *The Sound of Music*
- 13** Chest of shittim wood and gold built by Bezalel to specifications revealed on Sinai to house the Tablets of the Law presently in Chapel of the Tablet, Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion, Azum having been brought by Menelik I, son of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, to Ethiopia (!)
- 16** Cenk Uygur (initials)