BLANK SPACE Brendan Emmett Quigley (www.brendanemmettquigley.com)

ACROSS

- 1. Hu's predecessor
- 6. Rating provider
- 10. Some briefs
- 14. He's rarely himself
- 15. ____ fixe
- 16. Castling piece
- 17. "Look who just showed up!"
- 19. Tort sort: Abbr.
- 20. Peak position?
- 21. Athletes on horseback
- 23. Barrel next to a cask, maybe
- 27. ___ port
- 28. Vehicle to be used later in life
- 29. Author who coined the words "multicolor," "tintinnabulation," and "normality"
- 30. Kick out
- 32. Updike short story that takes place in a grocery store
- 34. Kissing sound
- 36. Reagan guess: Abbr.
- 37. "Everything sucks," initially
- 38. Landmark Harlem hall
- 43. Contestant Bergman of "The Challenge: War of the Worlds"
- 44. Tower's grp.
- 45. Elevator guy
- 47. Old Testament minor prophet
- 50. Raring to go
- 52. Show set in labs
- 53. Coach Hagen
- 54. Sneaky
- 56. "She's getting away!"
- 58. Strings around the neck
- 61. Affirmative that sounds like a pronoun
- 62. Upset with the government?

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- 63. You can build on them, and a hint to this puzzle's theme
- 68. Skiing mecca
- 69. Tim who is roughly the 256th Democrat running in 2020
- 70. Nintendo villain with a W on his cap
- 71. Compost heap piece
- 72. Counting-off word
- 73. Bar none

DOWN

- 1. Reggae lover's god
- 2. Chill
- 3. Braves on boards
- 4. Scribbling in the margin
- 5. Orange tree spot
- 6. Activity tracker meas.
- 7. Get ready for
- 8. Open up a window, e.g.
- 9. Lumberjack's equipment

- 10. Lift provider
- 11. Give someone a seat?
- 12. Senile one
- 13. Nighttime picture?
- 18. Glowing reviews
- 22. The Crimson Tide, familiarly
- 23. Secretary's stat.
- 24. First state to allow women to practice law
- 25. Tidal type
- 26. Small songbird
- 31. "The Godfather" actor
- 33. Choir voice
- 35. Yes guitarist Steve
- 37. Enjoy heartily, as on Thanksgiving
- 39. Grazing spots
- 40. Jobs, so to speak
- 41. Carve into steel
- 42. First blank in the palindrome "___ to vote, ___!"

- 46. Second blank in the palindrome "___ to vote, ___!"
- 47. Wheel covering
- 48. "Becket" actor
- 49. Cook with oil
- 50. Saluting phrase
- 51. How one might address a couple
- 55. French 101 book
- 57. "La Vie En Rose" singer
- 59. Buddy
- 60. PDF image, maybe
- 64. "I can't decide"
- 65. Dormitory overseer, briefly
- 66. French pronoun
- 67. Our sun