

Thanks for stopping by
The Diner near the Edge of the Galaxy

Three Part Act Solution

By Drew Besse

Each entry in one of the columns can be paired up with an entry in the other two columns to create a movie title with three words in it (like Kung Fu Panda). These movies, ordered by release year were:

Puss in Boots 2011
Eat Pray Love 2010
Monsters Vs Aliens 2009
Kung Fu Panda 2008
I Am Legend 2007
Failure to Launch 2006
Walk the Line 2005
Million Dollar Baby 2004
Die Another Day 2003
Daddy Day Care 2002
A Beautiful Mind 2001
What Lies Beneath 2000
The Sixth Sense 1999
Saving Private Ryan 1998
Good Will Hunting 1997
Courage Under Fire 1996
Dumb And Dumber 1994
Grumpy Old Men 1993
Death Becomes Her 1992
New Jack City 1991
Dances With Wolves 1990
Driving Miss Daisy 1989
Dirty Rotten Scoundrels 1988
Full Metal Jacket 1987
Stand By Me 1986

Taking the associated trigrams formed by each of the movies and reading them in that order gives "BIGFASTFUNNYHAPPYIRONKNOCKEDMEANSINTRUECITYFEETFISHFIVEGIRLSGRITMANPEOPLEUP". These words go in the blanks, with BIG FAST FUNNY HAPPY IRON KNOCKED MEAN SIN and TRUE going in the first column and CITY FEET FISH FIVE GIRLS GRIT MAN PEOPLE and UP going in the second column. You can now repeat the same game using two word movies

Fast Five 2011, True Grit 2010, Funny People 2009, Iron Man 2008, Knocked Up 2007, Happy Feet 2006, Sin City 2005, Mean Girls 2004, Big Fish 2003

Taking the bigrams this time gives you SKIPPEDYEARBESTPIC or "Skipped Year, Best Picture"

In the first step of the puzzle, every year from 1986 to 2011 had a movie except for 1995. The film that won the academy award for best picture that year was BRAVEHEART which is the answer to the puzzle.