UP WITH PEOPLE  Brendan Emmett Quigley (www.brendanemmettquigley.com)

ACROSS
1. "Motherless Brooklyn" author
   Jonathan
7. Writing form that's a
   homophone for a word
   meaning "was short"
10. Calendar piece
13. Anatomical ring
14. Gear for crashing
15. Crashing ___
16. With 23-Down, TV host who
   wrote the autobiography "Born
   a Crime"
17. It may be in stitches
18. ThyssenKrupp rival
19. Resembling the "happy little
   tree" painter?
22. "Frozen 2" character who
   sings "The Next Right Thing"
25. "How I feel about it ...", briefly
26. Formally abolish
27. Lunar event
29. Kiev's nat.
31. 101 test graders
32. Brett Kavanaugh's alma
    mater, briefly
33. Guesstimates on some GPS
    apps: Abbr.
34. Certain toy cats?
40. Element #35
41. Field daisy
42. Shoebox letters
43. It may be direct or indirect:
    Abbr.
46. Apple Pay platform
47. "Why?"
49. Major impact
51. Street Fighter fighter ___-Li
53. De bene ___ (provisionally)
54. Acquires a bordello?
57. Israeli weapons
58. James of the NBA
59. Sponge up
63. Dropped off in the mailbox
64. Victory symbol
65. One with a hammer
66. Lit crit maj.
67. Letters after Senator Kirsten
    Gillibrand's name
68. Energetic person

5. Weena's people
6. Rapper Biz ____
7. One of the greatest Black
   philanthropists in American
   history
8. Horn of Africa nation
9. Phil who co-founded the
   Tampa Bay Lightning, for
   short
10. Execute perfectly
11. Record label founded by Clive
    Davis
12. Approving words
15. "Star Trek" villains who
    assimilate
20. Chest pounder, for short
21. "We were somewhere around
    ___ on the edge of the desert
    when the drugs began to take
    hold." (opening line in "Fear
    and Loathing in Las Vegas")
22. "She Dies Tomorrow" director
    Seimetz
30. ___ Von D (tattoo artist)
33. Squeeze (out)
35. Carnival spot
36. Streaming, say
37. Is a master of
38. Recent converts
39. Mozart wrote at least 41 of
    them: Abbr.
42. Shoebox letters
43. Hard to understand
44. Supremely ballsy
45. Faking out on the football field
47. Island home
48. Readily available
50. Kiwi's home
52. Babe
55. Abbr. on a street sign
56. Shopify rival
60. Hi, in 35-Down
61. Band that almost called
    themselves Cans of Piss
62. "Do you even lift, ____?" (and a
    hint to this puzzle's theme)

DOWN
2. Go wrong
3. Redbubble purchase
4. Carpool conveniences

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