



- 24 Penna. neighbor
- 25 Like all primes greater than 2
- 29 *Dashboard tuner
- 31 Fitness fanatic
- 35 Debtors' notes
- 36 Make milder, or an apt description of the ends of the starred answers
- 37 Placated
- 38 Defense advisory grp.
- 40 H.S. math course
- 42 Pack leaders
- 43 DNA swab sample
- 44 Show contempt for, in a way

SOFT LANDINGS | By Lisa Senzel & Jesse Goldberg

Across

- 1 California county with hundreds of wineries
- 7 Sound from a pound
- 10 Pioneering programmer Lovelace
- 13 Child labor sector?
- 14 Wise king
- 16 Be stuck on something
- 17 "Maybe we could try..."
- 18 Piggy targeted by a pedi
- 19 Font flourish
- 21 "That's just too bad!"
- 22 NASA vehicle
- 24 Dog at a picnic, informally
- 25 Major Mississippi tributary
- 26 Ship pronoun
- 27 More sweeping
- 28 Blood bank visitor
- 30 Mystery writer's award
- 32 Authoritative doctrine
- 33 Humorist Sedaris
- 34 Saturn's largest moon
- 39 Single bit of information
- 41 Court sport, slangily
- 42 Set upon
- 46 ___ Lanka
- 48 Potentially offensive, for short
- 49 Bichon frisé, for one
- 50 Is in the dark, literally or figuratively
- 52 Practiced, as a trade
- 53 Footrace that's over 30 miles
- 54 Fist bump
- 56 Journalistic hatchet job

- 58 Melodic musical passage
- 60 Images next to user names
- 61 Went out in the rain, say
- 62 Remained on the shelf
- 63 Young chap
- 64 Stadium seating

Down

- 1 Edinburgh native
- 2 "What a shame," sarcastically
- 3 *Bit of facial jewelry
- 4 Mine find
- 5 Soccer star Lionel
- 6 Valuable things
- 7 Dating from
- 8 Join the crew
- 9 *Belief espoused by some science deniers
- 10 Quantity
- 11 Dance fad of the early 2010s
- 12 Pollen-bearing part of a flower
- 15 Orchestra woods
- 17 *Bodyguards
- 20 Prepare leftovers, perhaps
- 23 Period of prosperity

- 45 Skilled
- 47 Wearing tattered clothes
- 51 Deck with cups and wands
- 53 West Coast sch. whose mascot is King Triton
- 55 Cook's collection
- 57 Pitcher's stat
- 59 "Give ___ rest!"

Previous Puzzle's Solution



The contest answer is **TERN**. Each theme answer contains the name of a bird in reverse (SNOW ORCHID/CROW, FALL EN ARCHES/CRANE, MARK WAHLBERG/HAWK, STEP INSIDE/SNIPE), each of which is a verb that fits the clue for another grid answer (TRIUMPH, EXTEND, RETAIL, NITPICK). The first letters of those words spell the contest answer.