

MYSTERY GUEST

Our mystery guest, 30-Across, who you perhaps encountered in high school, is associated with 7 things. Each particular thing must be entered in a single square at the intersection of an Across and a Down entry. The definitions take the contents of the square into account, but the wordplays ignore them. To squeeze a given thing into a square, you can either think like a high-schooler and write small or think like a kindergartner and not write at all. *Constructed in 2012. The publisher had production obstacles with the solution grid. A few clues are somewhat dated.*

Across

- 1 In the Sound, behold the waters Moses parted
- 4 Airline joke lacks a little something
- 8 Fate brought about a big hit for Duke Ellington
- 12 Mega-nerd may become a police officer
- 13 Mist conceals rare amphibian
- 14 Fancy billiards shot Marco perfected
- 16 What a riot, hosting a video game pioneer
- 17 A free flat
- 18 Damon's terrific handling a quirky feature of Fenway's outfield

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- 20 Rock dance
- 21 Outlaws steal third of horses from farm buildings
- 23 A bird without a bit of fear: Hedwig, for example
- 24 Fish that are elongated, almost streamlined when viewed from behind
- 26 Long and light
- 27 DEA personnel scan counter, catching a whiff of reefers
- 29 A selection of Pop-Tarts for school group
- 30 *See instructions*
- 32 I love the first part of Updike's debt acknowledgment
- 33 Question we rejected is out of line
- 34 Bananas aged for goodness
- 36 Destroyer's bow touches our stern
- 38 Gosh -- \$1,000!
- 39 Taxi firm's California base

- 41 Pitchers have these anxieties when missing start
- 43 Somewhat bitter green cereal, so peculiar
- 45 Interminable opening is Leno's distinguishing characteristic
- 46 Cowboys can control cattle using this loop or ring in the proboscis
- 49 Crowd ignoring Republican flip-flop
- 50 Petty bourgeoisie's ultimate book
- 51 One firm managed to control 2/3 of diamonds from the Dark Continent
- 52 Blow off a college football event
- 53 The old vinyl album is a scream
- 54 Scorch southeastern Arkansas

Down

- 1 McCarthyism's single concern
- 2 Ever poetic; that is spooky

- 3 Terminals off in South American mountains
- 5 Have breakfast tea brewed
- 6 Liquor-guzzling batter is a Jim Carrey role
- 7 What cows do at night for a very long time
- 8 Cheap import
- 9 Frequently, overtime involves failure
- 10 "A musical composition that's sacred and evil too?" I roar
- 11 Folk-rock duo from Roswell's outskirts introduced to soldiers
- 12 Having arrived, acquires quarters popular with artists
- 15 A Donovan smash Torme ranked near the bottom
- 18 "Titledown, USA" is a howl
- 19 Endless slog for an Eastern European
- 22 Most derogatory and insinuating distortion of dissent
- 25 Train male cook for an Italian resort destination
- 28 Downton Abbey's

- dowager countess is somewhat raucous indeed
- 30 Ms. McEntire rides bareback
- 31 Infant born before Lincoln
- 33 Defoliant used in Vietnam era with no end of protest
- 35 Everywhere one looks, Al Gore is misportrayed
- 36 Upwardly mobile rascal owns country houses in Russia
- 37 Jerks at the Center infuriate National Park Service employee
- 40 "Like chairs you can nap in?" my CFO snarled
- 42 European river heron's unusual
- 44 Genuine Spanish coin
- 47 Stitch in this manner, I say
- 48 Petroleum is discovered in Chicago, Illinois