

# If I Could Just Get Things in Order...

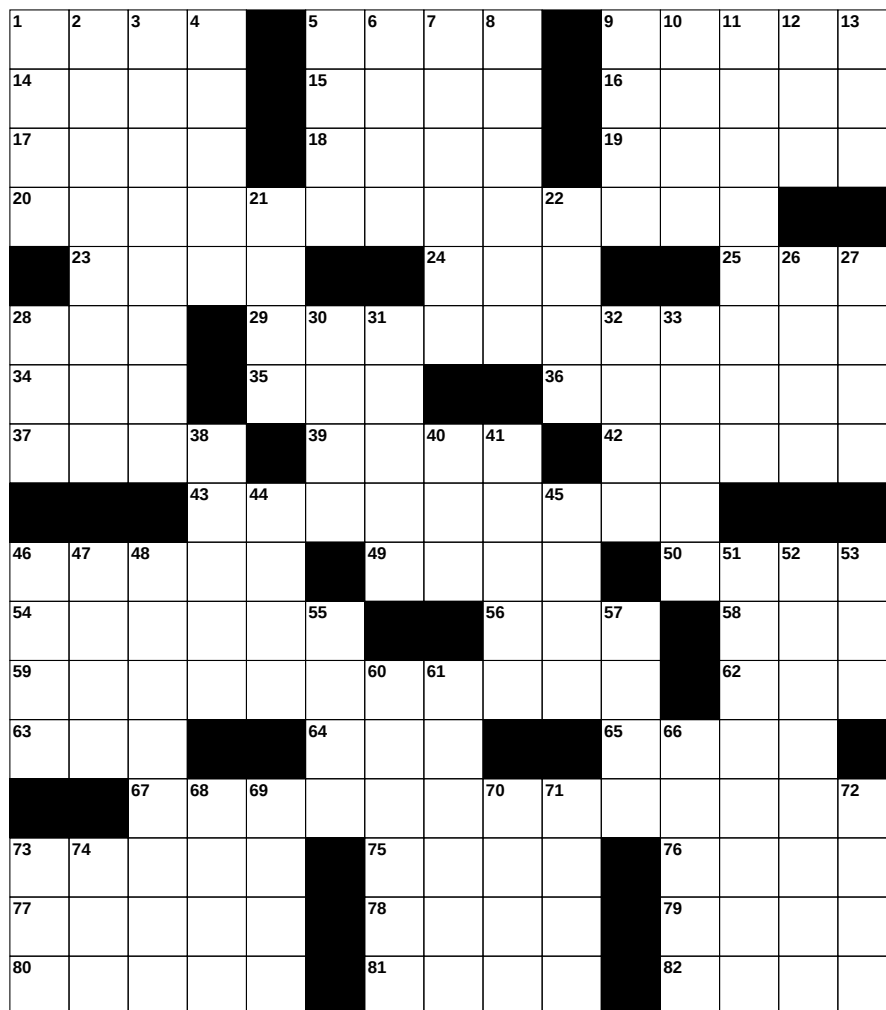
Emma Oxford | Ariadne's Crossword Library

## ACROSS

- 1 Certain tide  
5 Words from a proactive employee  
9 Tares  
14 Diminutive of Erasmus  
15 Brouhaha  
16 Maneuver prohibited at some busy intersections  
17 Keatsian works  
18 Rain on, less metaphorically  
19 TV coach Ted  
20 1855 social novel by Elizabeth Gaskell  
23 Word after sun or moon  
24 Tom Sawyer's younger half-brother  
25 Diagnostic proc.  
28 \_\_\_ fly (baseball gambit)  
29 1966 non-fiction novel by Truman Capote  
34 Lovelace who appears (as Lady Byron) in the alternative history steampunk novel "The Difference Engine"  
35 Babe in the Hundred Acre Woods  
36 Frank who took many photos of the alleged Loch Ness Monster  
37 "\_\_\_ Bright River" (2020 novel by Liz Moore)  
39 Rihanna, to fans  
42 "La \_\_\_ del tiempo" (Spanish title for Robert Jordan's "The Wheel of Time")  
43 1954 post-apocalyptic horror novel by Richard Matheson  
46 Bring brakes up to code, in a way  
49 Off the market  
50 Egg (on)  
54 Denzel's "Training Day" role  
56 British ref. work  
58 \_\_\_ pinch (if necessary)  
59 2007 metafiction novel by Clive Barker  
62 Perform some mending  
63 Trident-shaped letter  
64 Saldaña who played Nyota Uhura  
65 Org. in Andy Weir's "The Martian"  
67 2012 fantasy novel by Sarah J. Maas  
73 Jim Croce's "Bad, Bad \_\_\_ Brown"  
75 Mulgarath from "The Spiderwick Chronicles," e.g.  
76 What an uneven floor might cause  
77 Bearded garden mannequin  
78 A new someone  
79 Ingredient in some pie crusts  
80 "The Nice and Accurate Prophecies of \_\_\_ Nutter, Witch" (subtitle for "Good Omens")  
81 Needs to pay up  
82 Get things in order, such as by alphabetizing

## DOWN

- 1 Like the moon in a Brooks & Dunn hit  
2 Fabled city featured in Voltaire's "Candide"  
3 "\_\_\_ Dirt" (controversial novel of 2020)  
4 Publishes an update online  
5 \_\_\_ vez (again, to Alejandra)  
11 Mount that is South Dakota's top tourist attraction  
12 Hosp. areas  
13 \_\_\_-Caps  
21 Any one of the protagonists of "The Westing Game," potentially  
22 Slim ones are hard to beat



© 2026 | The meta answer is something that may be difficult for a writer to do.

- 6 Gemstone or trinket  
7 Defensive retort  
8 Lymphoid organ in the throat  
9 Omega : Greek :: \_\_\_ : NATO  
10 French political territory  
11 Mount that is South Dakota's top tourist attraction  
12 Hosp. areas  
13 \_\_\_-Caps  
21 Any one of the protagonists of "The Westing Game," potentially  
22 Slim ones are hard to beat  
26 \_\_\_ Gold (pretzel brand owned by Frito-Lay)  
27 Belief, concept, inkling  
28 Paradise in "On the Road"  
30 Std.  
31 Wraps (around), as a boa constrictor  
32 Swiss capital  
33 Praises  
38 Jack's foe who lives at the top of a beanstalk  
40 \_\_\_ Speedwagon  
41 House with, hopefully, no running water  
44 Axelite tool  
45 An ideal location  
46 Highway exit  
47 Some Ivy Leaguers  
48 Antiparticle of an electron  
51 Impressionist painter with a series on the Boulevard Montmartre  
52 More on edge  
53 "Medium \_\_\_ : A Bloody Valentine to the World of Food and the People Who Cook" (Anthony Bourdain memoir)  
55 Rice-shaped pasta  
57 Moo \_\_\_ (pygmy hippopotamus who went viral in 2024)  
60 "The \_\_\_ and the Atheist" (2013 work by primatologist Frans de Waal)  
61 Knickknack  
66 Some saxophones  
68 There's no place like it  
69 Some seeded loaves  
70 "I'll know his grievance, \_\_\_ much denied": Shak.  
71 Characters in some high fantasy novels (var.)  
72 Dog in a book for early readers  
73 JFK alternative  
74 Maj. for a future author, perhaps