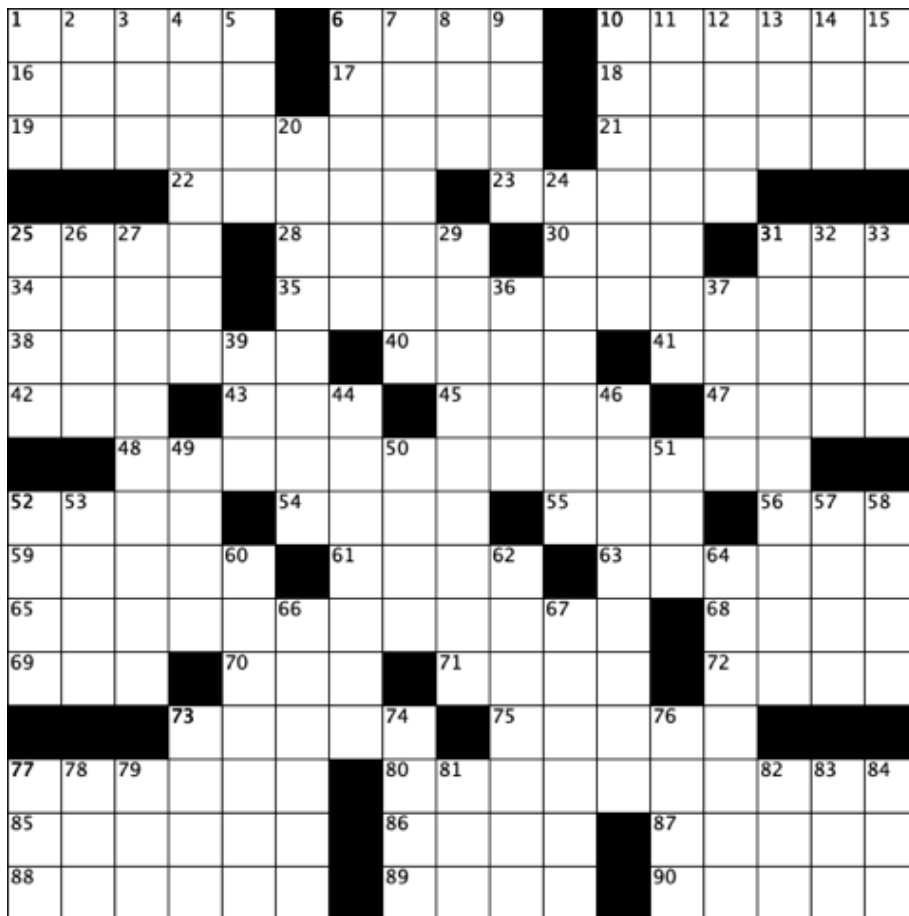


the  
AMERICANA  
CROSSWORD

## Almost Heaven

August 22, 2021 | by Ruth Ann Dailey

A couple started it, and a soon-to-be big star finished it with them in a late-night jam session, debuting it the night before his 28th birthday. A slow but very lasting success, it topped the Pop Singles chart 50 years ago this week.



# Almost Heaven

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## ACROSS

1 Truly befuddled  
6 Many a rescue dog  
10 Greenish film on copper, e.g.  
16 One of a biblical 150  
17 WWI battle river  
18 Literary Twist  
19 *With 35-Across, it reached #2 on Billboard Hot 100 the week of August 22-28, 1971*  
21 Long-plumed waders  
22 "Water Lilies" painter  
23 Lauder of cosmetics  
25 Otherwise  
28 B'way hit signs  
30 Planet's form  
31 Gehrig or Costello  
34 One of the Ivies  
35 *With 19-Across, it was certified gold on August 18, 1971*  
38 "Ditto for me!"  
40 Comic actress Martha  
41 Man's name that sounds like two letters of the alphabet  
42 Dove call  
43 Hosp. workers  
45 "Dies \_\_\_"  
47 Transmit  
48 *Small but storied club in Washington, D.C., where 80-Across debuted 19/35-Across on Dec. 30, 1970 (the day it was finished)*  
52 Super Bowl played on Feb. 3, 2019  
54 Cheese in red wax  
55 Strong java  
56 Hoppy beer, briefly  
59 "A Passage to India" heroine

61 Germany, to Meg Ryan, say: abbr.  
63 Comes to an end  
65 *Where 19/35-Across has become an official anthem, as well as at its primary university*  
68 Loch with a legend  
69 Historic Turner  
70 Dictator Amin  
71 Trailing  
72 Medium gait  
73 Chips go-with  
75 Prolonged attack  
77 Heir's inheritance  
80 *He co-wrote 19/35-Across with the folk duo, Fat City, who opened for him at 48-Across and who later became half of "Starland Vocal Band"*  
85 Win the heart of  
86 Mad as \_\_\_ hen  
87 Absinthe flavoring  
88 They're hardly social butterflies  
89 Change the décor of  
90 Knocked down

## DOWN

1 Appropriate  
2 PreCheck org.  
3 Hefty Cinch \_\_\_ bags  
4 Gold or silver, but not bronze  
5 BBs and bullets  
6 "You saved me!"  
7 Bob Hope was once its driving force  
8 President pro \_\_\_  
9 Christmas purchase  
10 Bookstore section  
11 Study with many unknowns  
12 Lose steam  
13 "So \_\_\_ heard!"

14 After expenses  
15 "\_\_\_ longa, vita brevis"  
20 Settle securely  
24 Pitcher's woe  
25 More than magnificent  
26 Road built to connect India to China in WWII  
27 Most snobbish  
29 Non-electronic correspondence  
31 Early-bird's opposite  
32 Thor's father  
33 Took advantage of  
36 Banks of "America's Got Talent"  
37 Roughly  
39 Load off one's mine?  
44 "Me Talk Pretty One Day" writer David  
46 Well-taught  
49 Dagger handle  
50 Director Fritz or singer k.d.  
51 Lofty tribute  
52 Mowed expanse  
53 Metaphorical lightbulb  
57 Mexican moola  
58 Mgr.'s helper  
60 Earhart or Lindbergh, e.g.  
62 Ground, as teeth  
64 It catches some waves  
66 Layabouts  
67 Really digs  
73 Identical  
74 Slightly open  
76 Equipment  
77 Wiggly fish  
78 \_\_\_-cone  
79 Brown shade  
81 Be behind, in a way  
82 Relative of "i.e."  
83 Canton-to-Pgh. direction  
84 Main color on China's flag

