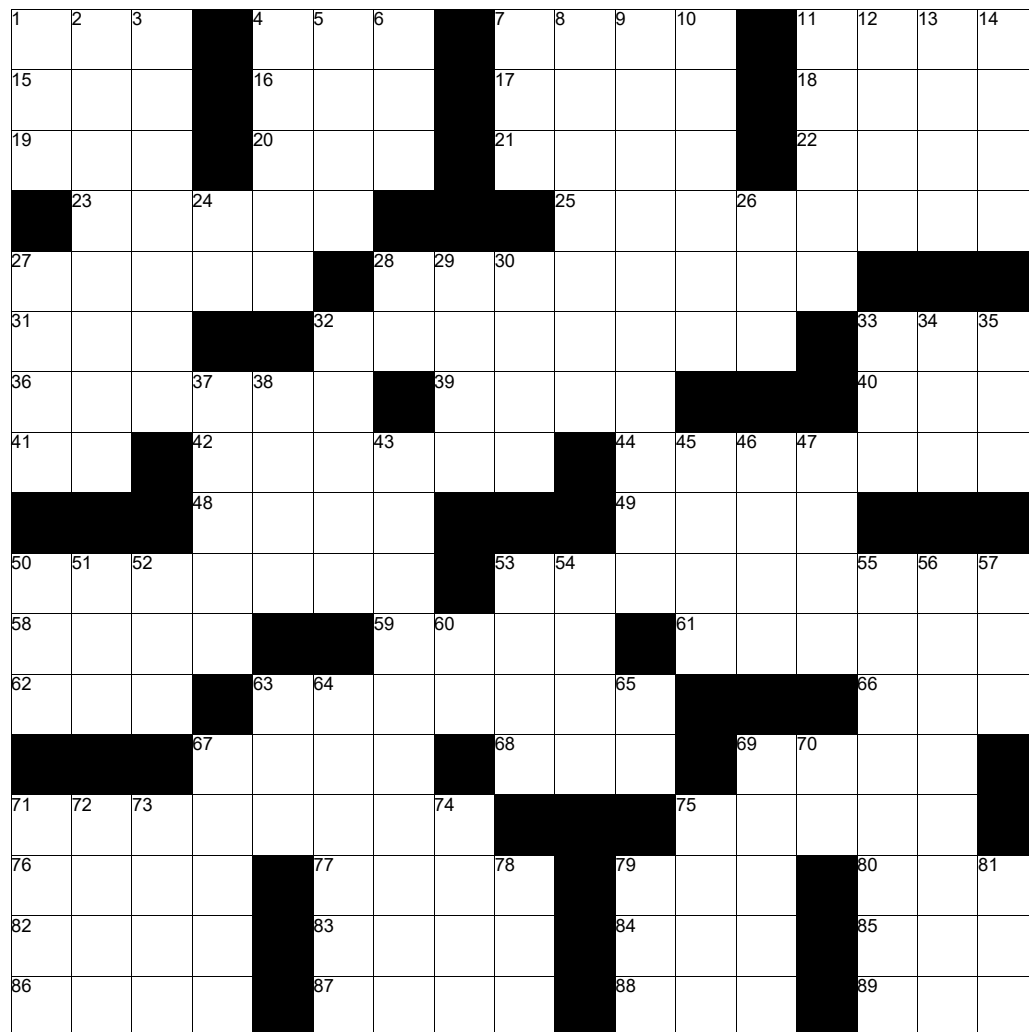


Gather Ye Rose Buds

by whimsy

ACROSS

1. Little one
4. Wonderment
7. Trudge
11. Piece of cake * (8)
15. X-ray exam. of kidneys and bladder
16. Tell a fib * (4)
17. Prefix meaning "tenth"
18. New Jersey senator Booker * (3)
19. Transgression
20. Discount rack abbr.
21. Mellowed
22. Roman god of love
23. Colleague of Bugs and Elmer * (1)
25. Largest moon in the solar system
27. Footnote abbr. *
28. Game with piped tiles
31. Destroyer that rescued Glenn
32. Waiting room waiters *
33. By way of * (5)
36. Lipton competitor
39. Other, in Acapulco
40. Little rascal * (8)
41. Chanting syllable for meditation
42. Home entertainment equipment roster
44. Walter Scott's tale of the Middle Ages as interpreted by The Three Stooges
48. Plant anchor
49. Identical
50. Puff and Smaug *
53. A single stalk of lily-of-the-valley and a botanical term describing its flower arrangement
58. Bronte's Jane
59. "In ___ veritas"
61. "...with my banjo ___ my ___" *
62. Pod occupant * (1)
63. ___ Clarke Moore ("A Visit from St. Nicholas") * (5)
66. Seesaw quorum * (1)
67. Set of socks
68. Love Boat's domain
69. New Mexico art colony
71. "___ On Ice"; David Sederis essays
75. "Deck the Halls" greenery * (1)
76. Ready for business



77. What you might get in the eye if you encounter a Red Ryder
79. Bunny bounce
80. Sass *
82. Allude to
83. Singer Del Rey or actress Turner
84. ___ Baba
85. "Old Macdonald" closer
86. Actor Jack who played Thunder in Tom Clancy's "Without Remorse"
87. Whirlpool
88. Fond du ___ *
89. "Rugrats" baby with a pickle-like name *

DOWN

1. "___ the season..." *
2. "Metomorphoses" or "Fasti"
3. Kitty who likes fish in a can
4. "Need ___?": "Hop in!"
5. Lean and sinewy
6. Always, in verse
7. Might elicit "Get a room!"
8. Like taller models
9. Waves crashing on a beach or seagulls crying
10. Playground denial
11. Con games
12. Iditarod terminus
13. Yankee nickname
14. Combustible pile
24. Wi- or Semper
26. "Absolutely!"
27. Not fooled by
28. Criminal lawyer for the gov't
29. Nebraska natives
30. Catcher's glove
32. Traffic cone
33. Vigor's partner
34. Texting qualifier
35. Imitate
37. T-shirt size
38. Rachael Ray cooking staple, for short
43. "This doesn't look good; in fact ___"
45. Prefix with dilator
46. "You said it!"
47. Giraffe's notable feature

50. "Argh! Little Johnny spelled his last name wrong again!"
51. Deli loaf
52. Coach Parseghian
53. Small bills
54. Zilch
55. Story of a bell never rung?
56. Third film about an urchin selling papers?
57. "Gloria in excelsis ___"
60. "..... a little teapot..."
63. Scoundrel
64. Likely (to)
65. Prof. helper
67. Like a Maine woods
69. Subject
70. Sisti or Pacino
71. "...and I wished I wore a ring so I could ___ it..." *
72. Mayberry kid
73. Response to "Shall we?" *
74. Transmit
75. Guatemala greeting
78. Sunrise to sunset
79. "2001" computer
81. D.C. insider

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The answer to this meta is a place to stroll. You'll need to use a bit of "artistic license" while solving, as I did when constructing. But remember that in the end, spelling counts! (This one goes out to MaineMarge and the stern crew cultivators, which, as Dave Barry would say, would make an excellent name for a rock group; and also to my test-solver "blossom.")