

This week's email is written by [Kieran](#). Hello, I'm back for some more editing!

Top puzzles this week:

["Reaching Across the Aisle" by Alex Sisti](#) - I solved this crossword early in the week, but couldn't crack the meta. But in returning to review it, I managed to figure it out, and appreciate AI's work even more!

Despite the constraints of the extract, the grid is nice and open, with plenty of flavourful entries throughout. Welcome to the site, AI!

[Solo Performers \(Meta\) by benchen71](#) - Another meta from Ben, another instance of me being unable to completely 'cross the moat' (ie: solve the meta). Still, a great selection of entries and clues, as per normal. As both an Australian and as someone who studied French, I appreciate the clue for 39A!

[soft piano music \(themeless\) by acommonrose](#) - To quote Frisco17 in the comments, "Whoever rejected this missed it out." The grid has a lovely diagonal split, so my solve was a smooth clockwise journey of clever clues, with hardly any glue to join the excellent longer entries, 19A and 54A in particular! My favourite full crossword this week!

[Split the Bills by DrTom](#) - What a clever meta! Took me a few runs to spot what was going on, but Tom's explanation in the comments makes me appreciate the holistic effort even more. Nice clean cluing regardless, including one of my favourite, tricky tropes in 45D.

[Turtle Power! by jscherbs](#) - Great to see a more approachable full-size crossword in the mix this week! Even the theme crystal clear, and will give you an earworm for the rest of your day. With six (!) longer entries crossing the themers, there's plenty to enjoy for those who prefer easier crosswords.

Top minis this week:

[Haymarket Mini #45 by ariel haymarket](#) - Ariel's found a great open fill for a mini here, and has filled it with fun and flavourful cluing throughout (see 2D, 3D, and 8A!).

[Petit Five X by T. G.](#) - I really appreciate simplicity in a mini crossword (something I can never achieve), and the clues here are about as concise as you can get.

[A second puzzle by NicoleFeng](#) - What a great second crossword from Nicole - colourful cluing, especially for the outer grid entries.

[Mini #29 — Yoink by Evan Shapiro](#) - Love a mini crossword with a mini theme! If I had to give Evan's crossword a score, I'd give it a ten.

[CrossWordle 38 \(meta\) by Emma Oxford](#) - This CrossWordle was certainly deserving of the feature - I really do love when a meta letter needs to be inferred, with no sacrifice to the fill. [Second instance of 4D in the minis this week, weird!]

Editor's pick:

[What's this? A new section! Yeah, I'm a bit of a rebel (who has Mike's approval). Since the crosswords in these emails are selected based on solve counts (and hence objectively), I wanted to add a little subjectivity and (cross)share a puzzle I personally enjoyed this week.]

[Twice Weekly 9x9 - #97 by Wally](#) - Wally's biweekly (that's twice a week) crosswords are always of a high quality, and this one is no different. A lovely open grid with an atypical symmetry, modern fill most notably in the grid-spanners, and references to various domains in the cluing. Check it out!

As always, so great to be part of this little community and to see so many great crosswords everyday. Until next time!