

CRYPTIC by DA

20,977

ACROSS

- 1 Helped in describing a tentacle to audience (9)
- 6 Scour a menu section for noodles (5)
- 9 See 10-across
- 10 We understand each other, tackling our fire emergency somehow after one (1,3,5,5,6,4)
- 11 Backstroker, perhaps, removing tank-top in place to dry out (5)
- 12 Parisian who acquires calzone filling to grill (4)
- 13 Star regularly persisted, visiting a Pacific sector (7,3)
- 17 Fumbling redhead flees bumbling Tinder tie-up (10)
- 18 Go under farm shelter (4)
- 20 Dismiss Kiss record covering emotional extremes (5)
- 22 Meaty treat in roll sandwiches, mainly avoided (9)
- 24 Confounded ground key thus welcomed by creative mindset (4-3,8)
- 25 Series of emails lacking second step (5)
- 26 Having no match, jar or pen in a full trailer (9)

DOWN

- 1 Needles nasty little hostage (5)
- 2 Theatrically stem the flow when speaking attracted the woman's attention (9)
- 3 Punches on ear succeeded as well (3-3)
- 4 President to resolve imbroglio (9)
- 5 Possibly remove a coat, getting one cold during stripping act? (2-3)
- 6 Seen as admired (8)
- 7 Cheer up orderly at hospital (5)
- 8 Cocktail barmen to boot familiar trademark (4,5)
- 12 Spooner's nasty dog gave up lots (5,1,3)
- 14 Objective for turning back, nearly producing natural painkiller (9)
- 15 Save regular McMansion? (9)
- 16 Essentially duty will risk Feds put to work (8)
- 19 Hipster's food equations quirkily set out (6)
- 21 Shorten to run in gym (5)
- 22 Test tracks not holding up (3,2)
- 23 Boy in uplifting set (5)

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