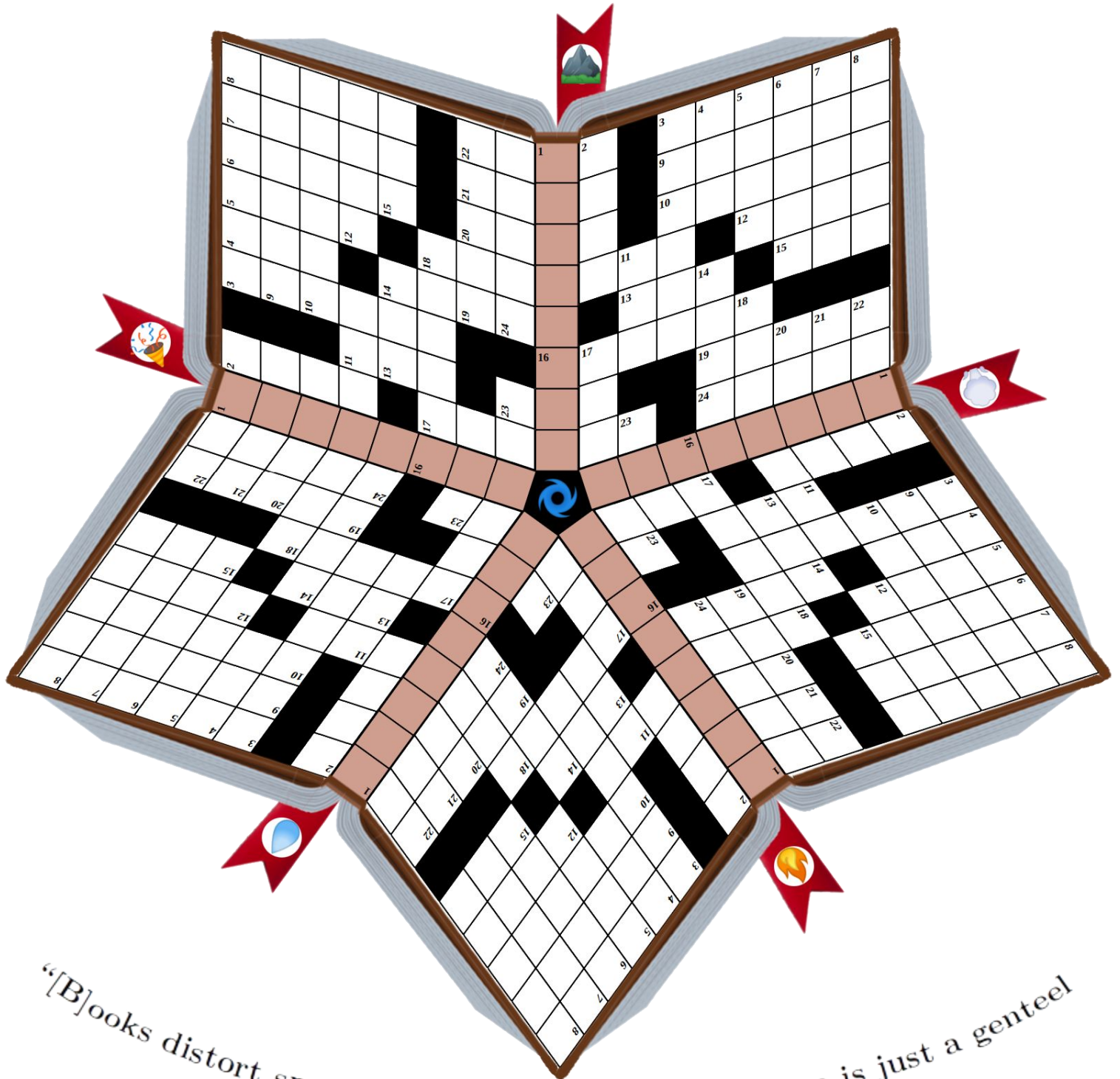




April 26, 2023
“L-Space”

by Sam Brody, edited by Ben Tausig
Difficulty level: ●●○○○

This puzzle is a tribute to the best-selling British author Sir Terry Pratchett, whose 75th birthday would have been on April 28th. L-Space, or Library-Space, is a distortion in space-time created by a large number of books in close proximity. You can solve this puzzle online at sambrody.info/xws#lspace, where you can also find an alternate version for Pratchett fans.



“[B]ooks distort space and time ... A good bookshop is just a genteel
Black Hole that knows how to read.”

"The world is made up of four elements: Earth, Air, Fire, and Water. This is a fact well known.... It's also wrong. There's a fifth element, and generally it's called Surprise." — Terry Pratchett



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|--|--|---|--|---|
| 3A. Appeared large and menacing | 3A. Used a divining rod | 3A. Complete one round of reps | 3A. Double-edged sword | 3A. Not due to be paid |
| 9A. U.S. presidential candidate turned climate activist | 9A. Musician and actress Grande | 9A. Dutch artist Maurits Cornelis, master of strange geometries | 9A. Give the power | 9A. In a prying manner |
| 10A. USB component? | 10A. Whac-A-Mole implement | 10A. Joyful ³ | 10A. Beings created via the ancient mystical art of claymation | 10A. Signs of change? |
| 12A. This, in Spanish | 12A. Handed-down knowledge | 12A. Like million-to-one chances | 12A. Place for a crow's nest | 12A. Numerical prefix |
| 13A. Cleverness | 12A. Handed-down knowledge | 13A. Soothing brew | 13A. Place for a crow's nest | 13A. Place for a stud |
| 15A. Word following sex or chew | 13A. Legendary source of insomnia | 15A. Extra charge | 13A. Fish at a British chippy | 15A. Feathery layer? |
| 16A. "Scout's honor!" | 13A. Legendary source of insomnia | 16A. Sings by alternating between the head and chest registers | 15A. The Andes, e.g.: Abbr. | 16A. Trapped in the winter, perhaps |
| 19A. Suisse capital | 15A. Straightforward denials | 19A. Words often said with a sigh | 16A. Fearsome look | 19A. Ending for uni or multi |
| 24A. Bay window | 16A. Extras | 24A. What to wear when going commando? | 19A. Celtic language with Northern and Southern varieties | 24A. Church chorus |
| 1D. 1939 illustrated children's book set in Paris | 19A. Homer's Troy story | 24A. _____ | 19A. Celtic language with Northern and Southern varieties | 1D. 1851 novel about obsession |
| 2D. Large ones are easily bruised | 24A. Japanese sword art | 1D. 1847 novel about emergent consciousness | 24A. Place for a professeure | 2D. Blueprint detail |
| 3D. Canine TV star of the 1950s–60s | 1D. 2001 Martel novel that questions reality | 2D. Siberian city | 1D. 2005 story of supernatural romance | 3D. Like some with an alternative lifestyle? |
| 4D. Shout at a bullring or futbol stadium | 2D. The 'A' in NATO? | 3D. Tyrant's order | 2D. Discreet attention getter | 4D. San Francisco valley named for its last alcalde |
| 5D. Creature whose name likely derives from Orcus, god of the underworld | 3D. Character often in distress | 4D. _____ Kosh B'Gosh | 3D. Generate anew, like a lizard does to its tail | 5D. Norwegian capital |
| 6D. Like a well-made cake, usually ¹ | 4D. "Your Song" singer Rita | 5D. High pair | 4D. Year abroad | 6D. Member of a coven |
| 7D. Muse of lyric poetry | 5D. Testament partner | 6D. One of many in a library | 5D. Tree at an oasis ⁴ | 7D. Gladden |
| 8D. Hold up | 6D. News site launched in 1995 | 7D. Like "Nope" | 6D. Letter-shaped girder | 8D. Namesake for a sci-fi sphere surrounding a star |
| 11D. "Gross!" | 7D. Start of a year abroad? | 8D. "Maybe I WILL know the answer!!" | 7D. Nightmare artery, in short | 11D. _____ Kuan Yew, Singapore's first prime minister |
| 14D. Unspeakable | 8D. They may be blind | 11D. It might get pushed back at an airport: Abbr. | 8D. Takes a break | 14D. Competitor |
| 17D. Feature on a flag, or a skunk | 11D. Printer resolution meas. | 14D. Suspect's story | 11D. Environmental prefix | 17D. Smartphone feature |
| 18D. Enjoys once again, as a volume | 14D. Similar | 17D. Speaker on a soapbox | 14D. Like grass in early morning | 18D. Division rivals, perhaps |
| 20D. Improvise | 17D. Button on a music app | 18D. Suffer in the heat | 17D. Child's excited cry | 20D. Give a new look to, as a kitchen or bathroom |
| 21D. Author and Pratchett collaborator | 18D. More streamlined | 20D. Spring flower | 18D. One way to care for the environment | 21D. Obtain, as a ticket |
| 22D. Fitzgerald of jazz | 20D. Stops for travelers | 21D. Puts in stitches | 20D. Section of the brain | 22D. Name found in "mesmerize" ⁵ |
| 23D. Simian not to be confused with a monkey | 21D. First man ² | 22D. Web ints. that might be followed by an S | 21D. Hogwash | 23D. Hill worker |
| | 22D. Zen meditation place | 23D. However, informally | 22D. Edgy lines? | |
| | 23D. Mess up, or sound made after messing up | | 23D. Color TV pioneer | |

Cast of Pratchett characters appearing in this puzzle:

- Mr. von Lipwig, con artist turned public servant
- Mr. Young, a reluctant 11-year-old Antichrist.

- Sargeant Littlebottom, the first openly female dwarf in the Ankh-Morpork City Watch.

- Mrs. Rosie, head of the Seamstresses' Guild, politely referred to as *ladies of negotiable affection*.

- Granny Weatherwax, familiarly (if you dare), a powerful witch from the Ramtop mountains.