

**ESCAPE ROOM**

BY ERIC BERLIN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

This crossword represents an escape room, with four articles you'll need hidden inside. After you complete the grid, follow the directions at 41-, 70- and 99-Across to find what to do next. Working correctly will lead you to a four-word phrase with a total of 12 letters.

- |   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <b>ACROSS</b>   | <b>53</b> ___ jure (law phrase)  | <b>107</b> "Fine with me"                | <b>12</b> Ralph and Alice, on old TV                    |
| <b>1</b> Shakespearean father of three  | <b>55</b> Tobacconist ___ Sherman  | <b>109</b> German name component, often  | <b>13</b> Actress Ward                                  |
| <b>5</b> "I agree!"   | <b>56</b> Virtuous ones  | <b>110</b> Uncool one                    | <b>14</b> Trig function                                 |
| <b>9</b> Enjoys the sun   | <b>58</b> N.Y.C. subway org.   | <b>111</b> Unconventional                | <b>15</b> Native Iowan                                  |
| <b>14</b> Pants material  | <b>59</b> Words of denial  | <b>114</b> James of the West             | <b>16</b> Citizen of: Suffix                            |
| <b>19</b> Approximately   | <b>63</b> Round fig.   | <b>116</b> "Just foolin'"                | <b>17</b> Actor Beatty                                  |
| <b>20</b> Sycophant   | <b>66</b> A little, musically  | <b>118</b> Algerian port                 | <b>18</b> It's mined, all mined!                        |
| <b>21</b> Earth tone  | <b>67</b> Charcuterie stock  | <b>121</b> Get together                  | <b>28</b> Common middle name for girls                  |
| <b>22</b> Movie with a shootout at high noon, maybe   | <b>69</b> Lycées, e.g.   | <b>122</b> "Give it ___!"                | <b>30</b> Constantly fidgeting, say                     |
| <b>23</b> ___ Major   | <b>70</b> What to do with the items referenced in 41-Across                        | <b>123</b> Verdi soprano                 | <b>32</b> Game with 42 territory cards                  |
| <b>24</b> Band bookings   | <b>74</b> Natural-light display  | <b>124</b> Grp. founded by 12 countries  | <b>33</b> Slovenly type                                 |
| <b>25</b> Outside the city  | <b>75</b> Move smoothly to the next thing  | <b>125</b> Luau, basically               | <b>34</b> Prefix with byte                              |
| <b>26</b> Any member of Abba  | <b>76</b> Great ___  | <b>126</b> Brothers' name in R.&B.       | <b>35</b> "Famous ___" (slogan on Idaho license plates) |
| <b>27</b> Automotive debut of 1957  | <b>77</b> Billy ___ Williams   | <b>127</b> Symbol of fire prevention     | <b>36</b> Pause   |
| <b>29</b> Some univ. hirees   | <b>78</b> Like Russia prior to 1917  | <b>128</b> Vehicle that requires no fuel | <b>38</b> Went on and on                                |
| <b>31</b> Turkish inn   | <b>80</b> One of a couple  |  | <b>39</b> Yiddish cries                                 |
| <b>33</b> Horror writer Peter   | <b>81</b> Neon and others  | <b>DOWN</b>                              | <b>40</b> Second of April?                              |
| <b>35</b> Stole, in slang   | <b>83</b> Apollo, to Zeus  | <b>1</b> Name one can "skip to"          | <b>42</b> Wretched smell                                |
| <b>37</b> Cold treat  | <b>84</b> Offshore   | <b>2</b> Goof                            | <b>43</b> "Hey! That hurts!"                            |
| <b>41</b> What's needed in order to escape this crossword   | <b>86</b> Possesses, to the Bard   | <b>3</b> Confidently said                | <b>48</b> Kind of Hollywood romance                     |
| <b>44</b> Sandwich loaf   | <b>87</b> Kind of battery  | <b>4</b> Pre-GPS staple                  | <b>49</b> Literary scholars debate what's in it         |
| <b>45</b> Pitcher Hershiser   | <b>91</b> Final desperate effort   | <b>5</b> Subject with variables          | <b>51</b> Getting to the point?                         |
| <b>46</b> Declares to be true   | <b>94</b> Tickle the ___   | <b>6</b> Daily ___ (British paper)       | <b>54</b> Solution to a maze                            |
| <b>47</b> Indie rocker with the 2009 No. 3 album "Middle Cyclone"   | <b>97</b> Prefix on some first-aid products  | <b>7</b> Part of some physicals: Abbr.   | <b>57</b> Specks  |
| <b>50</b> Not doing well  | <b>98</b> "___ had it!"  | <b>8</b> Attribute of many political ads | <b>58</b> They might drop down                          |
| <b>52</b> A snap  | <b>99</b> After following the instructions at 70-Across, how to escape this puzzle | <b>9</b> Soup with a red color           | <b>60</b> Almost forever                                |
| Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). | <b>102</b> Not as much   | <b>10</b> Prefix with pressure           | <b>61</b> Nothing more than                             |
|   | <b>105</b> Ratings pioneer   | <b>11</b> React with fear or delight     | <b>62</b> Latin 101 word                                |
|   | <b>106</b> Edmonton athletes   |  | <b>63</b> Petty disagreement                            |
|   |  |  | <b>64</b> Also  |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19				20				21					22					
23				24				25					26					
		27		28			29	30		31		32						
33	34					35			36			37			38	39	40	
41						42						43			44			
45				46							47		48	49				
50				51	52				53	54			55					
			56	57				58				59	60			61	62	
63	64	65		66				67				68		69				
70			71					72				73						
74						75						76				77		
78						79	80			81					82			
		83				84	85			86				87		88	89	90
91	92					93			94	95			96		97			
98				99				100						101				
102				103	104			105					106					
				107				108			109			110				
111	112	113				114			115			116	117			118	119	120
121						122						123				124		
125						126						127				128		

- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>65</b> Beleaguers                          | <b>81</b> Flowering evergreen shrubs           | <b>91</b> Tiny "tiny"                         | <b>108</b> California city north of Ventura |
| <b>67</b> Horrible headache                   | <b>82</b> Bucks                                | <b>92</b> Forum greeting                      | <b>110</b> Mythical queen of Carthage       |
| <b>68</b> Anesthesiologist's concern          | <b>85</b> Administrants of corporal punishment | <b>93</b> Former Yankee nickname              | <b>111</b> Your and my                      |
| <b>71</b> "The Bridge at Narni" painter       | <b>86</b> "Can you explain that further?"      | <b>95</b> Soft and smooth news for schoolkids | <b>112</b> It has a big deck                |
| <b>72</b> Internet sensation                  | <b>88</b> Requiring intellect                  | <b>100</b> Semi fuel                          | <b>113</b> Aunt: Sp.                        |
| <b>73</b> Nut whose name sounds like a sneeze | <b>89</b> It might end in a ZIP code: Abbr.    | <b>101</b> Golfer Michelle                    | <b>115</b> Toledo-to-Columbus dir.          |
| <b>79</b> Shock, in a way                     | <b>90</b> Ph.D. requirement: Abbr.             | <b>103</b> Kinds                              | <b>117</b> A Kardashian                     |
|   |  | <b>104</b> "Awesome!"                         | <b>119</b> Dined                            |
|   |  |   | <b>120</b> Silent approval                  |