Crossword 15,982 Set by Mudd

ACROSS

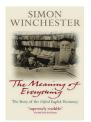
- 1 Fruit about to feed siamang, say? (5,3)
- **5** Large metal guard (6)
- 9 Zero fish for little bird (8)
- **10** A bloke carrying Australian back, a big woman (6)
- **12** All die then, as something in cocktail? (5)
- **13** Super and smashing southern path (9)
- 14 Light tone's back in flesh (6)
- **16** Looking back, somewhat sad if fir tree killing plant (7)
- **19** Fatigue, primate gulping oxygen (7)
- **21** Lingerie, for example, rises from the grave? (6)
- **23** Cruel as a pack of three suits? (9)
- **25** Beauty ending in dishabille after a clanger (5)
- **26** One in pink, somewhat different in colour? (6)
- 27 Four sexy dresses for Brazilian party, say? (8)
- **28** Carrying third of votes, liberal got in (6)
- **29** Fish, cheese and eggs sent back (8)

DOWN

- 1 French author taking on biblical name? (6)
- **2** Describing geometry in a clue, declare limits variable (9)
- **3** Sign of the Spanish in bed, literally laid up (5)
- 4 Note gull, not half, in bird (7)
- **6** Single fluid in eardrum (9)
- 7 Square, not a round dish (5)
 8 Bum residing near the combatants? (8)
- **11** Constant changer up for change (4)
- **15** Mistress caught, nature so wanton (9)
- **17** Hedonist's special offer from the butcher? (9)
- **18** Every character raising a drink to inspire pub during party (8)
- 20 Bird breed overheard? (4)
- 21 Parvenu happy with launch (7)
- **22** Very tense, ultimately, during exchange of shots (6)
- 24 Responsible individual said (bus late), "every second counts" (5)
- **25** Peak in African country (5)

Solution 15,981

Solution 15,970



Copies of *The Meaning of Everything: The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary* by Simon Winchester, published by Oxford University Press, will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct entries opened on Wednesday October 17. Entries marked Crossword 15,982 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on October 20.

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