

Tough as Nails Mini Cryptic #2—Explanations

ACROSS

1. MARCH—double definition that can mean “This month” or a “Sousa composition.”
4. RABBI—The definition is “spiritual leader”; get it by removing the last letter (“tailless”) from RABBIT (“bunny”).
5. LASSI is a “drink” that you get when LI, an abbreviation for “Long Island,” “takes in” the word ASS (“fool”).

DOWN

1. MORAL—the question mark indicates that “fabulous feature?” is not exactly a literal definition (a MORAL is a feature of a fable). Take the “sources” of the first five words in the clue to spell out the word.
2. REBUS is the “puzzle trope you get from RE (“about”; imagine a colon after the letters) plus BUS, a “form of mass transit.”
3. HAITI (“country”) is a homophone (“reportedly”) of HATE E—“despise” defines HATE, and lower-case-e is an example of a “transcendental” (that is, a transcendental number).