

Tough as Nails Mini Cryptic #10—Explanations

ACROSS

1. BASEL (“somewhere in Switzerland”) is EL (“the Spanish,” or “the” in Spanish) “pursuing,” or following, BAS (“degrees,” i.e., bachelors of arts)
4. SPOOK (“spy”) is SK (“Stanley Kubrick, initially,” or Stanley Kubrick’s initials) “capturing” POO (“#2”).
5. STERN is both a synonym for “forbidding” and a “part of a ship.”

DOWN

1. BUSES (“some public transportation”) is B (“bishop,” i.e., the chess abbreviation for “bishop”) plus USES (“utilizes”).
2. STOLE means both “pilfered” and a type of “scarf.”
3. LIKEN (“compare”) is a homophone (“for an audience”) of LICHEN (“tree growth”).