

## Zip It

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Answer: **ZILLAH**

As hinted by the zipper, the top strings of letters need to be interleaved with the bottom strings, and then rearranged to reform the original message: 34 clues of five words each.

These clues all resolve to single-word answers, but the clues also point to zip codes via the lengths of their words. The cities are one letter from the answers; take the city's letters.

RISES FOR A BREAKING DAY	WAKES	K	L	WALES	WI	53183
CONSTANT PULSE TO MAINTAIN BEAT	TEMPO	O	E	TEMPE	AZ	85284
WINDOW DIVISION USUALLY GLASSY SQUARE	PANE	N	G	PAGE	NE	68766
SONGSMITH MR BERLIN A HITMAKER	IRVING	G	E	IRVINE	CA	92618
TECHNIQUE FOR PLASTER IN PAINTING	FRESCO	C	N	FRESNO	CA	93728
EPITHET GIVEN TO LAUD ATHENA	PALLAS	P	D	DALLAS	TX	75246
EASYGOING REST TIMES CIRCA PRESCHOOL	NAPS	S	A	NAPA	CA	94559
MIDNIGHT MONOLOGUE MAVEN IS JAY	LENO	L	R	RENO	NV	89523
BOND ACTOR FIVE AKA TIM	DALTON	L	Y	DAYTON	OH	45433
OXYGEN AND ALKYL TEN HYDROGENS	ETHER	R	L	ETHEL	MO	63539
JOB ENSURING CUSTOM CLOTHES FIT	TAILOR	I	Y	TAYLOR	MS	38673
BIRDS OFTEN CONNECTED TO ARMISTICE	DOVES	S	R	DOVER	MN	55929
ALCOHOLIC COFFEE LIQUEUR ADD MILK	KAHLUA	H	I	KAILUA	HI	96734
KHAKILIKE PANTS FASHIONED OF COTTON	CHINO	N	C	CHICO	CA	95926
AROMATICS MAY FLAVOR A CIGARETTE	CLOVES	E	I	CLOVIS	CA	93619
AN ARBOREAL APE WITH FUR	GIBBON	B	S	GIBSON	NC	28343
OF QUITE INFERIOR NATURE LOWER	LESSER	S	T	LESTER	WV	25865
MUFFLES OR BIG LONG SILENCES	HUSHES	S	G	HUGHES	AR	72348
WORK MAKING NEW INVENTIVE TEXT	WRITING	R	H	WHITING	IN	46394
RIGHTEOUS MORAL FOR BEING HUMBLE	MODESTY	Y	O	MODESTO	CA	95356
THOUGHT MADE A NEW ENTITY	TULPA	P	S	TULSA	OK	74136
BANG POWERING A FORCEFUL OVERTURE	CANNON	N	T	CANTON	MI	48188
USE CANDIDLY THIS DISCREET CAPACITY	TACT	C	F	TAFT	TN	38488
UTENSILS FEATURING TINE AND BOWL	SPORKS	O	A	SPARKS	NV	89434
LEGGY ANIMAL OF ARACHNID PEDIGREE	SPIDER	D	C	SPICER	MN	56288
A CHEESE EATEN WITH APPLES	BRIE	B	E	ERIE	PA	16546
A HULK OF A MARK	RUFFALO	R	B	BUFFALO	NY	14214
TILTED INCLINE GAUGED VIA FRACTIONS	GRADE	R	L	GLADE	KS	67639
DISORDER CHAOS OR A SNAFU	MESS	S	A	MESA	AZ	85215
TAKE ROMANTIC SHOTS PITCH WOO	FLIRT	R	N	FLINT	MI	48553
BURR THAT WON A DUEL	AARON	A	K	AKRON	OH	44314
VERY NORMALLY GROUNDING A PLANE	LANDING	D	S	LANSING	MI	48915
BIG SAILED SPANISH BOAT EG	GALLEON	E	I	GALLION	AL	36742
MATH THEORY TYING OFF ROPE	KNOT	T	X	KNOX	IN	46534

The phrase that you get as a result is "LEGENDARY LYRICIST GHOSTFACE BLANK SIX", which can be completed with the word KILLAH. Repeating the trick one last time, the zip code matching the lengths of these words (98953) is the final answer to the puzzle, **ZILLAH**.

### **Author's Notes**

Adam: There were various attempts to hide zip codes of small Washington towns inside sudoku grids but they were all kind of forced. Once I had the clues, I thought of what to do with them before realizing/remembering that [Zip Line](#) already happened, so zippers it was!

P.S. This puzzle was not the Wu-Tang Secret, which I would never reveal even if I knew it.