

Tough as Nails Mini Cryptic #4—Explanations

ACROSS

1. WAIST, or “middle,” is a homophone (“it’s said”) of WASTE (“garbage”).
4. IDEAS (“notions”) is hidden, or “harbored” by, the phrase “roadsIDE ASsistance.”
5. DELIA is “an Ephron sister” whose name you get by reversing (“in retrospect”) the word AILED (“didn’t feel so great”)

DOWN

1. WEIRD, or “odd,” is an anagram (“contraption”) of WIRED.
2. IDEAL (“irreproachable”) is I (given directly in the clue) plus DEAL (“hand out cards”).
3. TESLA is a “trendy car” you get from anagramming (“smashing up”) the word SLATE.