

## August 25, 2025 - "Chosen Family" - Terry Sun, edited by Will Eisenberg

## ACROSS

1 Close platonic pair, for short  
 5 Buckwheat porridge  
 10 Cat's tongue-out expression, cutesily  
 11 Carbonated drinks with a polar bear mascot  
 12 Some vital mentors, trailblazers, role models, storytellers, and community members  
 15 Chore lessened by replacing grass with native plants  
 16 Shapes created by packers  
 18 Aflame, like a candle  
 19 Coats strawberries in chocolate, say  
 20 De facto national IDs, in the U.S.  
 21 Systems running at cooling centers during heat waves: Abbr.  
 22 Blanket thief  
 25 "Don't regret it at all"  
 27 Freedoms that ultimately benefit people of all gender identities  
 31 Playful act  
 32 Aged tea that can be ripe or raw  
 33 Offerings to a certain fairy  
 34 Red wine also known as shiraz

## DOWN

1 Dish like bulgogi, sate, or lechon, casually  
 2 Annual vaccine target  
 3 Court cost to file a name change, for example  
 4 Competes in a certain bee  
 5 Brick ovens, or ovens for bricks  
 6 "Electrifying" rock band  
 7 "For more..."

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8 Fish that can turn red when cured  
 9 Advantages  
 13 Reusable alternative to a paper towel  
 14 Animal that sounds like a pronoun  
 16 Double-pointed hat  
 17 Region of New York whose boundaries depend on who you ask  
 19 Custard tart, in Hong Kong  
 20 Nominally bashful Mario enemy  
 22 Appliance manufacturer which isn't named after a Dutch painter  
 23 Misgender someone, for example  
 24 Beads of water falling off an icicle  
 26 Sulking mood  
 28 "I am not free while any woman is unfree, even when shackles are very different from my own": Audre Lorde  
 29 \_\_\_-la-la  
 30 "Quiet!"