Magical Untangling

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The Mathematical Intelligencer *encourages comments about the material in this issue. Letters to the editor should be sent to the editor-in-chief.*

What a fascinating article—"How Efficiently Can One Untangle a Double-Twist? Waving is Believing!" (*The Mathematical Intelligencer*, vol. 39, no. 1, 2011, pp. 27–40).

I am not a mathematician, but I enjoy the *Intelligencer* very much.

I like to fish, and I'm often helping young children with tangled fishing lines. "Don't try to untangle the line by *working* at it. Just lightly toss the tangle this and that way, wave it in the air." And the line magically untangles. I never knew why.

And the belt trick is fun.

Great interview with Pierre Cartier.

All best!

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Editor's Note: Sophia Healy is a novelist and sculptor.