

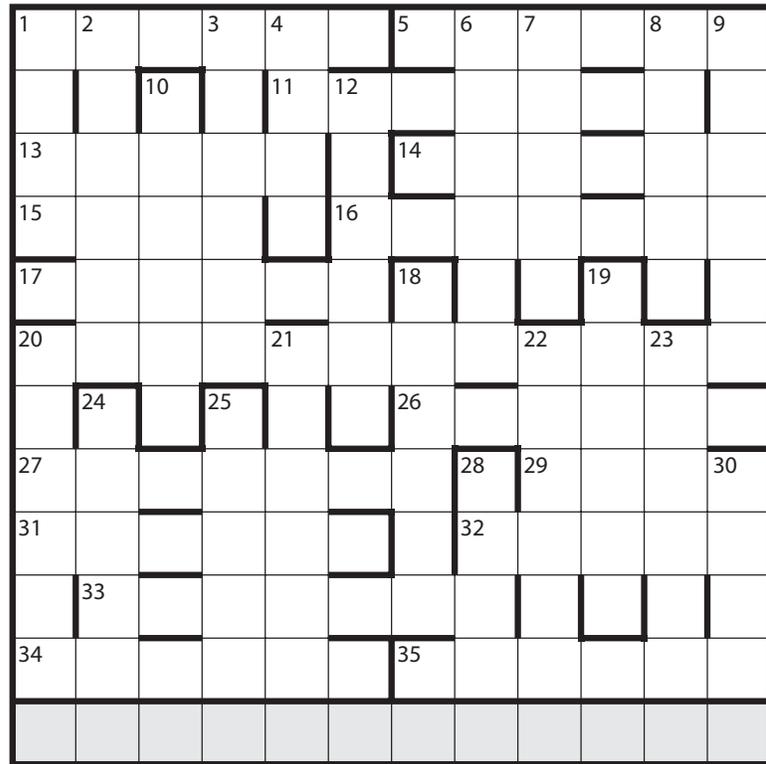
THE PUZZLER

BY EMILY COX AND HENRY RATHVON

Trash Collection

Each of 12 Across answers discards one letter before entry in the grid; these pieces of trash are tossed (i.e. anagrammed) into an appropriate container at 20 Across. One entry in each column drops a letter straight down into the shaded “dump” at the bottom of the grid; these 12 letters form a self-descriptive phrase. Six clue answers are capitalized.

Note: The instructions above are for this month’s puzzle only. An introduction to clue-solving may be found online at www.theatlantic.com/issues/puzzclue.htm.



ACROSS

1. Faculty egghead turned, embracing doctor of sci-fi (hyph.)
5. Taught certain fish about pain
11. Stray cur upset thief
13. Main squeeze dates new guy, ultimately
14. Scattered thunder on the periphery in every direction
15. Argument uttered with contempt
16. Wielder of a hammer hacks away at trunks
17. Everyone eating salmon for the sauce
26. Chemical in a lab period covered by overhead, in part
27. Flier came down with a hurt back
29. Joy buzzer loudly interrupts some shakers' introductions

31. Idiots I'm picked up by driving drunk by back street
32. Present during jerk's story
33. Montana town hullabaloo took an unexpected turn (2 wds.)
34. Far from a hut, had a bite
35. Blacken in small opening illuminated from above

8. The guy made one cut
9. Break bread with Senator and author
10. Dandy Oscar-winning actor swallows a cold egg
12. Kid friend in every way
18. Arrived with help, absorbing one attack from above (2 wds.)
19. Overweight, mind holding pose
20. African managed grabbing baton
21. French writer allowed into shelter
22. Animated woman's festive social event
23. Pulls plow to cultivate, somehow
24. Forgotten state dance
25. Pitching a fit upon thief's second conviction
28. Heard exit is way to go
30. Small bed for bluebonnet

DOWN

1. Chocolate treat is consumed in Kansas
2. Reworked couplet with eight parts
3. Sound like Erica's family around the end of April
4. Duos playing Middle Eastern lutes
6. Couple in love, and inspiration for Keats, dated
7. A Tampa player accepting Red's lineup