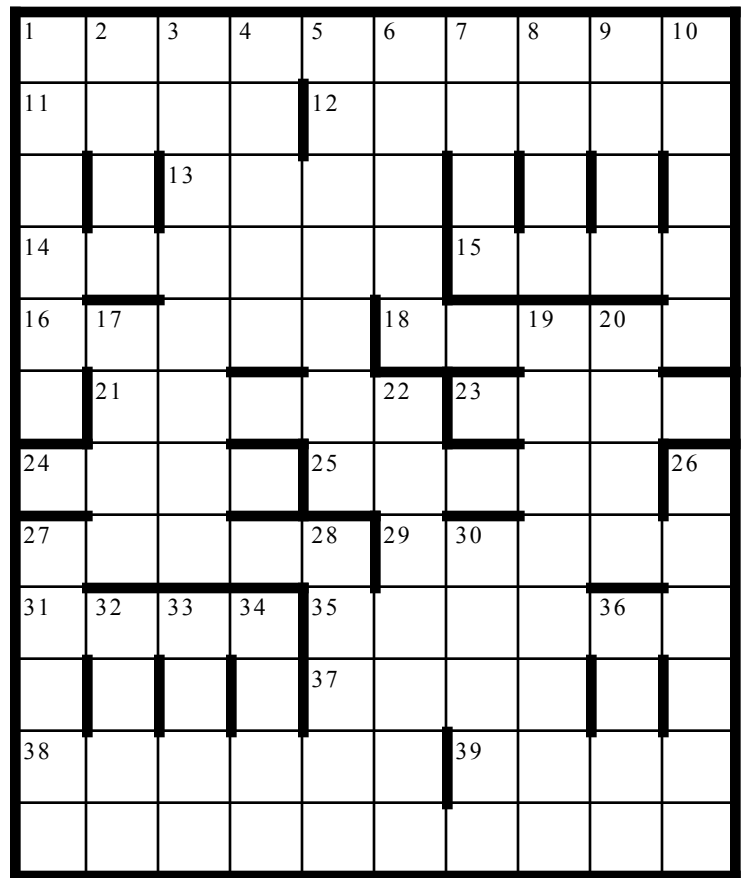


With Bao And Hollywood

by Ucaoimhu

For some, Christmas means picking up something, and putting away something else. These items are given by the unclued entries at the top and bottom of the grid respectively, and five Across answers will perform each of these actions before being entered into the grid. The other eight Across answers are entered normally, but the clue for each one has a cryptic part that doesn't clue one letter; these letters, in clue order, will spell out something else you can take on this occasion. (And in that spirit, all Down clues work normally, and these instructions stop here.)



ACROSS

11. Men, after beheading hundred-and-six-legged creature, make inroads
12. Soft rock in metal can
13. One of craft formerly getting over-rapid — extremely!
14. Priests wear these one-pound surplices at first
15. Low, swiveling microphone support
16. Author and writer become less immature
18. Means to stop water company in North Carolina held by folks from Ankara, say [NI3]
21. Lady flipped over 50% of guys in drag
23. Name is going to employ nonsilent letters before x's
24. Famous anchorman's quote about Reagan and Kennedy's leadership
25. Detect little after the first of September, 1050
27. Did not consist of tungsten, tin, and tritium
29. Gym already superficially resembling a bog
31. Emcee is drunken sot
35. Actress Marilu's hot numbers about spinning
37. Doctrine misdescribed how some things are bought (2 wds.)
38. To provide illumination, coherently recite poems
39. Start to attack each region

DOWN

1. Mentioned those who plant trees (6)
2. Enthusiastically greet icy precipitation (4)
3. Posterior cranial sections seen in 0–201 places (8)
4. Suffix meaning “One who fears unenergetic actress Cates” (5)
5. Yes, Roman slightly damages short railroad tracks (7)
6. Statistical method for confirming Earl's wearing three shirts (1-4)
7. In a poem, for example, he called Ma “bi-curious” (4)
8. Initially claim Tolstoy is ruler of Egypt (4)
9. Loki lost a little over two pounds (4)
10. Cons lifted small computers (5)
17. Not-quite-ancient Greek poem describing hipbones (4)
19. Lori can't beat coriander leaves for flavoring (8)
20. Gear worn by laddie, primarily! (4)
22. Barely wimpy editors were obstructive (7)
26. Poles embracing over-proud Mideasterner (6)
27. Produce a puppy, with assistance (5)
28. You must get back to this, this and this (5)
30. Tossed actor Michael's old computer (5)
32. State of Hawaii, surrounded by oceans (4)
33. Switch hands around (4)
34. *Rent* starts with tango dance (4)
36. Endless party is not going downhill at any time (4)