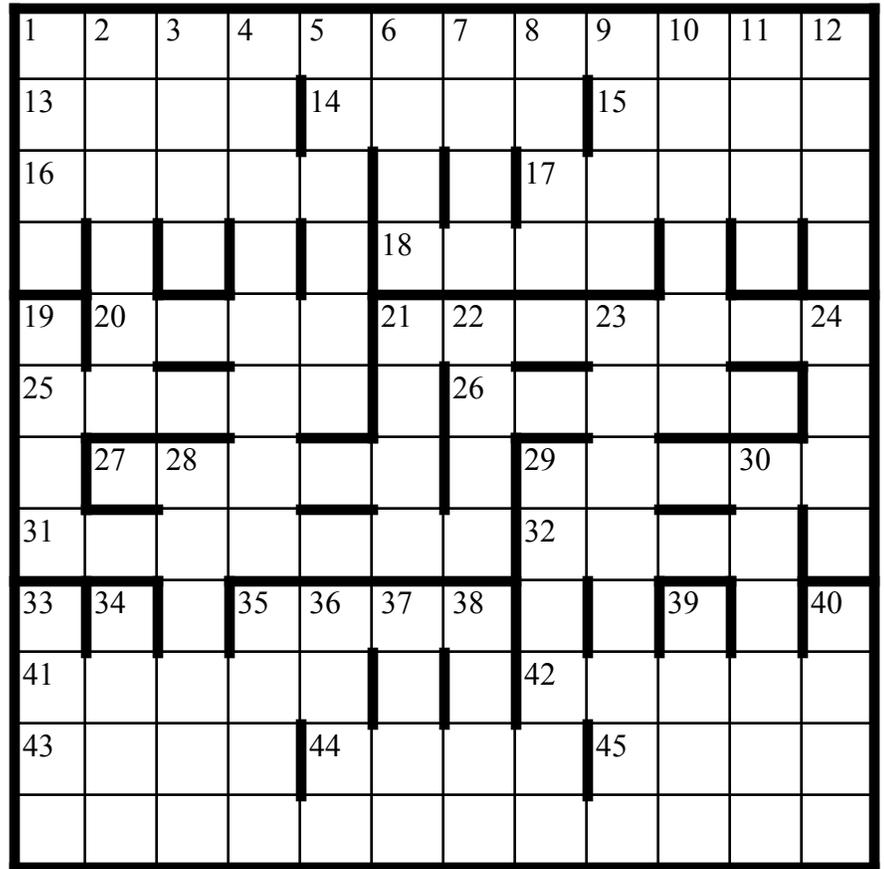


The Nominees Are . . .

by Ucaimhu



Welcome to Oscar Night! In honor of the Best Picture nominees, every Across answer must be altered before being entered in the grid, in one of five ways. Some entries will bear an appropriate amount of money. Some will be initially tilted in an appropriate manner. Some will head in only one of two directions. Some will fly around. And in some, what you will discover is summarized by an appropriate term.

All kinds of alteration will be used equally often by the Across answers; all Down answers are to be entered normally. When you are done filling the grid, the unclued Across entries at the top and bottom of the grid will express a truth about this year's Oscars that holds no matter who wins.

ACROSS

13. Send a message with anger
14. Pilot episode finally about to roll
15. Least flavorful sandwich has a bunch of high points
16. Horses are described by manuscript
17. Ms. Farrow has not found soldiers
18. The primary ingredient in zabaglione is French orange peel
20. Left goose's last golden eggs
21. Attempts to steal flavorful berries
25. Nonsense about one's cook
26. Supply of entwined flowers to adorn gal ran dry, unfortunately
27. Small secretory organs from a gull Ned's dissected
29. One who lies about being embraced by topless Lesbian, for example
31. Ms. Moore's editor is deceased
32. Uncouth rube over in Bavaria
35. Store is quiet, finally -- *too* quiet
41. One who puts the car back with enthusiasm, after ultimately never catching fish
42. A llama may upset a Tamil relative
43. Agent beginning to assume each cover again
44. Insane Roman, essentially!
45. Twirling part of rank spud on your tongue

2. They prepare to shoot broadcasts without me (6)
3. You're actually holding $\text{CO}(\text{NH}_2)_2$ (4)
4. In pasture enclosure there is minute fungus on the foliage (4 4)
5. Performer in *Tootsie* keeping Tootsie's coat and legwear (6)
6. One non-pro's image (4)
7. American that is Jacques's girlfriend (4)
8. Brief messages not containing old Hebrew letters (4)
9. Husband gets out of clothing, somewhat (1 3)
10. Moderate Republican south of Arizona city (6)
11. Sailor claiming son is Emperor of Russia (4)
12. The thing is, ultimately, very tiny (4)
19. Reduce the agitation of about fifty thousand (4)
21. Box, for instance (4)
22. Old silver, etched on the outside (4)
23. Enplane before pig wearing top of purple and red (8)
24. Tender love is upsetting (4)
28. Practices of upper-class wise guys (6)
29. Fool initially says revolutionary will capture Missouri (6)
30. Mistakes provide information, in time (6)
33. Sketch Dick Grayson, say, being acrobatic (4)
34. Sleep with author in wine country (4)
35. That woman's real German title (4)
36. Where the Munchkins are eating red-orange pasta (4)
37. Lead around the Parisian commoner (4)
38. Take up sulfur or boron (4)
39. Steal from conglomerate (4)
40. Yarn about one star of *Kate and Leopold* (4)

DOWN

1. Snit about small nuisance (4)