

Winter Conival

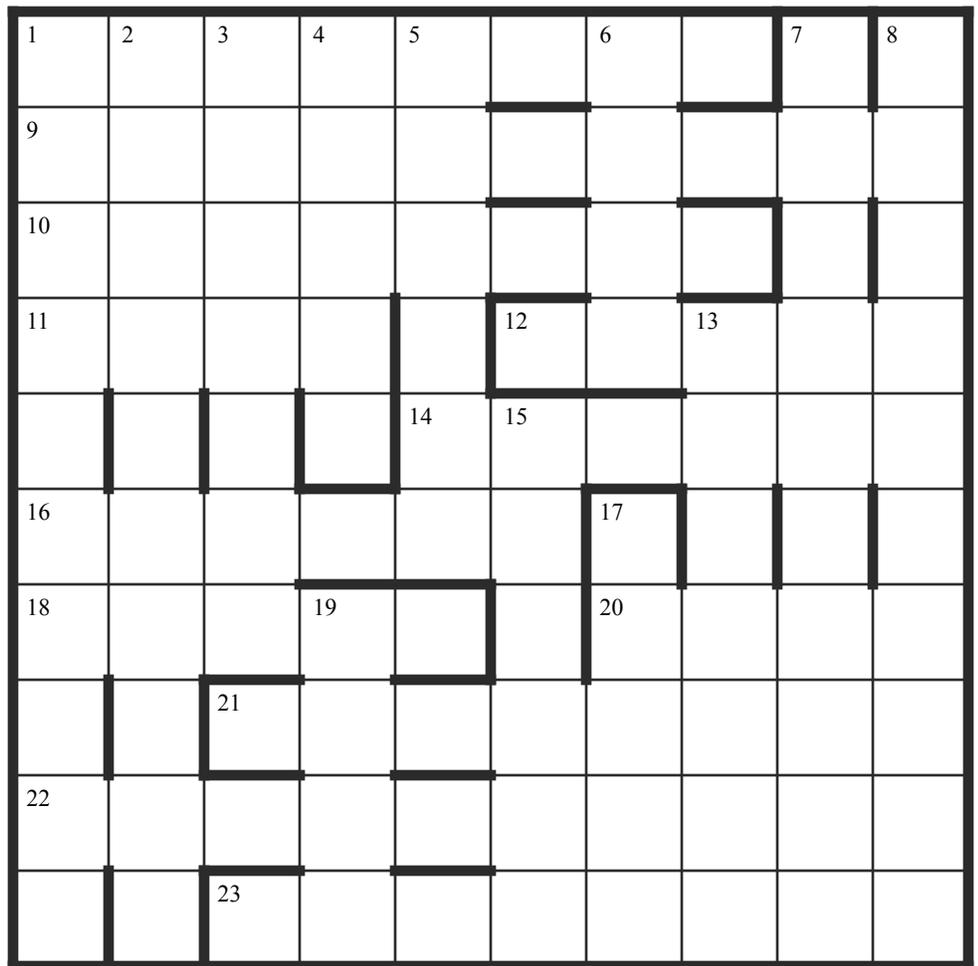
by Ucaoimhu

Welcome to the Winter Conival! In this puzzle, (A) ten clues' answers will be ice-dancing — that is, they will be anagrammed before entering the grid. (One dancing entry will be a first name.) To assist them in this, (B) each of ten other clues contains an extra word that must be removed before solving; each such word will clue one dancing entry from (A).

As a backdrop for the above, some squares in the grid must be left blank, leaving gaps of one or more squares at the start of some Across entries and in the midst of some Down entries. For each (B) clue, where the *n*th word is the extra one, circle the *n*th letter of the entry in the grid; left to right, the circled letters in the grid will give an (inferable) word for the wintery feature thus formed. If that word is too mystifying, read the first two and last two letters of each clue that is *neither* (A) nor (B), in clue order, to see what it means.

Be careful that this glittering scene doesn't interfere with your perceptions, though. If you write the first and last letter of each (A) clue in front of its corresponding (B) clue, these letters (in (B) clue order) will give a phrase describing the wintery feature above. However, if you misinterpret one symbol, you'll instead get a phrase describing something less wintery that the word for that feature might refer to.

Finally, this entire Conival has one additional quality that makes it even more glittery and exciting; read the circled letters *top to bottom* in the grid to see what this Conival is.



ACROSS

1. Asp, say, is one obstructing most of port
9. Insect larva from bananas girl tests grew
10. Timeworn term for *close to gin?* Ha — that's funny [NI3+]
11. Erroneous "fact" Will told Lovett, the singer
12. Nosier police officer disheartened this Egyptian sect
14. Child claims "I do not hypothesize like that, moreover" (2 wds.)
16. Ensconced in a cabin with a pig west of Donau
18. A quintet of utopistic hats safari-goers make use of
20. Name of Del Rey, who sings "Veranda With No End"
21. Designate Sully (in the UK) as drunk (i.e. lit) nut
22. Chic places where pigs target lodge accommodating Pharaoh and initiates
23. Snakelike molecules (by the way) will cover demi-Olympian you know

DOWN

1. Pertaining to a small gap between nervous overseas entities circling city's round Greek deity
2. Little folk number Robert Alda put in *Swen Goes North*
3. Slower, stranger wool smugglers shout [NI3]
4. Wind alternative loops around large semiarch
5. Exterior coating of some butter in front of Alcatraz
6. Fancying ego-sating \$1000 waffle brand
7. Complete abstainer's irascibility upset narrator and canines and such endlessly
8. Extra-urban quality of 1,100-game system covered with metal oxides [NI2]
13. Ring enabling you to use your foot to open a door Jethro inscribed with orange, reflective |PE| (2 wds.)
15. Oval pennies on it ultimately worry strange character
17. Half-circle next to well-known thing
19. Lyrical Basil is to head for Nicholas I