

Properly Described

by Ucaoimhu

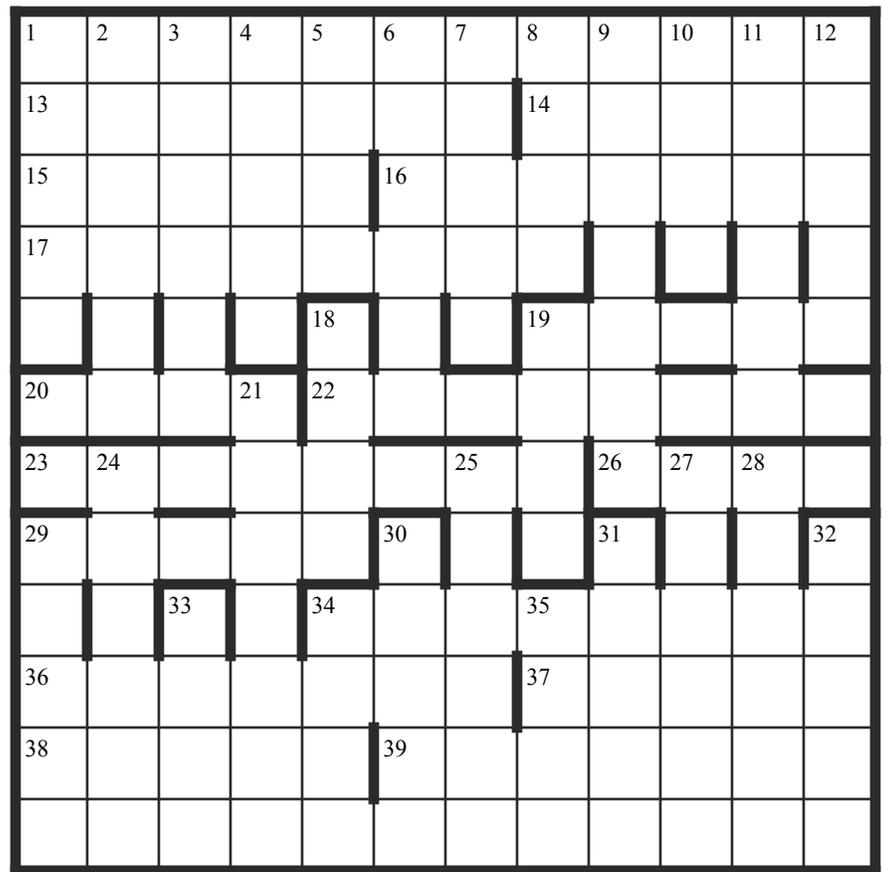
In tribute to four pairs of this year's Best Picture nominees, Across answers will be altered before entry, in four ways: (1) four will have a unit of currency at the start, (2) four will show what is left if a patronymic affix is removed, (3) four will include Chi, and (4) four will get hand-altered (i.e., anagrammed). Altered entries will include a UK chemical term, a UK mixological term, a phrase, and a proper (i.e., inherently capitalized) adjective.

All Down answers are entered normally, but each Down clue contains an extra letter that must be removed before solving; in the chart below the grid, under that extra letter, place one letter from the answer that is determined as follows:

(A) For each of the thirteen Down clues containing a proper adjective, take the first/second letter from the answer's *start* if that adjective indicates the location/language of an item *used* in alteration 1/2 (respectively); take the *n*th letter from the answer's *end* if that adjective would describe an item *in an explanation of* alteration *n*, for any *n* from 1 to 4.

(B) For each of the other thirteen Down clues, where the extra letter occurs in the *n*th word of the clue, take the answer's *n*th letter.

Once all twenty-six letters have been added, they will form an &lit clue for another proper adjective. The phrase in the top grid row will name another nominee, who brought this adjective to greater prominence — but only if you alter that phrase so it is described by the *improper* (but appropriate) adjective in the bottom grid row.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

ACROSS

- British Film 101 disheartened Nicole
- Villainous foe's safe loses rigidity (2 wds.)
- Many a drink order is not well heard
- Often heading in the direction of poles
- Eliot, who wrote poems about golden hills
- Boston subway's ignoring high holidays
- Young Mr. Simpson's keeping live birds
- Between themselves and chic Curt (2 wds.)
- Reportedly, grains react to yeast
- Ten toss random hat
- Nonstudio film shuns one Shakespearean word for the east
- Anti-slip strips from flu-besieged prof's helper (2 wds.)
- Pale people truncated all AC/DC numbers
- Tend to obstruct guy at a dance
- Cmdr.'s inferior fib uncovered naked truths (abbr.)
- Again sing "Agent Romeo is Molly"

DOWN

- Cold, antic Gable from *Fit Happened One Night* (5)
- Cd₆H₁₂ is (dang!) observed in your ear (6) [NI3]
- Blare Paul's intro in Aramaic, before it's lightened (2 4)
- American capital west of Vlad's battery (1 4)

- Wisconsin State's rather cold way of saying *know* (4)
- Scores of Brazilian fink's howls got eerie and deep (6) [NI3]
- Or plow beneath this French peasant in old England (5)
- Quizzer Jennings's "Oranges of Knowledge" (4)
- Ballplayers trot around inverted little Italian R? (7)
- Mediocre dozes upset bears in Cuba (4)
- Misdescribed teen has house in Washington (6)
- Cause of songs being meterless jumbles (5)
- Irish tranqs bachelor covers for spokesdoctor Deborah (4)
- Are abounding with tree minders, initially (4)
- Within sight of estate's borders, each half bleats (7)
- Where nit was originally found circling outie after stripping clothing from Sumerian author (2 4)
- Leta up inside small English waterway (6)
- Stranger I pity gets beagle to start making kind of error (4 2)
- Some periodicals observed yon line with zees in chaos (1-5)
- More than one woke, gripping character that's secondary in Russian pic, briefly (5, abbr.)
- Greek attached to Max's latest acidity indicator chart (5)
- Five win "safer Romanian lead" — meaning iron (5)
- What has been stormed is made from stone and wood (5)
- One Polish leader supporting Gus and antiwar org. (4, abbr.)
- Ione running game called *baduk* in Korean, y'know (4)
- Jargon-filled squibs, maybe for Henry's queen Catherine (4)