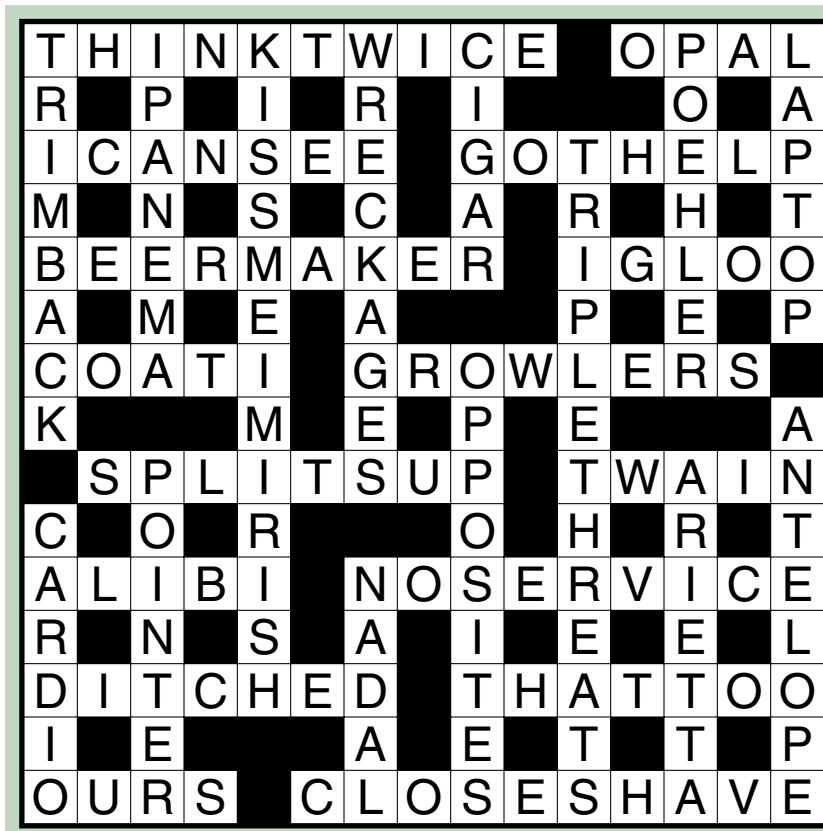


CRYPTIC ANSWER GRID AND EXPLANATIONS

**(IT'S ACTUALLY ON THE NEXT PAGE
SO PREVIEWS OF THIS PDF DON'T SPOIL ANYTHING)**

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THROW IT OUT, AND SORRY ABOUT WASTING YOUR PRINTER INK)**



ACROSS

- 1 THINK TWICE (fourth letters swapped in *thick twine*)
- 6 OPAL (hidden in episcOPALian)
- 9 IC(ANSE)E (*Sean* anagram in ICE)
- 10 GO(THE + L)P
- 12 BE(gERMS)AKER ("limitless" indicates deleting the first and last letters of *germs*)
- 13 IGLOO (hidden backward in schOOLGrlr)
- 14 COAT + I
- 15 GROW(L)ERS
- 18 SPL(ITS)UP ("retro dime novels" = PULPS reversed)
- 20 TWAIN ("train" as Elmer Fudd would say it)
- 23 ALIBI (odd letters ignored in tAbLold Balt)
- 24 NOSE + R + VICE
- 25 D + ITCHED
- 26 T(H)ATTOO
- 27 tOURS
- 28 C(LOSES + H)AVE

DOWN

- 1 TRI(MBA)CK
- 2 I + P + A + NEMA (*mean* anagram)
- 3 KISS ME I'M IRISH (*Kris shimmies I* anagram)
- 4 WREC + K + AGES (*crew* anagram)
- 5 CIGARt (*tragic* reversal minus T)
- 7 POEHLER ("polar" homophone)
- 8 LAP + TOP (POT + PAL reversal)
- 11 TRIPLE THREATS (*their platters* anagram)
- 16 OPPOSITES (*isotopes + P* anagram)
- 17 ANT + ELOPE
- 19 POINTER (*protein* anagram)
- 21 ARI + ETTA
- 22 CARD + I + O
- 24 N + A + DAL (LAD + A + N reversal)