

A Quick One For [18 Across]

by Ucaoimhu

This birthday picnic puzzle should be a quicker solve than usual, since all the Across clues work normally; each Down clue, on the other hand, contains an extra letter that must be removed before solving. Once the grid is filled:

(a) Lightly shade in every square in the grid that contains any letter that is in the entry at 8 Across.

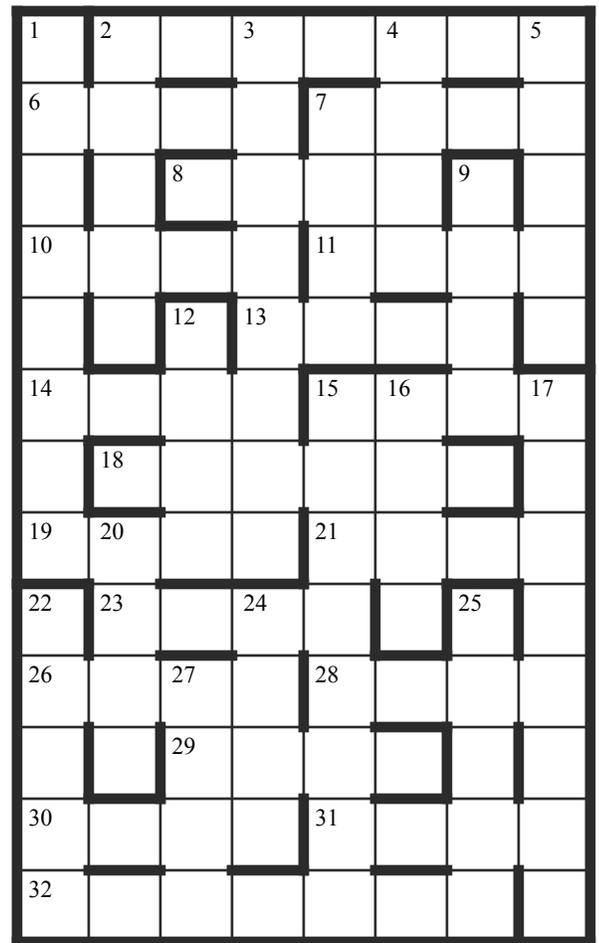
(b) Above the grid, centered over the shaded line, copy the lower shaded symbol.

(c) Alter the previous shading slightly, so that the shaded squares are now exactly those that contain letters from the spelled-out version of the copied symbol.

(d) Adjacent to the most recently-made copy of a symbol, in the direction now indicated, copy the lower shaded symbol.

(e) Go back to step (c).

If you repeat the (c)-(d)-(e) loop enough times, you will succeed in doing to this puzzle what the extra Down-clue letters state.



ACROSS

2. Takes weapons from 501 semi-safe rooms (7)
6. Top leader's endlessly easy feat (1 2 1, *abbr.*)
7. Piece of purple or navy blue material (4)
8. Greek character lacks a means of travel (3 1)
10. Retro zine with old, old Irish writing (4)
11. Croft, who raids tombs of the Roman sun god (4)
13. Do redesign fora (4)
14. Greek coin hoarded by kobolds (4)
15. Police extract half the eggs from henhouses (4)
18. Curtis Armstrong in the center, blocking no one (6)
19. Buggy animated film containing a segment of Tony Danza stripping (4)
21. A vessel turned over (4)
23. Bring back mostly dry, worthless stuff (4)
26. Child Ballad's origin near Lincoln (4)
28. Show up, finally, in the first half of Exodus (4)
29. It could be Romeo! Huzzah! (4)
30. Senator lassoes five reindeer in *Frozen* (4)
31. Managed to kiss a lover of Zeus (4)
32. Pen less strange word meaning "organs" (7)

DOWN

1. Doctor uncovered group of whales, plus originally jawed order of eight-armed molluscs (8)
2. Rivera, who painted a spout-bearing cube green (5)
3. School near Montana festooned with Sal and Zed's sentimental art (8)
4. Spoil a troll (4)
5. Creep knows about race heading north (5)
7. Scampi's right near pixie's money (4)
9. Pup on a boat left in Quebec, too (4)
12. For example, a kid finally eating gratin (4)
15. Ghent looming over that female Belgian and a comedian named Dave (8)
16. Vow to start observing wild hart (4)
17. Hypothesizing about the Cuban opposite you and Moe (8)
20. Maud can secondarily satirize sports org. (4, *abbr.*)
22. Gas bottles near small chasm (5)
24. Then myriad myriads of years later, Oona discards odd items (4)
25. Sup after cooking crust for delicious items in tubier dishes (5)
27. Bee on Little Jacques, whose stuff gets stung (4)