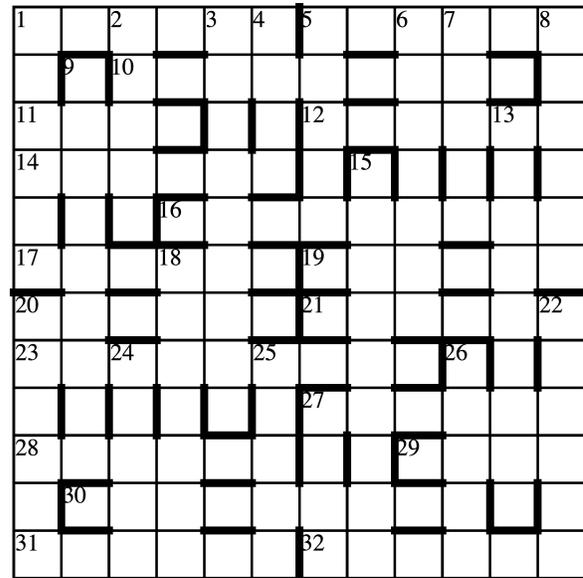


Perfectly K. Lear

by Harth

Half the answers (eighteen) must be altered before being entered into the diagram. In each clue, the wordplay corresponds to the diagram entry, which is not necessarily a word. In addition, each clue includes a superfluous letter, or is missing a letter. Those letters, read in order, spell out the Shakespearean quote (from King Lear) that explains why and how the answers are altered.



Across

- 1 “You brat!” translated into an African language (6)
- 5 Transcribed score for musical composition (7)
- 10 Last curse from an affliction (eating grease, at first): fat returning (10)
- 11 Michelangelo finally starts to hew immense onyx statue (4)
- 12 We’d draw back from a Kennedy (6)
- 14 Trill involved in writing Lear (6)
- 16 Provide tapestry, revealing visual record (9)
- 17 Thin stew? Passé! (6)
- 19 Gets blow: a critical point releases energy internally (7)
- 20 Smart AA arrangement: double-talk (10)
- 21 Birds go into twisted trees (6)
- 23 Loss of vitality in one country, on either side of Interstate (9)
- 27 A no-good rotten Nazi’s chest pains (6)
- 28 Bee with no way to access fragrant resin (7)
- 29 CIA disrupted region in Spain (5)
- 30 Ricky: person with grass, alert without beginning or end (10)
- 31 Old admiral (6)
- 32 Springtime festival for SS (6)

Down

- 1 Yes, proceed to set up pure-embryonic cells (7)
- 2 Heckling is held back by handgun, I argue (7)
- 3 Ban left Bill with integrated circuit of missiles (9)
- 4 Looking for nag: a horse’s ass (5)
- 5 Something chap's broken: lease (6)
- 6 Ridiculous chore: find intelligence inside cannon (8)
- 7 Harm caused by grandma, after the finale (6)
- 8 Many drawings without a tart (6)
- 9 “Monkey see...” after brat interrupts movie detective (10)
- 13 Refrains from tears, holding a rose? (9)
- 15 Blue? Go! Go to New Orleans, Louisiana (10)
- 18 Mary’s son, suffering, achieves redemption (7)
- 20 Narrow fat strip from bone to bone — almost (6)
- 22 Say: “Neil is out, elegantly” (8)
- 24 A talon extricated from a soil with poorly defined strata (6)
- 25 Non-essential beginning brought up for carpenter’s projection (5)
- 26 Feel sick, mounting red reptile (6)
- 27 A cat (Brit.) (4)