What Am I?
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by Harth, Winter MW

This is our 20th con cryptic. We feel bad that in some past puzzles, the instructions were not always spelled out. We’d like to make up for that: read the extra letters supplied by the wordplay in clues for all but eight answers, follow the directions therein, and write the answer to the title question (2 wds.) above. Bars, not symmetrically arranged, are withheld.

### Across
1. Hint: Klingon has a clue
6. Beating disturbed draftee
12. Common American gold and aluminum
13. Suddenly swerve left, reversing chase to church
14. Feathers bend where vanes point
15. Rank corporation, learn reorganization
17. Sanyo rigs a microcomputer to display Japanese art
19. Prime Minister shot, injured insects
20. Portent of annual gathering of swindlers? (2 wds.)
22. In Lawrence, entering remodeled store (hyp.)
23. Always return gun
25. Aristocratic game: camp, fish
26. Beautiful girl interrupts rushed roughness
33. Chair criticizes rulers
35. Henri’s foremost insight to influence retreat
36. Egg-shaped old English barrel with last drop of ale
39. Noir vs. horror in Shackles
40. Nevada venue boss shielding a crime
41. To lie is worse, far worse
42. Showed respect with “Ye crudest abomination!”
43. Lean, red cut wins Arachne's heart, say
44. Odd characters from Cal Poly play flirtatiously
45. Bluer erotica author accommodates embarrassed about-face
46. For some time, law-breaking engineer took in popular song

### Down
1. Can with bad odors for houseplant location
2. Fruit stuffed into piroshki, weirdly
3. Federal agency leads flight to religion
4. Spice up precious stone to shock
5. Playing and moving around in the morning
6. Cancel EU mentorship involving constituent
7. Chief finally reorganized unreal ceremony
8. Retry the mascara to hide redness
9. At top of third, hitless, confused, it's prickly
10. Pressure (psi) with surgical instrument
11. Relax in sun window
12. Hosed ornery mule, for example
16. Ahead of time, pony up, monkey up, breaking hunter’s victim
21. Rip Torn, or not?
24. Surprisingly, lose hair after bite of gourmet sunflower
27. Time to control stock returns in vehicle (2 wds.)
28. Looking inward, heard stomach, breathed softly (hyphenated)
29. Glitter specialist Dan has broken leg
30. Changes gears with his fist, awkwardly
31. Felt love and found meaning after fuss
32. Suits possibly provide me with confusing answer
33. Anti-aircraft weapon at Iraqi site: a soldier, a warrior
34. Ex-Prime Minister loses electronic cover
37. Conceited young lady to record material
38. Awards to New York stage manager