

What Am I?

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.

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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 (*hyph.*)
- 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
- 5 Playing and moving around in the morning
- 7 Cancel EU mentorship involving constituent
- 8 Chief finally reorganized unreal ceremony
- 9 Retry the mascara to hide redness
- 10 At top of third, hitless, confused, it's prickly
- 11 Pressure (psi) with surgical instrument
- 12 Relax in sun window
- 16 Hosed ornery mule, for example
- 18 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

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