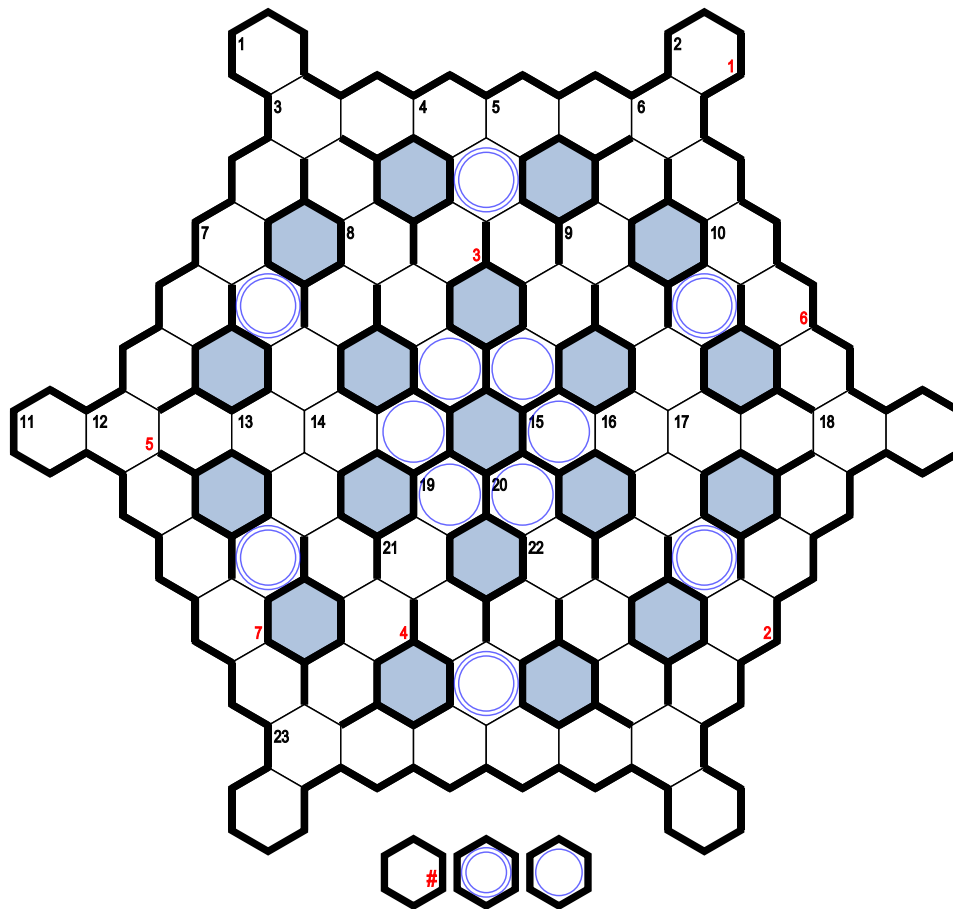


Cryptic Snowflake 2023-01

Darren Miller

Answers are filled in three directions: across, down-left, or down-right. Guide to extraction is at the bottom.



Across:

- 3 Listen to Santa's subordinate, perhaps (6)
- 11 Finally remove top hat and scatter salt (2,4)
- 15 Empty pistol smuggled in waistband causes newspaper headline (6)
- 23 Protection from lid she tossed (6)

Down-Right (cont):

- 13 Sending back cut greens? Too bad (4)
- 16 Bartlett, for one, denies starting ape war (4)
- 20 You, trapped in lump of earth. Why? It's unclear (6)
- 21 Essential to grab a kettle to make cookies (4)

Down-Right:

- 1 South Carolina greeting by southern man causes disruption (6)
- 4 Nowhere near agnostic; following accepted religious principles (4)
- 6 Has-been pitches to the audience and does very well (6)
- 7 Inspired by housesitting applications (4)
- 9 Extremely overcritical of the President's office, for example (4)
- 12 Exchanges hug from daughters by mistake (6)

Down-Left:

- 2 Dome cover regularly found in field journal (6)
- 3 Trapped in a mushy hug in Connecticut (6)
- 5 Strange crafts even in mud flows (4)
- 8 A diet without tea? Strange concept (4)
- 10 Friend came back to see a big hand (4)
- 14 Scout leader was first to go downhill (4)
- 17 Entertained by little golden brick (4)
- 18 Rock CDs are heavenly (6)
- 19 Latest developments: the tyrannosaurus was chasing old boy's hound (6)
- 22 Trickster narrates humble legend (4)