L DLEH UBJLTO CP GLJH

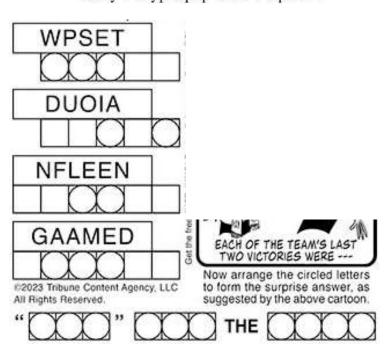
WLRMDBPHW GDYVHF NYTQBLTHFR

QLDQ RYCHVUBQ. L NBT'Q

EHHM B ROFBLOUQ JBRH.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MY HEDGES BADLY NEEDED PRUNING, SO I APPROACHED A NEIGHBOR AND DECLARED "LEND ME YOUR SHEARS."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals V



EASY

	5				4	1		8
2		1			7	3		
4						7	6	5
	2	8		6	3			
7			4		8			1
			7	5		9	8	
9	1	6						3
		2	3			5		6
5		3	8				9	

1 lies bad	k	81	etters				
2 hanging	g beds	8 1	etters				
3 straying)		9 1	etters			
4 like a V	/iffle ball		6 I	etters			
5 ones w	ho woo	7 1	7 letters				
6 unders	ea adventure	8 1	etters				
7 without	"teeth"	10	10 letters				
AN	HAM	IT	LOW				
МО	AUT	NES	NONB				
ORS	DEV	CKS	ING				
IAT	HOL	ING	LI				
REC	IND	AQU	SU				

12-27 CRYPTOQUOTE

PXW'Z FR HKIHMP ZX VZHIZ XBRI HQHMW. ZGMV ZMER, LXD'IR WXZ VZHIZMWQ KIXE VOIHZOG; LXD'IR VZHIZMWQ KIXE RAURIMRWOR.

— DWJWXTW

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: KWANZAA IS A SPECIAL TIME TO REMEMBER THE ANCESTORS, THE BRIDGE BUILDERS AND THE LEADERS. — DOROTHY WINBUSH RILEY

HARDER

		9						
		6		1			8	4
7	2						1	
					8	5	3	
		4	3		7	1		
	1	2	6					
	6						9	1
9	7			3		2		
						6		

LA Times, Mon, Dec 25, 2023

By Barbara Lin / Ed. Patti Varol

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ACROSS

- 1 Saudi Arabia neighbor
- 5 Protractor's measure
- 10 Caustic chemical
- 14 Forbidding word
- 15 President between Harrison and Polk
- 16 Writer Jaffe
- 17 Santa and his reindeer landed __
- 19 Territory near the Mariana Trench
- 20 Actress/writer Issa
- 21 Many Christmas trees
- 22 Oklahoma city on the Arkansas River
- 23 Correcting myopia, maybe
- 25 Stockholm citizens
- 26 Small snack
- 27 Before heading down the chimney, Santa ___
- 30 App reviewers
- 32 Length of TV's "60 Minutes"
- 33 Stepping out of the fireplace, Santa left a ___
- 40 Quarter or pound
- 41 Like some garden lights
- 42 After filling the last one, Santa hung the __
- 48 "Children of Blood and Bone" writer Adeyemi
- 49 On the up and up

- 50 Homegrown
- 52 Broad necktie
- 53 Editorialize
- 55 Flight takeoff approximation: Abbr.
- 57 Old Russian leader
- 58 All in all, Santa had a very busy __!
- 60 French 101 verb
- 61 tot
- 62 Like a red Red Delicious
- 63 Diana of the Supremes
- 64 Speaker of the house?
- 65 Beehive State people

DOWN

- 1 Fragrance
- Da Vinci portrait in the Louvre
- 3 Long-tongued insectivore
- 4 Utmost degree
- 5 "I haven't __ to wear!"
- 6 "Black Panther" star Lupita
- 7 Sticky stuff
- 8 More or __
- 9 "I heard him exclaim, __ he drove out of sight ... "
- 10 Bickers
- 11 May've
- 12 "Almost ready!"
- 13 Fabric named for Syria's capital

1	2	3	4	0	\$5	6	7	8	9	0	10	11	12	13
14	5.8	*	100	8	15	×.	-61	8	101	8	16	8	- 6	8
17	28	(6)	38	18		8)	285	(5)	38	ō.	19	8	8	(5)
20	5.8	k	3.0	21	53:	*	551	8	-	22		*	-6:	8
	23	(6)	24	03	296	-6			25	(2)	286	-65	38	(5)
26		k	5.0		27	*	28	29		8	53:	8	508	8
30	296	(6)	- 28	31	9		32	8	26	6	28			
33	5.08	8	5.40	*	34	35		8	1.2	8	36	37	38	39
	28			40	86	(5)	- 38			41	28	8	- 28	(5)
12	43	44	45	0	50:	*	5.8	46	47		48	×	13.	*
19	-28	(6)	38	63	26		24	50	- 236	51		8	206	
52	532	ě.	536	*		53	54		100	*	***	55	58	56
57	38	(8)	- 28		58	02	28	(5)	38	8	59	9:	8	(5)
60	53:	ķ.	100		61	8	53.	· ·	100		62	*	101	8
63	238	(5)	36	80	64	6	255	0	-28	8	65	65	206	(5)

- 18 Prefix with center
- 22 Whippersnappers
- 24 Croat's neighbor
- 25 Tightly closed
- 26 Tampa Bay NFLer
- 28 Havaianas shoe, e.g.
- 29 Additionally
- 31 Lightbulb's place
- 34 Gritty film genre
- 35 Classic Cadillac feature

- 36 Round flatbread
- 37 "Five stars!"
- 38 Personalized iron-on
- 39 Bi- plus one
- 42 Adam Rippon, for one
- 43 Play catch with
- 44 Hollywood awards
- 45 Washing dishes, doing laundry, etc.
- 46 Not gender-specific

- 47 Bacon Turkey Bravo sandwich chain
- 51 Number of digits in a billion
- 53 __ hygiene
- 54 Folk icon Seeger
- 56 Changes color, perhaps
- 58 Org, that may support a school board
- 59 Hilton brand