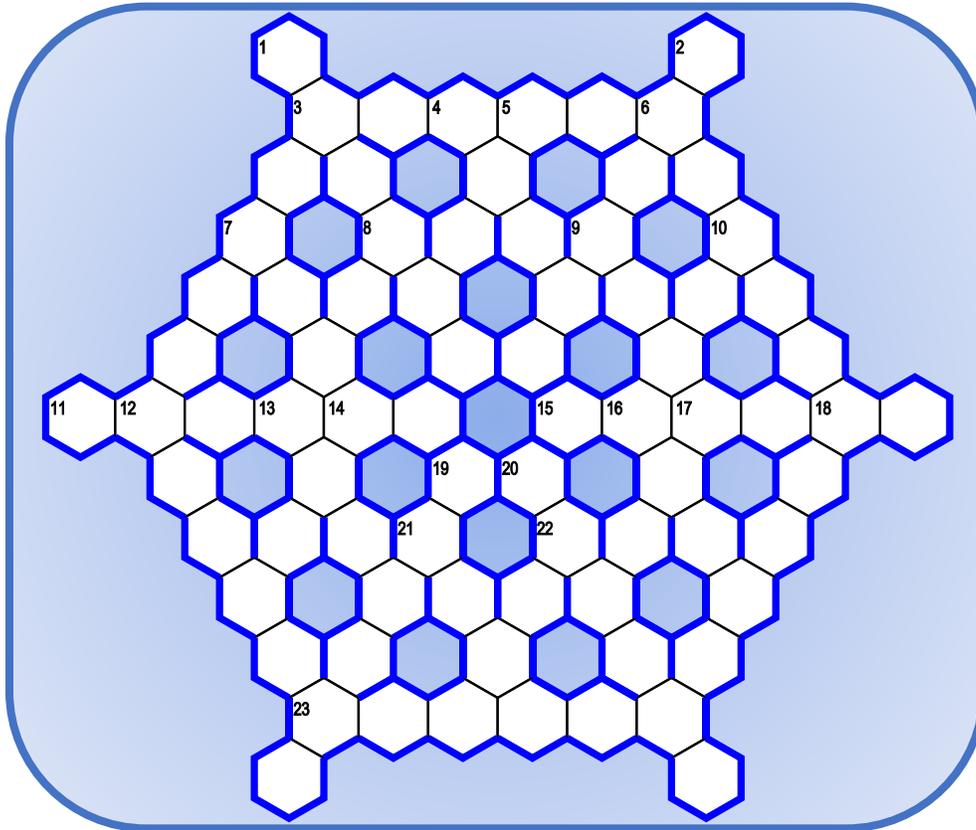


Cryptic Snowflake 2026-02

Darren Miller

Answers are filled in three directions: across, down-right, or down-left.



Across:

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 3 | Recent arrival and new lover entertained by that thing (6) | 15 | Wild ogre escapes from angry bootlegger with a fancy vessel (6) |
| 11 | Show up at premiere of <i>Thor: Ragnarok?</i> (6) | 23 | Gossip coming from conflict with bishop going out for tea (6) |

Down-Right:

- | | | | |
|---|---|----|--|
| 1 | Part of crossword is malformed, it's quite depressing (6) | 9 | Oblivious to principles of behavior, making unfortunate noises in return (4) |
| 4 | Outsides of foyer entrance on the house (4) | 12 | Checkpoint that protects the heart of Europe (6) |
| 6 | Break down essential ingredients of bumblebee butt (6) | 13 | Long-time contribution to committee on security (4) |
| 7 | Conflicted with rent (4) | 16 | Margarine regularly found in chocolate drops (4) |
| | | 20 | Creeps and cranks, topless (6) |
| | | 21 | Assignment by mail (4) |

Down-Left:

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 2 | Delivered capital punishment on a trip (6) | 14 | Japanese theater at New Orleans is forbidden (2-2) |
| 3 | Mangled tin net for a reason (6) | 17 | Alliance occupying Pueblo, Colorado (4) |
| 5 | Greg's girls becoming aces in field of expertise (4) | 18 | Spilled corn in empty enclosure? Do it again (6) |
| 8 | Backside of vehicle edge overturned in mud (4) | 19 | Charlie ignored by reckless suspect, creating disturbances (6) |
| 10 | Brief note from exhausted mezzosoprano next to setter (4) | 22 | Robin's home at northeastern street (4) |

Hints & Online fillable version here: <https://dkmiller71.github.io/DarrensPuzzles/puzzles/xword/Cryptic202602>