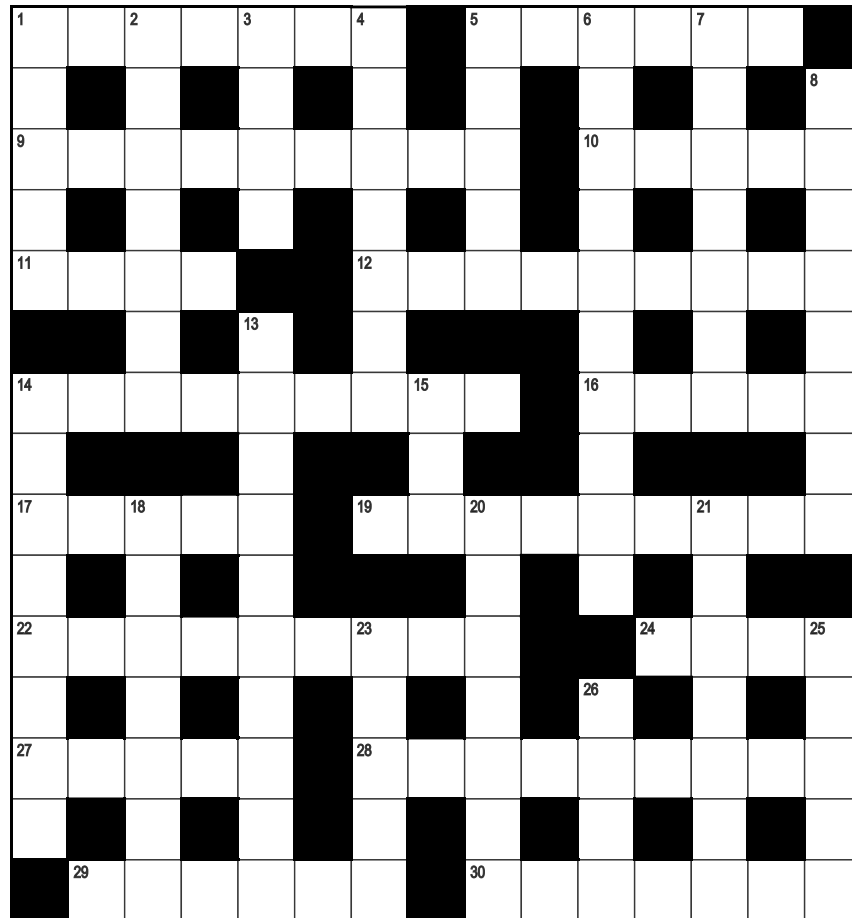


Cryptic 2026-05

Darren Miller



Across:

- 1 Register a discharged Tesla parked in block (7)
- 5 Straight to spilling cider and tea (6)
- 9 Parts of brain butchered repeatedly - it's savage (9)
- 10 Simple bug escaping from something like a banana (5)
- 11 Revolutionary study involving English requirement (4)
- 12 Gatekeeper for Merlin captures a magician perhaps (9)
- 14 Companion piece to argument, essentially it might be crude (9)
- 16 Subject to render nude somehow, with extra bits removed (5)
- 17 Hint that's clearly missing the first part (5)
- 19 Overlooked golden cat oddly hiding in 11a (9)
- 22 Sorts pair of spades before gents led by turning over diamonds and clubs finally (9)
- 24 Reference lines for cuts (4)
- 27 Reluctant to promise after beginning to listen (5)
- 28 Opinion about sanctuary with oxygen surge (9)
- 29 Nearby to opening of the storage area (6)
- 30 Forgery deceptively replaces bit of fruit with cold jug of milk perhaps (7)

Down:

- 1 Compartment covered by bikini back on the counter (5)
- 2 According to Spooner, larger shelter can be a pain (7)
- 3 Bound to exchange case of ring (4)
- 4 Gander and goose's eggs becoming soft (7)
- 5 Restaurant's sound engineer on vacation (5)
- 6 Made another wine infused with bananas, maybe (10)
- 7 Enspelled to burn half of Rome with demon's crown (7)
- 8 Rare find: bananas that can't be seen with the naked eye? (8)
- 13 Government sanctions resulting from police arresting unknown conservative (10)
- 14 Clerical error lyricist angrily puts under piano (8)
- 15 Exercise in trousers (3)
- 18 Overcome dire peril around Virginia (7)
- 20 Breathless girl with snake in front of garden (7)
- 21 Picked up computer specialist's shingle with cloth (7)
- 23 Choose leader or choose being leaderless (5)
- 25 Charge everyone entering borders of Sicily (5)
- 26 Game to spy on Leon every so often (4)