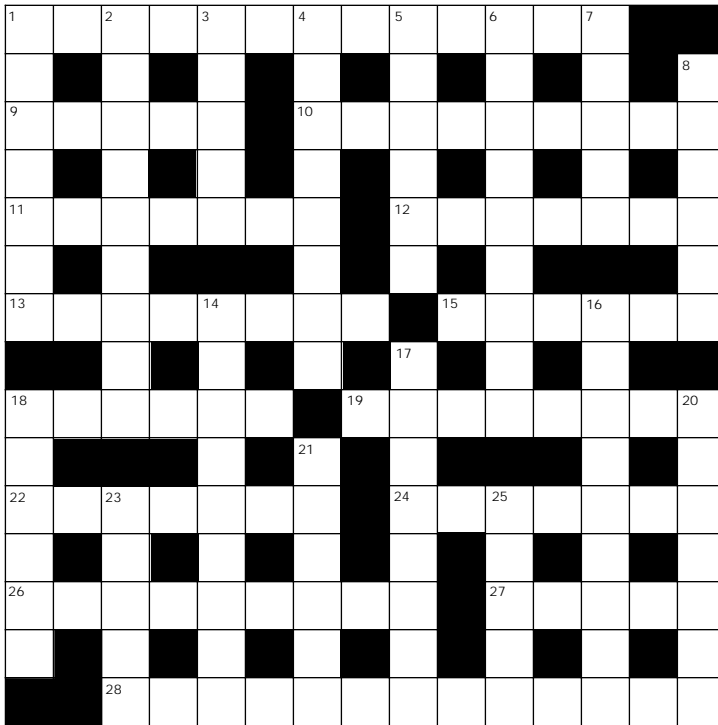


Cryptic Crossword

By Brit Ray



DIRECTIONS

The theme is weddings and graduations. Try this one on for size. **Smiles when ring's adjusted (5)** If you adjust rings, you get *grins*. Here's another. **Control fever rate indefinitely (4,5)** Control adjacent 9 letters for *ever after*. Not all clues involve anagrams. For instance, a question mark indicates a pun. **Intensive questioning for a doctorate? (5,6)** *Third degree*. Prizes claimed by many young women at this time of year? (9) *Bachelors*.

Expressions such as *we hear* or *sounds like* might mean a homophone, as in **Purportedly, no man is one after walking down this path (5)**. The answer is *aisle*/Ile. Here is a hidden word clue. **Give illusion through face cover (4)** Look through to find the hidden *veil*. Remember! Every clue begins or ends with a literal definition of the answer. **Answer appears on Page 53.**



ACROSS

1. Transfigured maid, god—reborn as mates (5,3,5)
9. Type of steps, I hear (5)
10. Surer rate transacted by bursar (9)
11. Arrange some art by Ormandy, for instance (7)
12. Tried to enliven sad eyes (7)
13. Drink goes to head? (8)
15. Young ladies are not hits (6)
18. Glasses, they say, for small things (6)
19. Drab yarn spun at farm (8)
22. Beg for fairy tale (7)
24. Poor sap so in love (7)
26. Piece rent asunder at heart of quake (9)
27. French playwright identified in stage network (5)
28. Change semester grade for academic credential (7,6)

DOWN

1. Finest fellow, the one who doesn't get girl? (4,3)
2. I leave guy in confusion for college scene (3,6)
3. First Lady not uncentered for occasion (5)
4. Citizen on a Latin cruise (8)
5. Destroy first five letters from Scrooge, and four addressed to Ebenezer, for elderly eccentric (6)
6. Sob! Nose is impaired by perfume (9)
7. Quite contrary girl has right to wed (5)
8. New wives throw out debris (6)
14. Ask re-vote changing hostile acquisitions (9)
16. Rate is not changed for paper seller (9)
17. Drive fragment into fortification (8)
18. Needles in backbones (6)
20. Ten diet fitfully at table (7)
21. Arrange for final disposition of parlor piece (6)
23. Royal father of fifty children has one in carriage (5)
25. House guest lives in transition (5)