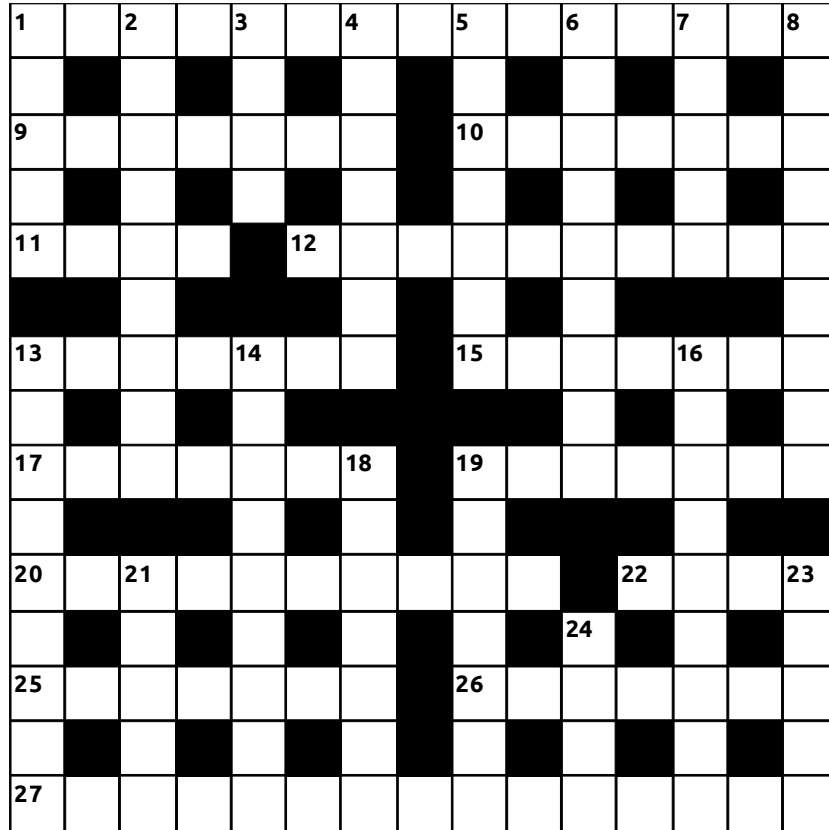


the cruciverbalist

Cryptic crossword #2

Set by: Hieronymus



ACROSS

- 1 Fantastic headmaster haemorrhaged gold in bum deal with American doctor (5,10)
- 9 Lees' Estate (7)
- 10 Draw attention away from a stupid criminal after identity-theft, for example, makes a comeback (7)
- 11 'Lick up,' said European... (4)
- 12 ...choking on grit, egg yolk and rat stew (10)
- 13 Rips off coats! (7)
- 15 Mother has female swans (mutes) (7)
- 17 Tongue oddly irritated by crab apple, e.g., and another fruit (4,3)
- 19 First part of last clue, say, finally reworded and tidied up (7)
- 20 Display of passion inflamed siren's lust... (10)
- 22 ...and put pressure on Latin American (4)
- 25 The old and the dead are disregarded in new version of 'our land is girt by sea' (7)
- 26 Roman statesman gets a hold on power by assassinating leader (7)
- 27 Lynch work-horse and one old mule with lover's frayed noose? (10,5)

DOWN

- 1 Feathery go-between left, say, to go on half-term retreat (5)
- 2 OO: where earthlings live? (9)
- 3 Crook to drop around, seize weapon, finally collapse (4)
- 4 Bucks trend: first to dive into turbulent sea under burning sun (7)
- 5 Obscure Britpop band got embarrassed... (7)
- 6 ...when their front man was bitten by climbing deer in Asian nation? (4,5)
- 7 Middle Easterner will turn up shortly, perhaps (5)
- 8 Boosted appetite with new drug; gained weight and became invigorated (9)
- 13 It's fine with me, his curious belief in powerful things (9)
- 14 Singer to murmur softly about books - right on key (9)
- 16 Lay-about got stuck into mince pie and cut gums (9)
- 18 NRL diet: boiled plant appendage (7)
- 19 We object to top article in *Society's* first feed (7)
- 21 Second class blood, say, despite the odds, turned up in disinfectant (5)
- 23 Five lines; two ways (5)
- 24 Boring song? Change last note (4)