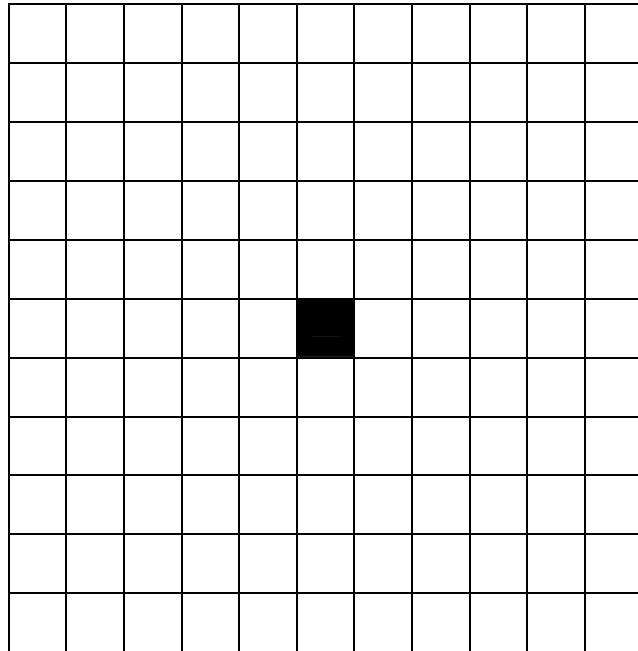


Puzzle #56 — January 2006 "Trappings"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to eleven letters; they include three proper names, two foreign words, and one obsolete word), then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. Across words that don't end at the right continue on the next line, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Five across words and four down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those nine letters, taken in order, spell a two-word phrase that describes the nature of the darkened central square. Four other words impinging on that square lose another eight letters, which, taken in order, spell another two-word phrase that further elucidates the nature of the square. As ever I am indebted to Kevin Wald for help with the clues.



Across

1. Endless anxiety starting to get in sync
2. Fish run from misrendered barcarole
3. Allow entrance to a day school
4. Inside of pelt has label for coat
5. Spice section
6. Figure on finally replacing copy of something fine
7. Sincere new entrant initiated into Legion
8. Persistent breaking of bad rule
9. To stand up in error is embarrassing
10. Berate boy holding back a letter
11. Warmer in outfield with wool
12. Excellent position in box for trellis
13. Astringent core of book is removed
14. Norma's edited part of the NT
15. Display standard score before end of game
16. Check substitution of nitrogen for radical in stiffener
17. One inside problem is something that balances
18. Start to pray, have doubts, work out, and think
19. Opening of manuscript
20. Salzburg gentleman drowned in sherry
21. Calder fashioned a framework
22. Cut net looked commonplace

Down

1. One with promise is more confused after start of class
2. TV star comes back for Marx
3. Speak about a way to love
4. Box holding a hurt monkey
5. Vowel in *fair* becomes bare and solitary
6. An inventor and a beautiful Florentine
7. Appeal to Parisian novelist
8. Sound currency in a hiding place
9. Primitive regret about end of world
10. Hideous hedge surrounding lean-to
11. Behold poet and saddler
12. Mix maraschino without satisfactory instrument
13. Subjective view of percepts I've reformulated
14. Drunkard keeping quiet to see
15. Elaborate discourse about number
16. Turning handles with a sailor
17. Apropos sacking Virginia, be a little gentler
18. Dull start to living in group
19. Throw any dice to get poison
20. Be an essential characteristic of Rhine flowing east
21. Jail Indian and Danish warlord
22. Unhappy about earlier extension