

Hints for Harvard Puzzle "The Italian Connection"

Parentheses around a clue mean that a letter must be omitted from the answer word before it will fit in the grid. Numbers in parentheses indicate lengths of answer words, and an asterisk * indicates a capitalized word.

Across

1. *Mystery entry* (7)
2. Get tough in your talk (5)
3. Brook is in thriller (4)
4. *Rival's drink after end of play (4)
5. Remain inoperative at sea (6)
6. *Soccer player's hopeless at heart (4)
7. Mighty river shelter (6)
8. Stomach upset—strange but not new (6)
9. Surprise! Crimson currently engaged in comeback (6)
10. Mac's backtracking is a swindle (4)
11. *(One vehicle for a Russian czar) (4)
12. (Understands about starting runners in sequence) (6)
13. (Laser initiated with an experimental current) (6)
14. (Piece of aluminum or selenium) (6)
15. Earl not in time to give a lift (5)
16. Cloth covers top of dusty basswood (6)
17. Pace of slowest rider (6)
18. (Weed's weight) (4)
19. Very old Turner expressed a preference (5)
20. There's a rat in this French box (5)
21. No mercy wasted about eastern rite (8)
22. Twist of blade for marking (6)
23. (Annulment results when a leader of exactitude is absent) (8)

Down

1. *Mystery entry* (8)
2. Attribute of unstable free radical (5)
3. (Punk in satin derby) (6)
4. Author captivated by medic's interior design (5)
5. Lay to rest in plain territory (5)
6. *Cut north for river (6)
7. *Insatiable greed consumes Stowe character (6)
8. Sane Scandinavian has left for north (6)
9. Permits fools to go after start of play (6)
10. *Fabric for an English actress (5)
11. (Increase energy with breakdown of lactase) (8)
12. Decoration of food covering Durga's head (5)
13. *Turkic person from Egypt at a reception (5)
14. Easily managed 101 in handout (6)
15. Quote me about something that makes people throw up (6)
16. Number equal to two-thirds of six (4)
17. Forced to stand up in police department (6)
18. (Odd parts of tardy essay) (3)
19. Contest total comes to zero (4)
20. (A welt treated with heat finally becomes a fleshy lobe) (6)
21. (Love excitement a lot) (9)
22. Name another school on Massachusetts Avenue, the number of fingers you have, and a garment you wear on the hand (6)