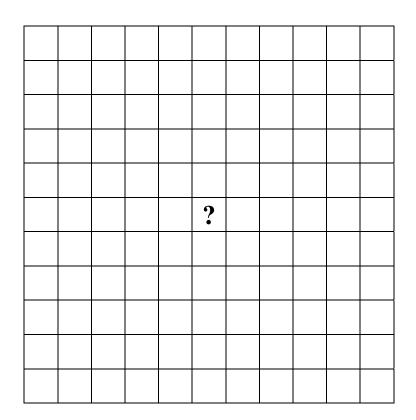
Puzzle

by John de Cuevas



Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to nine letters), 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 margin continue on the next line, and down words that don't end at the bottom margin continue in the next column. Seven across words and six down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those thirteen letters, taken in order, spell a two-word phrase that answers the question posed by the question mark in the middle of the grid.

Clues:

Across

- 1. Spoil, decomposing in trash
- 2. Remedy before having one spot
- 3. Relative of Sam or Tom
- 4. What's on stage observed in speech
- 5. Listening, look closely for supporting structure
- 6. Mother's in from a territory
- 7. Governor took a chair to speak
- 8. Just a body of water
- 9. South Carolina latex makes a good cleaner
- 10. Proper part of reprimand
- 11. Hooker's dessert
- 12. Shrewish woman has Gershwin leave after five
- 13. Free distance in China to scold
- 14. Kind of shirt used by drivers
- 15. Occupying a chair with standard uncoupled
- 16. Dryer catches the end of our tool
- 17. Eat without a cool confused cat
- 18. Quiet stream, but high-pitched
- 19. Sharpen wines when they turn
- 20. To be served for Chubby
- 21. Set of instructions to mend piece after rook
- 22. Rent fuss causing storm

Down

- 1. Not upset over certain haircut
- 2. Flower fed a cheerful color
- 3. Summary of degrees paper
- 4. In Jurassic, reptiles moved very slowly
- 5. Bird without its tail becomes angry and resentful
- 6. Ask for information in twenty-four pages
- 7. Stagger dance
- 8. Think nothing, waste away
- 9. Bottom of top rates
- 10. Drugs for fools
- 11. Muffin bottle restrains military
- 12. Absolute sum
- 13. Business deals find a measure of energy in French seas
- 14. Stay bachelor (single)
- 15. Melodic airs transformed with two whole notes
- 16. Earth shaking organ
- 17. Stop: baseball team backing up
- 18. Strange wiles of American novelist
- 19. Pleasant town in France
- 20. Unorthodox priest band
- 21. Head notice in *Look*
- 22. None loses head going after taxi; everybody a gentleman

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