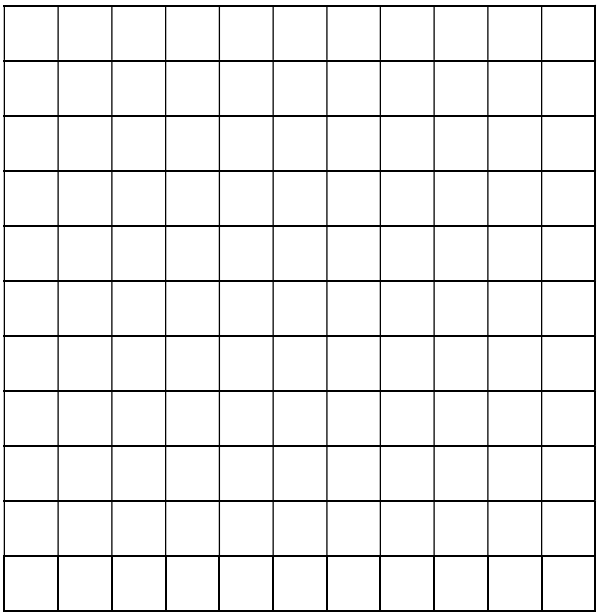
Guest Puzzle #57 – November 2014 "Pareidolia"
(by Gail Findlay)

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from three to ten letters, four are capitalized, and one has interior capitalization) 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 row, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Four of the clues are starred*: the thing named by the answer to each starred clue may elicit an unwarranted response. Six across words and five down words won't fit the grid unless one of their letters is omitted. These eleven letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell two words describing that possible response.



Across

1. Action conceals seminarian's one consuming compulsion
2. Might be able to run in the raw, penetrating cold
3. *Japan's yokozuna cradles blossom
4. Attendant of new company dismissed from course
5. Keep ethanol back inside tent
6. Plant has iron and nitrogen-bonding radical
7. Vise with pressure for volume of pounded clay
8. *Daydream of male with nothing on
9. Country welcomes mentor without men to bear overhead
10. Measures of symptoms in bones beginning to shatter
11. After fifty, I get action briefly—honest!
12. *Automobiles crash explosively without hydrogen
13. Confused cashier substituting five for secondary muniments
14. Educational website set one back
15. Professors' aides take in oxygen in Sangre de Cristo Mountains resort
16. Azaleas emerge with no effort
17. Shedding coat, prelate agitated for some time afterward
18. Put underground in plain terror
19. *Power Point is a punch in a purse
20. Leg of returning pilgrimage
21. Tense, without one bit of energy, upset and transported
22. For each eldest senior
23. George goes inside without clothes for a jog
24. Deterioration caused by conflict overtaking East
25. Betrayer was sad initially upon Jesus's return

Down

1. Gold Pisces interpreted gives favorable signs
2. Walk oddly and dawdle awkwardly
3. Finance with neither franc nor centime is pointless
4. Well-known author consumed by mania
5. Old-fashioned saw
6. List of persons locked in pillories during revolution
7. Nick wipes out
8. Fog is lingering in mountain
9. Gale expected to go around to the downwind side
10. Tone-changing gadget revealed at openings of concerts against performers' objections
11. Chateau lacking the French look
12. Begin eliminating right now in the ER
13. Attachment that means something is made new with no overwhelming onset of emotion
14. Artist is somewhat introverted
15. Policeman removing egg from chicken pen
16. Come up from Paris energized
17. Inadequate child imprisoned by fright
18. Happy Jack's foul play around gym
19. Sound of sweetie getting first of kisses
20. Racer and shooter using radius for gauge
21. Spirit or thought of age is taught
22. Discern 500 sperm
23. Streaming profanity covering start of internecine victory
24. Volcanic mountain going up in giant eruption
25. Fussy, neat or messy
26. Monster demolished sugar