

**Guest Puzzle #68 – December 2017 "Lightning"  
(by Arthur Schless)**

**Instructions:** Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from four to twelve letters; three are capitalized, one is foreign, and one is an abbreviation) 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. 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 as they occur in across and down words, spell a two-word phrase related to the title and the mystery entries. Thanks to John for making this puzzle shine.


**Across**

- Mystery entry*
- Fuel bin adrift with large tuna
- Rumor has year turning out poorly
- Say "Be aware of us" in survey
- Actor in a torn garment
- Wise guy I included in taxon
- Dust off upright support
- Drayage reassessed for distance
- Sharp Crosby grasping IT
- Harry upset arrangement
- Mystery entry*
- Complain vehicle parked upfront
- Bolger took train for race
- Building block of male gonads
- Stunt failed after losing rubber
- Salve made from arecaceae Paul left for brother
- Place for each menu, finally
- I left older person for Mexican gent
- Weapon kept in Indian dwellings
- Recap tumultuous adventure
- Murdoch's flower
- Follow railroad line
- Impertinent coward Anita replaced Ivy
- Cotton's thermal conversion without latent heat
- Mystery Entry*

**Down**

- Deluge of distorted modern truths
- Wait a minute; the tea is brewing
- Shrub in Calabria replanted
- Unusual augular rocket
- Enzyme best erased internally
- Touch Spalpeen's innards
- Proposition crazy sister to pay rupee for heroin
- Lad to keep up in speech
- Only mother is French
- Antiseptic found in disorganized cabinet
- Bailey at end of day is very pale
- Offense to argue arbitrarily
- Climax came after transposition
- Judge in Arcadia
- Scorpion involves concern, in brief
- Odd feast characterized by security
- Ingenuous and unusually fain
- Eats cooked heart
- Family guard is sovereign
- Reformed greasers are yes-men
- Vessel scene revised at range
- Translate "pass" in hard language