

THE FOX AND THE GRAPES

SOLUTION:

The reference to the grapes being "too far...too far!" is meant to suggest that this is a "Going Too Far" crossword; that is, one in which some entries extend into a black square before or after their numbered space. In the completed grid, the longest across and down entries spell the instruction "Assemble six by six black box bit by bit." Using the filled black squares as jigsaw pieces (note that, per clue 54A, there are twelve pieces, so the diagonally adjacent pairs of boxes each count as one piece), a block can be formed as shown. This spells a clue to the final answer: "Once sulfuric acid was referred to as oil of "... VITRIOL (which the fox is certainly spewing).

1	C	2	O	3	B	A	4	P	5	R	6	I	7	L	C	I	8	V	9	E	10	S
11	A	W	L	R	12	E	A	D	E	13	R	E	14	I	R	E						
15	L	E	A	A	16	C	E	D	E	D	17	R	A	M								
	F	U	18	C	19	L	A	E	S	U	20	A	21	M	A	T	I					
22	I	23	R	K	I	N	24	G	I	25	N	T	O	L	O	F						
26	C	U	B	I	C	27	A	S	S	E	M	29	B	30	L	E						
32	E	N	O	W	33	C	U	K	E	S	R	34	I	O	T							
35	S	I	X	36	B	Y	S	I	X	R	37	A	T	N	O							
	O	N	C	38	E	A	S	E	39	Y	40	A	B	B	E	R						
41	B	42	E	43	H	A	N	S	O	I	44	V	E	Y	T	O						
45	O	L	E	R	46	I	N	U	R	E	L	50	B	51	O	N						
53	E	K	E	D	54	D	O	Z	E	N	A	55	I	R	Y							
56	S	E	R	F	E	57	B	O	S	S	S	58	T	Y	X							

O	N	C	E	S	U
L	F	U	R	I	C
A	C	I	D	W	A
S	R	E	F	E	R
R	E	D	T	O	A
S	O	I	L	O	F

ACROSS

- 1 Inner ear component
- 4 "The uncertain glory of an ____ day..." *Shakespeare*
- 8 Lithographer James Merritt
- 11 Leatherworking tool
- 12 Literate one
- 14 The Emerald Isle
- 15 Pasture
- 16 Acquiesce
- 17 A wee drink
- 18 Bruin's home?
- 20 Instrument from Cremona
- 22 Nettlesome
- 25 Digging
- 26 Three dimensional, perhaps
- 27 Comics cry: "Avengers ____!"
- 32 Plenty for Omar?
- 33 Some salad veggies
- 34 Hysterical one
- 35 Dimensions of some lumber
- 37 One for hydrogen, e.g.
- 38 Naturalness
- 39 Prattle

- 41 *Borstal Boy's* Brendan
- 44 Actress Judith
- 45 A certain 43 Down
- 46 Habitué
- 50 Good for Sarkozy?
- 53 Scraped up
- 54 Quantity of jigsaw pieces
- 55 Ethereal
- 56 Lowly vassal
- 57 Headman
- 58 It separates Earth and Hades

DOWN

- 1 Young whale or rhinoceros
- 2 See red?
- 3 Flight recorder
- 4 Southern pie element
- 5 Bolt
- 6 The 13th or 15th, usually
- 7 Conducted
- 8 Spreading rapidly
- 9 Amorous poet's inspiration
- 10 A big rig
- 13 Institutes

- 19 Full deck at Caesar's Palace, perhaps?
- 21 Tattoo honoree
- 22 Murders
- 23 Altercation
- 24 Measure of magnetism
- 25 Not at all hot
- 28 Execute a geländesprung, e.g.
- 29 Incrementally
- 30 Solitary
- 31 Awful stench
- 33 Christie's "sparkling" murder weapon
- 36 Wall Street pessimist
- 37 The third man, maybe?
- 40 Thought and Memory, for Odin
- 41 *Peter and the Wolf's* duck, et al
- 42 Ms. Sommer, born Schletz
- 43 See 45 Across
- 47 High-hat
- 48 Drink served with *mezedes*
- 49 Legal matter
- 51 Whig's opponent
- 52 Dark chalcedony variety