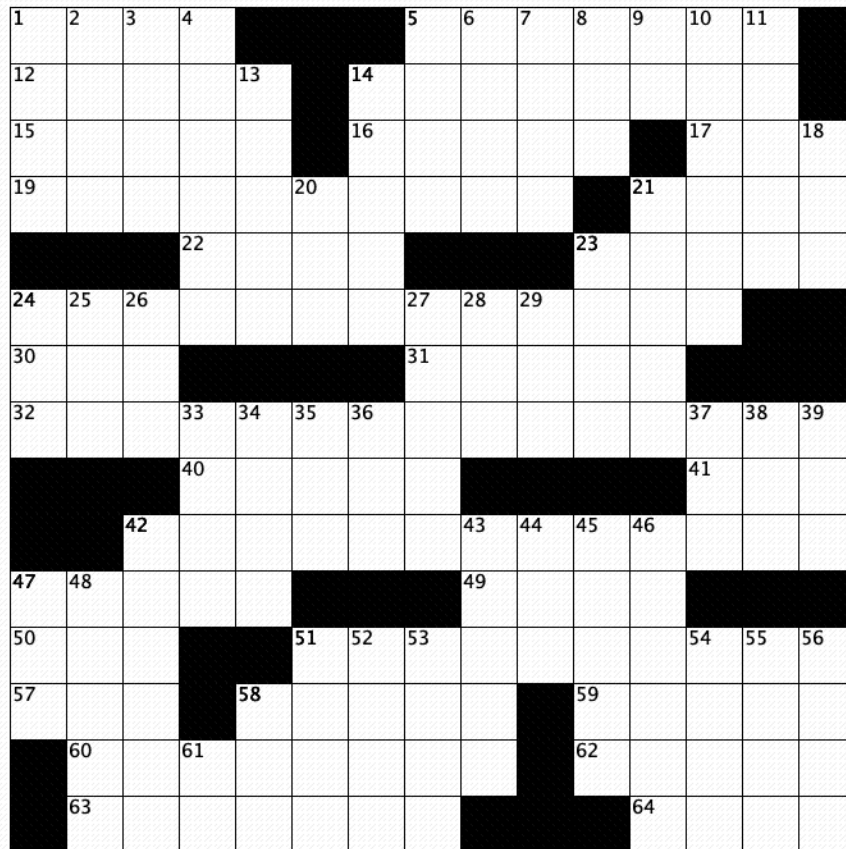


# A CROSSMAS KISS

BY EM HANDY

## ACROSS

1. With adj., prep., and interj.
5. "It's \_\_\_ men!"
12. Matilda star and Cronos' sister/lover
14. The year's newest holiday romance follows Joy Snowfield, an interior \_\_\_ in the big city.
15. Make into law
16. Less old than antique
17. Typical romantic interest in a Hallmark film
19. Her friends call her a \_\_\_, but she's was just putting in the hours to get her big promotion.
21. Country star of WB show by the same name
22. "Does somebody need \_\_\_?" Buddy the Elf quote
23. Dog accessory
24. Unfortunately, due to a surprise winter storm she's trapped in her \_\_\_ where she's been roped into helping her childhood friend set up for the big holiday event.
30. Could be a plane, or a bird, or Superman
31. Downton housekeeper opposite Charlie
32. But she has nothing to wear! No worries, after a shopping trip and \_\_\_ set to music, she found the perfect outfit.
40. Basically a South American raccoon
41. Christopher who was still making heavy metal albums in his 90s
42. Now that they've got the decorations up and she's all dressed, she heads to the town's \_\_\_.
47. Move aside
49. Boo-boo
50. Lendable appendage
51. And who does she find on the dance floor but her childhood friend, suddenly handsome with his hair combed. They share a dance and \_\_\_ but are interrupted when her boss shows up!
57. Roofing element



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58. Might make you jump
  59. Hanukkah, in days
  60. He's here to say he loves her, and will take her back to the city for that big promotion. But just before she got on the plane, she \_\_\_ her true love was actually her childhood friend all along.
  62. Weather, if in a holiday romance movie
  63. \_\_\_ perfect (except Jesus, probably)
  64. Literal Guardians of the Galaxy hero
- DOWN**
1. Pirate ship need
  2. Reaction to "the mail is backed up and your gift might not arrive in time for Christmas!"
  3. Not far
  4. "Hit the \_\_\_ switch" Burton Guster quote
  5. Film storage
  6. Not from the Champagne region, but tastes like it
  7. Text speak for "I think"
  8. Save the Children or Greenpeace, for short
  9. \_\_\_ 'n' Out
  10. Lion killed by Hercules
  11. Remembers, as in keys or wallet
  13. German word for steel, that almost sounds like steel
  14. Game of Thrones Kahl
  18. No, but casually
  20. Response to complete gibberish (or most people's response to the clue for 13-down)
  21. Go from rain to shower, maybe
  23. Something that might be engorged in a romance novel
  24. Total
  25. Artistic distinction, for short
  26. This response can just be the ring gesture
  27. Basis for some raises
  28. Who put Bella in the Wych \_\_\_?
  29. Fictional general
  33. Repeat, as a sound
  34. Distant space cloud
  35. Steve, who played with Zappa
  36. They might fly 30-across
  37. Via
  38. Makes your hair sticky-appy
  39. Sweet sushi sauce
  42. Skeeve FFVII Don
  43. What the cow did yesterday
  44. Heard from the audience during a romantic moment (like the kiss in Shrek)
  45. Wikipedia and Reddit, for two
  46. "\_\_\_, Rewind"
  47. Harden, as a dessert
  48. Scottish terrier
  51. Arguably the worst kind of rain
  52. Sunday afternoons, for some
  53. Packages found in a prepper's bunker
  54. Classic Frankenstein character actually not in the original novel
  55. ə, phonetically
  56. Deadly river
  58. Before -mo
  61. One of six, as seen in many leading in men