

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
LeXman's Cryptic Crossword Page											

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## WORST CHRISTMAS EVER by LeXman

P	A	P	A	S	A	T	A	N	B	L	E
H	E	E	D	O	D	E	V	I	L	U	C
D	T	N	E	N	V	O	I	M	I	C	A
S	U	P	N	A	E	I	L	B	L	I	N
P	I	A	S	T	R	M	A	U	L	F	A
D	S	L	E	A	S	P	S	S	H	E	A
A	A	H	S	A	A	L	E	F	U	R	N
M	T	L	I	A	R	I	R	I	T	Z	Y
N	A	M	E	A	Y	A	P	E	O	A	K
E	N	D	S	R	E	B	E	L	P	P	O
D	N	S	T	O	O	L	N	D	I	S	H
S	A	T	A	N	F	E	T	R	A	I	L

Any time the word “Santa” appears – in a clue or in the grid– the letters are transposed to spell “**SATAN**.”

### Across

1. Father's an expert, taking time with a piece of furniture – PAPA'S + AN + (T) + ABLE
8. Cursed heartless mind – HE[X]ED
11. Satan was returning – DEVIL (R)
13. Closing oven, I snarled – ENVOI \*
14. Two states make isinglass – MI + CA
15. Eat broth with nothing left out – S[O]UP
16. Cruel, losing head over Scot's rejection – NAE[M] (R)
18. Give up first, not finishing Russian crepe – BLIN[K]
19. Pole, like in Satan's home – PI (AS) T
20. Discussed shopping plaza bash – MAUL (“mall”)
21. Landslide covers cable – DSL (H)
23. Famous suicide method: a small pipe – A + S + P
25. A type of butter filling promotes health – SHEA (H)
26. Alternately, Satan has expressions of delight – [S]A[T]A[N] H[A]S
28. No head on pale beer – [P]ALE
30. Run bats for pitcher – URN \*
31. Complain about Satan, for example – LIAR (R)

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33. Snobbish, I try to break up about snoring – RIT (Z) Y \*
35. Satan: a media-embracing celebrity – NAME (H)
36. Copy a letter in Hebrew – A + PE
37. Authorization to take a beech tree – O (A) K
39. Finishes ship, front to back – [S] END (S)
40. Act like Satan and dance around bag – RE (B) EL
41. Chair has too little stuffing – STOOL (H)
42. Talk of the town: head of department is high – D + IS + H
43. Unreliable person — the gutless, portly knight — while heading west on the road to New Mexico – SA + N + TAF + E[H]T + RAIL (R)

## Down

1. Degrees of acidity down South – PH + D + S
2. No part in ring for correspondent – PE (N + P) AL
3. Then Satan brought up instrumental music – SO + NATAS (R)
4. Satan raves, drunk, restrained by a prohibitionist – A D (VERSA \*) RY
5. Left out of a mansion, Teresa's home – A VI[L]LA
6. Bit of fun: I'm busting a cloud – NIMBUS (H)
7. I hear Lucy van Pelt has no truck with Satan – LUCIFER (“Lucy [Van] fur”)
9. Case in perpetuity – ETUI (H)
10. Packed in goldenseal – DENSE (H)
12. God's promise in California: the end to Satan Ana winds – CA + N + AAN\*
17. Satan's little helper: responsible and steadfast – IMP + LIABLE
21. Returned home, angry to be on Satan's naughty list – DAM + NED (R)
22. Carlos' band, like, flipped over new beat, Ace – SA (R) + N + TAN + A
24. Satan shaking present – SERPENT \*
27. Busiest attorney takes midday break – SIESTA (H)
29. Satan has left for new career – FIE[N] (L) D
30. Leading Iowa university comes first — a place you'll never see Satan – U + TOP + IA
32. Discussed Ireland with priest – AARON (“Erin”)
34. The end beginning with an afterthought: shocks – Z + A + P.S.
38. I've heard charred wood is a form of eyeliner – KOHL (“coal”)