D P Z Y X Q V S H C W J F

Guess the words defined by the following clues. The answers vary in length from three to seven letters long and of these, three are capitalized, one is hyphenated and one is a common acronym. The punctuation in the clues may or may not help the solver.

Enter the answers in the grid one after the other starting in the top left corner and in the same order as the clues. Across words that don't end at the rightmost square of the row will continue on the leftmost square of the next row. Similarly, down words that do not end in the bottom square will continue at the top of the next column.

For thirteen squares, the letters from the across and intersecting down words are different. In these cases enter both letters in the square. When the puzzle is properly completed, each letter of the alphabet will be used exactly once in these thirteen squares. You will then be able to use the letter associations from these squares to decode the puzzle title and produce a description of something I relish as a cryptic puzzle compiler.

Across

1. A lot in order to get a song (7)
2. They live in the far east (3)
3. Bundle back with start of night for start of day (4)
4. Coal burning outcome is green in a way, yes (6)
5. Get, coat wrapped around place in the country (7)
6. Start cropping ears and sheaves, end to end (5)
7. Reported gatherings of chickens and rabbits for example (5)
8. Currency of Laos oddly lacking lactate (3)
9. Note refreshments loses clarity (5)
10. She is part gigolo is Ellen (5)
11. Horatio finishing meal hence finally look over (4)
12. Small and mischievous included, self-interest (5)
13. The French, she is surrounded by heartless yodeler and loud talker (6)
14. Take a bushel to Serbia with a pouch (5)
15. Fueled and freed without alternates (3)
16. She changed Dane (4)
17. Return shelter for electric one e.g. (3)
18. Hollow nurse switching first and last (4)
19. Agave is spicily saucy using one hundred for the point (5)
20. Learned but led astray to be entitled to (4)
21. Paltry from the first and last trip into chaos (3-3)
22. Solitary individual enters Liberia! (5)
23. A Welsh flower is grown from that - awesome (4)
24. Reportedly put down more ovules and go away (6)
25. The arena has an appreciation (3)
26. Made, packed, inserted, returned and copied (4)

Down

1. End of note consumed (4)
2. Brusque - always has to give forth a high pitched sound (6)
3. Carbon, deposit about it is of a sexual nature (6)
4. Untie the third axis and hesitate behind storage unit (7)
5. On coming home about Austrian defensive group (4)
6. Lives and disembarks without sighting isolated area (6)
7. Gem, Tina arranges an integument (7)
8. Woody, growth of the establishment reestablished (4)
9. Worldly group gets the final say about being worried (6)
10. Feed half the neophytes, first low land (3)
11. Turn down offer, finally spit out (6)
12. Level with the first tournament (5)
13. Ultimately not here! (5)
14. Sounds like two, fifty and five hundred were informed (4)
15. A headdress, it comes back with article and hawk headed man (5)
16. Disorderly group with disorderly egg, legal but for the French (6)
17. Not cautious and unworthy, without value surrounding the (6)
18. Attends a lecture of the deal (4)
19. Given the bird, up ended gull (4)
20. Keep agitating the dog (4)
21. Actress Laura followed the other person finally (4)
22. Only the odd Croupier can get by (4)
23. Upper part of vault, operate before author (4)
24. Forced payment or forcefully taxed with church (7)