Instructions: In half of the 26 clues an extra letter in the wordplay must "come out" to match the definition. These deleted letters spell an appropriate phrase found in classical literature. In the other half, one letter of the answer word must "come out" before entry in the grid. All grid entries are dictionary entries. Enumerations are withheld. (Deleted letters spell: CALM, STRICT, SLIM, NORM.)


## Across

1 Statuette confused Carson endlessly
5 Fluent rendition of "Blue Love"
10 Tim Taylor ordered number of deaths
11 Fits compactly into cape covering front of tummy
12 Those in top rank get ribs mix cooked
13 Bizarre manticore incineration
15 Take nine laborers to provide shelter
16 French one is extra for men and women

18 Roadside telephone chat initially exaggerated before hug and kiss
20 Share from enterprise
23 Swell engineering start-up sacking head of accounting
25 Noted statistician's screwball persona
26 Pompous speakers in our group having poor posture
27 Companies put in ground supports
28 Absolutely level
29 Boldest pair of saints sheathing withdrawn swords
30 Polished operator introduced to mixed methods
31 Scroungers oddly neglected roadside markers

## Down

1 Kisses man in bed in America
2 Connect center with later revision to edge
3 Poison boiled candies absorbing essence of rum
4 Not quite best to swallow low-calorie cream
5 Roman poet starts to versify in rhyme - great Italian literature
6 Stewed tomato at New York's famous Empire
7 Effeminate may annul arrangement
8 Troubles live above places
9 Abbess expertly covers part of England
14 Make acceptable beginning after ode rewritten twice
17 Gosset perhaps unstated
18 Finish cold scrambled omelet filled with dash of pepper
19 Underground degree posted about me
21 Fix error in return towards the top
22 Unusual scent is what can spoil picnics
23 Leaders hedging half of my funds inadequately
24 Turn in one over allowance
25 Balanced tricky deposit with time running out

