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Across

- 1 Talks incoherently about northern crows (6)
- 5 Fantasy creature found in torch edges away (3)
- 7 Shines after initially gloomy depressions (5)
- 8 Pastry in oddly salted surprise (7)
- 9 Overall, article involves expert (5)
- 10 One comic crazy but successful (8)
- 12 Drive back without a cancellation (6)
- 14 Antelope the French chew badly (6)
- 17 Last month, setter's at English peak (8)
- 18 Unconscious, ruined dreadfully: one's excused (5)
- 20 Des randomly embraced cloak and took off (7)
- 21 Note about right for singing voice (5)
- 22 Scots, oddly, appeal for help (3)
- 23 When is novel fairly novel? (6)

Down

- 2 Gold to signal prompt (7)
- 3 Subject noun logical, but not right (8)
- 4 Ipso facto, concealing couch (4)
- 5 Bird lost without head? Splendid (7)
- 6 Revolutionary embracing Spanish woman's language (7)
- 7 Spirits ignite explosively (without first of TNT) (5)
- 11 One cod swimming in lake is not very good (8)
- 12 Queen goes back, spins and goes back (7)
- 13 Masters jokes about deists regularly (7)
- 15 See comedian incenses regularly (7)
- 16 Chief tree (5)
- 19 Maintains sprints (4)