

Answers to 2021 Christmas Cryptograms

1. They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far
and to the earth it gave great light
and so it continued both day and night.
— early astrogazing
2. When the clock is striking twelve,
When I'm fast asleep,
Down the chimney broad and black,
With your pack you'll creep.
All the stockings you will see
Hanging in a row;
Mine will be the shortest one—
You'll be sure to know.
— instructions for Santa
3. The holly bears a blossom,
As white as lily flow'r,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
To be our dear saviour. — plant song
4. King of Kings (forever and ever hallelujah! Hallelujah!)
And Lord of Lords (forever and ever hallelujah! Hallelujah!)
And He shall reign for ever and ever. — famous chorus
5. It's an interesting fact that, whilst there are numerous individuals who study intelligence—
there are whole departments that are interested in it—if you were to ask yourself what's the
greatest problem facing the world today, I would say it would be stupidity. So we should have
professors of stupidity—it would just be embarrassing to be called the stupid professor.
— David Krakauer
6. The main distinguishing characteristic between a cadaver and a living, thinking, feeling
individual is the flow of energy through the body. — Martin Picard
7. I worked up enough courage in college at Columbia to tell my parents I didn't want to become
a doctor, but not enough to tell them I wanted to be an art historian.
— Roald Hoffmann, a chemist
8. The real difference, then, between a ton of organic soybeans and a ton of conventional
soybeans is the story you can tell about them. — Ian Parker
9. Politics is the art of describing how the world came to be the way it is in such a manner as to
convince people that you know how to make the world the way it ought to be. — Jill Lepore
10. The only person you should compare yourself with is you yesterday. — Chelsea Walton
11. The development of CRISPR-Cas involved hundreds of senior and junior scientists working
in parallel. The quirks of history, multiples, and numerous unexpected antecedents make this
story perfect for one species—lawyers. — Neil Shubin
12. Every history of science is a history both of knowledge produced and of ignorance sustained.
— Naomi Oreskes
13. If you're gonna waste time and not be productive, there are more fun ways to do it than
beating yourself up. — Ellen Eischen