Nemesis by Chalicea

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A rather cocky little fellow who appears in the first row of the grid speaks the words that circle the remainder of the perimeter. He tempts a number of characters who appear as entries in the grid. Solvers must highlight his nemesis.

Across

- 9 Will's equally conforming to law with Latin dropped at the start (6)
- 10 Drink beer regularly excellent! (5)
- 11 Turned over germ cell, beginning of meal for bee-eater genus (6)
- 12 In Reunion, white ordinary soldier primarily treats military uniform (7)
- 13 Draught animal to weed round edges of rows (5)
- 14 Ingredient of varnish that is put back around spacecraft (5)
- 15 King accepted wine essentially: tribute in the past (4)
- 17 Conclusion of hostilities' constant peace following rage (9)
- **19** In Holyrood push Ethiopia's money (4)
- 22 Registers US resorts (not Cuba) (6)
- 24 Is my halo slipping ignoring start of your jokey way of describing addiction? (7)
- 25 Dilapidated almond shrub of wormwood genus (6, two words)
- **27** Subdue spirit of Perth's rather objectionable person (3)
- 28 Talk of queen, say, going round hospital (4)
- 29 Pale greenish part of shrubbery leaves (5)

- 30 Provide with equipment, also almost completely draw back (6, two words)
- 33 Nice friends to be objected to endlessly (4)
- 34 Some cynic advertised a rechargeable battery (5)
- 36 In Perth strips from time to time at library ultimately shameless! (5)
- 37 Maybe sow potatoes in garden for starters (3)
- 38 Persistently follow mean scoundrel (3)
- 39 Wellington's soup of shellfish, cooked hare too (7)

Down

- 1 Brand of clingfilm used up wrapping Rand fruit (6)
- 2 Superficial appearance of German defeat (5)
- **3** Records elevated church tower losing time (6)
- 4 Binomial ABC I sorted out for book-lover (12)
- 5 Sovereign found in child's schoolbag? (5)
- 6 Critical study of former associate workers (6)
- 7 Briefly submerge amphibious vehicle (4)
- 8 Deities arise in tumult (5)
- 10 Curiously listen absorbing essentially merry snicker in Glamis (7)
- 16 Get discussion going about elevated river valley (3)
- **18** Angle to strengthen with an iron plate (4)
- 20 Shoe, we're told, fashionable sure-winner in Kentucky Derby (6))
- 21 Wife, might be one who swallowed a fly (7, two words)
- 22 Wrong pursuing former partner to obtain by coercion (6)
- 23 Salt coating in good, oddly edible Chinese tuber (7)
- 26 Covers spread around (6)
- 29 In Glasgow we polish up local job centre (5)
- **31** Japanese food you'd only sample (4)
- **32** Pale when hot and extremely dry (4)
- 35 Not completely acceptable to speak fondly (3)

To enter this competition, send your entry as an image or in list format giving the shaded nemesis, to ccpuzzles@talktalk.net before 8th November 2022. The first correct entry drawn from the hat will receive a book from the Chambers range, which has been donated by Chambers.