Cryptic Crosswords

Edited by Joshua Kosman and Henri Picciotto

Foreword by WILL SHORTZ

New York Times crossword editor and National Puzzlers' League historian
FOREWORD

Founded in 1883, the National Puzzlers’ League (NPL) is the world’s oldest puzzlers’ organization. Its nearly 500 members (of which I proudly include myself—a member since 1972, as an American Express ad might put it) include many of the country’s leading crossword creators and editors as well as ordinary puzzle enthusiasts who simply love elegant wordplay.

League members are the sort of people who appreciate the fact that the phrase THE PIANO BENCH can be anagrammed into the topical BENEATH CHOPIN; that MOUNT ST. HELENS can be redivided, without changing the order of the letters, to spell MOUNTS THE LENS; and that if all the T’s are removed from STUTTGART, the remaining letters spell SUGAR.

The NPL publishes a monthly magazine, The Enigma, composed mainly of word puzzles in verse that are contributed gratis by members. The answers to these puzzles are bits of wordplay like the above. There is also an annual convention devoted to word puzzles and games.

Not surprisingly, given their proclivities, League members tend to be big fans of cryptic crosswords—especially the challenging, themed kind, with barred grids, like those pioneered in England and published in these parts in The Atlantic and Harper’s magazines. Every month, The Enigma prints one, two, or even three cryptic crosswords—original, inventive, sometimes breathtakingly ingenious feats of verbal legerdemain. Often these are the most popular parts of the entire magazine.

Now, for the first time, 45 of these crosswords have been collected in book form. They were selected and reedited for this volume by the cryptic crossword editors of The Enigma, Joshua Kosman and Henri Picciotto. In their regular lives, Joshua is the classical music critic for the San Francisco Chronicle; Henri is a math teacher and chairman of the Mathematics Department at the Urban School of San Francisco.

I don’t think you’ll find better cryptic crosswords anywhere.

For more information about the NPL, please visit our Web site, www.puzzlers.org. There you can find an article on how to solve cryptic crosswords, as well as information on how to join the League and start to receive The Enigma.

Meanwhile, happy solving!

—Will Shortz, NPL Historian
A NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

In this book, we have assembled a sampling of the hundreds of cryptic crosswords that have appeared in The Enigma over the past 20 years. They range from straightforward themeless crosswords to daring and unorthodox creations, and they are presented here roughly in order of difficulty.

For the most part, these puzzles observe the same conventions you'll find in play in other American cryptics. The main difference is our treatment of obscure words and usages. Our standard reference is Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Eleventh Edition, and any word, usage, or abbreviation contained in it—whether or not a typical solver would regard it as familiar—is considered fair game. Puzzles may also include words that are not in the Collegiate, typically names from contemporary culture or coinages and inflected forms. In addition, a few words that are neither familiar nor in the Collegiate can be found in Webster's Second (or Third) New International Dictionary, Unabridged. Those clues are marked with N12 or N13, respectively. One or both of those dictionaries should be available at most libraries.

The other curiosity you'll notice is that the puzzles are signed with pseudonyms. This is an old NPL tradition that puts all puzzlers on an equal footing, irrespective of age or social status. In this book, we have added the real names of the constructors in parentheses.

As Will mentioned, the NPL gathers each July for a convention in a different city. Several of the puzzles included here were originally created for those occasions, with themes reflecting the convention locations.

We hope you have as much fun solving these puzzles as we did putting them together.

—Hot and Trazom (Henri Picciotto and Joshua Kosman)
ACROSS
1 Dad turned and left eating Prune Duds (7)
5 Grant brought in Bill’s notebooks (7)
9 Stitch Colin’s cap and apron (5)
10 Clearly defines groom: “son-in-law stealing daughter” (9, 2 wds.)
11 Truly poor team might ultimately change for the better (9)
12 Criminal finally exposes hideouts (5)
13 Chat with one leader of Enterprise pursuing flying saucer (8)
14 Overhear casual sounds coming from a monastery, perhaps (6)
17 Veggie is kind of cool? (6)
19 Dotty, a girl, translated lyric poem (8)
23 Remove the lead from dog? Good point (5)
25 Fanny! Grip damaged kitchen utensil (9, 2 wds.)
26 Voter runs off with pastries (9)
27 Share some muesli cereal (5)
28 Most adventurous, remains hidden in vacant resort (7)
29 Staid stranger enters steamship with cruel people (7)

DOWN
1 Old rocking chair placed in empty attic (7)
2 Piano behind gold table (7)
3 Expedition engineer dines, stuffing buffet’s . . . (9)
4 . . . baloney sandwiches in German underwear (8)
5 Sad son wearing old hat (6)
6 Herb returned during Israeli Sabbath (5)
7 Send up one big book, Playing with Feeling (7)
8 Good filling falls from Grace’s cavities (7)
15 Horse and mongrel died? Tough (9, hyph.)
16 Fresh clay and bit of potash help orchids (8)
17 He sells lots of genuine applesauce from the South (7)
18 Quits final courses in speech (7)
20 Fish beginning to gobble up tarts (7)
21 Lady at home studies trees (7)
22 Peculiar fact about iron’s influence (6)
24 Find stray dogs Tuesday (5)
ACROSS

1 Twinings tea merchant carries a soft-shell clam (7)
5 Stuck with bad, bad bets (7)
9 But lo! A lover’s promises! (5)
10 Can larvae weave a cape? (9)
11 What pulls de plow across de field? A critic (9)
12 Father Christmas frustrated tsarina, skipping Rhode Island (5)
13 Refrain from singing! Our traveling north led back to a highway exit (9)
15 Foolhardy cigar end (cigar end?) (4)
17 Ebbing ocean waters make changes (4)
19 Shortly, Tabatha will eat cake topless and lose her shirt (9, 3 wds.)
23 Six greeting summer’s end at square—one sign of the end of summer (5)
24 It confuses the hissing of water in air, the first breath of earth, the crackling of fire (9)
26 Rearrange, rearrange ram’s front (9)
27 Galloped? No, lass rode slower than a gallop! (5)
28 Trade me ground beef, for example (7, 2 wds.)
29 Those who wear a crown or left Yalta without a “yes” (7)

DOWN

1 Color street and a road (8)
2 Party amid seventy (5)
3 Phooey! Add up a spice (7)
4 Narration is right: it was caught in tie-up (7)
5 Evildoer and Sol discussed working together (7)
6 Counselor appears in D.A.’s voir dire (7)
7 Water by Alaska’s shore disorients Abe Singer (9, 2 wds.)
8 United States currency (C-note) reversed short rally (6)
14 Dude ran NH poorly, so no one would notice (9)
16 Hurt? Sad? Confused? Cosby’s finale was on NBC’s big night (8)
18 Roll of film from 1982 (7)
19 All of France embraces me after one moment, between plays (7, hyph.)
20 Debate money at the boundary of a region in dispute by India and Pakistan (7)
21 1, \( x_i \), \( \forall y - f \). Or, how one traverses the Cartesian plane due north, for example (7)
22 Divine incarnation (actress Gardner) accompanies sailor (6)
25 Urge noted architect to go fifty-for-one (5)
THE KEYMASTER

by Jangler (Jeffrey Harris)

The title of this cryptic suggests 16-Across, a famous literary figure created by 30-Across. Accordingly, six answers must be modified before their entry into the grid, always forming new words. If you are unsure of how to modify the answers, just take the 16-Across.

ACROSS
1 Flexible enemy surrounds little lady with bad back
5 Impatient, without second cheer
8 Shaping two blemishes without error
11 Three digits reach endlessly in a poem (2 wds.)
12 Formerly misshapen cone
14 Reportedly distributed liquors during period of inactivity
15 Snitch from east end of Florida town (2 wds.)
16 See instructions
21 Shaq switching sizes at early-morning hour (2 wds.)
23 Relax, rebuild low condo (2 wds.)
26 Scandinavian airline circles English bodies of water
27 3/4 of mint piece is ground up for meat dish (2 wds.)
28 Lord, she botched containers
29 Mature, wise, without trace of selfishness
30 See instructions

DOWN
1 Transmit information orally
2 Secret is able to be hidden in a note
3 “Throw goes up on first of December,” editor emphasized
4 Cartoonist Gary ripping on Swedish guy
5 Rollicking prom is a good time
6 Spots that man leaving lavatories
7 The lady’s relationship’s beginning with German man
8 Extinct bird in bottomless trench
9 Main tool essentially for digging
10 Representative tossing out a man
13 Relative’s company using curtailment
16 High-end shop remodeled
17 Burn singular department store?
18 Madame Bovary is from Salem, Massachusetts
19 Top-quality dancing on A&E (hyph.)
20 Trinket, originally small and quaint
22 Girl left out donkey
23 Magician holds back smoke
24 Section of unprofitable radio network
25 Most prominent of buzzers, we hear!
IN AND OUT

by Kegler (Ron Sweet)

Eleven Across entries and eleven Down entries change, one way or the other, according to the phrase at 28-Across.

ACROSS
1 Teacher’s pet initially in favor of coming back
5 Gustav is originally holding eyeshade
11 Spooner’s very long about-face (hyph.)
12 Leading man’s long lunch?
13 Tear off edges of paper copy
14 Age (about six) starting to take importance
15 Exercise put back after Jose’s agreement
17 Zadora’s swallowing sample of Turkish flat breads
18 Lie about Whitney
19 Jumped up and talked to the cops about case of pursuer
20 Mark Fink accepted by Southern California church
22 The night before, Santa, at heart, is all tied up
24 Tenth small bird he’s following
27 Desires approval to keep newborn, at first
28 See instructions
30 Small, cold predator’s unpleasant expression
32 Woman’s cloak giving heat, it’s said
34 Gets there as cheer erupts
37 One not crazily digging
39 Limited expression of disgust involving minor criticism
40 Fade away in movie’s last shot
42 Hot foreign nurse’s sharply-pointed protuberance
44 Feels compassion for ones taking heroin
45 Resistance unit starts to oppose Her Majesty
46 Go around with our vacuous theatrical routine
47 Spot Oxford tutor’s optional item (hyph.)
48 Heading back inside, felt it busting

DOWN
1 Back up large stones for preachers’ perches
2 Sour bananas belonging to us

3 Nation’s flyers primarily operated empty Concorde
4 Turn over gun left inside crumpled tin
5 Clever youngster hides, to a great extent
6 Agency broadcasts after the 1st
7 Course is wet around middle of January
8 I’m with the media, and I have remarkable . . .
9 ... reference work describing author, made accessible
10 Held sway, and fell audibly
14 One appearing in Gilbert & Sullivan riot
16 Towns covering couple of avenue’s potholes
21 Complain about essentially useless salad ingredient
23 Reportedly digs Grand Canyon transports
25 Great sacrifice of Roman statesman, surrounded by fringe mob at the end
26 Thoughtful writer embraces drunk
29 One heartless orc’s keeper of the rings, in short?
31 Surprising new hit, “Bleach”
33 Stand-ins for certain ships
35 Starts to use Nadia Comenici as promoter for Open
36 Again modifies dieters’ spread
38 Starting to bother Lincoln’s young one
39 Great deal: $5 down
41 Trace captures one ultimately exhausted robber
43 Dry out evenly, or spoil
ACROSS
1 Split payment
7 Following me, cry miserably for forgiveness
9 Liverpool’s greatest rock legends
10 Unclothed wench dons backward slip and drawers?
11 Renaissance man traveling alone by road, on without end
12 Criticize god
15 Called auction in tiny room
16 Dotty is good and wet
17 Letters from Garbo ostensibly provide a lift
21 Tanned and bored, wandering around New Zealand
23 Spell “always” backwards, captivating Yale student
25 Newest arrangement captivates drummer
26 Doctor on call concerned with genetically identical organisms
28 Fellow actor, heading west, has gone
31 Middle Earth’s first alien encounter
32 Arrange song for flatworms
33 Exit point for theatrical no-show
34 One who decorates cakes with wild rice
35 It’s made into “leaf”, “leave”, “left”, and “lastly”
36 Ken collapsed during endless drunken revel, having a corrupting influence

DOWN
1 Discuss a financial record with one bringing charges
2 “The Raven”’s author? True!
3 Dwelling likely to house crafty folk?
4 Ending of verb—for example, “plead”
5 Induce admiration of audience after finale
6 Raised fuss about semi-glossy hybrid cats
7 Punch bowl shattered
8 Joker holds one can, hesitating
10 Artist’s anguish and terror reduced by half
13 Pathetic character’s roles rewritten
14 Bill and Al overturned drum
17 Poor Lola is surrounded by doctors’ bills
18 Form of oxygen I found beneath wizard’s land
19 Tire runs over excellent lace again
20 Tear up a jerk like Blackbeard
22 Crosby traps bird for sport
24 After six, lion rampages—it’s high-strung?
25 Greek character goes inside to eat Total (2 wds.)
26 Sound of a chain gang before week’s end
27 Hit elk’s head in bar
29 Decent exhibition
30 End up with god in France
All clue answers are either five or six letters long. Each row and column consists of three of these answers: a five-letter word between two six-letter words, each of which it overlaps by two letters. The clues are listed in alphabetical order of their answers. Either of the two possible grid orientations is acceptable.
Each numbered clue consists of clues for both words in that row or column. Either clue may be first, or one may be nested within the other. The clues need not make surface sense when separated.

ACROSS
1 Returning refreshed from exercising, I gave in to Dr. Margaret Stone (11) (3)
2 Topless aviatrix from near Hartford free to accept lopsided defeat and change course (7)
3 Concerned with extra shellfish having garbage smell, head of operations left plant (5) (9)
4 A highlander’s rapid decline, it’s plain, involved English village (8) (5)
5 Elitists’ cries about Mondrian’s latest grew from alteration of pure dots (5) (8)
6 Jumbled archive contains Pullman’s second and third letters concerning cars—or contains the alternative (9) (5)
7 Strangely, bees can lack self-reproach about code name (7) (7)
8 Medical researchers chime, “Boss, it destroyed hearing component!” (3) (11)

DOWN
1 Annoy Ms. Hayworth during complicated rite, showing repugnance in one stanza (8) (6)
2 Mr. Simpson, aviator, in novel twist, is a big hit? (9) (5)
3 Argentine cowboys cough as unstable krypton behind air conditioner infects fellow in massage (7) (7)
4 Gore (born Edward) to finally change to richer oratory, providing degree of reflection (8) (6)
5 Drive near expert immersed in detailed Indian carving of feet (6, 2 wds.) (8)
6 First of pugilists ejected from shortened fight before channels roll credits (Japanese wrestling tailless marsupial) (7) (7)
7 Waste of a gun shot? Nothing is better than destroying tin houses (5) (9)
8 Mr. Brooks swallows your archaic kind of alcohol without any scent of rotten old roses (6) (8)
MYSTERY AUTHOR

by Anomaly (Roger Barkan)

To be perfectly honest, I didn’t actually write most of this puzzle; my 21-Across did. He even altered 10 of the clue answers before putting them in the grid (in each case forming a new word or phrase) and then stole all the enumerations to cover his tracks, that mischievous fella! Next time I’m writing my own puzzle . . .

ACROSS

1 Touched, was concerned about lisper’s problem
10 It’s obvious Cabinet department did an about-face
11 Black dresses almost all ready for stores
12 Prohibition capture recalled
16 Seek fresh, true trapshooting
17 Snack ruined coat
18 The enemies, at heart!
20 Network shows, over and over
21 See instructions
24 The Lord, full of love, is kind
25 Hawthorne character guillotined nobleman
27 According to an auditor, I am in debt to a state
30 In essence, strikeout!
32 I need a cryptic! (It’s a long story . . .)
33 Cut Ray, a lousy Met Life employee
34 My railroad initially harbored a famous gift
35 Mix in gum ere egg white preparation

4 Polish applicant is one who regrets getting shot
5 Dutch product is constructed backward
6 The captivating professional returned as “Outstanding Athlete of the 20th Century”
7 At Kiwi’s head, a parrot!
8 Road ending in cul-de-sacked burrow
9 Frequently distribute things to the audience (2 wds.)
13 Take plastic tree
14 Perform lines or funk
15 Light ties seen on Father
16 Mark time in a letter
19 A trifle addled, I. (I’m a nut!)
21 Former Vice-President Pierce
22 Vagrant has no British associate
23 Bicycle made by T&M
26 Crazy, wicked cool
28 Used to be a type of wolf?
29 Divorcee’s payments removing any sign of luxury
30 At first, babies are naked
31 Rhinoceros beetle found in Guangdong [NI2, NI3]
FAMILY RELATIONS

by Quiz (David Ellis Dickerson)

For each of the nine unclued entries, delete one letter and anagram the remainder. The resulting nine words will all be related, and the deleted letters can be arranged to spell the category that the modified words belong to. Unchecked letters in the unclued entries can be rearranged to spell the otherwise inapposite NICE CAMELS' FURS.

ACROSS

1 Something funny—rat failing to get old on the outside (8)
7 Mixed foot in Mallarmé’s poetry? (4)
11 Relative is said to feed the kitty (4)
12 By Tuesday, Rocky Rand shows northern region of land (6)
13 In Cairo, nerd is one who’s decreasing? (6)
14 Name the fifth historical period (4)
17 Rig flipped coins with no head (4)
19 Cards containing unsatisfactory protection devices? (4)
21 On return, feed lady (4)
22 Wild red cat put in a box (6)
23 Kilts, e.g., placed inside, by the way (6)
25 Almost arrested Indian woman of note (4)
26 Sleeping on a ship is unsound with a big block of ice around (8)
27 More daring mesh gets stripped, revealing underwear (10)
28 Eyes seats for bishops (4)
29 More stable guide acquires foreign aid (8)

DOWN

2 At the middle of railroad, spot a detection device (5)
3 In review, critic cuts part for actor/director Stanley (5)
4 Weaker judge keeps perjurer coming up (7)
5 Nervous informants—yellowbellies, at heart (5)
6 Asian alto in a cast (7)
8 Before me, having rebuffed Texas radical (7)
9 Most boring in audience interrupting wittiest (9)
10 Mystic fed Tut a kind of titmouse (6)
15 Most Communist leftovers divided about Ike? (7)
16 Fighting force from Michigan guided Iowa (7)
18 Get upset about the ninth rejected medical concoction (6)
20 Moves, packing article in flight (6)
24 Gift recipient is over-eager, at first (5)
10 RISE TO POWER

by Jangler (Jeffrey Harris)

Words in this grid go across and down, with no unchecked letters. Words in each row are clued in random order, but the column clues are in order for each column. In addition, several of the clues are an odd form of double definition, in which the first half defines a word and the second half defines another word formed from the first by adding or deleting a letter; for instance, “Girl crazy” could lead to MAID and MAD. The longer word should be entered in the grid. If the double-definition is an Across clue, circle the extra letter in black. If it is a Down clue, circle the extra letter in red.

The top and bottom rows are unclued. The bottom row explains the situation, and the top row gives you more specific information. The last letters of the double-definition Across clues, in clue order, tell who you are, and the circled letters, read from bottom to top, tell what you will become.

ACROSS

2 Gosh, in retrospect, it’s 500 years of living
   Like a pond dweller
3 Stableman holds back Nellie
   Royal leader I had unburdened
4 Callas, without hint of modesty, produced
   Operatic solo
   Actress Gwyn’s angle
5 Draw around little piece of the floor
   Touched fabric
6 “Smooth Operator” singer is sexy girl in a
   Beatles ballad
   Put down Kenneth
7 Discussed one in pain in Israeli city
   The French alias: not one let out information

DOWN

1 Starch, club soda: remove dirt and trace of mud
   Roberta Flack owns insurance company
2 Cheer Leo wildly
   Get to run on empty next to a church
3 Essentially, bug likes fruit
   Really, really involving musical instrument
4 Moroccan city has a vampire, e.g.? Right on
   Dry financial overseer
5 “Name, rank, and statistical number”
   Actor Peter—false? No, true! Do tell
6 Monster’s Ball next to “Greed,” not “Ed”
   Nice thought—put tag on empty envelope
7 Virginia . . . Illinois . . . Colorado resort
   Deceiver flipped bird
8 Announcer Hall initially emulates Dr. Demento
   Iacocca’s green vegetables
In the busy crisscross grid that is Manhattan, seclusion is a rare thing. Several letters in this grid, however, have each achieved all-encompassing seclusion with the aid of another letter. If you read the secluded letters from left to right, and then the secluding letters from top to bottom, you will find the name of a place in Manhattan (recommended in all the tourist guides, and by me too) whose very name implies seclusion. The top and bottom rows of the grid may help too—they will tell you what lines to think along.

**ACROSS**
1. Lunatic honks, “I’m ascetic” (7)
5. Maintain navy’s harbors (6)
10. Laurel would stay (5)
11. Listerine dissolved elastic (9)
12. Seizing back-rests hiding small rat (12)
15. Dark gold $\Phi$s start to multiply, being of two kinds (10)
18. Also grabs tail of East Kansan dog (4)
20. Head of the French (and, secondarily, Belgians)! (4)
21. Remark after sneeze ruined suede thing (10)
23. Green types disguised crews as trees (12)
28. One surface of parchment she’s filed incorrectly (9, 2 wds.) [N12, N13]
29. Delete *Time*’s error (5)
30. About speck far away (6)
31. They exhibit mothers obtaining employment (7)

**DOWN**
1. Stuck describing South Carolina and its attributes inaccurately (10)
2. Sleep overcomes current civil rights organization (5, abbr.)
3. Attempt to support Asian flower business (8)
4. Rain goes into pipes till Dobbin steps on one (9)
6. Sick little sloth? (6)
7. Paradise is online recreational area? (4)
8. View noisy place (4)
9. One sibling of a goddess (4)
13. Lug around tribal symbol endlessly (4)
14. Bad versifiers are those who sample *The Raven*? (10)
16. Dole and Armour products, perhaps in your mouth (4)
17. Abridged reference work with 500 pages describing dairy product (9, 2 wds.)
19. Dull editors will assume set is from *El Cid* (8)
22. Was with Truman initially in West Coast college, briefly (6, 2 wds.)
24. Go and be less short (4)
25. Faun’s terrible confusion (5)
26. A soaring group of aeroplanes in the distance (4)
27. Spoken line is to appear (4)
Six of the answers must be changed into new words before entry into the diagram. The unclued entry at 22-Across explains how.

ACROSS
1 Miracle worker has that lust around actress	Thurman
11 Wrong, bleak, unfortunately like the Titanic
12 Formerly running about with energy
13 List after list is turnable
14 Grant finish to pained outcry
15 Poet returns for olive
16 Bambi, for example, is expensive, we hear
22 See instructions
24 Article lies strangely in bridal path
26 Boat follows dolphin’s lead out of the sun
28 Following wrestling triumph, Ike’s upset with little fingers
30 I think consequence is in Michigan tribe
32 Returning inside, Valdez is revolting, larger than life?
34 Former attorney general’s city
35 Svelte leader is cogitating
36 Mix ground-up seed Louganis consumed

DOWN
2 Noah’s son, the bad actor
3 Mr. Lincoln died under the sheets
4 I objectively start to wonder about no spiteful remark
5 Surprising Nina’s ghost, I scattered
6 Pioneer from Brazil later relocated
7 Extremist hiding in “Soul Train”
8 Fishing gear involves a way
9 Story arises around start of cheap publicity
10 Spilled beer on fine shoe
11 Unusually kind Les moved provocatively
17 Lucky number has no limits the night before
18 One way, it’s air; the other, it’s water
20 After victory with high card, Ed briefly closed an eye
21 By way of vessel, mostly . . .
22 . . . one thousand left to bring in goods
23 Was Satan returning?
25 Is Grafton to publish?
27 Twisting sharply, Jack at last gets heartless idea
29 Hit signs for Royals starter involved in call for help
30 Dole saw end of race
31 Solo males abandoning former Soviet republic
33 After 22-Down, this worker becomes meaningful
THE FOUR SEASONS

by Trazom (Joshua Kosman)

The forty clue answers have been divided equally among the four seasons. Ten answers celebrate spring by sprouting an extra letter before entering the diagram; ten more mark the fall by shedding one letter; ten answers, having succumbed to midsummer madness, enter the diagram in mixed order; and the remaining ten answers, frozen solid by winter weather, enter the diagram as is.

ACROSS
1 Review winter plaything, encompassing four seasons
6 Send back odd liquor with complaint
11 Sea creature devoured (swallowed) by staff—excellent!
13 Loud spectacle witnessed
14 Unearthly charm is a special magnetism
15 More theatrical celebrity takes lead in Grease at one evening’s opening
16 Run away to the west, east, north, or south
17 In brief, that man is southeastern German writer
18 Investigated sound of many lions
22 Admits tinsel is tawdry (2 wds.)
25 Point right at free bananas
28 Unquestionably, Yale is deteriorating
30 Make up a character
32 Drunken cleric’s group of acquaintances
33 Belgrade native, with German, recalled sound qualities
35 Jerk, for one, maintains a regressive, sick flirtation
36 Middle Eastern group originally distributed lumber
37 Carbon copy stored near hall closet, for example
38 American poet keeps calm in streets
39 Operatic heroine is almost more ancient

DOWN
1 Irrational hatred over first of severe shortages
2 Frost poem
3 Shavers in tattered coats
4 Broken cane is provided (2 wds.)
5 Woodsman called for beer
7 Employer’s complicated ruse
8 Earthier bit of lewdness in off-color satire
9 Amid dissonant tunes, Beethoven’s Ninth is never dispatched
10 Does “rising” ultimately imply sounding like a saxophone?
12 Fear megabyte loss in corner
19 Wind up engraving and drawing in paint, practically
20 According to some, Hillary and Bill are corrupt
21 Judge chopped up piece of eggplant
23 Actor, i.e., distributed dirty pictures
24 Construe one-tenth of centimeter as vast distance
26 Heavenly body got me in bed
27 Misleading sound bites, left on the shelf . . .
29 . . . deserve no hearing at first
31 In Africa, banter about Asian summers?
34 Beautiful girl sounding alarm
14 LOST IN TRANSLATION

by Gabby (Craig Kasper)

This puzzle, constructed in Winnipeg, has been adapted for an American solving audience.

ACROSS

4 Break off return of cookware
10 Make indistinct write-up less lengthy
13 Like ancient law, it’s composed of little pieces
15 Scare or upset trotter
16 Starr gets great review in historical epic
18 Club shelters type that’s exploited
20 Jerk with whirlpool’s mean at the outset
21 Break off return of cookware
23 Listen—it’s harsh without victory (2 wds.)
24 In movie, refuse knight’s returning long, long ago
28 Sloven lad developed extra weight around the middle (2 wds.)
34 Rue taking off first for crane
38 How about first making food?
40 One crazy about past comments
42 Lessor’s rent failures
43 Drop in—Cher is alluring (hyph.)
44 Brave wife’s mother (hal!) reserving hotel
45 Holler about getting taken in by fraud
46 “Fit” isn’t “unfit”
47 Purpose for wine

DOWN

1 Returning with submarines, takes on surprise attack
2 Pro also is shot
3 Quick? A person who’s not so quick
5 Trusses hogs? (2 wds.)
6 Mary, in a depression, going up to Egyptian attraction
7 Chichi, wild satyr
8 Letter: “Got a leg up on mother”
9 Cads I disfigured with corrosive compounds
10 More intrepid-looking person
11 Taken advantage of by American editor
12 Cash in on recall?
14 Point in California with smut (2 wds.)
17 Vice-presidents, one’s assuming!
19 Reaching a joint in Newark neighborhood (hyph.)
22 Loves high grade CDs?
25 Kiss, getting into boys (they’re easy to get into) (hyph.)
26 Chief of detectives stifling hesitation
27 Domains of true woman, married or not
29 Impassioned air enthralls me
30 Comic kitsch!
31 Highlander’s subject: bunk
32 Accordingly, understand touchy one
33 Throng raised man’s penetrating maxims
35 Experienced soldier missing European victory in Mideastern city
36 Desire one expression of surprise
37 Peruvian’s unopened food container
39 Company in the money
41 Excuse me and that guy in the morning
15 POLITICAL MAZE

by Quiz (David Ellis Dickerson)

Words are entered in two ways: as Across entries (two per row), and along the path of tunnels, which starts in the upper left and ends in the lower right. Tunnel words are given in sequence; so are the Across entries, but there are also three unclued Across entries whose placement must be determined. They are all proper nouns with a shared quality appropriate for this puzzle.

ACROSS

a Greek character invested in intended protein
b European capital's symmetrical hill
c Eldest prophet going back for Pee Wee
d Streetcar wandering most of the way
e Mast has fouled, creating difficulties getting wind
f Grandma's ampoule contains port once found in Korea [N12]
g Biting a punk
h Quarrel provided in the middle of task force
i Confessor awarded spoils
j Found eroded grinding stone
k Edited weird magazine
l Tries uncovered ruins
m Greek and Hun set free
n For example, royal demand announced
o Entirely famous letter signed at the center of a table in a church (hyph.)
p Broth I'm stirring clogs
q You discussed article
r Wading birds disheartened egg-laying fish

TUNNEL

1 German bill shows halo on gospel writer (7)
2 During calypso, assuage thigh muscle (5) [N12, N13]
3 Polecat’s feminine urge (5)
4 Bite mother sustained near tree returned antibiotic (8)
5 American poet's station wagon is past traffic congestion (9, 2 wds.)
6 Reportedly collected nuts on the ground (4)
7 Laughter from a ditch (4, hyph.)
8 Heard safe way to prepare eggs (5)
9 One’s allotted shares of sorrows (5)
10 Former dictator endlessly taking risks (4)
11 Sad time with madder relative (5)
12 Apostasy taking top off in area of church (4)
13 Run inside, save Lancaster (4)
14 Second cloud of dust after the first (5)
15 Commentary from Marge Wilder, author (6)
16 Apply to take on matter most threadbare (6)
17 Reporter Bob returns, dropping old name in reduction (8)
18 Lip, thighs moving: this signals danger (9)
19 Bo-peep, e.g., and her strawberry roan returned (6)
20 Goddess A&E covered that one time (6)
21 Segovia snared skylarks (6)
BAKER’S DOZEN
THEME & VARIATIONS

by Trazom (Joshua Kosman)

The 13 unclued entries comprise three related theme-words, three variations on each theme-word—and one extra variation that fit so serendipitously into two groups that I couldn’t resist tossing it into the grid.

ACROSS
1 Theme-Word A (5)
5 Variation on Theme-Word A (8)
12 Repeated revolutionary ode: Che (6)
14 Rush west ahead of easterly traffic (5)
15 Imagined surreal red mat (6)
16 Teacher returned unsatisfactory toupee (4)
17 False leg creates controversy (4)
19 A bit of money invested in equal opportunity (4)
20 Variation on Theme-Word A (6)
22 Pathetic loser functions (5)
23 Pale and somewhat short (4)
24 Plain English sculptor (5)
26 Takes home baskets (4)
28 Warren Beatty film featuring no tears (5)
30 Corkscrew trouble (4)
33 Protecting egg, our group displays talent and poise, for instance (5)
36 Feast loudly, with some force (4)
38 Depart during author’s departure (5)
39 Vessels traveling in reverse along Great Road (6)
41 Spots crucial point during nap (4)
43 More than 5,000 feet squashed lime (4)
45 Hustler and Oui, e.g., do sadomasochism primarily (4)
46 Trace back family to father and ancient primate (6, hyph.)
47 Variation on Theme-Word B (5)
48 Variation on Theme-Word C (6)
49 Novelist unwound near Nice (8, 2 wds.)
50 Demure refusal expressed in common language (5)

DOWN
1 Sue catches lady with Ian Fleming (7)
2 Goddamn cue cards got mixed up (8)
3 Variation on Theme-Word C (6)
4 Geek heads off, not even recognizing dweeb (4)
6 Finally stripped together (5, 2 wds.)
7 Theme-Word C (6)
8 Variation on Theme-Word C (6)
9 Female leader in Italy (one born in August, probably) is native of Pisa (7)
10 Cheese is invented?? (4)
11 Youngest sheep found in New Testament (6)
13 Damage restaurant building in Delaware (6)
18 Drunk tips or cheers (6)
21 Variation on Theme-Word A (6)
25 Carol Reed recited stanza (8)
27 Spread it out in school payments (7)
29 Variation on Theme-Word B (6, hyph.)
31 Theme-Word B (7)
32 Variation on Theme-Word B or Theme-Word C (6) [NI2, NI3]
34 Around lake, fond teens cuddle (6)
35 Asian city is highly aggressive, by the sound of it (6)
37 Violent enemy dominating Israeli Arab (6)
40 In Fiesole, I concocted type of acid (5)
42 Press club (4)
44 Variation on Theme-Word B (4)
17 SECRET AGENT MAN

by Spelvin (Dan Katz)
(from the Boston convention)

Welcome to Massachusetts. I'm afraid there's no time for fun and games. One of the region's most respected secret agents has enlisted you for a crucial mission. He is currently traveling incognito, but he has left you twenty transmissions, alphabetized and then encoded with a simple substitution cipher (Code A). Eighteen of these transmissions are the three-letter grid entries; the other two reveal the agent's identity.

In addition, some of the entries will not fit into the grid until you apply a second, more appropriate secret code (Code B). When you're finished, applying Code B to the clues for the affected entries will reveal the name of this covert operation. Good luck. This cryptic will self-destruct in five seconds.

ACROSS
1 “Stop crusades” is thesis's essence
5 Disoriented, ma riffs and testifies
10 Nag loveless talk show host on the way back
11 Be near gold flame
12 Maniacal Rod cleans draining utensils
13 Mick with a band in fast club
15 Fragile resident in class is more spasmodic
17 “Cold drink is failure,” snarled paper
21 Soaks, drifting in a stream
23 Sound of concern mustered shivering for thirty seconds (hyp.)
24 Disgusting rancid eel—one like Björk
25 Know-it-all unpredictably wears ice
27 Redefine “heartless” for Descartes
29 Peaceful person takes excellent shower with stupid one
33 Adolescents? Yes, very small
36 Scattered light ore?!?
38 “Rip Torn Week”: rerun for British broadcaster
39 Grain-based import is popular, penetrating Florida and Iowa
40 Choir member has total breakdown, losing shirt
41 Inner root of unappetizing vegan staple
42 Is kneed roughly, creating wound
43 California team delivered agreement

DOWN
1 Revolutionary dealt with unstimulating beverage
2 Hoard includes new article: ceramic dishes
3 I would engineer notation in Paris
4 Eccentrically sharpen large pieces of mine
6 Rye, if shaken, is full of spirit
7 Yes, “Loser” singer’s heard goat
8 Studious inquiry about “burn child”
9 Prosecutor lies in sun in African country
14 Keel repaired with money from Albania
15 Theodore Roosevelt cares about followers
16 Insensitive hobo in tatters, holding title of a knight, flipped
18 Rip up clothing on Mr. Cummings, a trailblazer
19 Tree remains turgid, initially immersed in cesspool
20 Bizarre cops won, nearly exhausted
22 Composer is blue, is lost
26 Drunk cannot see Asian cuisine
28 “Become ill” is not applicable; employ “put away”
30 Glendale estate partially protected from wind
31 Series follows Crazy Aunt Allison and Charlie
32 Chicago Hope actor at home, beneath shelter
34 Fermenter is positive, votes “true”
35 Federation counselor quashed riot
37 Green card distributor apprehends unknown musicians from Australia

THE AGENT: ___________

THE OPERATION: ___________
24-Across is illegal, but sometimes necessary (to fill the diagram, for example).

**ACROSS**
1. Writer’s pony found within confines of stable
6. Actress is with-it and smart
12. Speaker blasted other resistance
14. Cad decapitated flower
15. Climb a pole with Buddhist sect
16. Instill order amid receding prison melees
18. President talked about in bits
19. Zip past California in northern country
21. X times E
22. In Broadway play, Rose’s sweetheart shed skin from infectious disease
24. See instructions
27. Essence of each, individual by individual
28. Challenge non-standard lexicon
29. On the water, oars relax alternately
30. Discharge one relocating to lead group of singers
34. Element of erroneous miscue
35. Seduced jerk in desperate need
36. Revolutionary, boarding train, planned military formation
37. Hack a large conspiratorial circle
38. Cuts proverbs
39. Vessel with sauce missing entirely
40. Not one spun yarn

**DOWN**
2. Buddy chopped fish
3. I used rum—rum!—for dregs
4. Couple wasted time
5. Back order on first-rate biographer
6. Paper hair net disheveled one who’d been groomed (2 wds.)
7. Woman climbing mountains, almost
8. Leave muff by base of tree in garden
9. Israeli occupying reactionary sphere shows verve
10. Rising celebrity singers?
11. Cops in British intelligence raised reserve funds (2 wds.)
12. Scorned and defiled about upper-class ballroom activities (2 wds.)
13. My back half, swinging both ways, is source of mystical voodoo
17. Abandon semi-Gallic retro fashion
20. Attack Swedish group holding first of eight elevated religious offices
22. Mesopotamian king assumes alias when meeting princess, mostly
23. Lodge with head of exchange seat where balance is maintained (2 wds.)
25. In zoo, the case!
26. Priestly ocarina is out of tune
31. Leaders of hunt unearthed legendary Knossos wreck
32. Pine tar uncovered
33. Vainly transpose last two parts of poem
19 SEND OFF COPIES

by Slik (Michael Selinker)

Each Across answer is at least two letters too long for the grid. Each Across clue contains an extra word or phrase that defines the diagram entry; the rest of the clue is normal, but may make less surface sense when the extra word or phrase is deleted. The Down answers are entered normally.

ACROSS
2 Derides blunders of idiots eating eggs (7, hyph.)
4 Rushed, meted imprinted pads out (9)
6 Top student’s copier pages appear out of order (6, 2 wds.)
7 Metallic dart trajectory overtakes one savage (8)
9 Incidences of muteness sadly hampering so-called boxer (7) [N13]
12 Indians discussed ridges in Indian daggers (7) [N12, N13]
14 Catholic filmdom’s actress Joan Anne North sort of rebels (7)
17 Grumbled as jailed drummer is beaten after stealing horseshoe (8)
19 Excited over earlier disco (5, hyph.)
21 Swimming to an anti-revolutionary country (8)
23 Communist leader backing elevator inventor is a pain (6)
25 Go sulk, beat Topo up (6, 2 wds.)
26 Thrashing around about Ann’s jarring dancing (10)
28 Mother and grandma get mystic energy in Spain tomorrow (6)
29 Pitches Turks’ plaques (7)
31 What’s used to prepare steak wraps with load of Caesar salad ingredient (8)
33 A Lapp radical is friend of the Pontiff (5)
34 Coatings shaken in fish sling (7)
38 Plants Lady Nastase’s remains (6)
39 Sell to the Germans every ale brewed for traits (7)
40 “Quiet, O quiet one!” beamed Native American (8)
41 Wraps Bill’s partner in criminals’ pelts (7)
42 Spot popular group’s opening shrill tone (6)

43 Chugging along, leaving a deposit, playing mini-golf (11, hyph.)
44 Griffith leaves hardware in African animal spot (6)

DOWN
1 Cook chopped meats (5)
2 Block Shakespeare, almost (3)
3 Style of painting circle segment (5, 2 wds.)
4 Green turnover sadly from Germany (7)
5 Pass up short Parisian Lord (4)
8 Rock band’s radiation units (4)
10 Title note includes author Deighton (3)
11 Hide spilled inks (4)
13 Exalted Pater Patriae’s last record again (6)
15 “60 Minutes” is for dancing girls (6)
16 Extra brownouts, oddly (5)
18 Roped in actress Shields, actress Merrill (4)
19 Ready small room (3)
20 Olga’s gymnastic score (4)
22 Lasting gel set in silver (7)
24 California city’s sky-bound gal (3)
27 Each unique character from Mississippi Devils (4)
30 Koslowski guards city (4)
32 Nearly band old Japanese currency (3) [N12, N13]
35 Clean out glass shop gunk (4)
36 Long time a blabbermouth (5)
37 Tenuous King plot (5)
42 Dessert pieces halved (3)
**20 HIT THE DECK!**

**by T McAy (Todd McClary)**
*(from the Hoboken convention)*

As you may have heard, two worthy opponents have met in New Jersey for a competition, and this cryptic crossword chronicles some of the play highlights. Eighteen entries, which require adjustment to fit the grid, represent plays made during the competition. Nine are Across entries representing the plays of one opponent and nine are Down entries representing the plays of the other. Nine points of intersection between these entries indicate which are winning plays and which are losing plays. The names of the opponents can be discovered by reading the initial letters of their winning play entries—from top to bottom for the Across opponent and from left to right for the Down opponent. The initial letters in the clues of all winning entries, read in clue order, will reveal the name of the competition and the group to which the opponents belong.

**ACROSS**

1 Welcomed deposit to secure retro automobile  
5 Dressed sharp, Bo tours the nightclubs  
10 Positions plastic coil  
12 Flow of power among a spy organization's plants  
15 Badger chases black crow  
16 Scarf slipped  
17 A mistake in English can be silly  
18 Clients prepared outline  
19 Woodcutter initially sharpens splitting tools  
21 Revive interest in former philosopher?  
22 *Reversal of Fortune*’s tone  
24 Take care of golf equipment left by hole *(2 wds.)*  
25 Former First Lady almost rejected spiritual leader  
27 Repaired pearl with glue substitute  
30 Beautify housing set back around university *(2 wds.)*  
31 Orff penned love song  
34 *Scream* star Campbell’s retreating after green space creature retaliates *(2 wds.)*  
35 Southern city lawyers collecting sum  
36 What can be said for Giants’ contracts  
39 Turned over run with one unknown discard *(hyph.)*  
41 Cheese unfinished prior to delivery?  
43 Ham put in a lower grade without being opened  
44 Whale resting place in the sound *[N12, N13]*  
45 Fussy patriarchs in Nehemiah excerpt examined the wrong way *[N12]*  
46 Liberal arts leader  
47 Bed support snagging our pillow’s edge *(hyph.)*  
48 Ones leading KLM head off crooks at terminals and airline terrorists

**DOWN**

1 Sledge’s final pound that hurts part of the arm  
2 Church of England opponent adopting second code name?  
3 Supply a foreign capital  
4 Junk’s first sea casks loaded with noodles  
5 British prime minister cultivated subflora after inaugural  
6 Race downhill in circuit taking a chance  
7 Creating headdress to top Asian dynasty  
8 Park British comedienne’s car  
9 *Le Mans* star directed MTV sequence about Eminem’s debut *(2 wds.)*  
11 Honesty has the power to do right  
13 Selection of Brunelleschi’s elliptical sculpture  
14 Mathematical group left out of small room  
20 Affiliated television stations own *Trek* rerun  
22 Doing an about-face, soldier parts the union with obscure fighter  
23 Empties piano covered with scratches  
26 Navigation chart old admiral kept in belt *(2 wds.)*  
28 Spots accommodating liaisons, primarily!  
29 Nuts seethe with laughter  
32 Smidgen of apple peel with liquor could be inviting *(2 wds.)*  
33 Fruit pickled by Greek character  
37 Exceptional pitch introduced by French composer *(hyph.)*  
38 Courtroom figures refuse places for the hearing *(hyph.)*  
40 Prison resident ultimately confined  
41 Good show  
42 Experimental theater incorporating bit of comedy when Hamlet says, “To be or not to be” *(2 wds.)*
In light of a 21st-century world development with implications for the commonwealth, twelve clue answers must be altered (that is, changed) before being entered in the grid. Some (though not all) of these answers are coinages that are unlikely to appear in any actual or hypothetical dictionary; non-thematic answers are normal. Indications of hyphenated or two-word answers are withheld.

**ACROSS**

1. South America is pursuing distant expeditions
2. Fury consuming intended one
9. Many an ape-child, for nuts and a piece of fruit, emulated David Helfgott
12. Sediment originally settled in large thermos
13. Shakespearean countess in nation without chief
14. In California, an actor
15. Discussed fish organ with one brave enough to certify an incompetent craftsman, perhaps
16. Printed notices unhinged steady pets
17. Breaks down Communist with confusing cues
18. Feel pain in rough emergency room stretcher
20. Quench without lady’s drink
22. Link name with you and me, formerly?
23. One tush is silly
26. Actress Lupino found in former space station above the ground
30. Top off whiskey flow
33. Hearing lady and lord, . . .
35. . . . cook must roast foxes
36. Amid game, Yiddish writer hung with the homeys
37. Kierkegaard, some might say, insanely armed a KKK fan
38. Hide lower leg
39. Fights back about male seals
40. Government agent controlling farm is licensed

**DOWN**

1. Religious group includes Protestant leader with odd range
2. Calm, tree-lined walk by the sound
3. A feminine letter
4. Appreciate the woman’s getting up to rein in endless agenda
5. Loud sleepers, comparatively sensitive about a bit of noise, seem to start
6. In opera course, I’m flipping over opening of neo-Expressionist, angular measure
7. Number = 3/4 of 9 divided by (over) 5 + 0, approximately
8. George William Russell keeps wood burning
10. Sniper loudly chased coward around drain
11. Artificial jumping fleas
12. Man clasping chest in gloomy Asian city
19. Tailor accused mouse in Romania, once
20. Glimpses small desserts
21. Game is soft, quiet, bizarre
24. Shoot at British aviators protected by British gun, mostly
25. Partially turned high final card deceptively
27. Comprehending Zulu, read up on foreign poet
28. Idols travel down south
29. Raise price for volcano
31. Permits describing top of aromatic trees
32. Make an impression on husband and so forth
34. Bores with corrupt laws
This cryptic may be harder to solve than normal, but there's a message in the grid that may explain a few things. The unchecked letters can be rearranged to spell BLANK GRID SEEN, WHO CAN FILL? USE SIXTY (THE U.S. MAX), OK? OK! WHEE!—which doesn't mean anything, but will probably help. Some diagram entries consist of more than one word, but clue enumerations ignore this. Good luck.

ACROSS
1 Precious stone found in daiquiri (3)
7 For example, Little Miss Muffet's red playhouse (6)
12 Section of square trolley is fashionably behind the times (5)
13 Finally, do circle round love near Quebec's capital (7)
15 After hesitation, De Palma's describing an Italian province (7)
16 Dandy catching long bomb (4)
18 Guys who make bread maintaining 100 supporters (7)
19 Overturned albino divers, in the sound (8)
22 Charities housing first of your wild horses (7)
24 English Queen—the tenth to claim territory (5)
26 Dundee's playful strip (6)
28 Tires out after third of September how clumsy of me! (5)
29 Prime number of Greek characters at party—it's a gas (6)
31 Puns a youngster has to recant (5)
34 Gold's shame is reported (4)
36 Clumsy fellow taking top off some bread (3)
37 Staring amazedly at Globe Discotheque (5, hyph.)
38 Carol Askew, Spanish poet and playwright (5)
39 Foreign, mad run behind xygloactyl, oddly (6)
40 Add child (3)
41 Drunk in borders of Schenectady, describing a road in winter (6)

DOWN
1 Hole optionally provided diamonds (7)
2 Young wildebeest bellowed (3)
3 Those weird beliefs (5)
4 Break out of perfect upright Troy (5)
5 Doctor Cosmic collectibles (6)
6 Dress like a gorilla to get even? It's so crazy, it just might work! (12)
8 Round jerk of the ear (4)
9 Descartes is half renegade (4)
10 Big Russian tortured rats (4)
11 Author of Siddhartha—he's near Southeast (5)
14 Germans that got married as fur flew (5)
17 “Lo, I met a new Ewok”—that's not a palindrome (9)
20 Class-conscious person to weep about money, essentially (4)
21 Change representative tatting (7)
23 Pan a gun remade for monotheist, perhaps (7)
24 Apparently horrify: “Oh, God!” (6)
25 Short R. Perot, losing head during campaign . . . (7)
27 . . . is disturbed sexist (6)
29 Placid aunts got upset [NI2, NI3]
30 Penguins upside down! (5)
32 Wizard spilled nectar (4)
33 Reportedly, join part of an egg (4)
35 Bean curd beginning to taste of uranium (4)
Roman numerals are the key to this novel cryptic crossword. Enumerations are withheld, but all answers are 1-Across and 5-Down. Clues are not in order. The sums of the Roman numerals in each row and column are given below. Definitions are normal, but wordplay applies to the entire row or column. For example, for the hypothetical row ROMANIC the sum 1101 would be given, and a possible clue would be "Kind of numeral obtained by removing the center of a Greek letter? Crazy!" [r(h)o-manic]

**SUMS**

**ACROSS:**
2 501 3 1060 4 1001 5 550 6 1050
2 351 8 1051 9 650 10 500

**DOWN:**
1 250 2 1 3 55 4 1100 6 551 7 0
3 3050 10 2501

**CLUES**

a A raid? One might be!
b Behold! Round mare, noblemen
c Beneath underwear, pervert seeks halters?
d Celica crashes around North Carolina—forget it!
e Diligently used turning spindle
f Faith’s question: “Am I Al’s steady?” No
g First drop of vaccine, oral concoction, holding nurse’s strength
h Iceland’s last general, in treatment, is sour
i Kind of sleep one dandy brought up in performance. He is silent
j Member of class is perverted male, Mama!
k Orangeade: cadet has ten
l Poem, rewritten, pales in afternoon
m Put off umpire with penny instead of ruble from the East
n Qua Poe, interpretation that is at first incomprehensible
o Radio regulators have real trouble with savage
p Rest from Rubinstein’s initial test about musical note
q Some oak I chopped for Northerner
UNZIPPING

by Anomaly (Roger Barkan)

The clue for one Across entry in each row contains an extra word somewhere in the definition portion of the clue, which must be removed before solving. The shaded letters will spell out what these words are doing in this puzzle.

ACROSS
1 Roman in chariot, holding back waters (6)
6 Soho used to reject oranges and pears after I left (4)
9 I’m in endless winter with the rhythm of the tundra gone (6, 2 wds.)
10 Cleared uneven parts of infield, leaving nothing (3)
11 Come together around Nevada to get bets, Hooter (10)
12 They help in loch, or seating yourself and returning cheap meat (4)
13 Heave front of Polynesian island instrument (4)
14 Sink or swim? (3)
16 Initially, autopsies track rib, arse (6)
19 Sporting comedian overheard card game (6)
22 Toga doth position you among Gaius Marcellus’s leaders (3)
23 Naughty monkeys held back chimp opera (4)
24 German man heard a rabbit (4)
26 Bulb, utterly devastated, tainted guards—I’m one (10)
27 Cary Elwes maintains deli farm? Aye! (3)
28 Brighten shady dingle (6)
29 At any time in the period preceding the end of November (4)
30 Crazy Bones has captured 50—get set, sentry! (6)

DOWN
1 Spies retaining boor and pest (6)
2 There’s nothing in Maine—wild, amoral state (6)
3 Ante up, Italian blowhard? (4)
4 Llamas, sheep, bears gather (5)
5 Keepsake found among azure lichen (5)
6 Fox’s home in earth covered with bit of tin foil (6)
7 Yaks Greek character up, like some heroes (6)
8 Most of the ships escape (4)
15 Leg covering golf ball on the green? (6)
16 Cockroach I errantly trapped in more pain (6)
17 Utter nonsense about the end of feral reptile (6)
18 Haphazardly bedims lodges (6)
20 Studly males finish “sewing dash” (5, hyph.)
21 African who might charge, hearing French water from German river (5)
23 Oscar discussed intractable situation (4)
25 Track wading bird (4)
by Harth (Rebecca Kornbluh & Henri Picciotto)

Unfortunately, the clues are not given in order, and the enumerations are missing. Fortunately, 26 letters have already been entered into the grid. Unfortunately, those 26 letters have been ignored in the wordplay.

CLUES

a. After Bible study, Carson’s returned something people have with their dinner
b. Alternative to love in New York: start and end affair of the heart
c. Announce an individual delay
d. Blundering, Lew errs—he may get pinned down
e. Completely foreign: nu, tau too (hyph.)
f. Dear! To hold Alamo without a crescent? (hyph.)
g. Do penance within sepia tent
h. Edit one essay, in part, without expression
i. Entertainer, relatively dull, absorbs lyrics before Aida’s prelude (hyph.)
j. Favorite returned after having been elected with the majority (2 wds.)
k. Following race, I put on one piece of clothing
l. Henry, inside out, disturbed, gets kind word (hyph.)
m. Implement silent disruption
n. Invert ratio to get clever remark
o. It’s foolish to look around, Penny
p. It’s like this, ma’am—Father left Indiana, rode aimlessly

q. Mineral monster
r. Odd—French one originally called back
s. Order, dine. Cook angry. Time to pay up (3 wds.)
t. Party coordinator embraces businessman
u. Plant secretion about season’s limits
v. Poe’s first letters for Marshal
w. Ruined Lynn’s material
x. Small stage features with celebrities only (hyph.)
y. Squeeze right into victory
z. Top student’s last degree comes first

aa. Tumble when West and East invade a group like OPEC
bb. Managed to act unpredictable
cc. Verbally detain confused lout (not he!)
dd. Wild beast beheaded, i.e. put in danger
26 ALPHABETICAL ASSISTANCE

by Andreas (John M. Forbes)

To assist solvers, one letter in each answer for the 26 six-letter clues ("Sixes") is used to designate that clue and is therefore not included in the wordplay. Solvers do, however, have to determine where to enter these answers with the help of the numbered clues, which are normal.

SIXES
A Painting over warning
B Teenagers keep heirloom inside
C Author (writer) holding toddler’s coat
D Trick Eastern buffoon
E English stop revolt
F Cuts unattractive women
G Cylindrical piece is bottom one in barrel
H Tramps with instruments
I Islander not a dolt
J Fool chopped trees
K Watch cast in hit
L Branch in front of river?
M Revolutionary spies space inside with little spirit
N First-rate support for logger?
O Compensate family with fancy fest
P Open airtight container for honor
Q Parts with aunt traveling to West of Arabia
R Leave satellite orbiting center of stars
S Nun perhaps getting rid of top dog
T Horrible smoke returning
U Talk to improve power
V Wild herb contains trace of aphrodisiac
W Most depressed over stuffing in case
X Arms different people without help initially

Y Youngster once called kind
Z Like to store bread for Scandinavian islands

ACROSS
4 Some light piece of Edwardian elegance (4)
5 Decline to consume large brunch for one (5)
6 Tin sign conceals white figures in winter (7)
7 To put out wrong cards is start of disaster during dinner (7)
10 Reserve drinks for further trades (7)
11 Force drives news reports (7)
13 Grass near edge of extremely small burn (5)
14 Key I shall shortly read (4)

DOWN
1 Ways to collect train charges for a second time (7)
2 Start of the race led off round tub (7)
3 Stick empty behind fire (4)
8 Element reviewing movies’ range (7)
9 Carrying stone, I lived with deer (7)
12 God accepting material from Irish storyteller (4)
by Harth (Rebecca Kornbluh & Henri Picciotto)

Each clue answer deposits its vote in the ballot box before entering the grid. Find the winning party, and how many votes it received. There is one superfluous word per clue; the initial letters of these words, read in order, provide further help.

**ACROSS**

1   Hopeless runs, before round of electioneering—it’s a way to bring light in (7)
6   Catch a licensed veterinarian holding a cup (7)
10  Elder member of college is eldest reader (7)
11  Remove uniform near home (7)
12  You sort of can have sex in Internet site (7)
14  “Very much so,” I answer heartlessly (6)
15  Uncle never returns in large and Southern continent (8)
16  Decisive move: reduce the amount allotted (5)
18  Group of radical college kids without support nags establishment (6)
19  Eye parts of maize units, without real plan (7)
20  Five enemies yanked flowing beard (7)
25  Terrible fear, then silence (not again!) (6)
30  Court day not a disaster for wagon (5)
31  Weave anecdote into erotic ballet piece (8, 2 wds.)
32  Possessing a terminal, a boy working Netscape does a backup (6)
34  Spies infiltrated (also disrupted) unfriendly terrorists (7)
35  Victor, please realign leg when taking wrong turn (7)
36  Note: set is often reversed—put on weight first (7, 2 wds.)
37  To change the traditional format, translate tersely (7)
38  Competitor sent extremist rants, with no beginning and no end (7)

**DOWN**

1   Feelers from desperate people who don’t want you to listen to certain things on the radio (7)
2   Prevent diabolical rumor of regret and scorn (7, 2 wds.)
3   Courage is never, ever, wasted (5)
4   Clue “cod” incorrectly to hide meaning (7)
5   Dancing reel in mist, overexerting limb we don’t have (7)
6   Cold (then hot) verbal commentary, involving many voices (6)
7   Terribly bad sign: belly rash (7)
8   Allies destroy saucer before a break (7)
9   Hates trouble, removes challenges? (7)
13  Net no inchworms in grass (5)
16  Bachelor in front of messy dens turns crimson (5)
17  Heard idealist almost knee-deep in poverty (5)
20  Old age follows victory in no time (7)
21  Teenager in love roams aimlessly around old university (7)
22  Powerful family heard to have hearty meal and wine (7)
23  Fencing events end in knockout (5)
24  Worked hard at removing weeds after threshing (7)
26  Unusually sweet, loving insect (7)
27  Stop now! No one makes lace upside-down (7)
28  Fool’s disastrous flaw in overnight success (7, hyph.)
29  Pilot, having returned last month, fakes consent (6)
33  Met’s performance: fielding at first, overlooks pitch; each runner advances (5)
In this transport hub, 46 passengers are trying to get across town. Those with subway passes walk in a straight line from their number to their destination square, though you must determine whether they go Left, Right, Up, or Down. Those with tokens must go through a lettered turnstile. The solution to each Token clue travels from some square toward the turnstile; at the turnstile, the letter to be entered changes from the direction the word was going (L, R, U, or D) to the direction it continues (again, L, R, U, or D), making a new word or phrase. So, for example, the entry for RIDER might start two squares above a turnstile, head Down until the D changed to an L at the turnstile, and then continue to the Left to finish out RILER. And please, exact change only.

**TOKENS**

A Crossing ravenous eater is pointless (2 wds.)
B Former Arab group about to investigate
C Called for another heart in finale
D Puts aside gel, solvent & energy drink (just a bit) that are all returned
E No travel for young flier Chuck
F One who entangles ruffle is overwhelmed by hot item
G Partner up with Professor Fahrenheit when mastering computer science specialty (2 wds.)
H Build before court
I Guards combat shelters
J Cheers Seminoles leaving a place where you'll see Frenchmen returning
K Radical protests war games in the ocean (2 wds.)
L Missouri surrealist Cobb's style
M Sanctuaries sheltering poor serf and stable-dwellers
N Irks "Little House" writer abandoning Indiana
O Fish for German man... in German
P Oddly, spurned lady is amateur
Q Less terse note I'd fight over
R Struck, Danson stifles pained comment
S Leaving each wild dog inside primitive dwelling (2 wds.)
T Start commercial's prompts

**PASSES**

1 Guests sort red logs
2 "Love is in the heart of a child"—Anon.
3 Country is Southwestern paradise
4 Nestled bug spits out cicada's head
5 Section of candlestand in case
6 Actor earns bucks
7 Wing of rail I injured
8 Magazine staffer rioted about
9 Asimov characters born amid cheers
10 Forming Austin Powers term describing pin
11 It's essentially edifying, by the way
12 Actress Kate's ignoring California exclamations
13 Members of the flock of Western spies infiltrating S&L
14 Contests realignment of augers
15 Loudly utter, "Quiet down!"
16 Meritless release is discussed
17 Change in carfare for Paris transport (2 wds.)
18 Artist measurin' around bottom of tableau
19 Part of typo in typography sticking out
20 Offensive lineman missing current record
21 Opening of columnist Hedda Hopper's conclusion that might be sharp
22 Drummer in Western Utah gets dry (2 wds.)
23 Fabric worker abandons noncom
24 Cooked egg to start (hyph.)
In this puzzle, East is Across and West is Down. The Across entries must be transliterated into Cyrillic characters before being entered into the grid. Down entries are normal. The valid translations are:

Roman: a e k m n o r s t u v
Cyrillic: А Е К М Н О Р С Т У В

So if 1-Across were “restaurateur,” it would be entered as “PECTAYPATEYP,” and 1-Down would start with P. No Across entry contains any Roman characters not on this list, as they could not be transliterated; Down words may contain letters not on the Cyrillic list, but only, of course, if they are unchecked.

ACROSS
1 Jerk never covering the one who pays quickly in France (12, 3 wds.)
9 Back home, lacking humidity, pair of termites chew the scenery (5)
10 Headless dogs eating certain moneylenders (7)
13 Listening intently, with lines appearing to be real rare debts (7)
14 Noah and his sons going after last of rum shooters (8)
16 Your little dog, too, grabs steak bone (4)
17 Nurses finally set broken backs (6)
19 Hot drink from water’s essence, stirred (3)
21 Chip in volcano comes back (4)
23 Sulfur atoms ruined vents in a plant (6)
25 Nervous cast, without scruple, withdrew from the opening (6)
28 One from German river (4)
30 Bird strips skin off thighbone (3)
32 Take on fashion amuses (6)
34 Extra bit of mineral—mineral that has metal (4)
35 Ships cattle around America (8)
37 Small particle from flower left nose (7, hyph.)
39 Tatum and Donaldson reflected independently about University Hospital cases (7)
40 Time to muse (5)
41 Playground equipment tense alien hid in tree tipped over in front of river animal (12, hyph.)

DOWN
1 Bar in confusion without a deciliter (4)
2 Your old Auntie and father come first to show understanding (7)
3 Brief flight Bob cut short (3)
4 Rat, on Jewish holiday, does not keep Sabbath (5)
5 Approve predicate that’s been transliterated? (6)
6 Businessman swaps $100 for acidity in rainstorm (7)
7 Pitcher dominates fate in each ballgame (6)
8 Some of those choose to reflect (4)
11 In climax, most of engine raised river (7)
12 Brain and liver chopped up (4)
15 Versifier loses second favorite (3)
17 Point at cloak (4)
18 Fiery nobleman holds very soft fork (7)
20 Teacher bears pain (4)
22 Crazy, crazy con men getting nothing (7) [N12]
24 Come around container for dessert (7)
26 Expression of disbelief in media campaign for natural threads (6)
27 Graphic violence toward bat? I’m first to protest (6)
29 Believe in radio for so long (3)
31 Associate put last of shampoo into hair (4) [N12, N13]
33 Around the early hours an important businessman makes a brief appearance (5)
34 Man’s photo finish (4)
36 Cut bit of mutton out of bite (4)
38 Wagon unloads regular dude (3)
30 PARTY!

by Harth (Rebecca Kornbluh & Henri Picciotto)
(from the Boston convention)

The clues for words in sections B and D are abnormal (in different ways), yielding sound instructions for what to do in sections A and C. Diagram entries come into their section at the correspondingly numbered square, but may start in an adjacent section. If word boundaries were shown, the completed diagram would have 180-degree symmetry.

A
ACROSS
1 Pure cocaine’s head rush
4 Vamp employee hair
6 Difficult position, reversing Ohio State disaster (2 wds.)
7 Open spaces needed for trauma triage
8 Northwest Territories involved in bona fide exchange of money for use
9 Attendants of our rank entering civil service

DOWN
2 Steadies unsettled reserve (2 wds.)
3 Drops leaves around harbor’s end
4 Observe favorite returning tents
5 Mercury, for example, or platinum coating strip

B
ACROSS
4 Ted’s on windy interstate between wheel adjustments (hyph.)
5 “Shrub” arrived with Lula, taking me as subject
7 Back ointments put on thickly
8 Draw GOP into disarray with Mars, for example (2 wds.)

DOWN
1 Crazy love-in, crazy! Catch it
2 His Holiness ingesting oxygen? Normal alternative for biochemical messenger
3 Youngster returning to accept work around horse’s coat
6 Having foul smell to cover [NI2, NI3]
7 Social Security protects prudent European
9 An infusion in the pot!

C
ACROSS
3 Drops in after God
5 Freak drink after the first
7 In Acapulco, Mr. Rosen relaxes
8 All ache excruciatingly
9 Listened to department store forecasters
10 Dies horribly in middle of month

DOWN
1 Gentlemen initially satisfy assessors
2 Bird from Cayman Islands
4 Mineral or energy
6 Express sorrow about the French vehicle

D
ACROSS
4 Movie about storm when returning in loner’s environment?
5 Edge messy lines to cut off some lard
6 Wild howling is too much for boas
9 Pests, misbehaving, steal Rebecca’s heart

DOWN
1 For example, German Nazis accepting scolding: they hold the yellow, and whine
2 Note lines where the spade stops?
3 Moan: “Man, small team!”
5 Tie ruffles around unsymmetrical cape
7 Scoring a possibly healthy product
8 Used my herd: I saw ewe’s tail inside
This puzzle is based on a well-known work that includes a number of distinctive noun phrases, in each of which one noun modifies another. Nine of the clues lead to the modifying nouns (some of which consist of more than one word); in each case the solver should enter, in a singular way, the noun that is modified. In another 35 clues, the wordplay leads to the diagram entry and one superfluous letter; these extra letters, read in clue order, will reveal the title of the work and its authors. The remaining four diagram entries represent three locations mentioned in the work; since two of these are not actual words and one is capitalized, they are clued with wordplay only.
by Andreas (John M. Forbes)

The editors tel me I can’t spel very wel. It sems that every time I should be writing a word with double leters I use a single leters, whether in the diagram or clues. So every word in the completed diagram should realy have at least one leters doubled. Hapy solving!

**ACROSS**

1 They critique *Cats*, perhaps
5 Lost one chant at end of mas
11 Part of specch in care of reporter
12 Left dog guarding one uncomon place for plants
13 Aleviated a terible delay
14 Energy provided by the Spanish tower builder
16 Partialy revealed a lie on backward glance
17 Team befs about low energy
18 Rifle shot notebok paper
20 First person pleads for points to debate
22 Pro bater with American League takes strikeout pitch
25 Col flor covering scent
27 Ratling noise feature of bones
28 North east of stret singer
30 Reconstruct one Sega without normal figures
31 Fols intended drooping author’s tax
32 Lie low at first after times changed [N12]
33 Hounds hunt, finaly entering more than one home?

**DOWN**

1 Real Santa distributed canes
2 Edges of the grove in stret
3 Swift work is excelent show
4 Scarcity of roms—initialy live with Eliot
5 Deserts, geting black eyes
6 Slow start of scheme to entrap former president
7 Facile breaking up some frozen water
8 Required study to be reviewed by editor
9 For al to se, upset scren
10 Socer player on target with second shots
15 With record rain and snow, rest giving up a housing permit
18 Fat Rita’s scrambled eg dish
19 Coming close to losing new jewelry
21 Unproductive union with tenis player
22 Material in narow track dividing flor
23 Beauty wins old time card game in Canes [N13]
24 Deposits earth during erosions
25 Cut back a mile from Indian district [N12, N13]
26 Most of continent is backing saint’s town
29 Cal “Turn” from below arches
Please forgive the smaller size and the large percentage of unusual words, but I've never tried writing a cryptic before—much less a variety cryptic. The variety theme applies to every Across clue.

ACROSS
1 One unaltered maggoty infestation
4 Indian Fruit director Smithee follows North director Reiner [N12, N13]
8 Poor Sid mashed centipedes
9 Scratch the surface behind a northern Asian country
10 A river inverted fatty white stuff
11 Muscular debility, like that time I was skinned
13 Incensed, finally Peter Victor Ueberroth became outraged
14 Christmas bears no soft tumors
19 Joseph Campbell, for one, reconsidered Goth lore
21 Initially, our plans indicated an inability to look ahead
23 Circle one eardrum [N12, N13]
24 Scattered minds, or yes-men
25 Alternates of a clean catena in Linear B and its ilk
26 Unknown mess involving NBC drama

DOWN
1 Jacob is a Shakespearean king ascending (6)
2 Blacker layer beneath true love (7)
3 An ominous atmosphere announced Tolkien’s dragon? (4)
4 Buck is in repose (6)
5 Badly nail both skiing and shooting (8)
6 Fifty turned Alaskan city yellow (5)
7 Standard honor malaria imparts (6)
12 Go off to meet a mate around retro spot (8)
15 Endorse very quietly after a ramble (7)
16 Related to “Space,” citers miscopied (6)
17 No money, no nerve cell (6)
18 Wet and muddy, upended sheep shrink (6)
20 Nothing on nine upstanding grape skins’ colorful protein (5) [N12, N13]
22 Make neither head nor tail of girl (4)
For this puzzle, you'll need a straightedge. Each clue answer lies along a line segment that begins at the dot with the corresponding number, and ends at a different numbered dot. You'll have to determine where these segments go, and draw them yourself. Write the first letter of each answer next to the correspondingly numbered dot, and the last letter next to the dot where the line segment ends. The other letters in the answer word are to be written in order along the line segment next to the points where it intersects line segments belonging to other words. Every intersection of two line segments marks a point where two words have a letter in common.

Each numbered dot is the beginning point of exactly one answer word and the ending point of exactly one other word. Every letter in the completed diagram belongs to exactly two answers. No intersection is part of more than two line segments.

The completed pattern of line segments (not a picture of anything) has normal crossword (180-degree) symmetry. The answers range in length from three to nine letters.

**CLUES**

1. Draw old companion
2. Looked angry when speaking
3. Better run—skier going downhill
4. Damp oil-cured sheepskin
5. Add sound meter on the inside to make silent
6. Postponed “grass skirts” run-through
7. A lively tune: “A Maid From Across the Sea” (2 wds.)
8. Grave words for short libertine
9. Furnishes with a bit of paregoric!
10. State brew houses closing for Shrovetide (2 wds.)
11. Insects’ frames are part of a giant scorpion
12. Virginia goes after underwear that’s wonderful for her
13. Appear inside mouse embryos
14. Martha and Jimmy ditching Art in red-light district
15. Fresh endive was green
16. Long story about head of Virgin returning fuel for planes
17. Introductions to rules of draw poker
18. Flower, germinated the wrong way, partially developed again
19. Cubist goes around with the end of a yard hose (2 wds.)
20. Hemingway carries odd bits of the tackle
21. Something that blooms: the never-ending flower
22. Typical two-year-old vintage bottles: half red
23. Chaperone not available following nude orgy
24. Twins chasing small-time reporters
In honor of the host city of the 2000 convention, while most of the entries in this puzzle are straight, a significant percentage have an alternate orientation. Each of these entries appears straight-acting at first, but eventually reveals its attraction toward a similarly oriented entry. When you have finished you will have played matchmaker to ten of these happy couples.

**CLUES**

1. Trip is gay soul
2. Athlete’s broken promise
3. Puccini heroine captivates a city
4. Arctic explorer without bit of compassion
5. Beseech snoop holding answer
6. Either way you look at it, it’s a tiny thing
7. Fellows originally offer cheers for Hanukkah
8. Minnesota intercepts one Virginia vehicle
9. Berate Reverend Whitney in recession
10. Money beginning to leave nest egg
11. Retired engineer team holding anger back
12. Choose copper yellow, essentially
13. Breed has mid-December inflorescence
14. Exhausted famous friar before dawn of day
15. That ensemble has not relaxed
16. Kind of income reflected head of company in any occupation
17. Solid apprentice beginning to excel
18. Mighty struggle is essential to get us slender
19. Guardian feeding half of tots fruit
20. Nut hurt Fuzzy’s lie
21. Might that man start to mitigate violence?
22. Group of lawyers describes stooge: “simple creature”
23. Get out unopened stuff
24. Jail holds retired person from a Greek island
25. Money deposit from a teller
26. Vehement if rye spilled
27. Can Whalers’ center move on the ice?
28. Reached around one Italian painter
29. Improved techies then arrive (3 wds.)
30. The GI hid bombing waves’ time (2 wds.)
31. Nordic person spinning a yarn
32. Show amazement at eastern peninsula in Canada
33. Heard comic poet make a grinding noise
34. Tried hard piece of roast in cooker
35. I got cramp changing prehistoric drawing
36. Throw out newsmagazine retrospective
TRAVELER’S NIGHTMARE

by Taxi (Lance Nathan & Katherine Bryant)

Some of the grid entries had a rough time on their trip here—half for one reason and half for another. Clues for these entries are normal. Of the remaining clues, half have an extra letter and half are missing one. The relevant letters from each set, taken in order, explain just what happened to the aforementioned grid entries.

ACROSS
1 Bird’s limitless breastbones
8 Pull one out of seven for Senator Kennedy
11 Trumpet heard at one bit per second
12 Disheveled hut is grand
14 Rumpled pleat shows part of a flower
15 Rent shredded—or not
16 Eastern lair is garden for Ada
17 Arrest engineer before Joy’s one-time friend
19 Confused gourmand on the runway
20 Silver and a bit of gold put in boxes for ringbearer
21 Late Cessna holds back group
23 Leader of Osage needs pants
24 Spits up while swallowing fare that turned
28 Wasting disease before Fed is back to hole
30 With initial grade improved, produce computer pioneer
31 Small bird’s back for unwanted plant
34 Guy’s mate caught Russ returning with leader
36 Fred, gyrating, held harp
37 Without the star, Dick is blue
39 Push brat on train
41 Have a metal back in Oklahoma City
42 Hold testament after Rhode Island uprising
43 Eyes half a lemur?
44 Players don’t mend cellar

DOWN
1 Look among wary peasants for competitive person (2 wds.)
2 More tin is redder
3 Graze scratching head of bear
4 CEO: As in French, summer is sufficient
5 We take end off Addams’ cousin
6 Note old French con
7 Crazy cask upset
8 To a degree, leave island territory
9 Awful rates’ spikes
10 Most camped in lairs before winter time in Massachusetts
11 Officer’s aid taking tail off animal
13 Revolutionary leader of Islam with genetic material found by Harvard’s first crew
17 Sealed seed can spilled
18 Former cone added
20 Encircling pond enrages poor harvesters
21 Chanted less like Planned Parenthood founder?
22 Snarl, “Can’t contain backwards family!”
25 Lance taken in by prenatal doctor—first of deliveries followed
26 Teacher is after southwestern morning
27 SETI is backstage?
29 Bred to amble around Georgia
32 Caught amid retro skirt style
33 Singer starts to date young ladies (cute nymphets)
35 Take sake back to the gym—it’s simple
36 Indian is headless, like a host
38 Caribbean nation with utility company yields solid volume
39 Nice ass: exercise and milk proteins
40 Mystery writer jams a pilot, e.g.
TETRIS

by Dart (Darren Rigby)

In this cryptic version of the arcade game, each falling block corresponds to the five-letter answer of one of the BLOCK clues. The shape of the block, which cannot be flipped or rotated, is given for each clue, and the blocks will fall in the order of their clues. The first letter of each answer specifies the leftmost column, A-H, that any square from that block appears in; the remaining four letters occupy the block's four squares in mixed order.

When you fill an entire row with squares, forming an eight-letter word and leaving no gaps, that row “clears”: it disappears from the board and any squares above it drop down to fill in the space. The squares above will not drop down to fill a gap in a row, however; letters always stay in their rows. You may want to shade your completed rows lightly so you know they’re gone. In the example, the A block falls to fill the gap in the bottom row, since the row containing “COMPLETE” has cleared and can be ignored.

The words in the rows are clued, and labeled 1-8 in the order in which they clear from the board—which will not necessarily correspond to their order in the completed grid. The two 7 words clear at the same time, as do the two 8 words. Fill in all ten rows to win the game!

**BLOCKS**

1. Fashionable stuffing for the German restaurant
2. @%!$ on strip left after Broadway opening
3. Baseball catcher is good at nothing...
4. ...so long as receivers can’t keep the lead
5. Ideal barrier keeps river by marine terminal
6. Get to the point by the end of today, darling
7. Around West Coast city, turn on security device
8. Desserts and bit of lemonade going into coolers
9. Dog tag: John Early
10. Fading fragment...Recall...sleep state disappears...
11. Lincoln has nothing against heaven
12. Fool pens an epic
13. Sharp note at beginning of record is quiet
14. Specific conclusion about hydrogen is rejected (2 wds.)

**ROWS**

1. In all seriousness, brave (no adult) goes after fish
2. Stay for a while about Puerto Rico with one temptress
3. State bordered by Missouri has no island, it is an island
4. Strauss album beginning with treble half gone is worth collecting
5. Copywriter slammed Ponderosa, leaving nothing out
6. Newscaster, missing article: “Call back worker!” [N13]
7. Derek and I are on endless TV show panels [N13]
8. Head of obstetrics overwhelmed by a viral mutated run of smallpox
9. Release describes overture from Sexy Spice
10. Timid people back away from guts in tropical fruit
11. Naive environmentalist
12. Wild conifer allows sampling
13. Similar to past gossip—not real
14. Asiatic people’s deities made flesh less tan, mostly [Ni2, Ni3]
by Kea (Roger Phillips)

Seven classic British television shows are scheduled here for your entertainment.

**A:** "Absolutely Fabulous": The regular characters get horribly drunk.

**B:** "Blackadder": Edmund Blackadder insinuatingly lives up to his name.

**E:** "Eastenders": "E 'as what? We don't take that in our market, luv. There's no funny business 'ere."

**F:** "Fawlty Towers": There are no words to define Basil Fawty's accommodations.

**P:** "The Prisoner": "I am not a number—not this one, anyway. I shouldn't be here, you know."

**U:** "Upstairs, Downstairs": Follow the rise and fall of the Bellamy household.

**V:** "The Avengers": From only cryptic hints, find Steed and Peel.

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### ACROSS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>F</strong></td>
<td>A note in a packet (7)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>Copper exercises long to get the lead out (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td><strong>V</strong></td>
<td>However approximate, base is about right (12)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>British railway holding that is covered in roses? (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>There's no right to restrain English power (4)</td>
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<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>P</strong></td>
<td>Samoan town is short of bees (4)</td>
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<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>V</strong></td>
<td>Nothing about author's proof holding nothing back (8)</td>
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<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>F</strong></td>
<td>Directed a jerk to the west (7)</td>
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<td><strong>19</strong></td>
<td><strong>P</strong></td>
<td>Principle that gets people evicted from apartment house (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>Republicans finally out of congress (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
<td><strong>P</strong></td>
<td>Child at the top of tropical American tree (6) [NI2, NI3]</td>
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<td><strong>23</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>Speculator's store hit anyhow (8)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>25</strong></td>
<td><strong>E</strong></td>
<td>Earned part of a Korean's wages? (3)</td>
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<td><strong>26</strong></td>
<td><strong>V</strong></td>
<td>Less smooth sounding (7)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>Disturbing a cobra, a water-buffalo (7)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>31</strong></td>
<td><strong>F</strong></td>
<td>Express disapproval about sin, backsliding (6)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>35</strong></td>
<td><strong>P</strong></td>
<td>National leader recalled share of Pulitzer prize (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>37</strong></td>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>Image of an idol, popular, embraced by youngster (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>38</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>Power, the one remaining controversy (6)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>40</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>Tie metal threads in gorge (9)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>41</strong></td>
<td><strong>P</strong></td>
<td>Smell near Omagh's centre (5)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>42</strong></td>
<td><strong>E</strong></td>
<td>Finnish dealers no longer use these to damage kings and aces (7)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
By removing letters and words from clues before solving them, and from answers before entering them into the diagram, solvers will be able to derive 28 words or phrases consisting of a single letter followed by a single word, such as X-rated, K-Mart, or B movie. One-third of the 42 clues contain an extra word, to be matched with a single letter removed from that clue’s answer. One-third of the clues contain an extra letter, to be matched with a word removed from that clue’s answer. The remaining clues are normal.

**ACROSS**

1. One learned leader in flowers and molds
5. Liberal abandons reform of payroll tax, maintaining right to representation
10. Cobalt, lithium, and neon are in a row
11. Spare me a standardized test
12. Concludes first day of dancing in twos
13. Defector cut out, ran loose
14. Weeping from teacher’s first scolding
16. Haul veteran up and down in vain
19. Famous land of Arkansas!
21. Mole returning; agents take cover
22. Free to dash and twirl, losing their heads
24. Orders one low grade beam covered with knots
25. Ventura to build muscles with chemical
27. Pat Dion, Esq., wanders the ends of the earth
29. A large number of Deb’s last till one on Sunday
31. Harry Chapin’s vegetable
34. Doctor J in a grab to make a steal
35. Corrupt one party supporter on the inside
36. Foul pass
37. Doctor observed individuals carrying TB
38. Collar one from Istanbul, nabbing one from Dublin on the way back and capturing two from Venice
39. Certain ballplayers backing fad by brewery

**DOWN**

2. Coordinate French and German articles on falsehood being fundamental
3. Filipino Kita recalled holding back tear
4. Hunk of our bad meat ruined
5. Act of Emperor Fang annihilated around 100
6. Region to do a hula?!
7. Strumpet embraces member of team on deck
8. Sharp winds left us shaken
9. Beats me back in ring—tight spot
14. Fiddled with chromosomes to make new dye
15. Playing tennis? Ski! That will make you the most svelte
17. Left dead mesas empty
18. Afterlife, as I bleed internally, is within reach
20. Buffoon in adult section twitching, holding tip of nose
23. Note: hound is bound to be found keeping company around
26. Teresa is confused, OK? The date of this holiday keeps changing
27. Major snatched and—yecch!—eaten by tiger
28. Mason with bomb damages harbor area
30. This person was among the first to pray about Zion (but not the first)
32. Buddy put ship plus contents inside little bottle
33. “Arrivederci,” Chuck said
You must modify any solution word going into this diagram by totally purging it of a drug. Wordplay will match grid forms, not full words. A pair of words (10, 8) will show up finally, honoring your tribulations.

ACROSS
5 Navy staff surrounds mostly sluggish, backward country (10, 2 wds.)
11 Port grows pallid in South Africa (7)
12 Multinational company is sort of light, holding nothing, right? (8)
13 Shift stain occurring annually (7)
14 Cross-town subway starting by four of farms using minimum labor (9)
15 Abdominal folds, curious to man (6)
16 Man’s organ and small piano finally humor “contrary” girl (8)
17 Possibly bumps up solution of starch with a bit of titration (8)
20 Alcoholic shaking about downpour alights from a coach (8)
23 Old pub landlord giving Alabama doctor a month (9) [N12, N13]
29 Pair of cups of alloy, half iron (9)
30 Distraught, Sammy is hiding alkalinity count in lung condition (9)
31 In switch, North Dakota township had sugar put in (9)
32 Fishy cooking in chips? Not half! (7)
33 Informant has run in with author printing slips (6)
34 Run through lap in shifting of parts in proximity to rump (8)
35 Auxiliary taking in round-trip in a watchful way (7)
36 Danish, say, adopting a low social class (9)

DOWN
1 Not part of standard Christian church, nor saint, anyhow (9)
2 Swam frantically, supporting normal navy anchor, possibly (7)
3 Happily, touchdown did pass out (7)
4 Chap who abruptly grasps awfully scant hour (8)
6 Spitwad shot up to your midriff (9, hyph.)
7 Forward-facing colonist is crying loudly, having lost adult (8) [N12, N13]
8 Back of local pub hosts a thousand football forwards (7)
9 Not all of colonials acclaim Gallic location (6)
10 Surround Latin man in taboo, almost (7)
18 Stays dry, surprisingly, for past occasions (10)
19 Obstructs Janis, say, typical of an author (8)
21 Old habitations in Italy, thanks to British spoil around railroad (9) [N12, N13]
22 Folks giving solution bring up strontium attaching to radical with sulfur and sodium (9)
24 Unusually primal capital of Honduras? (7)
25 With T-shirt for tip of alp, Swiss ski town was maturing (8)
26 Still crazy about Morrison’s last parts for Doors (7)
27 Syllogism’s origin in contrary of that proposition put forward without proof (6)
28 Asian starling circling cloudy classical city (7)
41 SLIPPERY CHARACTERS

by Cheater (Rick Marks)

This puzzle is full of slippery characters. Half of the 36 clues are missing a character; the other half contain an extraneous character. In half of each of these two sets of clues the characters are spelled out in some form; in the other half they're not. These characters are hard to spot, since the clues read sensibly with or without them (perhaps after modifying some word breaks, punctuation, or capitalization). Nevertheless, it's easy, as the unclued entry at 17-Down indicates (you may also find the clued entries at 30-Down and 34-Across helpful).

ACROSS
1 Track and trick nanny endlessly (6)
4 Most of the Republicans, a little backward, suit their stations (6, 2 wds.)
10 Crow about South Carolina’s award (5)
11 Hopeful, spitting tar back out (9)
12 Sorry, Red, I proved to be right (8)
13 Carefully manipulate in pen, red, in a particular capacity (5)
15 Sound providers for Walt rally, officially excluded (4)
16 Day’s olives, for example, so appealing—take two (4)
18 The dark horseman, stalking (5)
21 Recent veep, old prez—the shame! (5)
23 Employ as a result of backing up computers (4)
25 Grate some parmesan in noodles just for starters (4)
28 Checks out tea bags (5)
29 Less than one-third of bandsaw cut (8)
31 Flying Argus leads initially toward tasty plant (9, 2 wds.)
32 Blest event: pregnant wives in Hercules (5)
33 Furnaces (note: hot) for consumers (6)
34 New (too new) encounters (6, 2 wds.)

DOWN
1 Canadian leader’s good shoe (4)
2 Dirty uncle on jaunt oddly (7)
3 Work hard to attach small eyepiece of telescope before rain (6)
5 Tenant quietly lives within any account (8)
6 Rolling around without husband may result in form of excommunication (7)
7 At heart, delighted to be unwed (5)
8 Mad, El Comix make tapas country (6)
9 Aced, souped up, without loud interior (6, 2 wds.)
14 Group of swingers both ways (4)
17 See instructions
19 Carve for the opening and closing (4)
20 He may take you out, a ruler making mass indiscriminate erasure (8)
22 Revelation thing is peanuts (7)
23 To convey ease is subtle, tricky (6)
24 Distributes top of votes (6)
26 Before reading this, Lenin ends credibility (7)
27 Sung is one medium for concert (6)
28 Social class left out of place (5)
30 Reactionary swoon ere Zen reveals nothing (4)
The diagram represents the surface of a three-dimensional soccer-ball-shaped solid that has been folded flat to fit on the page. There are twenty hexagons and twelve pentagons. The pentagon clues all lead to five-letter answers, which are to be entered in the cells of the corresponding pentagon, either clockwise or counterclockwise, starting from a cell to be determined. The numbered hexagon clues all lead to answers of seven letters, which are to be entered in the six outer cells of the corresponding hexagon, either clockwise or counterclockwise, with one of the letters removed to the circular cell at the center. The starting/ending point of each hexagon word is indicated by a heavier radial bar; you must determine which of the seven letters is to be placed in the center cell.

Whenever two polygons meet at an edge, the letters in their bordering cells match. Matching edges that have been moved far away from each other by the flattening are numbered to help you identify matches. When the diagram is completed, a fitting word will be spelled out in the center cells of the hexagons.

**PENTAGONS**
- a Test true currency
- b Legal center for barrister’s partner
- c OK city in a drab recession
- d Mouth open too much
- e She takes notice when the life of the party puts one on his head
- f Three-speed holds one back
- g A ruffian in Paris loses heart quickly
- h He has a shining belt of wrought iron
- i Kind of hair possessed by everyone except lady
- j Lure military policeman in time for offensive
- k Something made one remove front of toe inflammation
- l Rock edge on the outside; nothing in the middle!

**HEXAGONS**
1 Latin raped Sabine women—she loves them
2 Train engineer pockets gold piece
3 Arm fixed in brace
4 Give unsolicited advice, making it, however, cooperative
5 One evil form of government is in Arizona, and one is in New Mexico
6 I will love tragic second half, although Spock hated it
7 Do rewrite of lines for a piece of silver
8 Sex doctor without it is poetically lusty
9 Player would be going places if no trump were right
10 They come after the body is dead and decaying
11 Model appearing in soft shift of angora
12 Great-aunts talked back
13 Ill repute houses may change
14 Howl when something remarkable is returned and put away
15 Rule about American League is true again
16 One who'll eat anything, and translated into French, one who's more particular
17 Doctor and nurse go out
18 Doctor moved gradually and made an excavation
19 Just steer around excavation
20 Play stroke in approach

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43 CRYPTIC WORD SQUARE 1

by Xeimhu (Guy Jacobson & Kevin Wald)

CLUES

1 Spaniard's article and subsequently the device for spinning and throwing
2 Like bird without no bloom
3 One thing that makes two-steps awkward: dirt enveloping hindmost extremity?
4 Handle portion of "bushel" verse
5 Topless lady's husband at emergency room is put into a list, perhaps
Bartók completed his best-known composition, *Concerto for Orchestra*, in New York in 1943, two years before his death. As a special tribute to this bold and personal symphonic statement, I offer a diagram of the orchestra and an analysis of the entire work. Interpreted in the proper way, each movement contributes to the greater whole, eventually providing the musically inclined with the joy brought by 

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**I. INTRODUZIONE**

“Bela Bartók’s foremost work, boundless work too seriously taken apart, is no dire mockery. Somewhere in Hungary, remastered tapes dub a movement’s bridging themes, tireless cues Bela refined, long forgotten since makeover of communist *Ring*. Linear sonata section grows warmer once more after introduction, plus I’m an oddball for key change, I gander. Browsing through the mail, running through tempos, talent went ballistic (Rostropovich’s onset mellowed with time). Lots of opera contained in manuscript is melancholy; sorrow rips opening pace, if you listen. Is dividing beat in retrograde, firmly set group? A composer takes to heart true liberties.”

[some Fred Savage passage I’ll put in quotes]

**II. GIUOCO DELLE COPPIE**

(“*Game of Pairs*”)

2 They see error, all right
3 Macintoshes, perhaps two pianos among bar stock
14 Loaves produced in recital
17 Beginners in amateur Bela Bartók orchestra turn things comic
18 In a pliant fashion outfit
21 Very elevated starter course

---

24 Stuff filled with excellent dairy product
26 Critic of late Sibelius ultimately likes novel

**III. ELEGIA**

Need to ignore penultimate mass
Eccentric’s beginning crossword diagram from the right
In the morning, dressed in fast time

**IV. INTERMEZZO INTERROTTO**

(“*Interrupted Intermezzo*”)

4 Hothead runs through anthem, a D note capriccio
5 Ravel intercut that strain
6 Adhesive ruined the clover
7 Supports (about time!) woodwind enfants terribles?
8 Ignores soprano section with lumps
9 White bed looks weakened
10 Armstrong’s audio somewhat shows respect
11 Spirit off into radio bit
12 Take out ruler, threnode, and dances
13 “Flee awful smell,” suggests lieutenant
15 Article following another live seed
16 Gradually approached orchestral plot due for a change (3 wds.)
19 Work radar after the first month in Jewish calendar
23 Pencil that I assume highlights eyelashes
24 Can counter cans stew
25 Western democracy to be the elder
27 Discounted individual embracing sailor almost hummed (2 wds.)
28 Sins for an atrocious car manufacturer
30 A lot of what pounds overwhelming last chord
31 Abandon string theme

**V. FINALE**

1 Douglas, e.g., opening letters from firstborn
20 Attends the woman’s clothing area
22 Connect battery when end becomes hot
29 Convertiplane many backed
45 CRYPTIC WORD SQUARE 2

by Xeimhu (Guy Jacobson & Kevin Wald)

CLUES
1 Mountain remains after second hard-hit ball
2 Bygone author with a kind of food
3 Holiday season lacks initial direction for plant
4 Grab and mix plaster, naked
5 Old-time comic Lear ending in carried-away finale
ANSWERS

1 WARM-UP PUZZLE


2 UNTHEMED


3 THE KEYMASTER

Theme answers are modified by removing OLD (“take the passé part out”).

Passepartout is a character in Jules Verne’s Around the World in Eighty Days.

4 IN AND OUT

ACROSS 1. P + ROF (for rev.) 5. VISOR (hidden) 11. U-TURN ("too yearn"
22. EVE + N 24. TIT + HE 27. YE(I)S 30. S + C + OWL 32. PELISIES ("police"
34. REACHES (anag.) 37. I + INTO (not anag.) 39. FINITE 40. E + BB 42. THO
+ RN (hot anag.) 44. AC(I)E 45. OHM (first letters) 46. Ou[RR] + BIT 47. AD +
DON 48. SUBTI(TLE (rev. hidden) 49. DEP[ot] + SITED DOWN 1. PU + L +
"tin" anag.) 5. VERY (hidden) 6. [a]IRs 7. SO(UP) 8. IM + PRESS + I'VE 9.
WHITEN (anag.) 33. SUBS (2 defs.) 35. UNCAP (first letters) 36. REEDITS (anag.)

5 TRADE SHOW

The trades are "apartment for rent," "beg for mercy," "pan for gold," "Waiting
for Godot," and "Bowing for Dollars."

26. CLONAL (anag.) 28. AWOL (rev. hidden) 31. M + E + ET 32. PLAN + ARIA 33. GO + DOT 34. ICER
(anag.) 35. GO + L + [an]D 36. CA[N(KEROUS][e] (Ken anag.)
DOWN 1. ALLEG[er ("a ledger") 2. POE + T 3. APART + MENT 4. B + E. G. 5. END +
29. FAIR (2 defs.) 30. DIE + U

6 OVERLAPS

STATE (taste anag.) 14. ESTER (anag.) 15. EX + TRA (Art rev.) 16. FIESTA (hidden)
SEDATE (hidden) 34. SLEUTH (anag.) 35. SOD + DEN 36. STAPLE (anag.) 37.
T(AIWA) + N 38. TALON (hidden) 39. TEACH (anag.) 40. TEASE ("tees") 41.
THIEF ("weathy [amily") 42. USUR[p]ER

7 TWO-FOR-ONE SPECIAL

ACROSS 1. INVIGORATED (anag.) 2. [f]RE(ROUT][E; EARTHART (hidden)
3. TRASH (hidden) 4. O + L + FACTORY 5. TAILSPIN (anag.) 6. SCOT
SNOBS (hidden) 6. VEHIC(L)AR (archive anag.) 7. OTHER 7. RE + MORSE;
ABSENCE (anag.) 8. EAR (hidden) 9. BIOCHEMISTS (anag.)
DOWN 1. IR(RITE)ATE (rite anag;) 2. A + VERSE 2. VARIATION (anag.)
HOMER (2 defs.) 3. GAUCHOS (anag.) 4. [B]AC + KRUB 4. RHETORIC (anag.)
5. TEE OFF (anag.) 6. AP(RO)ACH[e] 6. DIRECTS (anag.) 7. GUAN + O (a
8 MYSTERY AUTHOR

Theme answers have a phonetic "boo!" added to form a new word.


9 FAMILY RELATIONS

Dropping a letter and anagramming each unclued entry produces the name of a country: in diagram order, Australia, Ecuador, Italy, Sudan, Suriname, France, Peru, Spain, and Chad. The dropped letters spell COUNTRIES.


10 RISE TO POWER

The grid is a checkerboard, with the solver playing red. The red checker in the lower right jumps the three black checkers and becomes a king.

ACROSS 2. EGA + D (rev.); AL(G)A (thematic double-definition) 3. MELBA (rev. hidden); R + I'D 4. [m]ARIA; (N)ELL (thematic double-definition) 5. TI(L)E; FELT (2 defs.) 6. SAD(I)E (thematic double-definition); LAY (2 defs.) 7. ACRE (“acher”); LE + AK[a]


11 SECLUSION

The secluded letters, circled in the grid, are those that are surrounded by the same letter on all four sides. The secluded and secluded letters spell "The Cloisters."

12 I JUST DON'T SEE IT
Theme answers are modified by removing INK.

13 THE FOUR SEASONS

14 LOST IN TRANSLATION
All instances of "eh?" have been expunged from the grid entries and the wordplay.

15 POLITICAL MAZE
The three unclued Across entries are political Warrens: Burger, Christopher, and Harding.
### 16 BAKER’S DOZEN THEME AND VARIATIONS

Theme words are BACON, LETTUCE, and TOMATO; variations involve chemical abbreviations, slang terms for money, and cryptogram-type substitutions.

**ACROSS**

1. DESIST (hidden) 5. BAY (first letters) 10. HARP[o] (rev.) 11. RATS (rev.) 12. CREESES (“creases”; deleted to form the grid entry.) 19. AGOG 22. [rIABIELS] 25. POP OUT (anag.; leaving a deposit) 32. ARK (first letters) 33. PAPAL (anag.; friend) 34. NEST(L)E (teens anag.) 35. HULK (first letters) 36. REGOUTH (anag.) 37. YEMEN + I (enemy anag.) 40. OLEIC (hidden) 42. IRON (2 defs.)

### 17 SECRET AGENT MAN

The secret agent is Paul REVERE, and the code is “One if by land, two if by sea.” The first letters of the clues for words including “one” or “and” and the second letters of the clues for words including “two” or “sea” spell MIDNIGHT RIDE.

**ACROSS**

1. BACON 3. LETTUCE 4. TOMATO

**DOWN**

1. DESIST (hidden) 5. BAY (first letters) 10. HARP[o] (rev.) 11. RATS (rev.) 12. CREESES (“creases”; deleted to form the grid entry.) 19. AGOG 22. [rIABIELS] 25. POP OUT (anag.; leaving a deposit) 32. ARK (first letters) 33. PAPAL (anag.; friend) 34. NEST(L)E (teens anag.) 35. HULK (first letters) 36. REGOUTH (anag.) 37. YEMEN + I (enemy anag.) 40. OLEIC (hidden) 42. IRON (2 defs.)

### 18 VIOLENCE

**ACROSS**


### 19 SEND OFF COPIES

Each Across answer contains a repeated sequence of letters, one copy of which is deleted to form the grid entry.

**ACROSS**

20 HIT THE DECK!
The grid represents a game of war between Earth (Across winners) and Mars (Down winners). Clue initials read WAR and WORLDS.


21 CURRENT EVENTS
The twelve currencies that were replaced by the euro in 2002 are replaced in the grid by the symbol for the euro.


22 MESSAGE IN A BATTLE
The message can be read in order at entries 1A, 7A, 13A, 19A, 29A, 39A, 6D, 17D, 25D, 30D, and 32D. It says, “One-fourth of these clues are simply a lot of gobbledy-gook, leading to no words of any sort.”


23 ROMAN 8-DOWN
24 UNZIPPING

The extraneous words in the Across clues are kinds of flies; the shaded letters spell DROPPING LIKE FLIES.


25 PANGRAM


26 ALPHABETICAL ASSISTANCE


27 ELECTION

Each clue deposits a vote of D, R, or I before being entered in the grid. The vote tally is D-18, R-18, I-6. The initial letters of the extra words spell “Every Independent voted Democratic in the runoff,” making the final tally D-24, R-18.

28 SUBWAY STATION


29 TPAHC-LITERATIONS


30 PARTY!

Wordplay in each B clue leads to the answer plus one additional letter; the definition in each D clue contains a one-letter misprint. The extra letters in B and the correct letters in D, read in clue order, spell DUMP THE TEA INTO THE SEA. In accordance with these phonetic instructions, each answer in A dumps its T's to become a new word; the T's go to C to make new words there.


31 DREAM VISION

The extra clue letters spell "Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds; John and Paul." The phrases that appear in the song lyrics are "cellophone flowers," "kaledoscope eyes," "plasticine porters," "newspaper taxis," "tangerine trees," "marmalade skies," "rockinghorse people," "looking-glass ties," and "marshmallow pies." The locations mentioned are "a boat on a river" (1-Across and 10-Across), "a train in a station" (19-Across), and "a bridge by a fountain" (30-Across).

### 32 Single-Minded

**Across**
1. RAITTERS (2 defs.)
2. M + I + SING (care anag; of = off)
3. T[E]RAR + IUM (mul.; rev.)
4. A + LAYED (delay anag.)
5. E + IF + EL.
6. OE[I][LADE] (rev. hidden)
8. F[IL]ER (anag.)
9. I + SUES
10. FOR[K] + B + A + L
11. PA[S] + T[I][L]
12. O[S] + EI
13. ST + O[I][L]
14. E[N][N][E[A][G] (one Seg a"
16. I + S + T + E + [S][E][M][E][N]
17. PAST
18. I + S
19. AS
20. 5
22. MIS
23. 2
24. E
25. NA
26. R
27. O
28. S
29. I
30. T
31. AS
32. SINGLE-MINDED
33. AN
34. G
35. HI
36. A
37. G
38. S
39. PICTOGRAM
40. EMIT

**Down**
1. R + A[T][I]TANS (Santa anag.)
2. [T]h[e] + [R]ACE (groove = race)
3. E + IS
4. R + ARE + NEIS
5. MOU[S]SES (2 defs.)
6. S + NA[I][L] + IKE
7. ICEFA[L] (anag.)
9. G + R[I][L]
10. PE[I][L] + T + S
11. S[L][E][I][E][ST][a]
12. F[I][L][A][N][E][I][L]
13. B[I][L][L][O][O][S]
14. [W]HINE
16. PSE D[S]E L
17. PE[T][T][A]T[A]N (Santa anag.)
18. FRITT[RE][D]
19. [I][E][N][I][N][E][A]
20. [N][O][O][G]
21. [R]E[N][I][N][E][A]
22. [F][L][A][I][N][E][I][L]
23. BE[I][L][L][O][O][T][E]
24. LOE[S] + E[S]
25. PO[I][L] + A + M (lop rev.)
26. A[S][I][L][a] + S (is rev.)
27. OG
28. N
29. O
30. E
31. EX
32. FI
33. BA[S]I[ST][I][S]
34. CASH (“cache”)
35. HIT THE SCENE (anag.)
36. ARYAN (anag.)
37. GASP + E
38. GNASH (“Nash”)
39. ST[RO][V][E]
40. EMIT (Time rev.)

### 33 My First Cryptic

As the title suggests, all Across words should have “MY” first.

**Across**
1. [MY] + AS IS
2. [MY] + ROB + ALAN
3. [MY] + A + N + MAR
4. [MY] + THEN + I + [W] [A][S]
5. [MY] + RHED (final letters)
6. [MY] + MAS
7. A + T[O] (first letters)
8. [MY] + RING + A
9. [MY] + MIND + [S] (anag.)
10. [MY] + CENA + AN (alternate letters)
11. [MY] + T[E][R][Y] (down)
12. [S] + O + I + T + E + R + [S]
13. [S] + E + M + O + T + E + R + [S]
14. [S] + R + E + A + N
15. B + I + A + L
16. A + M + Y + M
17. [T]H[E]
18. F[I][R][K][B][A][L]
19. TAI
20. [M]E + [N]E + [N] + [E]
21. [S] + E + N + [E][R]
22. [S] + E + A + N
23. [S] + E + A + N
24. [S] + E + A + N
25. [S] + E + A + N
26. [S] + E + A + N
27. [S] + E + A + N
28. [S] + E + A + N
29. [S] + E + A + N
30. [S] + E + A + N
31. [S] + E + A + N
32. [S] + E + A + N
33. [S] + E + A + N
34. [S] + E + A + N
35. [S] + E + A + N

**Down**
1. IS + RAEL (lear rev.)
2. SO + O + T + A + E
3. SMOG (“Smaug”)
4. RES[S]T
5. BIATHLON (anag.)
6. L + EMON (Name rev.)
7. NORMAL (hidden)
8. DIETONATE (note rev.)
9. A + P + ROVE
10. STERIC (anag.)
11. N + EURO + N
12. MAR + SHY (ram rev.)
13. O + ENIN (nine rev.)
14. MISS (2 defs.)

### 34 Connect the Dots

Answers are given with their starting and ending dots.

24-10. S + T + RINGERS

### 35 Matchmaker

The newly formed couples are in boldface.

1. SPIRIT (anag.)
2. SEMIPROMINIM
3. PASESANOUNCERTERARIUMAEDEI
4. LATUS
5. PATIS
6. RE
7. O]
8. SE
9. M
10. RAC[DEC][L][][E][E][E][N]
11. TUCK + E + D
12. TENSE (hidden)
13. CUB + E + T + E
14. RAC[DEC][L][][E][E][E][N]
15. TANGEO
16. MAY + HE + M
17. A + O + B
18. SICLE[RAM]
19. CRE[T]A
20. 5
21. 3
22. 2
23. BUL[LY]
24. E[N]
25. Y[ES]
26. SHAKE (hidden)
27. H[E][S]
28. [L][D]
29. OC + [H] + T + E
30. ID + EA
31. EK + T + [R][O][R][V][E][E]T
32. FIERY (anag.)
33. AXE + [W] + [L] + [L] + [R]
34. G[O][I][N][O][T]
35. HIT THE SCENE (anag.)
36. ARYAN (anag.)
37. GAS + E
38. GNASH (“Nash”)
39. ST[RO][V][E]

40. EMIT (Time rev.)
36 TRAVELER’S NIGHTMARE

Extra letters spell “SOME OF THEM GOT AIRSICK”; six grid entries have anagrams of AIR added. Missing letters spell “SOME LOST THEIR LUGGAGE”; six grid entries are missing the words “bag” or “case”.


37 TETRIS


38 TELLY ADDICTS

“Absolutely Fabulous” answers are jumbled. “Blackadder” answers have a B added to form a new word. “Eastenders” answers are all currencies (tenders). “Fawlty Towers” answers are kinds of towers, anagrammed (faulty). “The Prisoner” answers are entered at the wrong number grid. “Upstairs, Downstairs” answers go up, then down. “The Avenger” answers are horses with their first and last letters removed (find a steed and peel). NB: Many clues involve British usages.


39 X-WORD

40 KICKING A HABIT

This cryptic crossword avoids any contact with MDMA, using that drug’s monoglyphic short form. Diagonal words form “withdrawal symptoms.”

ACROSS
5. NIE + W[w]E[L/A/LAND] (lazy rev.)
11. SWANS[E]A
12. U[N/L/E][V/E] + R
13. [E/T/E][S/I/A/N (anag.)]
14. [E/X + T][E][N + S + I/V/E]
15. O[M/E][N/T/A] (anag.)
17. RAI[T/C/H/E][S] (starch anag.)
20. D[E][T/R/A/I/N]S
23. AL[E] + DR + API[ER]
29. BRASS + I[E][R][E][L][O]n
30. [E/M][H/P][Y/S][E][M][A] (Sammy anag.)
31. S[W/E/E][T] + [E][N/E][E]D
32. PISCIN[E] (in ch[ips] anag.)
33. [E/I/R][A]T + A
34. P[E]/[R][E][N][E][AL (lap in anag.)]
35. AL[E][R][T][E][L]Y
36. P[E][A][S][A][N][T]R Y

DOWN
1. NIE[ST][O]R I A N (anag.)
2. NIE[WS][M][A] + N (suam anag.)
3. FAIN + T[E]/I/D
4. SNATIC + H[I/E/R] (scant anag.)
6. WAIST-DIEP (anag.)
7. ANT + RO[O]R[E][E][N][E]
8. L + N[I/E][M][E][I][N]
9. ALSAC[E] (hidden)
10. E[N][V][R][O][N][E]
18. Y[E][I][S][T][E][R][D][A]YS (anag.)
19. JAME[S] + IAN
24. L[E][M][P][I][R][A] (anag.)
25. G[E][S][T][A][T]-[a/T]-[E][D]
26. L[I/N][T][E][L][S] (still anag.)
27. TH[E][S][I][S]
28. MY[C][E][N][A][E]

41 SLIPPERY CHARACTERS

The 36 characters comprise the 26 letters and ten digits.

ACROSS
1. CO[n] + [n][U][R][S][E] (end/lessly)
10. O[SC][A]R (crow)
12. V[E][R][I][F][I][E][D (Red l)
13. P[IR][I][N]T (manipulate in[k])
15. BAND (“banned”; waltz o’rally)
16. SO + AP[pealing] (Days off Our Lives)
18. NIGHT (‘night’; [s]talking)
21. AL + IKE (the s’hame)
23. SCAM (rev.; [e]mploy)
25. SPIN (first letters; g]lyrate)
28. CASES (2 defs.; [e]tea)
29. BA[ndsaw] + LANCED (cut’s even’)
31. SUGAR + BEE + T (Argus anag.; [bee] leads)
32. STEVE (hidden; with Reeve’s in Hercules)
33. [h]EATERS (not(e) hot)
34 ONE TWO (ano anag.)
35. DOWN
1. C + LOG (go’t woad)
2. UNCLE + AN (odd letters of [launt]
3. S + T + RAIN (eye[e]piece)
5. OCCU[ANT] (account anag.; [e]any)
6. WRIT[h][I][N] (lex[communication]
7. [d][e][L][G][H][T][e][d (unweight)e]
8. MEXICO (anag.; make(s) tapas’ country)
9. [s][o][U][P][E][D] UP (r[aced]
14. ABBA (palindrome; sj[u]ngers)
19. [T][e] + END (car(v)e)
20. M + EASURER (erasure anag.; he may take [you] out a ruler)
22. INSIGHT (anag.; [pea]nuts)
24. [b][L][O][T][S (top of[f]
26. PRE + TEXT (this leinlin einds credibility)
27. UNISON (hidden; sun[g] is one)
28. CAST[li]E (pallace)
30. ZERO (rev. hidden; swo[on] eire Zen)

42 SUPERBALL

The hexagons’ center spells BUCKMINSTERFULLERENE.

PENTAGONS
a. T + RI A L [b. [s]o][L][C][I][T][or] [c. TUL[S] + A (rev.)
d. UNDUE (“undo”)
e. SH[A][D][E] f. TR[I][A]D (rev.) g. APAC[h]E h. O + RI O N (iron anag.)
i. PUB[il]j c. T[I][M][P] k. [b][UN][I][O][N] l. GO[O][I][E (edge anag.)
HEXAGONS
43 CRYPTIC WORD SQUARE 1
Each clue leads to two different words.

1. **LA + THE; LAS + SO**  
2. **AS + HEN; AS + TER[n]**  
3. **ST[ILL]; TI[H]IRD (dirt anag.; third = two steps, in music)**  
4. **SERVE (anag.); HELVE (hidden)**  
5. **[L]OR + ER; [g]ENT + ER**

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**LATHE**
**ASHEN**
**STILT**
**SERVE**
**ORDER**

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44 CONCERTO FOR ORCHESTRA
In the first movement, the introductory text is a series of cryptic clues strung together. In the second movement, each clue answer is the first half of a well-known pair; the second half of that pair should be entered in the diagram. Each answer in the third movement is a type of elegy. In the fourth movement, each clue is interrupted by an extraneous word. In the fifth movement, each clue answer gains a final E to form a new word before entering the diagram. The extra words in the fourth-movement clues read “Note that the woodwind section looks somewhat off, and suggests another orchestral work that can be hummed for what theme?” The letters in the fifth row of the completed diagram, corresponding to the location of the woodwinds in a typical orchestra, spell the opening notes of the “Ode to Joy” from Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony.


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45 CRYPTIC WORD SQUARE 2
Each clue leads to two different words.

1. **S + PIKE; S + M + ASH** 2. **MANN + A; PAST + A** 3. **e[ASTER; [w]INTER** 4. **STEAL ([p]last[e]r anag.); KNEAD (anag.)** 5. **HA(R)ID + Y; EARL + Y** (Lear anag.)

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**SPIKE**
**M ANNA**
**ASTER**
**STEAL**
**H ARDY**