

**CRYPTOGRAMS**

Edited by LEXMAN

C-1. No precautions.

BEYOND, Lake Forest IL

RLY EUG ULYUI AQ LZS IZI XAR LUHY U “^FUFDA  
 AX ^FAUGI” VZNX, VA LY IYEZIYI ZR KUV ACUD  
 RA GPX ZR AQQ RLY GAUI.

C-2. Never saw it coming.

raw, Ogdensburg NY

\*Z\*U CRZRTSTATLDOZ LRZO ZFR BG BHZRS  
 IDEMDPL JRBS’O KTSOZ NBJ TH KRBZFRS HTS  
 ETCIBPJ RCIATJRR IDEPDE.

C-3. Truth in advertising.

ASOBI, Yardley PA

ZQIVTU KB QPG QH QPNZ UJTGG HQQFB UJCU  
 UCBUG GYCEUNZ UJG BCOG CB UJGZ BQVPF. UJG  
 QUJGT UXQ CTG IQVNCBJ CPF BSVKF.

C-4. As we Mensans say.

GRIDDLE, Santa Rosa CA

SCWQCRDCSV PVTPCXYM RNWXCXDX NL XUYYMMNA  
 TMYDDVP ENXD YQSYWDYKVNIXMB TPNLLVPVQ  
 CW KVMCQ XDYDV.

C-5. Apropos appellation.

NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

\*UPDBCXVUPDGRZ XCZGYU: IAGHS GHUGZK  
 BDGPD KJKH RGODS PCHHAS KUPCIK TRCPL  
 DARK. UYXHCQK QKCHU “TRCPL UDGKRZ!”

C-6. High-low split.

CATWEB, Sarasota FL

KQIKC EASE PSUISQP ISQP QUIQHF QUIKO  
 SHEAQP TASYQ PQYJPORQ QKO POT QUIKQRQYV  
 PACKI AQRYSHP XKQGOSY.

C-7. Come again?

(EOZV = +, part of phrase)

YOMAMA, Houston TX

MOTMD MPOU MA AIOPCAAU ZBQM HVIO  
 IVLVMGATGTH HBS NGMD QLOTOPS-CAIGTH  
 NGWO NOGPE QOTQVMGAT AW EOZV IGON.



December 2013

The National Puzzlers' League

#1310

**EDITOR'S MUSINGS**

'Tis the season to be jolly! Best wishes to the Krewe for extreme joy during the holiday season.

Great appreciative thanks go to Dandr, who has told me that he will be giving up his flats editor role as of this issue. I'm looking for someone to take over for him. If you have a few free hours each month and would like to help out, please let me know. I'm going to take over the job for a short while, but I'd much prefer to have an extra pair of eyes to assist me.

That said, I am willing to remain the editor of this magazine for a good while. Blame my previous trepidation on the looming 'odometer changing' birthday. And credit my renewed optimism on the use of a good CPAP machine. It's amazing how much more energy one has when one sleeps well!

**NEW MEMBERS**

L. D. Bartel, 2989 Ellington Dr, Rock Hill SC 29732  
 Kelly Fedak, 330 Eleven OClock Rd, Fairfield CT 06824  
 Christine Johnson, 6638 FM 121, Van Alstyne TX 75495-3516  
 Kimberly Lohar, 8 Western Road, Winchester, Hampshire, United Kingdom  
 SO22 5AH  
 Zanna Majerle, 19 Crest Dr, Escondido CA 92025  
 Alex Miller, 892 Myrtle Ave Apt 3, Brooklyn NY 11206  
 Rex Miller, 1709 Grandy Pl, Old Hickory TN 37138  
 Jerry Ritchie, 4375 Sellers St, Indianapolis IN 46226-7109  
 Matthew Stein, 235 Park Vista Terr, Allentown PA 18104  
 R. Zawicki, 13 Linwood Ave, Batavia NY 14020

**REJOINING MEMBER**

**PapaDe:** Dennis Jacobs, 1109 Groveland Ave, Crookston MN 56716,  
 papade@puzzlers.org

**CHANGES**

**catweb** is the nom chosen by MaryPat Everist.

**D. Ness:** Dean Sturtevant, 30 Mill St #332, Arlington MA 02476,  
 dness@puzzlers.org

## RESIGNED/REMOVED

Marisa Blitstein (Tweedledum), Michael Blitstein (Tweedledee), Jocelyn Bowie (Bing), Max Carpenter, Christopher Marston, Rob Maxwell (Sherlock), Vera Nazarov (Vyerachka), Ellen Sleight (gumby), Noah A. Teitelbaum

## NOVEMBER ERRATA

Two flats contain TETCBN.

39 — The 6 should be tagged as “NI3, but non-MW usage”.

49 — The 5 should be tagged as “NI2+”.

## DECEMBER PUZZLES

3 — The verse does not necessarily represent the views of the editor or of the NPL.

6 — Hot/Treesong.

26 — Scarab/Earl E. Byrd. In a Vowelcy, all the answers contain exactly the same vowels in the same order.

39 — Treesong/Canew.

F-1 — In each square, 1 is clued as a word in a Christmas song . . . and is a transposal of the 1s in the other squares.

(Continued on page 10)

## NOVEMBER HINTS AND DECEMBER EASY LIST

December Easy List: 6, 7, 9, 15, 16, 17, 19, 22, 31, 42.

8 — Is there a newer film involved in the discussion? If so, how has it been described?

## National Puzzlers' League Board of Directors

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C-7. Dyslexic anorexic vexes Texan sexists, reflexively texting them as gods versus dogs during cachexia.

X-1. Even though you get the monkey off your back, the circus never really leaves town. Anne Lamott

X-2. Experience: a comb life gives you after you lose your hair. Judith Stern

X-3. War is God's way of teaching us geography. Paul Rodriguez

X-4. Across: EARTH, Chevalier, art deco, test ban, honor roll, dukes, MERCURY, NEPTUNE, sable, electoral, take aim, JUPITER, runners up, VENUS.

Down: seraphim, cretin, ghee, echo, pestilence, MARS, Timbuktu, URANUS, rouge, oxygen mask, depot, rebuking, eelgrass, SATURN, rating, abed, jape, pave.

X-5. Across: HOT PANTS, Russo, ramp, roue, buzz, seabed, notepad, BELL BOTTOMS, elders, icon, HAPPY FACE, Avis, frappe, LEISURE SUIT, blossom, eraser, ovum, smug, keen, auric, MOOD RING.

Down: FRISBEE, rube, usual, ooze, PAINT BY NUMBER, ammo, true, soaps, HULA HOOP, tendon, redo, stow, lease, tiff, micas, LAVA LAMP, spas, PET ROCK, ambush, visa, locum, rein, usury, sago, owed, roan, emit.

X-6. The dog is a yes-animal, very popular with people who can't afford to keep a yes-man. Robertson Davies

X-7. There's nothing funnier than the human animal. Walt Disney

X-8. If a man says he will fix something, he will. There's no need to remind him about it every six months.

X-9. Try to learn something about everything and everything about something. Thomas Henry Huxley

X-5.

FRUHOTPANTSHT  
RUSSORAMPROUE  
IBUZZEIMSUALN  
SEABEDNOTEPAD  
BELLBOTTOMSHO  
ELDERSBIWICON  
EAHAPPYFACEOP  
AVISVANFRAPPE  
MALEISURESUIT  
BLOSSOMERASER  
UACAABIOVUMO  
SMUGKEENAURIC  
HPMOODRINGYTK

X-4.

S C G E P M R U  
EARTH CHEVALIER  
R E E H S R M A  
ARTDECO TESTBAN  
P I I U U  
HONORROLL DUKES  
I O X E E T  
MERCURY NEPTUNE  
E G G C O E  
SABLE ELECTORAL  
A U N A G  
TAKEAIM JUPITER  
U I B A A A I A  
RUNNERSUP VENUS  
N G D K E E G S

F-1. BOO S T  
BOO T H I A  
BOO T C A M P S  
S H A B B A T  
T I M B E R Y  
A P A R T  
S T Y



F-2.

WMNSSMTMTHNG  
TNTNCSSRLS  
PRGNDBSS  
SMMRTM  
BRRD  
ST

“A Woman is a Sometime Thing”  
“It Ain't Necessarily So”  
Porgy and Bess  
“Summertime”  
briard  
suite

F-3.

SIB  
TENET  
SEVERAL  
INEXACT  
BERATED  
TACET  
LTD

Iowa, Miata, nanpie, oysters, Senegambia, McNamaras, outsider art, misbetide, tiresome, Heloise, Nausea, Gay

59–25, 60–22/1, 61–20/2, 62–23, 63–22, 64–17, 65–23/3, 66–11/4, 67–24/1, 68–23, 69–22/9/1, 70–25/2, 71–25/2, 72–24/2, 73–23/1, 74–24, 75–22, 76–18, 77–22, 78–23/1, 79–18. FORMS: 1–20, 2–23/1, 3–23/3, 4–15/2, 5–21/4, 6–21/1. CRYPTS: 1–23/1, 2–23/1, 3–23, 4–19, 5–19, 6–18/1, 7–21/2. EXTRAS: 1–22, 2–21, 3–17/12/2, 4–13/10/4, 5–21, 6–21, 7–22/1, 8–17, 9–19, 10–20, 11–20, 12–21, 13–19, 14–18.

SEPTEMBER FAVORITES (! means top favorite): Alice–12, 22, 30, 35, 50, 65, 69. andma-Gray/turk–7, 53, 56, F-5, C-7, X-3. /dev/joe–38, 55, 69!, F-2, F-3, F-4, X-3, X-4. Hot–1, 19, 31, 40, 57, 65, 69, X-3, X-4. Jo the Loiterer–40, 55, 57, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6. Lyric–5, 67, 69, 78, X-3, X-4!, Mercury–21, 31, 37, 54, 66, 71, X-4. Munro–30, 40, 41, 44, 51, X-3!. Newrow–1, 3, 5!, 21, 69, F-5, X-3. NJ Ninja–2, 21, 35, 45, 70, X-3, X-4!. Pebbles–12, 19, 24, 25, 33, 49, 69, X-3, X-4!. Pen Gwyn–5. Quicks?lver–5, 6, 7, 24, 27, 28, 55, 57, 61, C-7, X-3!, X-4. R/EDS–3, 5!, 31, 39, 43, 46, 55, 66, C-6, X-3, X-4. Serendipity–1, 5, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, 33, 34, 35, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44, 49, 50, 52, 55!, 57, 65, 66, 69, 70, 72. Treesong–5, 23, 24, 27, 28, 34, 41!, 46, 55, 60, 61, 69, 71, 72, F-3, F-5, X-3, X-4. Tyger–22!, 23, 24, 25, 27, 50, 55, C-1, X-7. Wabbit–25, 27!, 66, 73. Witz–1, 5, 27, 32, 43, 53, 69, C-2, X-3, X-4!.

## OCTOBER SOLUTIONS

1. shan't rebuild, Lee Daniels' The Butler 2. c(her)oot 3. growled at, dog-eat-dog world 4. Saudi Arabia, birds 5. co(me)dy 6. Inhambane 7. A Chorus Line, unheroical's 8. aside, ideas; A-side 9. peacoat, pekoe 10. (sensuousness)s 11. Ca(member)t 12. done with the wing [Gone with the Wind] 13. la(a)ger 14. in(b)red 15. quite so, toties quoties, it's quiet — too quiet 16. entirety, eternity 17. Walter White, welterweight 18. infect, Ceftin 19. subvertical, cruciverbalist 20. Ernest Hemingway 21. bowlin-e/g 22. trouncedish, One Direction: This Is Us 23. ghoulish, goulash 24. hair conditioner KU-1. Clara, Laura 25. redaction, contraindicated, interior decorator 26. man(a)ge 27. triples, pipistrelle, slipperiest 28. effaced; F, aced 29. remnant, remat 30. Espana rad [E's PA; N, aR A D] 31. Eli, Yalie 32. AMPERage, SANDal 33. sequined 34. go blind, Em) and, pace [goblin(=orc), demand(=hest), pace(=rate)] 35. poodle skirts, wing tips [POODLE skirts WING tips] 36. cab ride; legroom 37. oh, Rob [B, O, rho] 38. loca, lidocaine [a la Trent, Tridentine] 39. the Lincoln Memorial 40. acetaminophen 41. life on Mars

C-1. We saw this really good Rolling Stones cover band last weekend. They are called the Rolling Stones.  
C-2. It is difficult to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they are always taking things literally.  
C-3. This world is made of sugar. It can crumble so easily, but don't be afraid to stick out your tongue and taste it.  
C-4. Odd Flagstaff Cherokee princess, crass Kalamazoo Yankee shirr Hawaii towhee egg. See worthless shell.  
C-5. Acronyms "concealed" really obviously never yet made interesting cryptograms. Denounce overt hypocrisy!  
C-6. Hyena sings hymns to cygnet in halcyon sylvan canyon, strains larynx, asks python for anodyne.

## PENETRALIA

Solution words and phrases not found in 11C (11th Collegiate) are labeled for the most recent Merriam-Webster dictionary in which they appear: 10C, NI3, NI2 Addenda, or NI2, or, failing that, RH2 or 12W. Non-MW words are noted. "+" signifies foreign, slang, dialect, obsolete, archaic, and the like. Capitalized words get a "\*". Words that are capitalized (as in names, titles) but normally uncanceled with the same usage get a "^". Enumeration for MW phrases is [bracketed] in anagrams and flat types where non-MW phrases are allowed, to wit: spoonergrams, mutations, palindromes, rebuses, heteronyms and homonyms, variations on these types, and flats labeled "freewheeling."

Send your solution lists after January 1 to Quicks?lver (solutions@puzzlers.org) or mail to LIRATH, Eric Suess, 1547 Golden Gate St., Pocatello ID 83201 (solutions@puzzlers.org). All lists must be received by 11:59 p.m. PST on January 31.

### 1. RIDDLE (8)

A word search creator (a program I use) Takes words. When it's done, they're all hid  
In all 8 directions. It also makes sure No others appear in the grid.

In spite of that feature, a word going down,  
Where any could easily see,  
Was "FLOWER", which given the Halloween words  
I had entered, was wrong as could be.

To answer my riddle, you don't need to know  
Of computers, but only of words.  
The riddle is, given my horror-themed input,  
How "FLOWER", unwanted, occurred.  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

2. PALINDROME (4 7 2 \*5) 3, 4 3 \*3)  
(\*3 = not MW) (can be sung)

Rudolph, and eight more reindeer  
Want to hire a tenth, and so  
Plan to check out a prospect  
Named for actor Mineo.  
Thus, on the night that starts the  
Day that ends the Hebrew month  
Hanukkah ends in (*this* year,  
That's December thirty-oneth),  
Even if it's misty out  
Thrice three deer will search  
Records by the scarlet light  
Shed by Rudolph's nose so bright.  
Santa will see, through all that  
(Rare, but not unknown on the  
Ultimate night in cold De-  
Cember or the EEL ALEE.  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

### 3. ENIGMATIC REBUS (10)

This flat's D  
Shouldn't be,  
Sez me.

D

=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

### 4. PALINDROME (\*6 7, 4 8)

He once was prime minister.  
Now he's quite sinister.  
He's got a terribly evil new plan.  
He wants sabras to stash  
Their candelabras and dash  
To the voting booth, passing a ban  
On the import of items for  
Chanukah in the store.  
Prices will rise as supplies get too low.  
Before the dread PALINDROME  
Quickly and take them home  
Lest your poor candles have nowhere  
to go!  
=SCARAB, St. Paul MN

# 5. WORD DELETION (10) (OUT = NI3+, IN = not MW)

The ALL, he managed all the quay  
That sat in old Dundee —  
A man sans fear or doubt.  
He had no gun, 'twas not allowed,  
But underneath his coat he'd shroud  
His short but finely sharpened OUT.  
As added defense in the dark,  
He had a dog that sure could bark:  
A loud IN, IN his warning stout.  
=R/EDS, Ste. Anne de Prescott ON

# 6. CHARADE (10) (cf. Sep. #22)

I wear ALL indoors to look cool to the  
TWO  
And intrigue them, as well, with my  
shadier do.  
And I've ONE in a rock band. No, really!  
It's true!  
=HONG, Berkland CH

# 7. SPOONERGRAM ([5 5], 5 5) (clued in order)

My friend is a werewolf who loves to  
explore  
Underground chambers and such.  
Because of his looks, my pal's self-  
esteem  
Is scanty (he doesn't have much).

From making those movies, he's rather  
well-off,  
While I'm, sad to say, rather broke.  
I continue to hope that he'll treat me  
to dinner  
Or buy me a car or fur cloak.

I flatter him often and hope that will  
work;  
I've lied and said, "You're kinda cute!"  
(Not too many people would go to such  
lengths  
To UGLY like that with a BEAUT.)  
=WABBIT, Montreal QC

# 8. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (\*6 \*5) (can be sung)

\*A. "Ho, lass!" said the bishop-saint of  
Myra  
Back when he patrolled  
B. Down by Myra's docks, "I'll gift  
thee now with gold!"  
C. "Ho, lad!" he'd repeat at one  
church Council,  
"Arius, you sleaze,  
D. I think you had best amend your  
heresies!"

Yes, our "Santa," who gave the poor  
gold to save the poor much grief,  
Got into the debatement of one Greek  
statement of belief . . .  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

# 9. TRANSPOSAL (4) FIRST-LETTER CHANGE (4)

It was dumb to think that the lion was  
WEST,  
And worse to try to kiss him.  
The lion, of course, considered him  
BEST,  
Then STEW. We sure will miss him.  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

# 10. TRANSADE (10) (10 = +) (after September 39)

The gossips out in London sneer  
About the Eater's wall.  
"His wife keeps seeds in FIRST, not  
vases."  
All the SECOND ALL.  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

# 11. FREEWHEELING SECOND- SOUND CHANGE (\*3 3, 3-3) (\*3 = not MW)

Boston Globe headline,  
Halloween: "DEAD: LINE".  
=GENEAL, Providence RI

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: 1-17/6, 2-21,  
3-19, 4-20/2, 5-20/1, 6-20/1, 7-22, 8-21/1, 9-19, 10-20/1, 11-22/2, 12-20,  
13-21/1, 14-21, 15-16/3, 16-21/1, 17-20/1, 18-20, 19-20/2, 20-17, 21-20/1,  
22-22/1, 23-21/2, 24-22/2, 25-21, 26-19/5, 27-22, 28-21/1, 29-21/1, 30-21/6,  
31-19, 32-18, 33-20/2, 34-21/3/1. FORM: 1-17/2, 2-16/1, 3-18/2, 4-18/2,  
5-18/2, 6-18, 7-18/2, 8-18/1. CRYPTS: 1-19/1, 2-19/1, 3-18/2, 4-19/2, 5-18,  
6-18/1, 7-17/1. EXTRAS: 1-19/14/10, 2-17, 3-18, 4-16/1, 5-18, 6-16/1.

JUNE FAVORITES (! means top favorite): Alice-34!, X-1. Badir-1, 24, 26, C-6,  
X-1. /dev/joe-13, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-7, F-8, X-1!. Dragonfly-10, 15, 22, 30, X-1!.  
Hot-1, 4, 15, X-1!. Jo the Loiterer-19, 26, 30, 34, F-2, F-7, X-1, X-4. Lyric-1, 24,  
34, F-1, C-4, X-1!, X-6. Mercury-8, 11, 21, 23, 30, 33, C-2. Munro-15, 29, 30,  
X-1!. Newrow-1, 17, 30, F-1, X-1. Pebbles-26, 28, X-1!. Quicks?lver-4, 6, F-3, C-  
1, C-3, C-7, X-1!. Treesong-1, 5, 16, 19, 26, 30, X-1!. Tyger-33, F-4, F-5, C-3, X-  
1!. Witz-1, 11, 23, 26, C-4, X-1!.

## SEPTEMBER SOLVERS

The September *Enigma* had 79 flats, 6 forms, 7 crypts, and 14 extras; 25 solution lists, representing 55 solvers, were received.

8/Badir/Btnirn/QED, Joker/LeXman/Lirath/YoMama/YoDaughter, Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball, Philana/Mercury and Quicks?lver had completes. Dischorran/Panther/Momus and Witz/Andreas had flat completes.

Accepted: 3-RICE LOAF; 27-BALMY CAPITALS for WORLD CAPITALS;  
42-FIR for FUR; 59-UNEASE, NOISE; F-4-REBELT for REBOLT (3); X-4-<any  
nom, provided the winning poker hand was identified> for QAQAQ (2).  
Not accepted: 16-YES-MEN for YEOMEN (4) [different enumeration]; 17-DORY-  
ANGELFISH for HALF-GERYONIDS; 37-HOMELAND, AMANDA HOLDEN  
(2); C-4-SINGLE-WAPPED for SINGLY-WAPPED (3); C-5- VENTRILO-  
QUIST for VENTRILOQUISM (2); X-3-PORTA-L/E for AORTA-L/E (3).  
—QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

Ajde 25/0/3/2; Alice/Hot/Ming 62/0/0/0; andma-Gray/turk 40/5/\*/13; Banterweight/  
Dragonfly/Libra/Tennaqist 71/5/6/12; Billy the Kid/g-unit/Kapry Korn 65/\*/6/9;  
Buttorkup 38/2/\*/0; Clio 66/\*/5/6; /dev/joe 49/2/0/2; Dischorran/Panther/Momus  
\*/\*/13; Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifier/Serendipity 78/\*/\*/\*; George Groth/Ai  
78/\*/6/\*; Hemlock/Lyric/Munro 77/5/\*/13; Loki-5 77/\*/6/\*; Newrow/Jerg 75/\*/\*/\*;  
NJ Ninja 38/4/5/13; Pebbles 68/5/6/9; R/EDS/Wabbit 77/\*/\*/13; Treesong 78/\*/\*/\*;  
Tyger/Wolverine 72/\*/6/13; Witz/Andreas \*/5/6/13.

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: 1-24/4, 2-25/1,  
3-24/2, 4-23, 5-17/8/2, 6-24/1, 7-23/2, 8-24, 9-25, 10-21, 11-23, 12-25/2, 13-20,  
14-20, 15-20/1, 16-16, 17-17/1, 18-22, 19-23/3, 20-25, 21-25/4, 22-22/2/1,  
23-17/3, 24-21/5, 25-19/4, 26-24/1, 27-19/5/1, 28-23/2, 29-21, 30-19/2, 31-20/4,  
32-22/1, 33-17/2, 34-18/2, 35-22/3, 36-25, 37-20/1, 38-24/2, 39-17/2, 40-18/3,  
41-13/3/1, 42-20/1, 43-18/2, 44-19/2, 45-25/1, 46-20/2, 47-23, 48-17, 49-22/2,  
50-21/3, 51-21/1, 52-20/1, 53-22/2, 54-23/1, 55-24/7/1, 56-25/1, 57-24/4, 58-20,

Dischorran/Panther/Momus, Joker/LeXman/Lirath/YoMama/YoDaughter, Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball, Philana/Mercury, Quicks?lver and Witz/Andreas had completes. Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity and Hemlock/Lyric/Munro had flat completes.

Accepted: 12–IMPULS(IV)E (3); 25–PERIL, LIRIPIPE.

—QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

Ajde 12/0/5/5; &/Badir/Btnirn 56/\*/\*/\*; Alice/Hot/Ming 55/0/0/0; Buttorkup 34/2/6/7; Clio 49/\*/\*/\*; /dev/joe 40/3/0/1; Dragonfly 32/0/\*/3; Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity /\*/\*/\*/8; Hemlock/Lyric/Munro /\*/\*/\*/8; Loki-5 56/\*/\*/\*; Newrow/Jerg 53/\*/\*/\*; Pebbles 50/3/\*/6; Treesong 53/\*/\*/\*; Tyger/Wolverine 55/\*/\*/\*.

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: 1–18, 2–20/1, 3–17/1, 4–18/3, 5–14/3, 6–18, 7–18, 8–18/4, 9–17/1, 10–19/4, 11–16/4, 12–16, 13–20, 14–20/2, 15–20/2, 16–12/1, 17–17, 18–19/2, 19–20, 20–19, 21–18, 22–18, 23–19/2, 24–14/1, 25–16/2, 26–14, 27–14/4/1, 28–15/2, 29–19/1, 30–18/4, 31–19, 32–16/1, 33–15/1, 34–18/3, 35–18/1, 36–17/4, 37–19/3, 38–18, 39–15, 40–18/3, 41–18/6, 42–17/1, 43–17/2, 44–20/2, 45–19/1, 46–20/1, 47–17/1, 48–16, 49–19/2, 50–19, 51–19/2, 52–15/5/1, 53–18/1, 54–19/2, 55–19, 56–16, 57–19/1. FORMS: 1–15/1, 2–16/1, 3–17/3/1, 4–16/6/2. CRYPTS: 1–18/2, 2–18/1, 3–18, 4–17/5, 5–18, 6–17/1, 7–17/1. EXTRAS: 1–14, 2–16, 3–17/11/3, 4–17, 5–18, 6–17/1, 7–15, 8–17, 9–15.

MAY FAVORITES (! means top favorite): Alice–4, 10, 23, 41, 49, 52, X-3. Badir–27!, 41, 51, 54, F-4, X-3. /dev/joe–40, 49, F-3, X-3!. Dragonfly–3, 10, 25, 29, 37, 46, 51, 54, C-4, C-6, C-7, X-3. Hot–10, 15, 23, 27, 36, 40, 41, 52, X-3. Jo the Loiterer–5, 11, 27, 36, 41, 52, 57, F-1, F-4!, X-3. Lyric–4, 28, 30, 34, 52!, C-4, X-3. Mercury–4, 8, 18, 44, C-1, C-4. Ming–52. Newrow–10, 15, 25, 30, F-2, F-4!. Pebbles–37, 41, 44, 45, 50. Quicks?lver–5, 8, 11, 14, 16, 24, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 42, 43, F-3, F-4, C-2, C-4, X-3. Treesong–2, 8, 9, 28, 36, 40, 41, 45, 53, F-4, X-3!. Tyger–8, 11, 14, 18, 34, 43, 47, F-3!, C-4, X-3, X-6. Witz–5, 11, 27, 30, 36, F-4, C-1, X-3!.

## JUNE SOLVERS

The June *Enigma* had 34 flats, 8 forms, 7 crypts, and 6 extras; 22 solution lists, representing 47 solvers, were received.

&/Badir/Btnirn/QED, Dischorran/Panther/Momus, Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity, George Groth/Ai, Hemlock/Lyric/Munro, Joker/LeXman/Lirath/YoMama/YoDaughter, Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball, Philana/Mercury, Quicks?lver, Treesong, Tyger/Wolverine and Witz/Andreas had completes. Banterweight/Dragonfly and Newrow/Jerg had flat completes.

Accepted: 12–CRAZIER, RACIER; 20–PRI-M/D-E for VER-S/V-E (3).

—QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

Ajde 6/0/3/3; Alice/Hot/Ming 32/0/0/0; Bambam 27/0/0/1; Banterweight/Dragonfly /\*/2/\*/2; Buttorkup 19/4/\*/2; Clio 31/\*/\*/5; /dev/joe 28/7/0/1; Loki-5 33/\*/\*/\*; Newrow/Jerg /\*/\*/6/\*; Pebbles 33/\*/\*/\*.

## 12. THIRD-TO-SECOND CHANGEOR (5)

The perp is now in custody, so no more crimes for him.

I'm sure that we can nail the case; I'll go out on a limb.

He's sure to have some wretched tale; of this I have no doubt,

But as we grill him carefully, the ONE TWO will come out.

=R/EDS, Ste. Anne de Prescott ON

## 13. WELDED TRANSPOSAL (6 10)

You're looking at,

I guess,

The ANSWER flat,

No less.

=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

## 14. PROGRESSIVE PHONETIC BEHEADMENT (5, 4, 3) (5 = not MW, 4 = phrase usage)

Hannah Montana's fans all say  
That seeing her ONE at the VMA  
Awards really THREEd them, save a few

Who say she's a sexy piece of TWO.

=TREESONG, Cleveland OH

## 15. LETTER BANK: (4 3, ^6 ^4)

A cameraman got dressed down  
While shooting a scene from ^SIX  
^FOUR:

He forgot to remove the FOUR  
THREE,  
Which made the director quite sore.

"The movie is well over budget,  
With 'Sly' and old 'Ah-nold' as stars",  
He yelled, "One more foul-up, I swear,  
and

This crew will end up behind bars!"

=TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL

## 16. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA (^8 ^4) (not MW; C = 2 wds.)

A. "All boo Snow's evil plans! May we

B. Derail them all! May Panem be

\*C. (Later on, I note) a great,

D. Nice, peaceful, democratic state!"

In *The Hunger Games* (part two), now out,

Young Katniss thinks such things, no doubt.

=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

## 17. LETTER BANK (6, 12)

John Elway puts up auto lots,  
And everybody gets the hots.  
When Joe Montana sells his wine,  
The people say it's mighty fine.  
Those quarterbacks have all the luck.  
I'm just some poor, strong-legged schmuck!

The funeral parlor I unveiled  
("The Coffin Corner") quickly failed.  
"Fair Catch," my seafood joint, fell through,

But I have other things to do.  
I know I lack a QB's fame.  
Most fans don't even know my name,  
But I will not give up just yet —  
A LIST can be a STILL, you bet!

I'll peddle wall clocks in a store  
Called "Hang Time." Folks will come for sure.

I'll strike it rich — you know I will —  
Because a LIST can be a STILL!  
=SCARAB, St. Paul MN

## 18. SECOND-LETTER CHANGE (6)

Though versed from Hadean to

Cretaceous,

The A was not B but salacious.

Off the clock, he'd propose

Exhibit tours without clothes

To ladies both slim and curvaceous.

=DISCHORRAN, Ithaca NY

## 19. LETTER BANK (9, 3 [6 6])

We ought to use TARTARS.  
It's already used  
In physics, biology, STAR,  
Et cetera. Also in  
Nearly all countries.  
What pigheaded people we are!  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

20. TERMINAL DELETION (\*7)  
(neither answer = MW usage)

Big Jean had speed and lots of class;  
The master of the forward pass.  
The Flower's shot was hard and fast,  
His skating left the crowd aghast.  
But surely from the blue line in,  
The Rocket (\*LONG) would always win.

Big Gordie sure with talent blessed;  
The fastest elbows in the west.  
The Golden Jet with SHORTER mane;  
His slap shot sure could entertain.  
While I support the Tricolore,  
The greatest of them all was Orr.  
=R/EDS, Ste. Anne de Prescott ON

21. WELDED TRANSPOSAL (\*4 12)  
(\*4 = non-MW usage)

October #31 made clear  
The way to write a term for one from  
HERE.  
=TREESONG, Cleveland OH

## 22. DELETION (7)

I sat watching my TV  
With some dinner on my knee:  
Shrimp and mussels, lots of rice,  
Salt and garlic, saffron spice.  
Then my moggy caused a flap  
When she jumped upon my lap,  
Tipped the GATE onto my GRATE,  
Left my pants in a sorry state.  
=raw, Ogdensburg NY

## 23. REBUS (5, 7)

FAR

For Erica, my object of desire,  
How long I've longed to have, to hold,  
to own.  
For Erica, my fervor flames like fire,  
More bright than any passion I have  
known.  
A lushness ever pleasing to the sight,  
A tender touch to tantalize as well.  
A strength unseen, begat by inner  
might,  
A gentle scent to stir the sense of smell.  
How far to get what is, to me, so dear?  
How far until I hold you in my sway?  
How far — a day, a week, a month, a  
year —  
Until I can steal Erica away?  
I know I never will, but I'll come close.  
Some day I will acquire, by  
GRANDIOSE.  
=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

24. HETERONYM (\*1'1 4 2, \*5-\*3)  
(\*5, \*3 = not MW)

In *Thor: The Dark World*, if you sat  
down and timed all  
The scenes that do *not* have both Dar-  
cy and Heimdall  
You'd find that they far, far outweigh  
those that *do*.  
Did they fear matching Elba with  
Dennings was *too*  
Cool? Were such a film made by yours  
truly, RED BEANS  
Least another half-hour of awesome  
RICE scenes.  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

25. WORD DELETION ([\*5 \*6])  
(one answer = phrase)

In the FOXED you will not OX  
The FED of Europe's cuckoo clocks.  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

41, 47, 50, F-3, X-3, X-7, X-9!. Tyger-6, 7, 16, 17, 28, 39, 50!, X-8. Witz-9, 13, 18,  
48, C-3, X-3, X-8, X-9!.

## APRIL SOLVERS

The April *Enigma* had 56 flats, 7 forms, 7 crypts, and 10 extras; 19 solution lists, representing 41 solvers, were received. The 22 Ralfs are not counted in the regular scores, but the number of solvers and the kudos for each are included below. 9 Ralf solution lists, representing 19 solvers, were received.

Dischorran/Panther/Momus, Joker/LeXman/Lirath/YoMama/YoDaughter, Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball, Philana/Mercury, Treesong and Witz/Andreas had completes. Philana/Mercury and Marcus Asparagus had Ralf completes.

Accepted: 17-INTERPOSAL for RANTIPOLES (6); 21-FR-E/A-UD for BI-D/Z-EN; 47-NONRATIONAL for NARRATIONAL; R-14-CHE SARA, SARA for QUE SERA, SERA.  
—QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

Ajde 12/0/2/4; N/Badir/Btnirn 55/\*/\*/\*; Alice/Hot/Ming 50/0/0/0; Buttorkup 36/4/\*/1; Clio 45/\*/\*/5; /dev/joe 40/6/0/1; Dragonfly 36/0/\*/2; Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity 48/\*/\*/\*; Hemlock/Lyric/Munro 55/\*/\*/\*; Loki-5 55/\*/\*/\*; Newrow/Jerg 49/\*/\*/\*; Pebbles 54/6/\*/9; Tyger/Wolverine 44/\*/\*/\*.

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: 1-18, 2-12, 3-19/1, 4-19, 5-17, 6-19, 7-19/1, 8-14, 9-17/1, 10-18, 11-19/5, 12-14/1, 13-19, 14-19, 15-18/4, 16-17, 17-17/1, 18-15, 19-15/5/2, 20-18, 21-9, 22-15/1, 23-19, 24-18, 25-18/3, 26-18, 27-18, 28-19, 29-18, 30-17/1, 31-17/1, 32-14, 33-15/1, 34-19/1, 35-17/3, 36-10/1, 37-17/2/1, 38-9, 39-13, 40-18/1, 41-19, 42-14/2, 43-16/1, 44-19/6/1, 45-17/2, 46-8, 47-18/1, 48-17, 49-14/1, 50-18/1, 51-17/2, 52-17, 53-17, 54-16/1, 55-10, 56-17. FORM: 1-15/2, 2-15/5, 3-15/1, 4-16, 5-15/3, 6-16/2, 7-15/4/1. CRYPTS: 1-17, 2-17, 3-16, 4-16, 5-16, 6-16/2, 7-16/1. EXTRAS: 1-13, 2-13/2/2, 3-14, 4-14, 5-13, 6-15, 7-15, 8-17, 9-15/1, 10-13/8. RALFS: 1-9/1, 2-8, 3-8, 4-6/1, 5-9/2, 6-9/1, 7-7, 8-7/2, 9-9/2, 10-9, 11-9/1, 12-8/1, 13-9/1, 14-8, 15-9, 16-2, 17-8/2/2, 18-9/2, 19-9/1, 20-8, 21-6/1, 22-9/1.

APRIL FAVORITES (! means top favorite): Alice-44, 51, X-10, R-6, R-9, R-11. /dev/joe-19, 25, 40, 44, F-1, F-2, F-5, F-6, F-7!, X-10. Dragonfly-11, 35, 37!, 45, 47, C-6, C-7. Hot-12, 19, 51, F-2, X-10. Jo the Loiterer-11, 15, 22, 25, 54, F-2, F-3, F-7, X-2!, X-10. Lyric-15, F-1, F-2, F-5, F-7, X-10, R-5, R-17!, R-18. Marcus Asparagus-R-1, R-4, R-8, R-9, R-12, R-17!, R-22. Mercury-7, 30, 34, 44, X-9, R-18, R-19. Munro-19!, 31, 49, R-8. Newrow-11, 15, 37, 42, 44!, F-7, X-10. Pebbles-11, 35, 44, 45, 50. Treesong-3, 11, 15, 17, 19!, 35, 42, 43, 44, F-6, X-10, R-5, R-13, R-21. Witz-9, 19, 25, 33, 36, F-2, F-5, C-6, X-2!, X-10.

## MAY SOLVERS

The May *Enigma* had 57 flats, 4 forms, 7 crypts, and 9 extras; 20 solution lists, representing 42 solvers, were received.

X-6. ANAQUOTE (4 \*1 4 1 3 \*1 3 6, “2  
4 3 3 \*1 4 2 8 2 5 5 8 4?” \*4 \*6)

AMA ANI CHI EEK EET END END ENT  
HEM IRW IST ITA LDR LFI NER NIA  
NIM OSP RUD SKM STH SWI THE THR  
TMY WAN WHE YSE  
=TREESONG, Cleveland OH

X-7. VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (5 3 4 5  
2 6 7 3 4 5 4 2 5. \*5 \*6)

EEEEEEFLMNNOOORRRSSSTUVY  
FLMPVOEIIARDNTGOROUYESN  
AHATRISMWASOHVIIICSI TAG  
=N, Cambridge MA

### MARCH SOLVERS

The March *Enigma* had 52 flats, 4 forms, 7 crypts, and 10 extras; 18 solution lists, representing 40 solvers, were received.

Dischorran/Panther/Momus, Joker/LeXman/Lirath/YoMama/YoDaughter and Philana/Mercury had completes. Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball and Witz/Andreas had flat completes.

Accepted: 14—ST. KITTS, KIT for ST. BART'S, BAR (5).  
—QUICKS?LVER, Solutions Editor

Ajde 9/0/4/3; N/Badir/Btnirn 48/\*/\*/\*, Alice/Hot/Ming 39/0/0/0; Buttorkup 27/2/2/0; /dev/joe 30/1/0/3; Dragonfly 27/0/\*/1; Geneal/GrandBairn/Melifer/Serendipity 48/\*/\*/9; Hemlock/Lyric/Munro 47/\*/\*/9; Jo the Loiterer/Manx/Pen Gwyn/Stewball /\*/\*/6/\*; Loki-5 51/\*/\*/\*; Newrow/Jerg 43/\*/\*/9; Pebbles 51/3/\*/6; Treesong 51/\*/\*/\*; Tyger/Wolverine 40/\*/\*/\*; Witz/Andreas /\*/\*/\*/9.

SOLVING FREQUENCY/NUMBER OF KUDOS/TOP KUDOS: 1–15, 2–15, 3–11/3/1, 4–16, 5–17/1, 6–12/4, 7–17/3, 8–17/1, 9–13/3, 10–15, 11–15/2, 12–12, 13–15/1, 14–14, 15–12/1, 16–15/2, 17–17/1, 18–11/1, 19–15/4/1, 20–10, 21–11/1, 22–15/1, 23–18/2, 24–17/2, 25–17/1, 26–18, 27–16, 28–18/1, 29–11/2, 30–12/3, 31–18, 32–18/1, 33–16, 34–15, 35–15/4/1, 36–18, 37–12/3, 38–18, 39–16/3, 40–14, 41–12/2, 42–15, 43–16/1, 44–13/1, 45–18, 46–13, 47–13/1, 48–15/1, 49–12, 50–17/2/1, 51–14, 52–16. FORM: 1–12, 2–14/2, 3–15/2, 4–13. CRYPTS: 1–16, 2–16, 3–15/1, 4–15, 5–14, 6–14/1, 7–13. EXTRAS: 1–13, 2–14, 3–13/8/2, 4–13, 5–13, 6–14, 7–12/2, 8–14/5, 9–11/7/3, 10–12.

MARCH FAVORITES (! means top favorite): Alice–16, 24, 35!, X-8, X-9.  
/dev/joe–8, 30, X-3, X-8, X-9!. Dragonfly–5, 19, 32, 35, C-6. Hot–3!, 6, 19, 30, 35, 37, 39, X-3, X-9. Jo the Loiterer–3, 6, 7, 19, F-2, F-3, X-3, X-9. Lyric–24, X-3!, X-8, X-9. Mercury–9, 11, 15, 23, 25, 35. Munro–3, 6, 11, 19!, 43, X-3. Newrow–22, 23, 29, F-2, X-3!, X-7. Pebbles–37, 41, 44. Treesong–7, 9, 21, 29, 30, 37, 39,

X-8. SHUFFLED QUOTE

^ \_ O E \_ " E \* C E \_ D . A E \*  
E \_ O R I ^ C M C L E E E " A M :  
V P T N D C O L S I G L I K T L  
Y T T O N S U O W T L L I  
=raw, Ogdensburg NY

X-9. SHUFFLED QUOTE

\* E \_ - D A \* C \_ \_ \_ A \_ . \* E  
A I \_ O E D L K A A I B F A L O R I  
N T M T H I N L H M N D I E R T W R  
T Y Y W N O P O N R Y S L L V  
=☞, Bellevue WA

26. VOWELCY (12, 6 5, 10, 9)  
(TWO = not MW)

To avoid being ONE, I must  
frequently eat,  
And eating, for me, must include spicy  
meat.  
Smoked pork is my staple. Ah, oui, je  
l'adore!  
So I will begin with a few links of  
FOUR.

And then I will freshen my mouth  
with a THREE.  
Good gracious! Whatever has  
happened to me?  
My mind wandered off to a song by  
The Byrds.  
And then, like an oaf, I confounded  
my words.  
Alas, “Tangerine” was the word that I  
meant;  
(My brain has decayed to a woeful  
extent.)

In any case, now I must wash down  
my food.  
I crave something different, a drink  
that's imbued  
With healthful components like, say,  
Beta-C.  
A tall glass of TWO would be perfect  
for me.  
=SCARE E. BYRD, St. Paiken MC

27. REVERSED CONSONANTCY  
(5, \*6)

I'm doing genealogy.  
I think my great-great-grand-  
Parents emigrated  
From a Baltic land.

If only I could get ELOPIN'  
Records from NEPAL,  
I'd find births, deaths, and wedding  
dates  
To prove my roots withal.  
=530nm330Hz, Newton MA

28. ENIGMATIC REBUS (4 \*5.” “2 4,  
\*1)

december

I stiffly tell my captain, “Thy  
Large vase, which I have charred,  
ain't Ming;  
It's newer. When I singe things, I  
Have dating experts that I bring  
By camp declare each vase I LIE  
Lieutenant; I believe thee. Still,  
If it's a lie, may (say) a thing  
With teeth that might quite snugly fill  
A hatchway eat thee ere they sing  
'Lang Syne' this year near Semerville.”  
=UCAEIMHU, Semerville MA

29. LETTER BANK (7, 12)

Folkman thought that  
Stopping LONGER ANSWER  
Might save folks the  
SHORTER ONE of cancer.  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

30. PARTIALLY REVERSED WORD  
DELETION (3 5)

An ALL at 4pm is where I heard  
Of ^ALL designs at tearing INNER  
WORD  
The social fabric of the USA.  
Did they succeed? Not OUTER  
WORD WRONG WAY.  
=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

31. REBUS (7 4)

G E

“A rabbi, a priest and an  
enigmatologist walk into a bar . . .”  
=WABBIT, Montreal QC

32. LETTER BANK (6 5, 13, \*8 12)  
(WHO, WHAT, WHERE)  
(WHO = NI3)

If two WHOs of different densities sink  
In a pond where they're dropped by an  
angler, I think  
That as particles randomly drift as  
they fall  
To the bottom, the distance that's  
drifted in all  
Ought to follow a normal or WHERE  
in each case  
But the lighter (which flows are more  
apt to displace)  
Will have o much greater. (Pay heed to  
that "but";  
It's, like "if", a conjunction — it isn't,  
though, WHAT).  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

33. FREEWHEELING LETTER  
BANK (1 9 5, 5 4 2 5 6 4 2 5, 3 6 3  
6 2 10 7) (clued in order)  
(SHEIKHS' SPEARS = 11C-  
findable; others = not MW)

Well, a man taking action is ONE —  
He's a marvelous thing to behold.  
Although he should remember:  
A POPE'S DECLARATION.  
A wise plan is not rash, only bold.

But then once he's begun his foray,  
'Tis persistence that will make the man.  
Although SHEIKS' SPEARS will  
certainly be hurled his way,  
Let no circumstance alter his plan.  
=EWOLF, Topanga CA

34. FIRST-SOUND CHANGE (\*4, 2 3)  
(neither MW)

"When 900 years old you reach, look  
as good you will not."  
You ask me who said that? I answer  
"HOT, SHOT!"  
=SCARAB, St. Paul MN

35. BEHEADMENT (^5, \*1\*\*1\*\*1\*\*1)  
(neither MW) (can be sung)

I note that (as at 10 I see  
Marilyn on my TV  
Portrayed by both those two on GLEE)  
That "Bombshells" show on Alda's LEE,  
In which Monroe's a no-show  
Was thirty years ago (so  
It aired 'twixt Hilty's birthdate, and  
McPhee's).  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

36. WORD DELETION (7)  
(ALL = NI3+)

Not many women write of war; Pat  
Barker is one, though.  
Her detailed lore on World War I  
shows she is in the know.  
The patients are not pacifists,  
religious zealots, ALLs;  
They're simply fed up with the deaths  
and thus have built up walls.  
Some suffer ailments, real or not;  
some hide within an OUT  
Of silence just like Maxwell did; while  
others can hear nowt.  
They all lack vital energy; they need  
to decompress.  
Would acupuncture put back IN and  
help them convalesce?

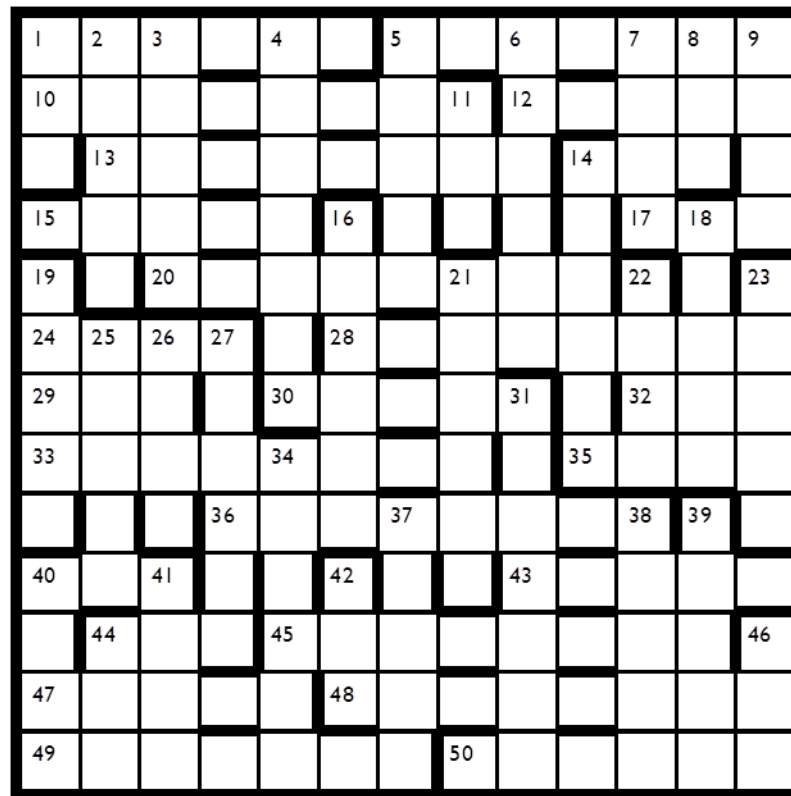
This story ends here but I cannot fail  
to add my voice.  
Exhaust all options ere a war becomes  
your final choice.  
=R/EDS, Ste. Anne de Prescott ON

37. OVERLOADED REVERSED  
REPEATED-LETTER CHANGE  
(7) (one answer = NI3)

"Every little thing you do,"  
An OVERLOADED said,  
"Providing benefit to you  
Should profit me instead."  
=WRYBOSH, Montville NJ

21 Buck naked with right foot obscure  
(6)  
22 Senior's fluids providing immunity  
(4)  
23 Stick a long time up in fire (5)  
25 I am using parts more than once to  
construct city (5)  
26 Nova Scotia's signs (4)  
27 Large amounts of heat crossed the  
rooms (6)  
31 Start taking on color, essentially  
like the night sky (7)

34 Rambled aimlessly in madhouse  
(6)  
37 Teacher's intelligence measure  
raised (5)  
38 Cut up legal point (5)  
39 Earth-shattering writer (5)  
40 Popular food in Italy is gone (4)  
41 Gold inferior in quality (4)  
42 Chinese zodiac animal running up  
Confucian's virtuous path (3)  
44 Fingers the crooked character (3)  
46 Glowing grass (3)



X-4. VERTICAL ANAQUOTE (3 8 2 3  
4 3 4 2, 3 4 3 3, \*1. \*1. 7)

E E H I I N N O O Q S S T T T U W  
T U A O T A U K T Y B L H O W O H  
Y S T H H T R D E O O E A E A U U  
=LEXMAN, East Moline IL

X-5. VERTICAL ANAQUIP (3 7 9 7 5  
3; 4 4 5 4.)

C C C D I L O O O P R R S S T W Y  
E N O S S D E E R E L V D R R I V  
R A Y E P H E Y T S J S W A T A U  
=WITZ, Vancouver BC



### X-3. JUST YOUR LUCK — by WHEELS, Georgetown ON

Just your luck: for a number of checked squares in the grid, the wordplay of both crossing clues omits the letter in that square. These squares are never adjacent. In the affected clues, one, two, or (in one case) three letters are omitted from the wordplay. The wordplay in twelve of the remaining clues yields one extra letter, and six of the remaining clues have an extra word. The omitted letters spell a possible reason for your misfortune (or draw lines joining them in the grid to get the picture). The six extra words might help, but if not, the extra letters will provide a clue for the starting square of a four-word phrase in the completed grid (making two 90-degree turns) which will definitely solve your problem soon.

For complete credit, include all of the following: the completed grid, either or both of the solutions associated with the missing letters, the 6 extra words (in a meaningful way), the phrase associated with the extra letters and the four-word phrase found in the completed grid.

#### Across

- 1 Horse to help donkey — it's not right (6)
- 5 Decapitates live hen — awful sad (7)
- 10 They see no murders (8)
- 12 Channel profit (5)
- 13 Charge to take whirlwind tour — ultimately gargantuan number (8)
- 14 Unfamiliar directions (3)
- 15 I bother retiring actor George (5)
- 17 Copy letter (3)
- 20 Indeed deb messes around getting engaged in a way (8)
- 24 Throw out Met running (4)
- 28 Again not fashionable to wear her hat perhaps (8)
- 29 Succeed in white shoes coming first (3)
- 30 They predict retailers' lines disappearing (5)
- 32 Free trip cut short (3)
- 33 Repossess king cab with rust in recession (8, 2 wds)
- 35 *Twist*: odd groove (4)
- 36 Bartok negotiates withdrawals (8)
- 40 Disorder! (3)
- 43 Soldier gets a makeover (5)
- 44 Upset extremely irrational goddess (3)
- 45 He tags singer Patti Russo's opener [NI3 spelling] (8)
- 47 Opening street map missing right

edge (5)

- 48 Broken leg to bind (8)
- 49 This involves Gypsy type of blood clots (7)
- 50 Nice of degenerates to come back to get put away (6)

#### Down

- 1 Great deal needs no introduction at all (3)
- 2 Piece of furniture — rough to a certain extent (5, 2 wds)
- 3 Very excited at first to stir things up (5)
- 4 Writers' school crib notes not released (7)
- 5 Live education class (5)
- 6 Provided clues for cryptic then (6)
- 7 Scottish one headed toward the ocean [NI3] (4, *hyph*)
- 8 Shown up, intimidated, shedding close to no tears (3)
- 9 Pig's, rabbit's place — reportedly an eyesore? (4)
- 11 Rigid toes pointing up (3)
- 14 Pushed down boards to reduce fire coming up? (6)
- 16 Once again warm up TV to follow short judge again (6)
- 18 Put down under soft tartan (5)
- 19 Amphibians with green skin of toads (5)

### 38. OVERLOADED HOMONYM (\*3 \*6, \*11) (\*3, \*11 = not MW)

You might click "one dollar" — and if you do that you  
Will get (once I've built it) a pic of the statue,  
All Turkic and fierce-looking. PayPal me ten  
For one leftover box of the cereal when I've used all the puffed corn that I need (I am moved  
To point out it's Kid Tested and Mother Approved).  
And for one lucky donor who drops fifty bills,  
This bold warrior of Genghis and General Mills,  
Golden grain shaped like one of the great Golden Horde,  
Will be shipped to their door! So if you can afford  
To, please go to the site and say how much you'll pay  
To be part of my HOMONYM project today!  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

### 39. PHONETIC REBUS (6 5) (6 = non-MW usage)



Garlic, olive oil, and basil,  
Lots of sugar, hold the pine nuts,  
Stir and chill, and my appraisal  
Is: you've made some fine AM I NUTS.  
=TREESCAN, Clevebana OI

### 40. CONSONANTCY (9, 10) (MINUTE = 9 = not MW)

I met up with Eve at a bar called the Eden.  
She seemed like the nice, pretty girl I was needin',  
So I was all ears when that sweet little cutie  
Said, "Here, try this drink. It's delicious and fruity."  
Temptation was mighty; there was no resistance.  
I drank it then ordered more at her insistence.  
Some six MINUTEs later, my fall was completed.  
My mind was a blur and my wallet depleted.  
I stumbled back home and crept under the covers  
With knowledge that Eve and I wouldn't be lovers.  
The morning came cruelly — the price of my fun —  
In Hangover City (MANATEE: one).  
=SCARAB, St. Paul MN

### 41. ENIGMATIC REBUS (3 \*6 3, \*2) (\*6, \*2 = not MW or non-MW usage) (abbr. and non-MW material in reading)

The Avengers

Though I'm Captain America, just call me Steve,  
Mr. Gore; and in answer, I'd say I believe  
I, the Thunder God, Iron Man (Stark, that is), and  
All our colleagues would *love* to enlist in our band  
Seuss's faithful and sharp-hearing elephant, should  
Our paths ever cross — we just haven't BEEN GOOD.  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

## 42. DELETION (6) (clued in order)

To find out if Thorin and Gimli were  
cousins,  
You'd have to compare those DOZEs'  
DOZENS.  
=GENEAL, Providence RI

43. OVERLOADED THIRD-LETTER  
CHANGE (7)

The saffron-filled dish was a joy to  
behold.  
The music and dancing were from  
days of old.  
The evening was great; I loved the  
PURE GOLD.  
=ANDREAS, Vancouver BC

## 44. OVERLOADED HOMONYM

(3-4 1-4, 2 2 6) (first 4 = not quite  
MW usage)

I told him, "This anonymous  
Complainer makes a lot of fuss  
But has a valid pair of gripes."  
He said, "She does indeed." "Well,  
cripes,"  
I asked him, "why'd you call her 'she'?"  
"This morning on the bus," said he,  
"She showed me this, the note she'd  
penned,  
Before she saved and clicked on 'send,'  
And since I then observed her VOICE,  
That validates my pronoun choice."  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

45. TRANSPOSAL (\*7, 7) (NOUS =  
\*7 = non-MW usage)  
FALSE LATIN TRANSLATION  
(5, 7)

Herman NOUS, despite his aspect,  
Is (or maybe "was."  
It's hard to know what tense to use  
For Herman, just because

He's fictional. But I digress.)  
Not mean or ON at all.  
Another thing: my nose might reach  
His ONUS — he's so tall!  
=NEXT LINGO, Lexington MA

46. LETTER BANK (6, \*6 \*7) (BEAST  
= findable, BETA TEST = not MW)  
(can be sung by Miley Cyrus as  
BETA TEST)

*Thu eart* on Luna and *siebst*,  
Along with its *daeglic* rotation,  
*Eorphan* phases, cycling once every  
BEAST  
(That's just the Anglo-Saxon word for  
"lunation";  
In most ways it's like the one we use,  
But inside there's an "ah.")  
It's just a BEAST on both worlds!  
Set your calendars by  
That big *stane* in the sky!  
Count out a BEAST on both worlds!  
29 or 30 Terran days would be a  
BEAST on both worlds!  
=UCAOIMHU, Somerville MA

(Continued from page 2)

X-1, X-2, X-8, X-9 — Rearrange the characters in  
each column to form a quote. A \* or ^ appears  
before capitalized words. If there is no punctuation  
or \* or ^ between adjacent words, then \_ is inserted  
between them to represent the space. The text was  
broken into four rows and the characters in each  
column were then sorted vertically. See example at  
right.

## SHUFFLED QUOTE

A ! \* \_ B E \_ \_ A \_ D  
I C G \_ L F \_ C A R H  
S N K / O I C E O T P  
Y O U A R U T N

Sol: You're nothing but a  
pack of cards! Alice

## ANAGRAM

47. BEST HOME HEROES TOP  
CARDS; WON IN SIX? LORD!  
(3 [\*5 \*6] 8 \*6 \*3 \*3)  
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL

## FORMS

F-1. CHRISTMAS TRANSPOSAL  
SQUARES (see puzzle note)

- 1 "\_\_\_ night! Holy night! . . ."
- 2 Beta-carotene, for one
- 3 Rachel Carson's middle name
- 4 Shakespeare's handkerchief finder
- 5 Indonesian
- 6 Accord or agreement

- 1 "It's time we hung some \_\_\_ on  
that evergreen bough . . ."
- 2 Time of widespread glaciation
- 3 Cell body location
- 4 Ancient capital of Lydia
- 5 Give selfhood to something
- 6 They may be contact or zoom

- 1 "And children \_\_\_ to hear sleigh  
bells in the snow . . ."
  - 2 Chuckwalla family member
  - 3 Hand in or knuckle under
  - 4 Least exciting
  - 5 Place apart
  - 6 Talk idly
- =JO THE LOITERER, Basking Ridge NJ

## F-2. RIGHT STAR

- 1 One
  - 2 He precedes it?
  - 3 Former student
  - 4 What something that's 6 has
  - 5 Neighbor to Suomi
  - 6 Of immediate 4
  - 7 Theorem
  - 8 Musical tone
  - 9 Fifty
- =LEXMAN, East Moline IL

## F-3. CRYPTIC SQUARE

- 1 Byline of the cryptic crossword  
constructor he trains after work
  - 2 Nest builder gets caught in mesh  
or netting
  - 3 Blunders are, in retrospect,  
framing police informant
  - 4 Charm man returning before first  
of operations in ER
  - 5 In Monte Carlo, the tipster  
finished school for the year
  - 6 Begins painting, captivated by  
St. Sebastian's head
- =JO THE LOITERER, Basking Ridge NJ

## F-4. OCTAGON

- 1 One is approx. 2,237 mph  
(inferable)
  - 2 Frees
  - 3 Fruit rarely seen in forms
  - 4 Tangy
  - 5 Gilbert and Mary (but not Patrick  
and Rod)
  - 6 Ubiquitous presence these days?
  - 7 Tech. that allows Stephen  
Hawking to "talk" (Wikipedia)
- =LEXMAN, East Moline IL

## EXTRAS

## X-1. SHUFFLED QUOTE

\_ E A . \* A \_ \_ E A \_ \* C \_ \_ F ? A  
\_ E E C ' N \_ B E E F ' N A A M H E N  
W H R E O S D L H P R A S G M U N L O  
W S V T R Y L T S R T I U T U W S  
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL

## X-2. SHUFFLED QUOTE

. \_ \_ \_ A E \_ C \_ \_ \_ B \_ \_ \_ D  
A \* M A D K E L \* A A E A B A F  
I L S I M U E S C G E L D D J N  
S T W M T W I S E R O S N W Y U  
=TE-ZIR-MAN, Margate FL