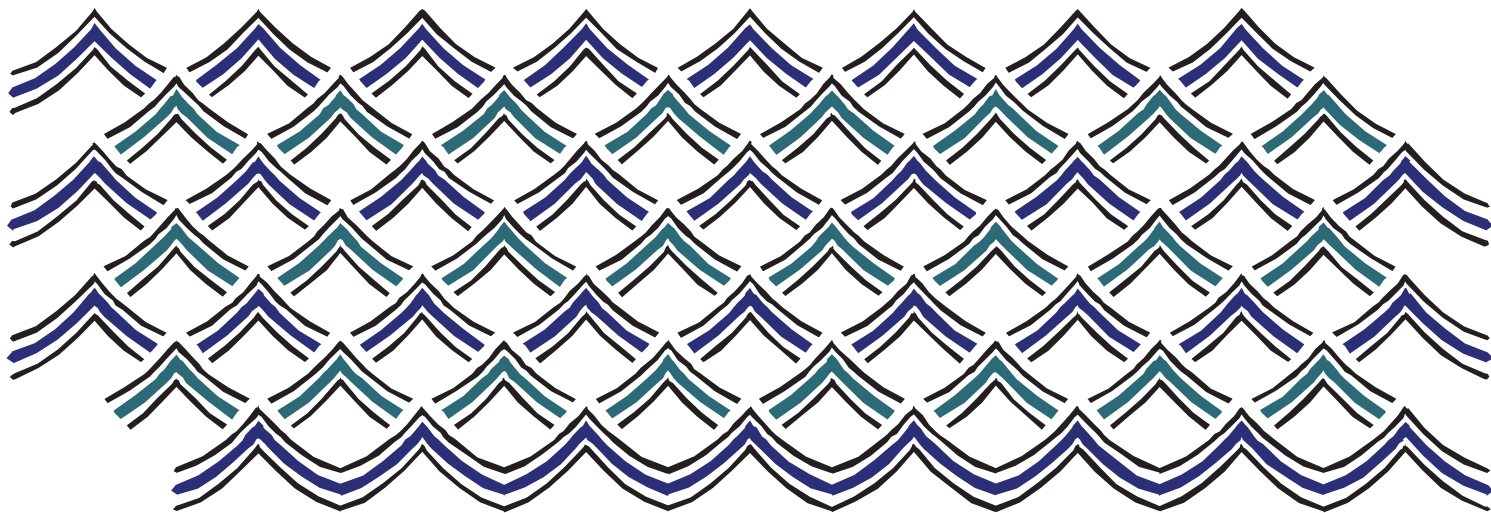


DISTRESSED

Pity poor Sedna, clinging desperately to the side of her father's kayak, only to have her fingers chopped off and hurled after her into the frigid waves. Her digits becoming all the creatures of the sea, Sedna sinks to the bottom of the ocean where she reclines still, the gigantic, mournful goddess of the deep. As she violently tries to comb out her tangled hair, her exertions cause tidal waves and floods. Many an Inuit shaman may try to calm and cajole her into a happier state through charms and incantations. **Hands down, what is their most successful chant?**



Dear Solvers,

When you've arrived at this year's final answer, please **send it to me** at markhalpin3 at gmail dot com to get a place on the Leaderboard. The first pair or solo solver to do so will win their choice of two berths in Foggy Brume's upcoming Puzzle Boat 6 or a one-year subscription to P&A Magazine. One other solver drawn randomly from all those submitting the correct answer before Monday, September 16th will receive a one-year subscription to Joon Pahk's Outside the Box Puzzles. At that point, I'll post hints and solutions. If you're not interested in the Leaderboard or prizes, feel free to contact me for hints or nudges at any point. As ever, the point of the thing is to have fun, so if there's anything I can do to facilitate that, please don't hesitate to let me know.

If you wish to send answers to individual puzzles to me at the above address so I can get a sense of how people are progressing, you're certainly welcome to, though I may not necessarily respond to each of those emails.

One puzzle involves a wordplay type that might be unfamiliar to some solvers; examining that puzzle page carefully could provide you with a clue to the type.

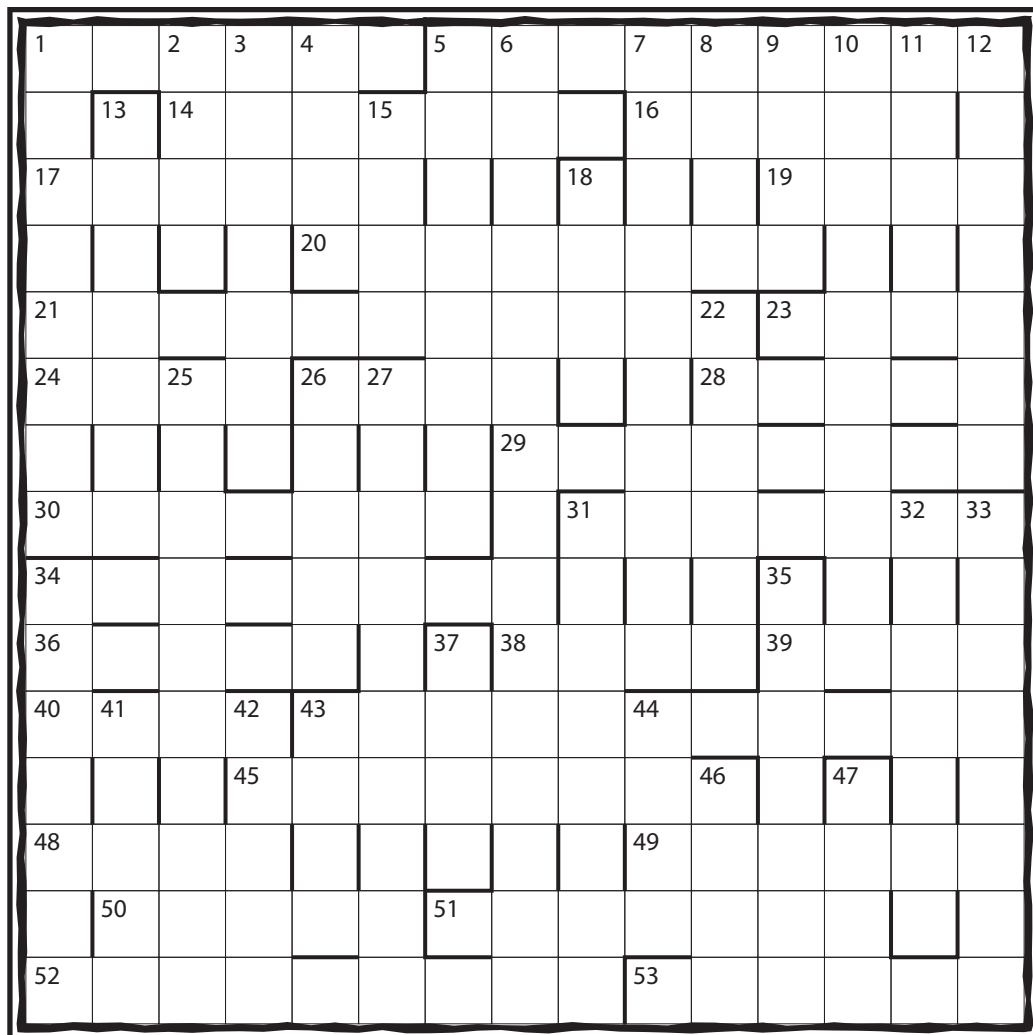
Be sure to check individual puzzle answers in the answer checker; doing so will provide useful information. I would also recommend checking clue phrases you might find, though that is not strictly necessary. All puzzles may be printed to solve, though using online solving resources is fair game. Specific knowledge of the original source material is not required, and flavor text is often clueful.

Happy solving!

Mark/Zebraboy

THE CALL OF THE WILD

In *The Call of the Wild*, *White Fang*, and other great books, Jack London described the perils faced by prospectors in the frozen north, many of which involved being eaten by wolves. As you trek around the landscape looking for gold, keep your ears sharp -- when you hear the wolves' mournful baying, better check your last couple of paces to make sure you're not being stalked....



ACROSS

- 1 Russian author lacking a certain capacity to depress (2 wds.)
- 5 Essentially, phrases e.g. "Oops, I messed up..." garnering bit of leniency!
- 14 *Hamilton* character's indignant airs
- 16 Ginger's intelligence embraced by frat buds
- 17 Achilles's mother's unearthly character is shown in this
- 19 German car with zero sound system
- 20 Young lady redesigned shoes and boots
- 21 Friendly elf cavorting in bower
- 23 Clock's dial getting turned
- 24 Modeling clay gets fragile and full of holes
- 26 Crop came early and unripened

DOWN

- 1 Drunken apostle imbibing second-rate drinks
- 2 Feeling overly self-assured about a Tolkien monster
- 3 Shy about composition for oboes
- 4 Sitting in frigid igloo (either way) sounds good (2 wds.)
- 5 California baseballers' road games involved losses, like usual (2 wds.)
- 6 Gratifying feelings of importance hold bliss ultimately for those with many outlets (2 wds.)
- 7 Making light of jargon about an inappropriate hug very loudly (2 wds.)
- 8 Faction within Cornell's French department
- 9 Animated images of dancing figs

The Call of the Wild - pg. 2 of 2

ACROSS (continued)

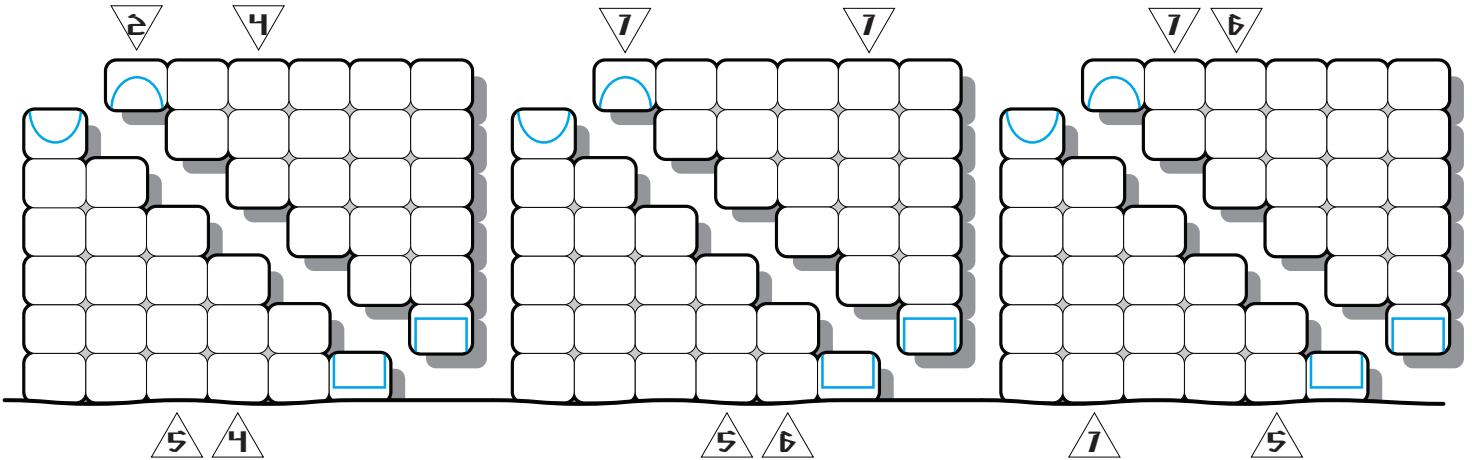
- 28 New Zealand rat featured in wiki or encyclopedia
- 29 Hazard was unfortunately inherent in battles (2 wds.)
- 30 Long-gone governors of Phoenix squad eating pork
- 31 Intimidate Angus, for one
- 34 Backstage access is initially sad inside -- sad! sad! sad! (on the outside as well) (2 wds.)
- 36 Color very old egg for la Pascua
- 38 Piano frequently follows saxophone's lead
- 39 Don't start teasing older ladies
- 40 Waikiki's characteristic banquets all but raw mush, lacking on sides
- 43 Tennyson once composed operetta incorporating note understood primarily by English (2 wds.)
- 45 In documentary footage, little marsupials genuflect for the Reverend
- 48 Dashed line showing geographical feature
- 49 Boil, perhaps, the Spanish noodles the wrong way
- 50 Hall-of-Famer Rod is follower of Obama and Bush
- 51 Kind of sense shown by Ali, excited after fight
- 52 Waikiki's characteristic banquets... lacking on sides
- 53 Susie's novel finally purchased and published

DOWN (continued)

- 10 This clue, I confess, has a function (2 wds.)
- 11 Online, endorse Wesley Crusher or Harry Kim killing second character
- 12 Sorry! or Keno's a tabletop game
- 13 Ah, Oprah's playing role in *Aida*
- 15 Something Caesar said loudly: "Rocks? Too bad!!!" (2 wds.)
- 18 Odds of insanity aren't good for one person
- 22 Barely manage to keep up, snarling "no pressure, no pressure" (2 wds.)
- 25 A hundred old panels replaced in cubicle-less office layout (2 wds.)
- 26 Dish comprising uncooked seafood, fudge, and orange
- 27 Guttled western town in Nevada's earlier eminence
- 31 In Brooklyn, those who arrest deadly diseases
- 32 Wife and cousin of Gomez Addams decapitated the Munsters' matriarch in a clever way
- 33 Smart aleck said "Whee!" obnoxiously
- 34 A lupine's mauled some girls with the same name
- 35 Date thwarted Dan's ulterior motives
- 37 Heretical sect that's in Paris
- 41 Taciturn group heading north for city in upstate NY
- 42 Suspicious reds infiltrated by navy colleague of McCarthy's
- 43 Peel bananas for Brazilian sports star
- 44 Copper, etc. mixed with nitrogen
- 46 Lane made of redistributed soil
- 47 Yankee successor's "total chaos!", Gehrig declared

IGLOOS

Because walls made of snow can shift around quite a bit, make sure they're in the right place before sticking them together.



LONG CLUES

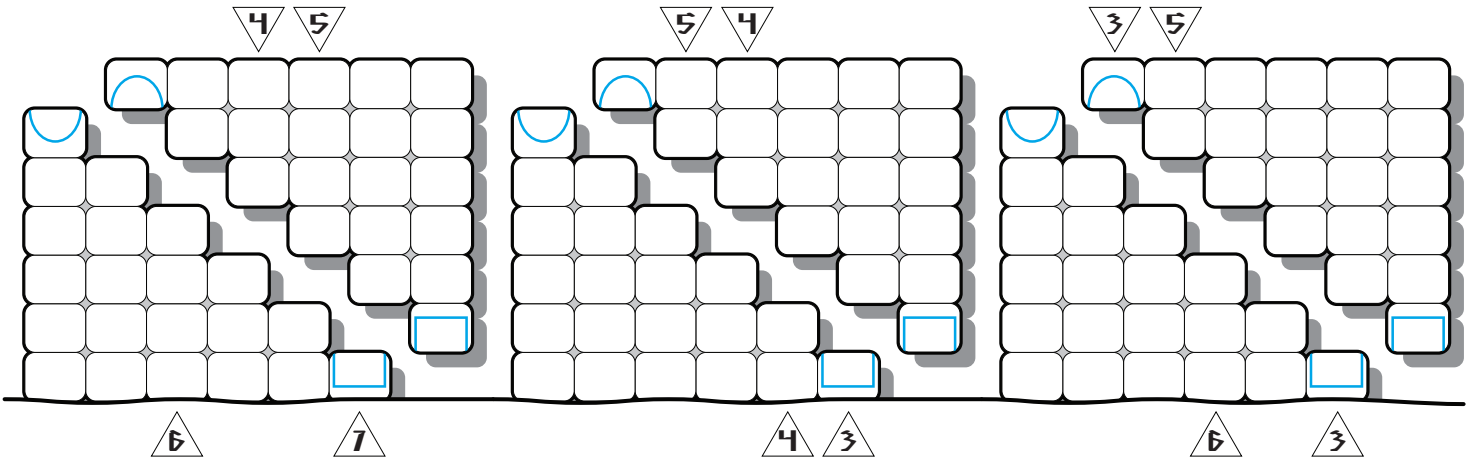
Calls forth or conjures
Exude
Forewarning of things to come
Striking folks in SF, Philly, or Denver?
Today-only offering
Whoopee cushion or waterskin

LONG CLUES

Coast Guard vessels
Come down with something (2 wds.)
Heron-like wading bird
Long-running western
Rubbed or rowed
Thing in a sink or decanter

LONG CLUES

Celebrating one's first birthday (*hyph.*)
Drives fast and recklessly
Newcastle labourer
Not at all delicious
"We totally should!" (2 wds.)
Where water freezes on a graph (2 wds.)



LONG CLUES

Countenances
Elevate
First Family in the 70s
Obligating with a chore
Strumpet
Vermithrax Pejorative, H. R. Pufnstuf, etc.

LONG CLUES

Ferris Bueller's best pal
Has import
Like an ugly crone
Oft-coiffed *chiens*
Roo's smaller kin
With eyes wide open

LONG CLUES

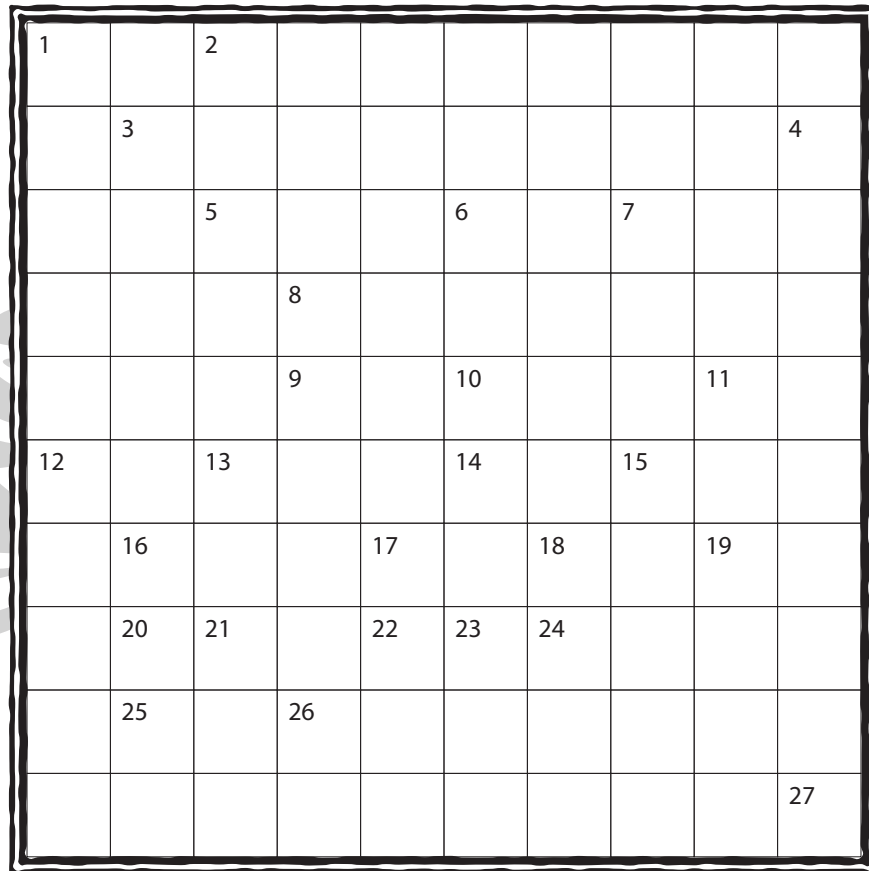
A faux van Gogh, e.g.
Fourth part
One-in-a-million event
Pi's predecessor
Reflection or idea
Totally &\$^!!!@# crazy

SHORT CLUES

Aches (for)	Dignified dowager	Last foreeeever (2 wds.)	Never-before related	Says out loud
Anthem part	Flatfoot	Life's work	Not to be spoken of	Tolkien-esque thugs
British chaps	Full of leavening agents	Longship sailor	Nursing resentments	Truncheon alternatives
Buries	Grammy-winning Dion	Lots and lots	Originate; create	Visited; acquired (2 wds.)
Cake-maker's mixture	Heap kudos on	Metal money	Parts of an archipelago	Walk unhurriedly
Con or earn (2 wds.)	However	Meter millionth	Pop-up or foul	With cheeky sassiness
Changes	Humorously struck	More irate shade of red?	Prey	
Delphic seeress	In India, a manager	Mountable on an auto	Puzzle-game with GLaDOS	
Dictionary examples	Lassie, for one	Neglect to bring along	Savory Scottish pudding	

KAYAKING

It takes a strong and agile seaman to navigate the ever-changing arctic currents.



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1S Quality of a lover's caress, say | 15S One emphasizing certain words, maybe |
| 2E One going on a hike (perhaps to an SF convention) | 16W Elaborately ornate |
| 3E Clandestine relationship | 17W Cause to blush |
| 4N Take a stand against | 18S Many members of a flock |
| 5W Easter bloom | 19E Derive meaning from dreams, perhaps |
| 6E Like a 20N's feet | 20N Small loon-y bird |
| 7S Fills or saturates, as if with light | 21E Crenellated castle part |
| 8E Underhanded ploy (2 wds.) | 22S Wilson of <i>Pitch Perfect</i> films |
| 9W Shakespearean lament | 23S Place for a fountain or tollbooth |
| 10N In a confounded or perplexed way | 24S Start of a Gay Pride chant (2 wds.) |
| 11N Ringing in one's ears | 25S Nickname for Alfalfa and Spanky's canine pal |
| 12E God of the Egyptian underworld | 26S Chucklehead |
| 13E Like Cookie Monster and Forky's eyes | 27W Baked beans or potato salad, e.g. (2 wds.) |
| 14E Jinx, hex or whammy | |

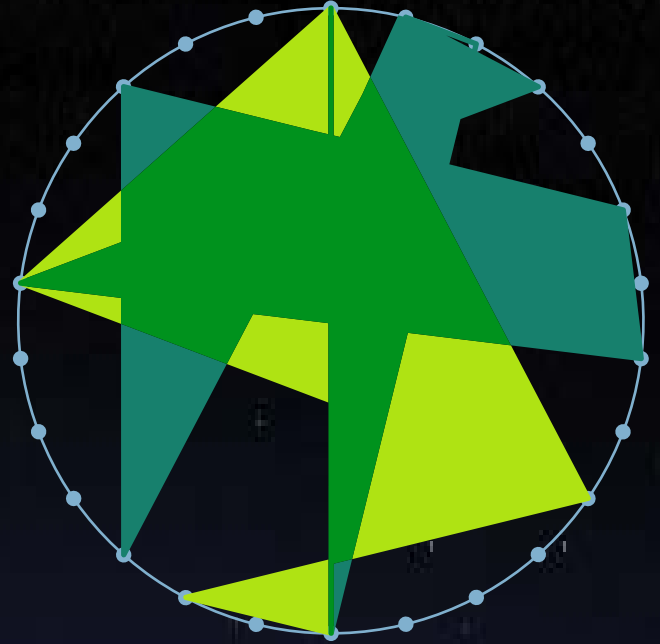
Each answer will make exactly one 90° turn. No letter will be used more than twice.

NORTHERN LIGHTS

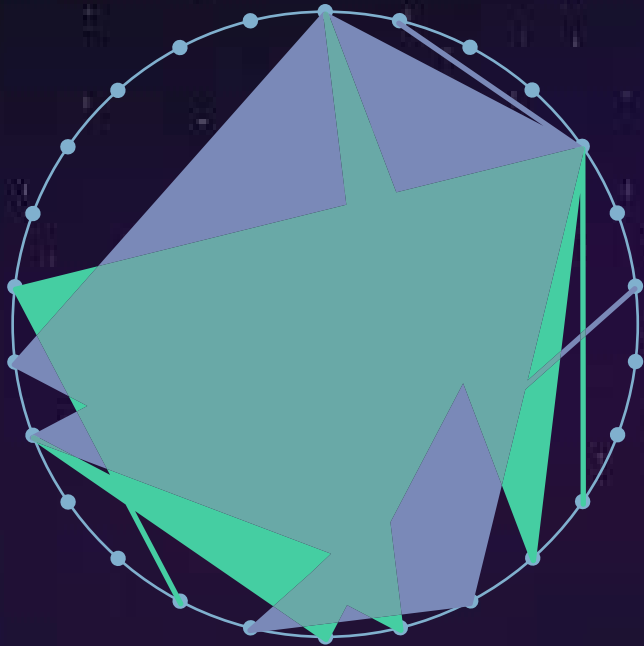
In this bleak northern locale, one can look up and see surprising colors.



8 4 / 3 5



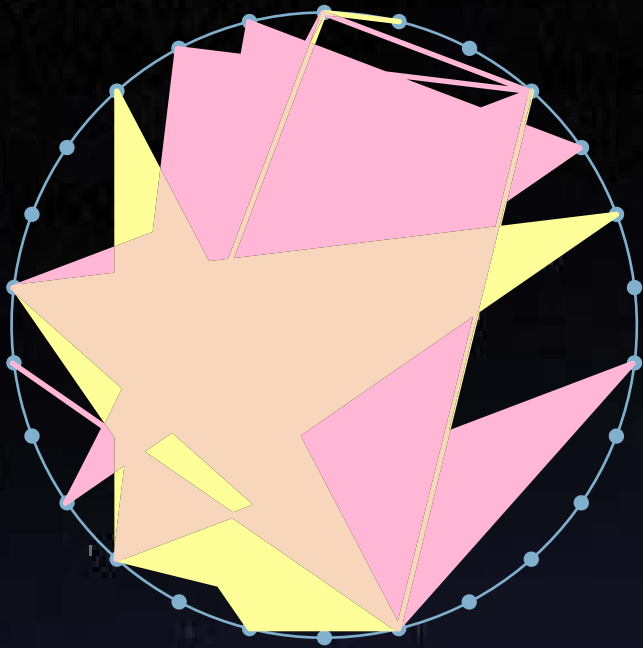
5 4 / 5 6



7' 3 / 4 6



5 5 / 8 4



6, 3 6 / 8 3



3, 8 / 5' 1 4, 5



7, 2 3 / 4 4



4 2 3.4 2 / 5, 5

THE NORTH POLE

It's geographically strange to travel from the North Pole. South is your only option, and it's flat everywhere you look.

Regarding qualities of "FIRST (8)" -- like strength and flex, what's best and worst a sailor **SECOND**, sharing thoughts.

I'm wrapping **ONE (7)** (two-stranded, tarred) around some cords, then twisting hard. It acts as a protective guard and keeps the cords together. "I'll **TWO** tomorrow with a trick to get off work: pretend I'm sick and if I'm questioned, answer quick, and I'm -- *cough* -- under the weather."

Shake a Coke can, make it spew. The foamy **ONE (5)** comes gushing **TWO**.

"I'll drown my book," an actor cries, "Our revels now are ended!" -- text declaimed by someone in disguise, a **FIRST (5)** impersonating **NEXT**.

Cars and trains are fine, it's true, but if we're going to Kathmandu, it's simpler reaching **ONE (*5)** by **TWO**.

The bottom of each page, one sees, repeats some text re lots of trees: **THE FIRST (7)** about a **NEXT OF THESE**.

Caned fish is boiling on its own, so I've always reckoned, I sweeten mine -- it's sometimes known as "**FIRST (5)**" -- with drops of **SECOND**.

Your collar chafes and scrapes; it's much too tight. So **LEFT (6)** it some, before you get a **RIGHT**.

We're island-hopping on the Thames, my **STARTS (5)** and I -- they're brilliant friends! My favorite thing to do with them's exploring all those little **ENDS**.

Poor Wilson's a retiring type who's shy and prone to panic, while **FIRST (*5)** is so belligerent the former vain and brittle doctor's meek and mild; (it's funny the less **SECOND** one wound up in Stuart Little).

PHONETIC BEHEADMENT • TERMINAL DELETION • LETTER BANK • CONSONANTCY • TRANSADDITION • TRANSDELETION • 1ST SOUND CHANGE • LETTER SHIFT • TERMINAL LETTER CHANGE • TRANSPOSAL •

(Definitions of terminology may be found at <http://enigma.puzzlers.org/guide>; some fine points may not be precisely observed. "*" = a proper noun.)

POLAR BEARS

Though it's sometimes hard to make them out among their surroundings, there are polar bears here, striding proudly back and forth, day after day after day.

BATHNKGRINKUDEPTT

BRETEFAVDANATEROFREBON

EANURABSOFLOWRAW

EICINTNONONURUBT

ENERAIOSANAORSHTINIMENS

LADESETEMFIADERLACES

MERBROTBIBOTETL

NOIUGEPAMIT

RALEZGNUTIPAMER

RYUDNABDEBLEDOORSODEOEKUNALY

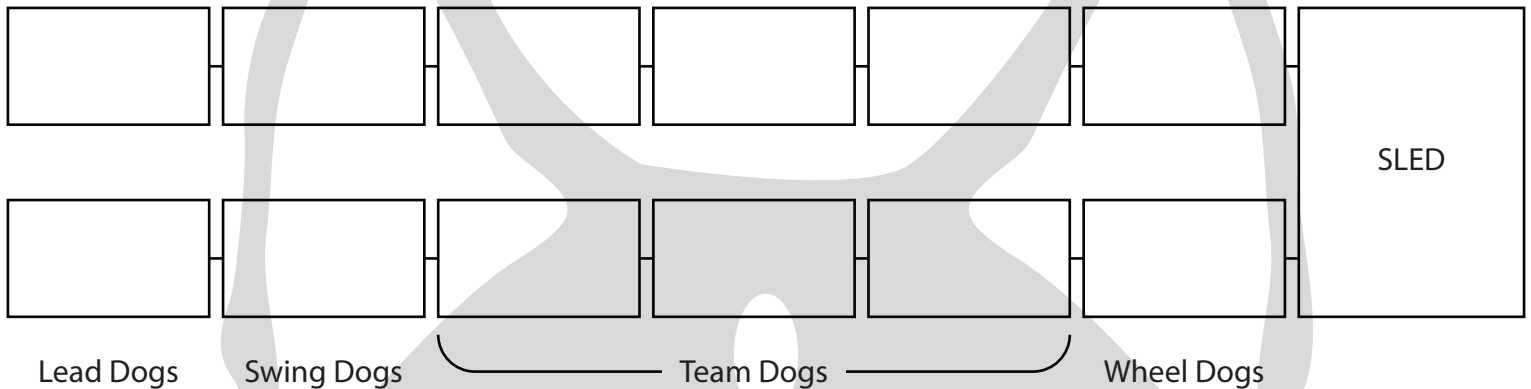
SELLEDBARSENVLIERSS

TIGDANILKBREASGRUBIN

5 1 / 6 / 1 / 1 / 2 / 2 9 / 9 / 2 / 1 / 3 / 2 / 4 1

SLED DOGS

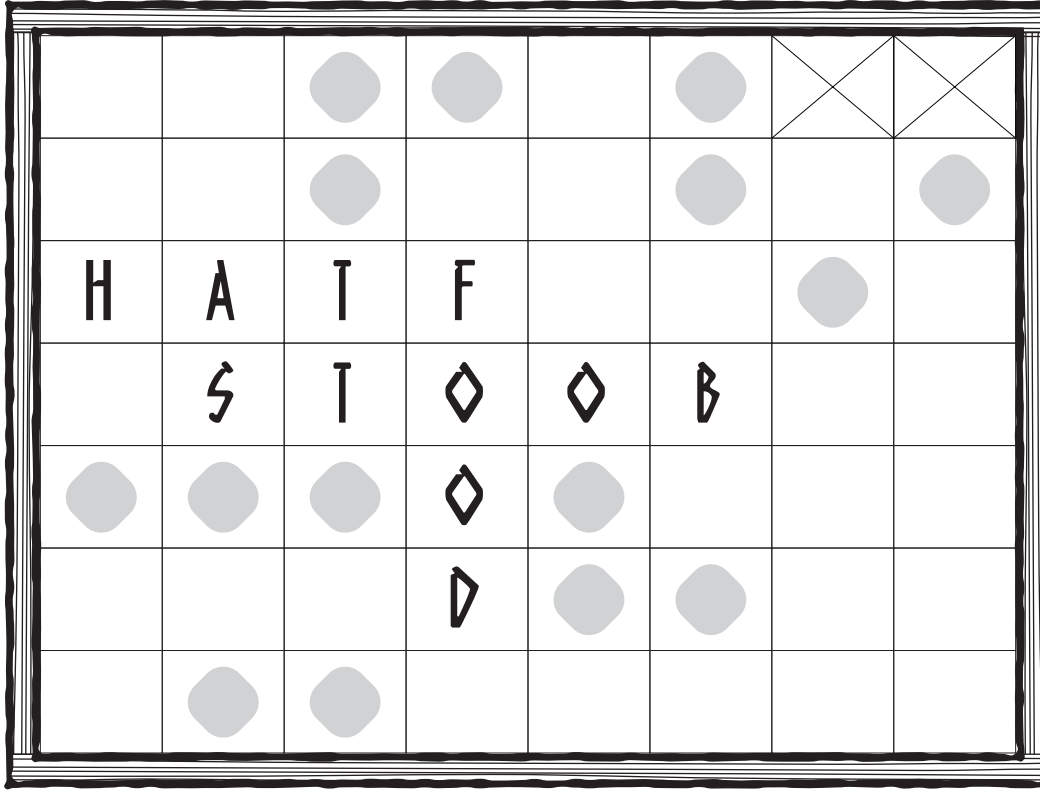
The Iditarod and other dog sled races were inspired by heroic mushers who traveled hundreds of miles through harsh conditions to deliver diphtheria serum and other supplies to remote locales. Before trying something that adventurous, however, you need to take care of your team.



1. A “pair” of dogs refers to the two dogs in the same 1- 6 position (1 being furthest from the sled), one dog on the right (top) towline, and the other on the left (bottom) towline. Each pair consists of one male and one female dog (Arvid, Larry and Martin are male. Alice, Gal, Madge and Roxie are female).
2. The only pair of dogs with the same initials is closer to the sled than the only pair of dogs the same age. Two other dogs, Dunce and Gal, are the only two whose position matches their age.
3. All dogs’ ages are expressed in positive integers. For each age represented, there are a different number of dogs.
4. Popsicle and Madge are on different towlines; the one closer to the sled is on the right (top) towline. Littermates Roxie and Arvid are on the same towline.
5. Larry, a wheeler, is twice as old as exactly one of the teamers, who is twice as old as exactly one of the leads and exactly one of the swings. Nitro is either that lead or that swing.
6. Exactly three dogs are the same age as the dog immediately behind them. These are six different dogs.
7. The total age of one pair of dogs matches that of just one other pair of dogs. The total ages of each other pair are unique. Deneb is paired with an older dog.
8. When they were both three, Alice and Dunce gave birth to Martin; a year later, his little brother Tambo came along.
9. The total age of all dogs is 30.

SURVIVAL KIT

It's devilishly hard to survive in this harsh environment, even short-term, if you're missing essential supplies.



I delivered a dramatic "ouch!", as Winston Churchill did when London was bombed during the war. [8 / 11 / 3]

Though it may be due to our age difference, at Halloween I'm more enthusiastic than my uncaring kids. [13]

Something seems to be wrong with the transmission on my Honda, a car that's starting to grind. [5 / 15]

People who have found then trained company have perhaps misjudged professional footballers' decorum and self-discipline. [6]

Regarding Fischer's prowess, "I could have beaten his," boasted Karpov. [4]

It's too bad that Norman Lear's new site, old-fashioned and dull as it is, inspires less laughter than ennui. [1 / 14]

Not aware of any snake, Paul and Edward described the filming of *The Prize* as smooth and uneventful. [7]

Though the client had asked for a short couch, her decorator contrarily chose -- alone -- a table to go with her other decor. [12 / 2 / 9]

"*End of Watch* and *Misery* are novels that take place outside of Maine towns," said Stephen King, "but more of the *Misery*." [10 / 16]

TOTEM POLES

Totem poles have enormous spiritual and cultural significance, so their placement must be determined with great care.

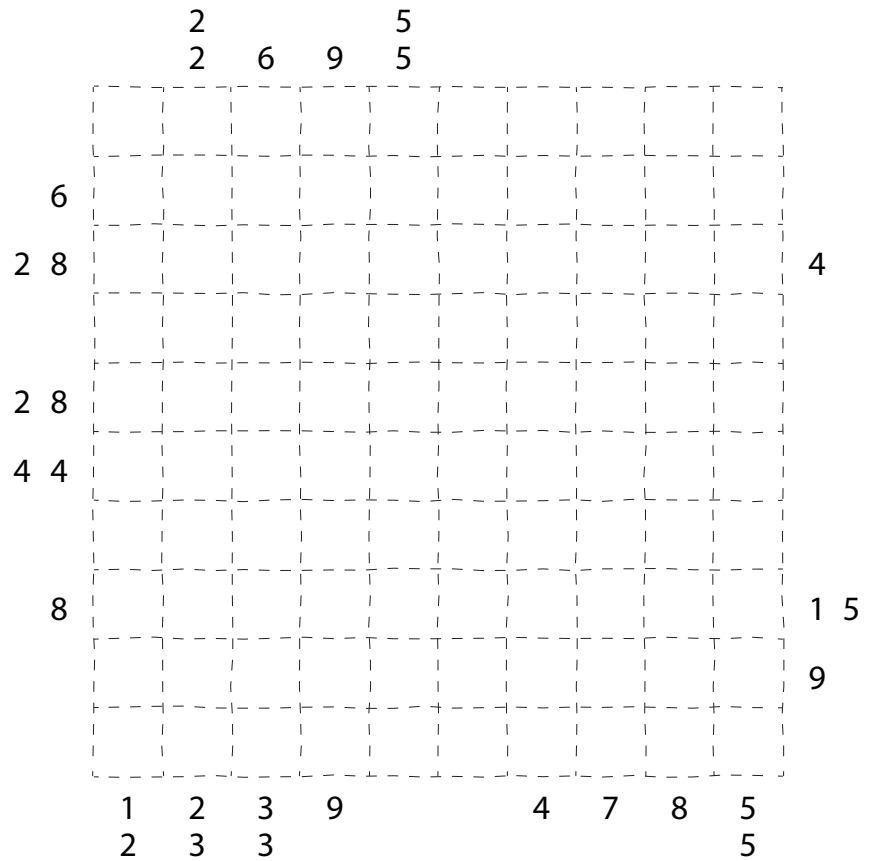
In the plot of land shown at right, position totem poles from one to nine segments tall so that each row and column has one pole of each height plus one empty space.

One side of each pole contains a face in each segment; all faces on a given pole are oriented in the same cardinal direction. A face can only be clearly seen from the direction to which it faces, and an intervening pole will block faces behind it completely. Additionally, all poles of the same height face in the same cardinal direction.

A clue number outside the grid will indicate either the total number of **poles** seen from that position, or the total number of clearly-seen **faces**. Where two clues are given, they may be in either order.

After you've resolved the placement of all the poles, finish the job by stacking **thunderbirds** on top of nine of them, each at a different height. Thunderbirds will face in the same direction as the other faces on a given pole. Their large wings (as seen below right) extend a space-width to each side, so may not be placed where adjacent totem poles would interfere.

One row will contain exactly three thunderbirds, and one column will contain exactly two; no other row or column may contain more than one. The right half of the grid will contain more thunderbirds than the left.



A	N	T	H	R	◇	P	◇	M	◇
R	P	H	I	Z	E	◇	<	R	A
F	T	S	M	A	N	S	H	I	P
S	T	R	U	<	T	U	R	A	L
I	N	◇	I	G	E	N	◇	U	S
H	I	S	T	◇	R	Y	S	I	M
U	L	A	<	R	U	M	E	A	G
L	E	E	Y	E	A	N	<	E	S
T	R	A	L	S	P	I	R	I	T
H	A	N	◇	<	A	R	V	E	◇

