

CIPHERELLA'S GAZETTE

Confusing the Coffin-Stuffers Since 2008

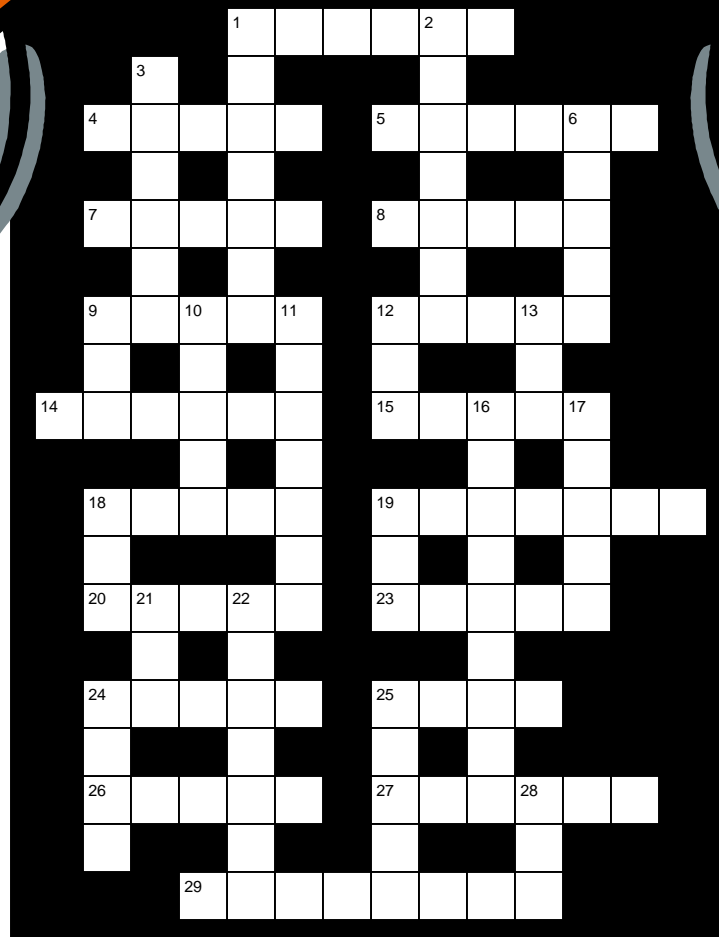
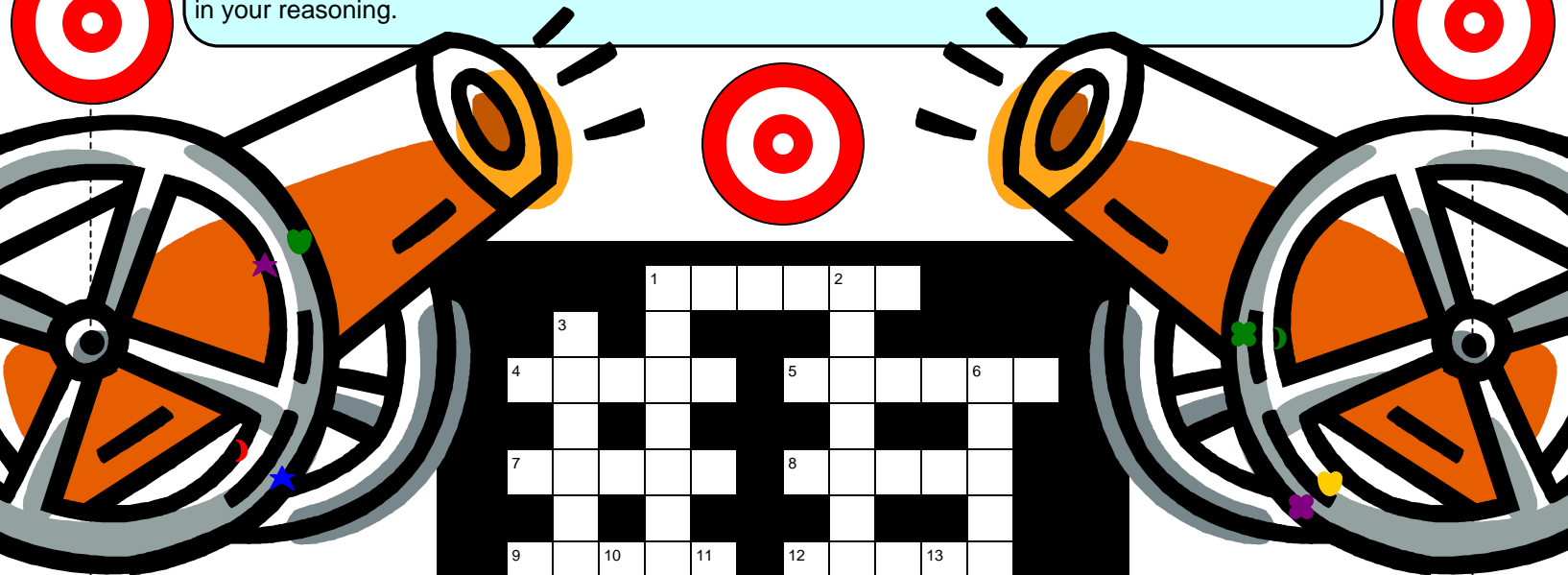
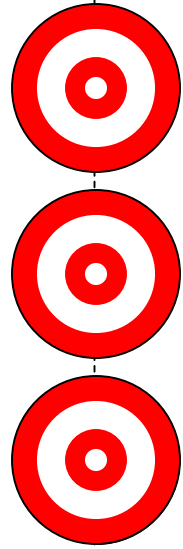
Cipherella Says, "Pardon My Brevity!"

Sorry this issue is a little skimpy, folks, but my old buddy at Kinky Print recently tried to suck my brain out my ear. (He'll be missed.) I'm still looking for a permanent replacement printer, but I wanted to make sure this issue got out, even if it is in a greatly abbreviated form.

This is an important issue, faithful readers! I've baked in some secret goodness of personal importance to me, just in case the worst happens. Lucky for me, the brain-suckers aren't known for their brain power. I trust my uninfected readership will use what's still between their ears to their advantage.

And now some timely tips. It's usually best to start at the beginning and do things in order but, if you're completely un-familiar with my wrinkles, maybe you should start at the very end. Long-time readers (who can see at a glance what a twisted gal I am) probably needn't go that far.

So why not start with an incomplete crossword? It's missing one clue, but the answer's broken anyway. It should give you a clear idea of what to make of my work, assuming you can bridge the gaps in your reasoning.



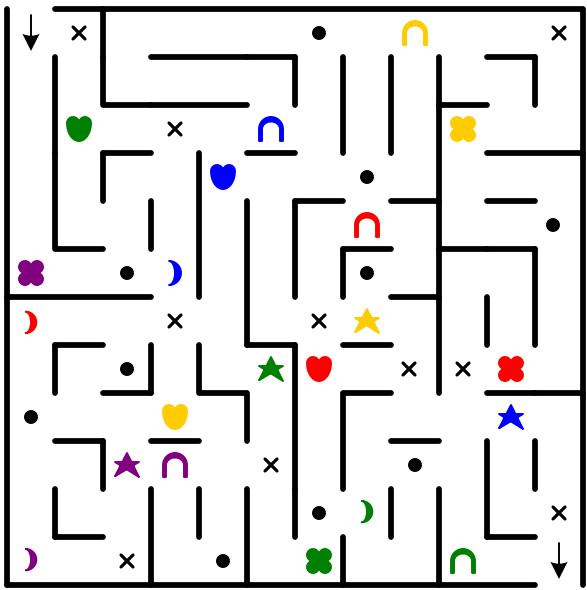
ACROSS

1. Sandwich meat
4. Get on a horse
5. Not outdoors
7. Angelic instruments
8. Musical set
9. Bury
12. Make happy
14. Selling place
15. Ties shoes
18. 70s dance craze
19. Speech
20. Not how, when, or which
23. Prize fights
24. List separator
25. Bambi and his mom
26. Grown up
27. G or PG, for example
29. Kind of well

DOWN

1. Nerve junction
2. Tobacco flavoring
3. Realm
6. Avoid
9. Hoppy kind of beer, briefly
10. Kids
11. Subterranean vermin lair
12. Snakelike fish
13. Links peg
16. Extremely drunk
17. Secret agents
18. Morning moisture
19. Royal sphere
21. Cinemax competitor
22. Wanderer
24. Applaud
25. Bar game equipment
28. Roadside resting place

MAILBAG

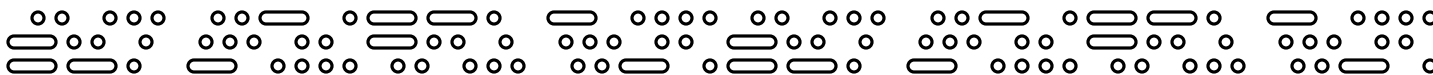


Dear CIPHERELLA:

At first I thought the anti-zombie maze challenge from last month's issue was just another of your stale tales, but, thinking it over, a constructive way to devolve evolved in my mind. The way through your zombyrith is to think like a zombie—which means not thinking too much at all! Never change your mind unless you have to and never make a decision you can skip. You know I'm not into sending endings, but I've included enough landmarks to get anybody through, as well as some sparing parings to point the way. Here's hoping you smile miles!

Your Left-Handed Friend,
Whirling Eddy

- Turn 1: makes a keen edge / gave off light (5)
- Turn 2: swing at the end of a rope / went fishing (6)
- Turn 3: eat / faint traces (6)
- Turn 4: not on the inside / planned path (5)
- Turn 5: frightens / soft touch (6)
- Turn 6: half a quarter / stature (6)
- Turn 7: write shakily / goes on all fours (6)
- Turn 8: sea cow / to come out from a source (7)



CLUE
way out
LETTERS
SEXYLINT

CLUE
like a dog
LETTERS
QUITEADDRESSUPMEDAL



NEXT MONTH

We all know they're magically delicious, but could the Irish voodoo power of this common breakfast cereal really be the key to ending the menace of the metabolically challenged? Flag down the next issue to find out!

CLUE
as from battle (4)
LETTERS
WHITEHOUSEDRIVEAWAY

CLUE
as from a game (8)
LETTERS
(4 - 6)

CLUE
(11)
LETTERS
FOCUSEDAREALLENGAGED

(4)

