

# The Ucaganza

Today we celebrate the 40th birthday of Kevin Wald, a/k/a Ucaimhu. This extravaganza celebrates two different facts about Kevin's puzzle creation abilities: his brain-cracking MIT Mystery Hunt puzzles (listed to the right) and his uncanny ability to write cryptics seemingly at the drop of a hat.

Each puzzle is inspired by one of Kevin's Mystery Hunt puzzles. Because this extravaganza is intended to be solved in less than a day, many of the puzzles are much easier than Kevin's original puzzles. Their answers, taken together, will explain just how fast Kevin writes cryptics.

Happy Birthday Kevin!

Note to Solvers:

*Many of the puzzles contained in this extravaganza will contain spoilers for the puzzles on the right.*

The Thing  
Safari Park  
Necromancy  
Trouble in Triplicate  
The World's Tallest Cryptic  
Ecolocation  
The Last of Sheila  
Let Me Tell You the Story  
Escapism  
Wise Guys  
The Blue Carr Bungle  
Our Unfortunate Aunt Edith  
Son of the Realm of Unspeakable Chaos  
To a Monster  
Train Station  
Just Fueling Around  
Gojira  
The Realm of Unspeakable Chaos  
In Other Words  
Global Coolness  
Some Scrambled Word Game....  
The Goodwin Manuscript  
Kana Game  
The Dungeon  
Bottom Line  
Palimpsest  
Claustrophobia  
The Chimera  
Fortune  
Hold Your Tongue  
Predator  
Call of the Wild  
Dialoguophobia  
Crossword

*Puzzles by Foggy Brume*

*Artwork on Global Savvy by Mark Halpin*

*Testsolving by Trip Payne, Mark Halpin*

*Additional clue assistance by Trip Payne*

# Bottom Dollar

Leave it to Ucaoimhu to discover a way to use random text on the Red Line as puzzle fodder. I'd put good money on him being able to do it again.

Charac-French	Biblical-terized	AMA garden	by group	Gun word	for the	Frequent people (3)	Caviar; one's	intense motor (3)	emotion in	and Genesis(4)	alcohol fish	drinker (3)	brother (5)
what's missing = 1 2 3 4													

European Prefix	British for	bar Geography	centric (3) Instant	for short (3) board	Element game (3)	111's union (2)	Hesitant symbol (3)	sound (2) message (2)
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what's missing = 5 6 7 8

11th	month	abbr. (3)	for	Hyphenated	member's word	monetary Oprah mag (1)	entertaining meaning	Magna replaced	tour (3) mediocre (4)	this (3) us (3)	amount (3) blank	alias (3) laude (3)
NPL	Possessive	TIVO	Military	Small								

what's missing = 9 10 11 12

5	11	3	8	10	1	9	OR	6	4	7	2	12
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# Call of the Angry

One of Ucaimhu's earliest puzzles involved animal names.

## Across

1. Take hold of
5. Edges
9. Next month
14. Assistant
15. Make changes to
16. Major European river
17. Tear down completely
18. 90210's Spelling
19. House alternative
20. Ample or enough
22. Sporadically (3 wds)
24. Brown, in "What can Brown do for you?"
26. It may oscillate
27. Young actresses
32. Dwelling that's not a 19-across
37. They may be waffle
38. Area in a church
40. Prefix for -type
41. What you'll get if you change four squares in this puzzle (2 wds)
44. Landlocked country in Africa
45. Related to
46. Your parent's brother
47. Solar \_\_\_\_\_
49. This may be read by a utility worker (2 wds)
51. Mind powers, for short
53. *Monster* band
54. 3, to 27
59. A tributary of the Ohio river
64. *The Threepenny* \_\_\_\_\_
65. Decrease, as in interest
67. Opposed to
68. React suddenly
69. Maple genus or computer maker
70. Aware of (2 wds)
71. Laurie role
72. Nonverbally says yes
73. Done \_\_\_\_\_ (perfectly) (3 wds)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20					21			22		23				
				24		25		26						
27	28	29	30				31		32		33	34	35	36
37						38		39			40			
41					42					43				
44					45					46				
47					48			49		50				
				51		52		53						
54	55	56	57				58		59		60	61	62	63
64						65		66			67			
68						69					70			
71						72					73			

## Down

1. Early Williams role
2. Iranian currency
3. Shaping or cutting tool
4. Has-\_\_\_\_\_
5. Key in again
6. Phrase heard in wedding ceremonies (2 wds)
7. Spanish surrealist
8. Corpse, slangily
9. Difficult to understand
10. Unit of subjective loudness
11. Outer skin of an orange
12. Prefix for "nesia"
13. Spinks in the boxing world
21. City on Route 44
23. Eats well
25. Pile up
27. Scoundrel
28. Related to notes
29. Like a feeble old woman
30. What a song might be, second time around
31. Unit of parsley
33. It's yellow on a New York subway map (2 wds)
34. Colored dye
35. A right one is 90 degrees
36. Jason Biggs film
39. Equipment on subs
42. Part of a Wonder Woman costume
43. \_\_\_\_\_ cum laude
48. Improve an engine
50. Its where rats might be found
52. Johnny Carson or John Wayne
54. Blunt weapon like a blackjack
55. Busy with (2 wds)
56. One's sweetie pie
57. Writes in "ERAS" for this answer
58. \_\_\_\_\_ Bell
60. Lure on
61. The A in AD
62. Greek portico
63. Small nudge for solvers
66. Homer's next-door neighbor

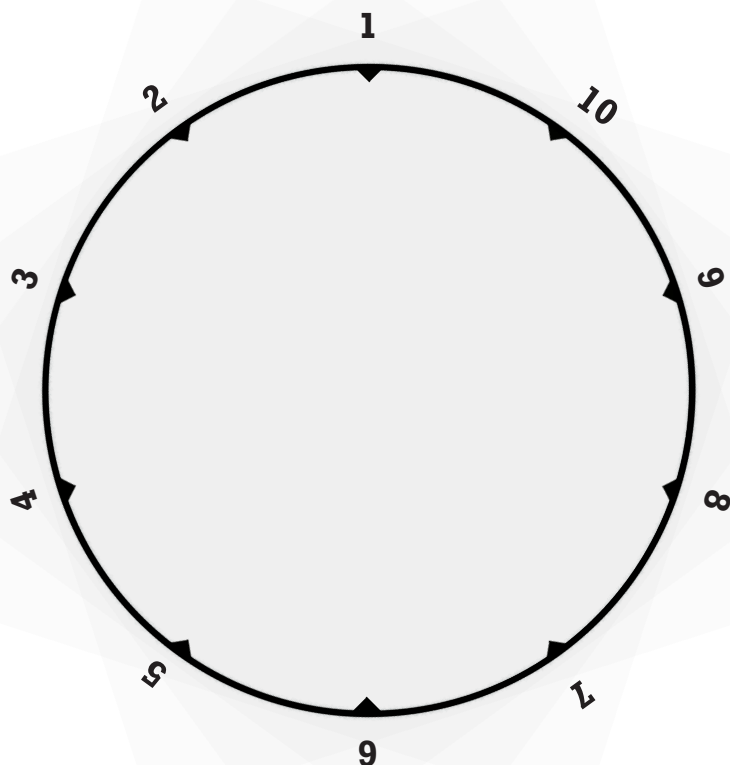
# Double Park

*Puzzles involving Pigpen ciphers are sometimes really difficult, especially combined with other codes.*

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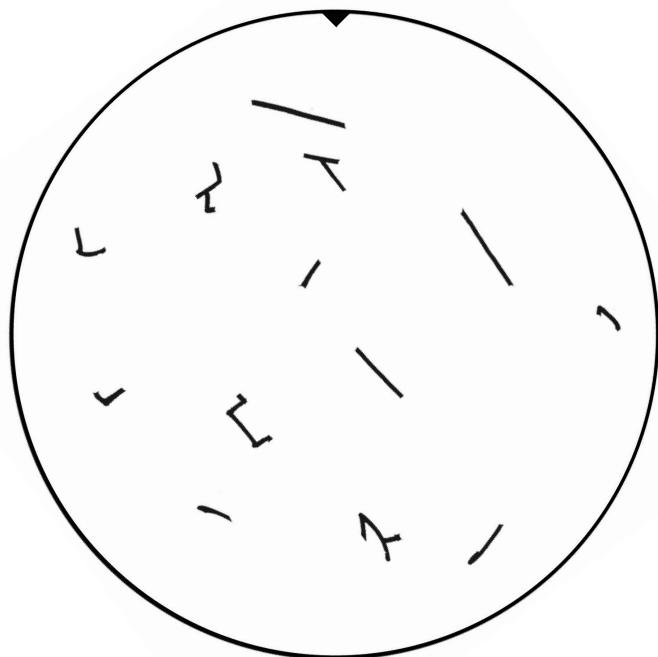
# Global Savvy

The original version of this puzzle involved using temperatures to create a drawing.

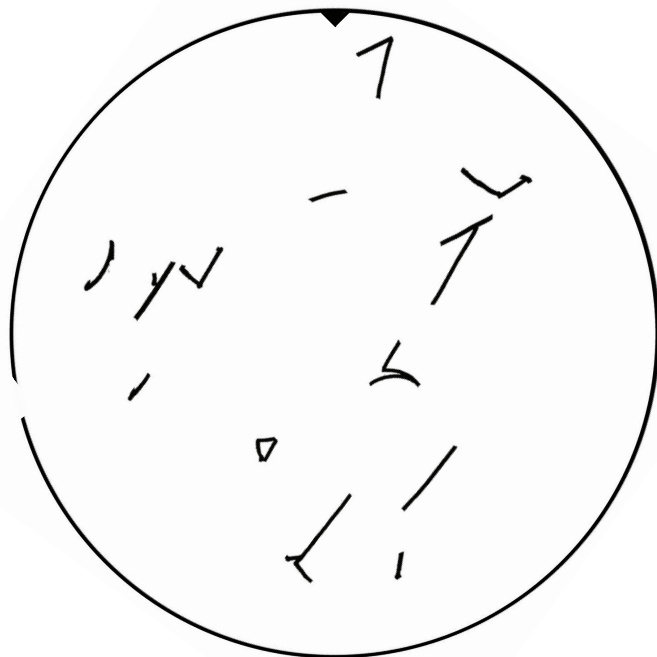


- A. Number of legs on a hermit crab
- B. Smallest number of the Major Arcana named for a female role
- C. Smallest atomic number for an element ending with a vowel
- D. Highest number on the Fujita Scale that is not theoretical
- E. Number of seasons for *Numb3rs*
- F. The only prime triangular number
- G. Number of letters in the final answer to this puzzle
- H. Clovers on the vest in the Boston Celtics logo
- I. Smallest positive integer in the title of a movie that won Best Picture
- J. Number of seasons of *The Real World* that took place outside of the United States

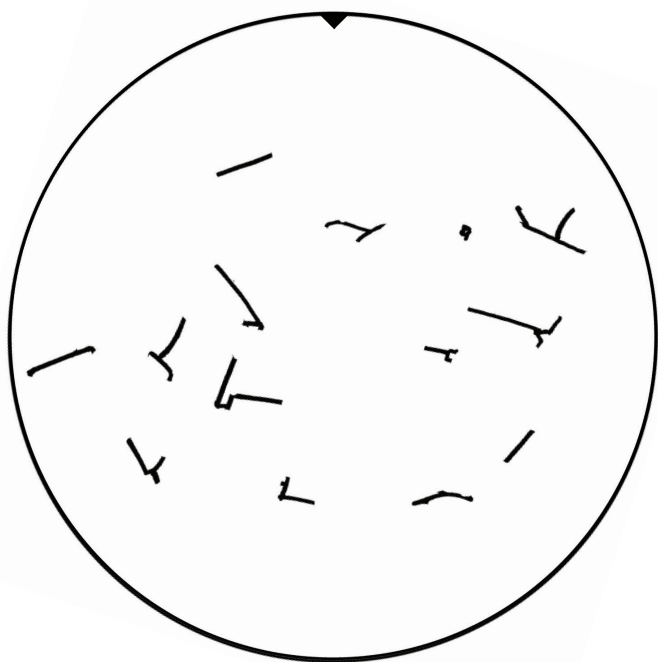
**A**



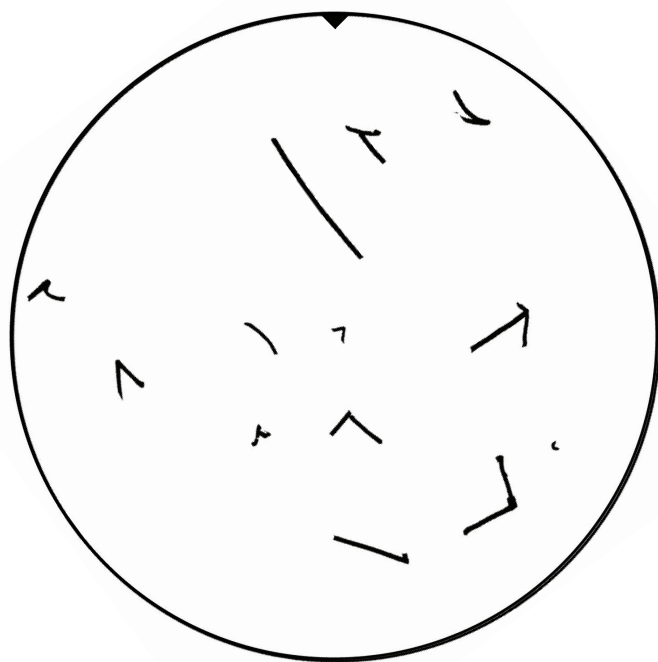
**B**



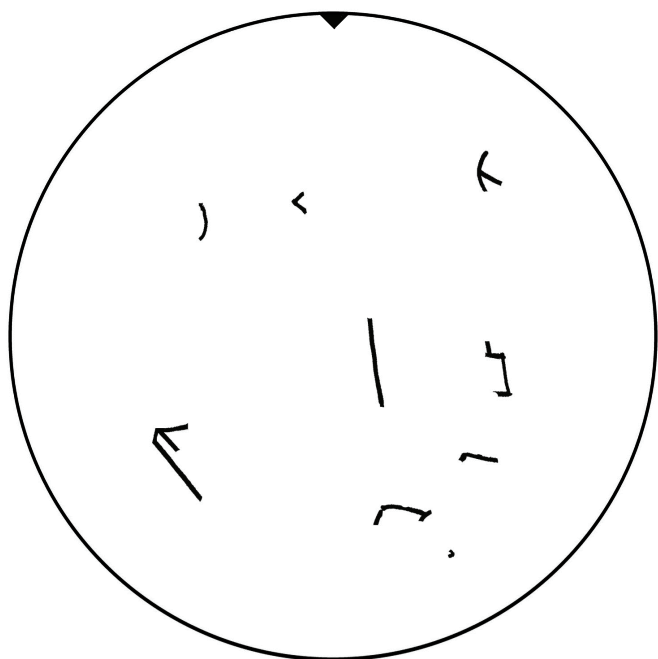
**C**



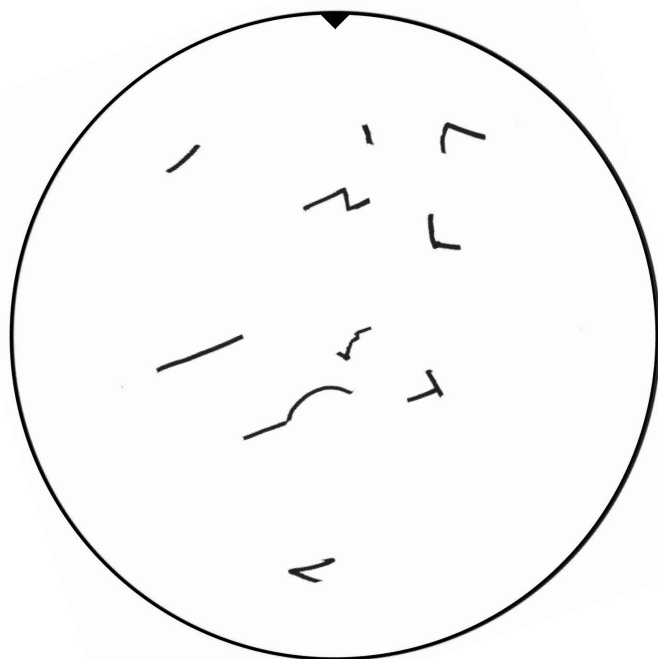
**D**



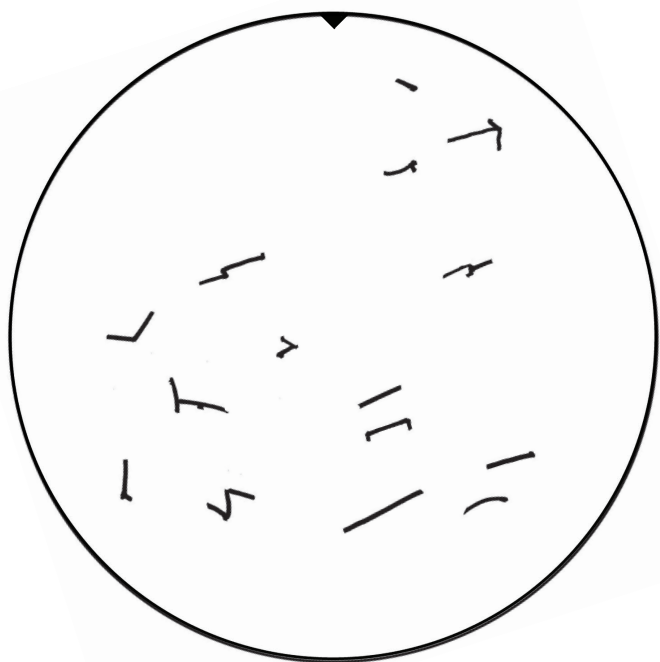
**E**



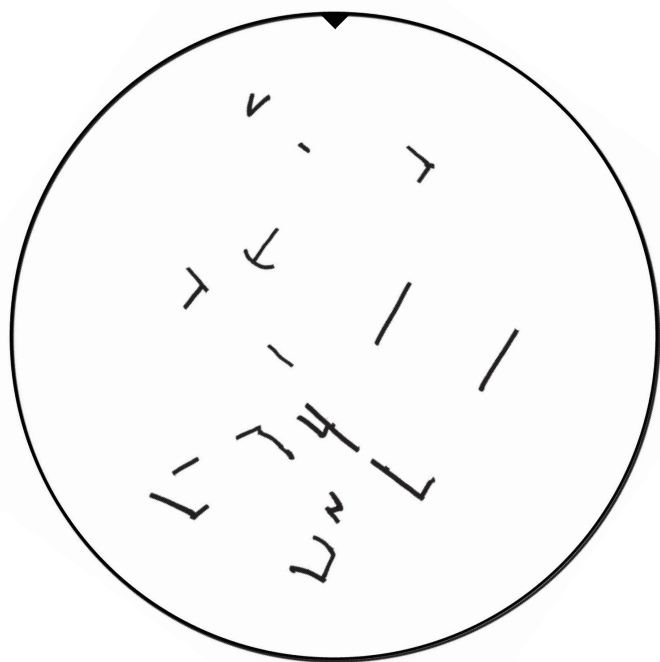
**F**



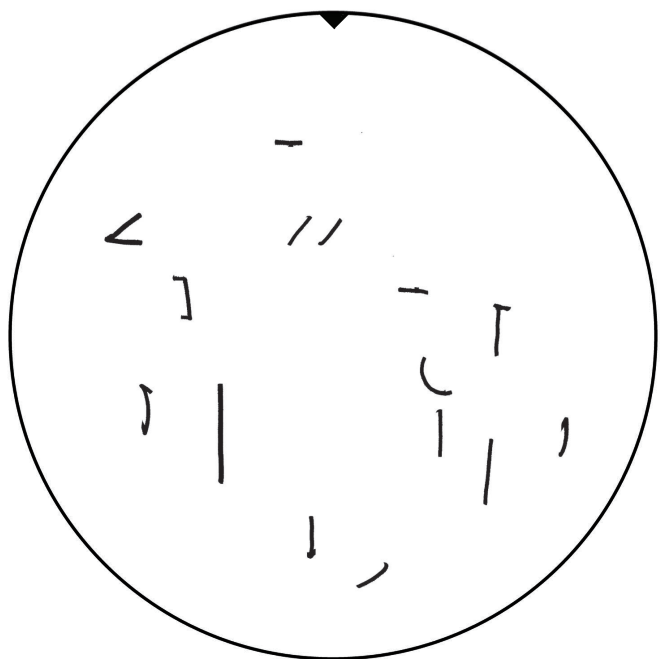
**G**



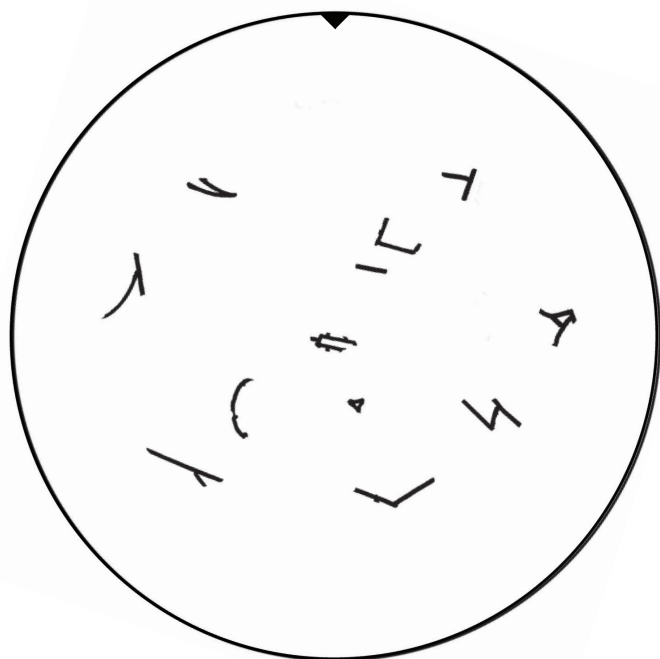
**H**



**I**



**J**



# The Goodwin Tweets

*Retelling Beowulf as a detective pastiche involving Nero Wolfe takes a lot of doing, but the extraction technique for this puzzle boggles even my mind. Fortunately, the extraction here will much simpler.*

@businessowner35 has just unlocked the Foursquare badge "Mile High Club"  
@traveller12 See @fixoftheyard, I told you I didn't rob that bank  
@wanderer31 Now on The Rachel...captain's got two legs, so we should be good  
@youth89 is now following @BeckyT  
@traveller12 Darn...missed a connection in Hong Kong  
@character51 Augh...way too much furniture in here now from the excess lodgers  
@businessowner35 I found my successor...hurrah!  
@wanderer31 I no longer have any desire to watch "Deadliest Catch"  
@businessowner35 Someone's been using the Gum Stretcher inappropriately on...ahem...  
@character51 is now following @grete  
@youth89 has checked into St. Petersburg, Missouri Courthouse  
@wanderer31 has earned the Foursquare badge 'I'm on a boat!'  
@businessowner35 Some of the squirrels are complaining. Apparently walnuts are okay, but almonds are too tricky.  
@character51 Man, never knew how much fun climbing the walls was, literally  
@traveller12 Met a charming woman in India today  
@wanderer31 I start a new job today. Have yet to meet the boss yet.  
@businessowner35 Tour group arriving today. So excited!  
@youth89 has checked into The Graveyard  
@character51 Hide the Raid! Hide the Raid!  
@wanderer31 My bunkmate has the best name for Scrabble.  
@traveller12 Haven't wagered this much in a while...is 20,000 really a lot?  
@character51 Had bad dreams last night...left me feeling uneasy  
@traveller12 Hired a valet today. Says he's ready to "go everywhere" #oohlala  
@youth89 It's Act Like a Pirate Day! Me, Joe, and @otheryouth are on an island celebrating  
@youth89 Just saw a picture of The Last Supper...which one is Goliath?

# Hold Your Kangaroos

*We are all familiar with words such as BUS and LIMO which are shorter versions of longer words. Taking a look at those scraps and getting something useful out of them though, that's Ucaoimhuan. This puzzle uses a similar technique.*

ACID • ADO • CACA • EASE • FEDS • GATE • INCUS •  
LETH • LIAR • LODENS • MACON • OCEAN • ORIENT •  
PERT • THINS • THROW • UPRATE

1. No longer living (3 of +4)
2. Dark brown (1 of +4)
3. Control or govern (1 of +4)
4. Where the bodies might be kept (3 of +4)
5. Spoiled or rotten (3 of +5)
6. Had food (3 of +4)
7. Reliable, like a companion or boy scout (1 of +5)
8. It holds things (5 of +6)
9. Walk around (3 of +6)
10. Make shorter (3 of +4)
11. Emulate Moses vis-a-vis the Red Sea (1 of +4)
12. Wow or amaze (1 of +3)
13. Having the XY chromosome (3 of +5)
14. Not beautiful (2 of +5)
15. Dastardly guy (1 of +6)
16. Prevented from getting in (1 of +4)
17. Compel or suggest (1 of +5)

# Our Unfortunate Aunt Ingrid

The original Ucaoimhu puzzle involved interpreting the four initial vowels of the title as mathematical symbols...but NEWS flash, there are other quartets we can use.

D	L	P	P	P	R	V	N	N	T
N	C	M	L	N	T	G	M	M	R
W	D	T	L	C	B	H	C	S	S
V	S	P	N	V	T	S	M	R	L
S	L	C	F	N	N	D	R	N	P
T	R	L	S	D	S	D	L	P	D
X	T	T	G	P	L	G	C	N	G
S	M	R	S	B	M	L	H	L	T
C	T	V	L	L	C	B	T	S	T
N	C	S	C	C	M	L	S	T	P

Large Roman Catholic churches (9)

Related to flowers and plants (9)

One from Boulder (9)

Funny or humorous (7)

Measurement used with the ark (5)

Large low white cloud (7)

Powerful cardiac stimulant (9)

Deny all knowledge of (7)

“Mellow Yellow” singer (7)

One who makes things happen at a conference (11)

Islands where Darwin studied (9)

Large flatfish (7)

Some Droids (9)

Early Netscape product (9)

Warrior in Charlemagne’s court (7)

Large scenic views (9)

Frozen drinks (4 7)

Related to the ends of the Earth (5)

River that’s dried out in *Fallout 3* (7)

*Apt \_\_\_\_\_* (1998 film featuring Ian McKellen) (5)

Anti-hedonistic (11)

Pedro’s brother who also pitched for the Red Sox (5)

Kind of cuff (7)

Silky fabric (5)

Exercise that works the stomach (3-2)

They may be soft or hard (5)

Vehicles that are often hailed but not praised (5)

Italian desserts that use mascarpone and cocoa (9)

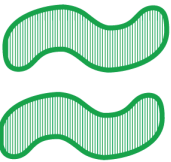

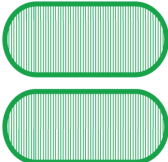
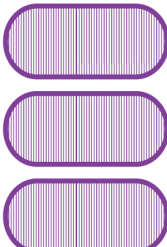

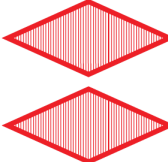
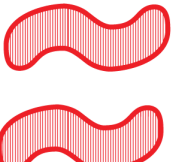
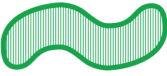


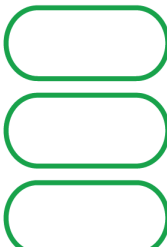




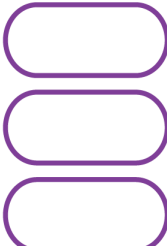



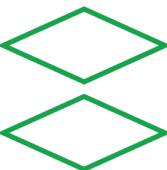
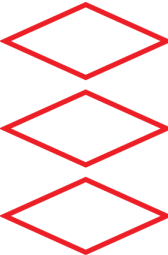
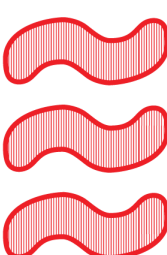
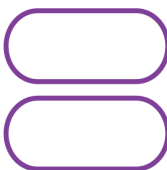


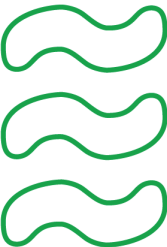
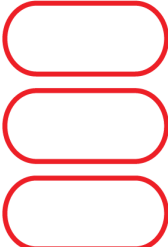

Add up or wreck (5)

Pope’s home, with the (7)

Call upon (5)

# Set in Triplicate

Like one of Uc's puzzles, this puzzle involves the Game of Set. This uses the original rules, but it does seem as if some cards might be missing.

 <b>Anemone</b>	 <b>Bojangles</b>	 <b>Clean</b>	 <b>Coral</b>	 <b>Cracked</b>	 <b>Crazy</b>
 <b>En</b>	 <b>Get a Grip</b>	 <b>Golddigger</b>	 <b>Hook</b>	 <b>Iggy</b>	 <b>Jemima</b>
 <b>Jiffy</b>	 <b>Leech</b>	 <b>Lenny</b>	 <b>Lotus</b>	 <b>Magic</b>	 <b>Mame</b>
 <b>Mary Jane</b>	 <b>Miracle</b>	 <b>Mule</b>	 <b>Nine Lives</b>	 <b>Office</b>	 <b>Outdo</b>
 <b>Point</b>	 <b>Surpass</b>	 <b>Tiananmen</b>	 <b>Visicalc</b>		

# Subway Station

*Uc's puzzle Train Station involved discovering that the puzzle used the board game A Ticket to Ride to trace out fatty acids on its hexagonal board. Ooh!*

Start at the most appropriate stop and go forward to the first Blue Line stop. (Not sure where the Blue Line is...there's one less than 10 stops away). Go forward N stops to the nearest jail. Go forward another N+1 steps. Go forward to the next stop with the same first word as this stop. Go forward N stops where N is the number of letters in this stop's name. Take the penultimate letter of the color of either stop adjacent to this one.

Go to the Green Line stop with the calmest sounding name. Count the number of spaces from your stop to the next stop of a different color. Proceed to the next stop whose full name is this number of letters. Skip the rails and travel straight across to a stop whose name is also a woman's name. Go to the next stop alphabetically. Go back one square. Take the last letter of the color of this stop.

Go to the Red Line stop closest to a train station. N is the distance between you and parking (in either direction), counting the parking spot. Go forward N stops, then travel to the first stop that contains a K in its name. This step will take you X stops forward. Go another X stops forward. Go forward to the next stop that has a different color. Travel to the other stop that begins with same 3 characters. Take the last letter of the color of this stop.

Go to a Green Line stop that has a three-word name. Go forward N spaces until you reach the stop you started at, and go forward N/2 spaces. Go to the other stop that contains the second word of this stop's name. Take the last letter of the color of either stop adjacent to this one.

Go to the Orange Line stop that's closest to a parking lot. Go forward N stops where N is the number of letters in this stop's name. You should now be on the Green Line. Go forward N letters, where N is the number of letters in the first word of this stop's name. The last letter of the first word in this stop's name is the first letter of only one stop. Go to that stop. Take the last letter of the color of this stop.

(Wondering about official names of colors? Check out the Mystery Hunt most relevant to the theme of this puzzle.)

# The Last of You-Know-Who

The Last of Sheila was a movie that inspired one of Uc's puzzles. Part of the movie involves invitations and one that doesn't fit.

Invitations to a really big thing (in theory)

YOU ARE GET SHORTY	YOU ARE THE OTHER SIDE OF MIDNIGHT	YOU ARE PREY: A NOVEL	YOU ARE THE SUN ALSO RISES
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Invitations to celebrate a new job in the movie industry

YOU ARE SILVIA BROOME	YOU ARE HARRY PENDEL	YOU ARE SGT. TODD	YOU ARE AGENT WD-40
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Invitations to a tasting party

YOU ARE BATTER MIX	YOU ARE DARK CHOCOLATE	YOU ARE MALT LIQUOR	YOU ARE SHEET CAKE	YOU ARE SOUL FOOD
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Invitations to a monumental Election Day party...what a capital idea!

YOU ARE DIRECT CURRENT	YOU ARE INCH	YOU ARE MODUS OPERANDI	YOU ARE NORTHEAST
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Invitations to a woman's return home

YOU ARE A BREAKFAST DRINK	YOU ARE SOPRANO SUMAC	YOU ARE SOON IN POETRY	YOU ARE PRECIOUS STONE
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Invitations to a friendly get-together

YOU ARE D. LEROY FORCHAN	YOU ARE THERGOOD HANNIGUN	YOU ARE S. STEPHEN MUNRO	YOU ARE ICABOD SALMON	YOU ARE HELEN SAZARAC	YOU ARE EBENEZER SAPPHO
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# Wise Wives

*Ucaoimhu wrote a puzzle that cleverly disguised its use of Braille. The long and the short of it is, a brilliant puzzle.*

Abhor actor Corey (the one who passed away) (4 4)  
The anger you might feel when it drizzles (4 4)  
Battled heavy mist (6 3)  
Be missing sheep, like Little Bo-Peep (4 4)  
Blockheaded blockade of water (4 3)  
The central point for all muscular men (4 3)  
Do with your tongue what you should do with ChapStick (4 4)  
A Facebook viral post about pastrami, perhaps (4 4)  
Group that includes adolescents (4 4)  
An informal discussion about N'Djamena and its country (4 4)  
Mel Gibson apocalyptic movie (3 3)  
“Oh yeah, they grow in date trees and reach over 5 yards in diameter” (3 3)  
One who’s a booster for cellulose (3 3)  
O’Quinn, for six years (4’1 5)  
Philosophical head of the college (4 4)  
“A pox on your face!” (4 3)  
Really groove on a cream-cheese onion mix (3 3)  
Result of too much weight on one’s shoulders (3 4)  
Sgt. George Baker’s cartoon soldier (3 4)  
Site whhere a drama is performed (4 5)  
Specifically identify guilty parties (4 5)  
Ten-cent Gouda, e.g., (5 6)  
Thirty-seven cents, for example (5 5)  
A Top 40 song about the pelvis? (3 3)  
An ubercool member of the onion family (4 4)  
What an accountant at a bar might do (5 4)  
What Millie the White House dog wrote her memoir with (3 3)  
What the masseuse does when she’s done with the legs (4 4)  
What the neighboring birds are in (4 4)

# The World's Shortest Cryptic

*For the 2008 Mystery Hunt, Ucaoimhu wrote a cryptic that was infinitely tall. Feeling inadequate, I've shrunk back down to two rows only.*

10					11					
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	

## Across

1. Got rid of Times editor (6)
6. Flower seems worker-like? (5)
10. Hot woman ultimately took back piece of meat (5)
11. Selection of cosmonaut horrifies writer (6)

## Up

2. Worshipper would be more acute if head was shifted forward (7)  
Before something in Perestroika (3)
3. Sailor and a group of lawyers (3)  
Robert is grabbing a bit of bark behind a tree (6)
4. Sauces...small, a large, small, a small (6)  
These make a comparison to botanist Gray (3)
5. Five hundred spot a movement for artists (4)  
Three notes for an honoree in June (3)  
Small boy with a magic word? (2-2)
7. Nice summer to throw a party for someone avoiding failure (3)  
Around tea time, Rock coming up short in private conversation (4-1-4)
8. Surprise rounds around hospital (3)  
Someone monopolizing resources out of mahogany (3)  
Dirty woman with water has nothing on sound of a guy who's Polish? (2 2 2)
9. Borneo native has gas (4)  
Honor skinless fish (3)  
Doctor is getting over mistake (2-2)