

ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

The Mysterious Advertisement Ted Clarke

There is a hidden ten-square starting with the word PLATEGLASS.

Kickshaws David Morice

Solitary Riddle The first sentence has an error in it: WE can't play a game of solitaire, which is "a game of cards requiring only one person to play it" (Grolier Encyclopedia, 1951). However the first sentence is also the more correct; the second sentence has two errors. In Grolier, a SOLITAIRE is also defined as a "large flightless bird of the pigeon family...now extinct." Thus, no one could see a solitaire in 1987, and if they could it wouldn't be flying.

Faustian Want-Ad (1) Nick's Soul is offering to trade "MY SOUL," but how can Nick's soul have a soul? (2) Presumably the ad allows for numerous trades, but he offers "MY SOUL" and not "part of my soul" or "a share in my soul". Once traded, he can't trade it again. (3) Nick's Soul? Could it be Old Nick, the devil himself, who is offering to trade his soul? If so, it's just a hellish trick: the devil doesn't have his own soul to trade.

Woe Snite The seventh dwarf was Pashful who arrived in the company of Brince Charming.

Celebrity Anagram Words 1. Ed Koch 2. Al Gore 3. Meg Ryan
4. Al Green 5. Tom Cruise 6. Isaac Stern 7. Ed Asner
8. Fats Waller 9. Eric Clapton

Self-Referential Differences None at all. Only numbers whose number names have a greater number of letters would work. In English, only ONE, TWO and THREE can be considered, but they don't work. Spanish and Latin are no better, but French UN-1= 1 and German ZWEI-2= 2 qualify. What about other languages?. Multiplication works for ZERO, since multiplication by 0 gives 0; it would also work for one-letter number names. Division works for ZERO, provided that 0 is divided by its number name amount to avoid division by zero, and number names that are equal to the square of the number itself.

Cleveland Is Our President Peter Newby's ladder, as it stands, can be read in 90 ways. However, NOON can also be read upside down, so turn the diagram 180 degrees and read another 90 ways. Then if you read the ladder from the back, using transparent paper, you can double this for a total of 360 ways!

Wedded Words Thomas L. Bernard

1. confess
2. deed
3. abet
4. battery
5. determined
6. large
7. talented
8. home
9. succor
10. cry
11. kin
12. order
13. bounds
14. lascivious
15. master
16. main
17. void
18. beseech
19. quiet
20. circumstance
21. joy
22. file
23. privileges
24. regulations
25. sound
26. tribulation
27. vigor
28. means
29. testament
30. ruin

The Last Mystery of Lord Sunnday Walter Shedlofsky

"Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen. My name is Pilary King. I am your host for KMWA-TV's new series 'Odd Dramas'. Remember at our last television appearance we featured the disappearance of mystery writer Lord Sunnday. If you will recall, we were advised that the dead body of the author had been discovered. We did not have time to explain how this had happened. Tonight we have Police Lieutenant Arthur Jamison who will explain how he solved the last mystery of Lord Sunnday. Lieutenant, the screen is yours."

"Thank you, Mr. King. The main focus was the line 'Expert clues of sound and change point way'. Let us first take 'sound'. If you read the poem aloud, you will discover four words that sound like numbers and to whom they relate: Sunnday, 'for'; Canon, 'into'; Urtos, 'overate'; and Enigma, 'benign'. Now for the second clue: 'change'. Sunnday had a flair for rearranging letters in words and names. For example, in one of his tales, if you rearrange 'Mural Music' you can form the word 'Simulacrum'. Also, if you rearrange his name, 'Sunnday', you can form the name 'Dunsany', the Irish dramatist. Also, if you rearrange the initial acrostic 'Reck Ghost Net' you can form the name of 'G. K. Chesterton', the creator of 'Father Brown'. Now when Sunnday referred to 'my last mystery', it might have been construed as his last written mystery, but it also referred to 'O quest roar', the last cryptic sentence of the verse."

"I wondered why 'O' and not 'Oh'. What is the rearrangement of this sentence?"

"Square root. As a confirmed spiritualist wrote a century ago, 'Elementary, Watson'. The mystic number was 4, and the square root of this number could only be 2, which was that of Doyle Canon."

Editor's Note: This is the final article by Walter Shedlofsky, who died on March 11, 1991 at the age of 73.