

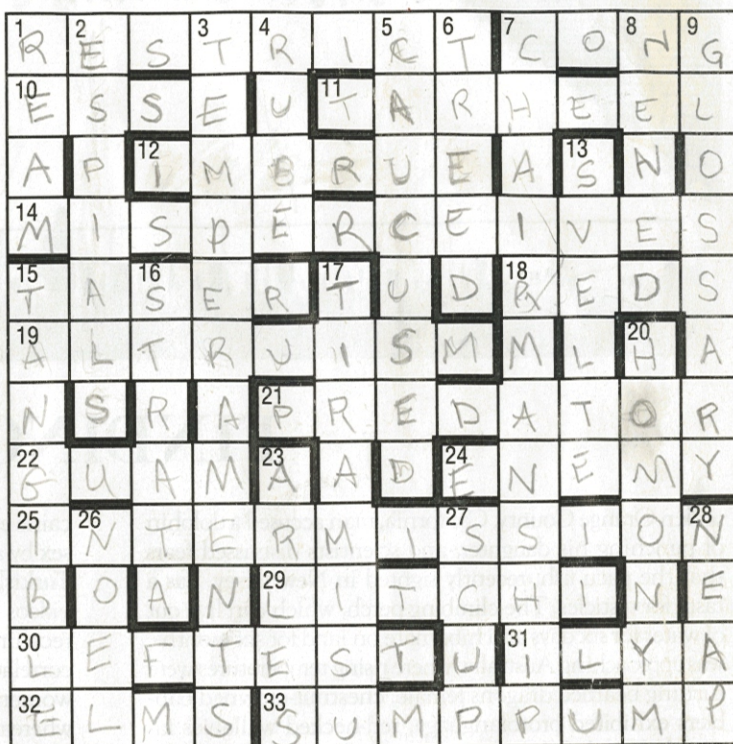
PUZZLE

FOURSOMES

By Richard E. Maltby Jr.

The pattern of heavy bars in this puzzle has four-way symmetry: it remains the same no matter which side is up. Therefore the clues have been grouped into foursomes, in which each group comprises the four entries sharing symmetrical placement. Within each foursome, however, the clues are listed in random order; the solver must place them correctly in the diagram.

Clued answers include five proper nouns. The entries at 8D and 27D are uncommon. The entry at 29A is one of several spellings. As always, mental repunctuation of a clue is the key to its solution. The solution to last month's puzzle appears on page 87.



CLUES

1A, 33A, 9D, 15D (8)

- Spanish leaders—each gets official after I empty the sink (4,4) **SUMP PUMP**
- Check for pesky critters **RESTRICT**
- Curious bleating coming from concrete **TANGIBLE**
- Special terms for the writer: "Wills Covering Death" **GLOSSARY**

7A, 32A, 1D, 28D (4)

- Viet follower against government leader **CONG**
- Lose head of steers in woods **ELMS**
- Something between springs that adds energy to sleep **NEAP**
- Note morning papers, collectively **HEAM**

10A, 31A, 8D, 26D (4)

- Listen to any, any goose! **NENE**
- Season when a hotel becomes hot? **NOEL**
- Contributor to blessed existence **ESSE**
- I got to lay off Tchaikovsky's father **ILYA**

11A, 30A, 2D, 20D (7)

- Newt (not Gingrich) enters for fear that I'm least conservative? **LEFTY**
- E.g., billed to build house when it's not finished? Goodness no! Upsetting! **HOMONYM**
- Spottings produced by palsies **espials**
- Crafted leather from a Southern state **farhed**

12A, 29A, 13D, 16D (6)

- I regret getting a business degree, leaving a stain: **IMBRUE**
- Find some wool itching—that's nutty! **LITCHI**
- Turnover: a dessert some initially made in classes **STRATA**
- Second gone, twelve's pickings can be slim **svelte**

14A, 25A, 3D, 7D (12)

- Big post with a hundred locks and staffs up on it
- Humors people taking time to be seen in paintings
- Has a wrong view of the Church of England—outside it's wildly impressive
- Throw dirt on the embassy? It gives one pause*

15A, 24A, 6D, 23D (5)

- No ally retreating finds you carrying soldiers
- Trapped, needing time? Uprising does **Treed**
- Rates changed? It's shocking **Taser**
- Heir to the throne leaves church in a French town **ARLES**

18A, 22A, 4D, 27D (4)

- Roses show early indications of rain, even dry spells **REOS**
- A mug shot for a position in South Pacific **GUAM**
- Porgy and Bess's finale gets trophy **scup**
- Rustic Uber taxis **Rube**

19A, 21A, 5D, 17D (8)

- Caduceus designed to be assembled locally **CAUCUSED**
- Goodwill gets work of muralist **ALTRUISM**
- Sweet letters stir a misunderstanding somewhat **TIRAMISU**
- It comes after one teardrop, sadly **PRE-ATROD**

* A classic Sondheim clue.

Contest Rules: Send completed diagram with name and address to "Foursomes," Harper's Magazine, 666 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10012. If you already subscribe to Harper's, please include a copy of your latest mailing label. Entries must be received by September 18. The sender of the first correct solution opened at random will receive a one-year subscription to Harper's Magazine (limit one winner per household per year). The winner's name will be printed in the November issue. The winner of the July puzzle, "Sixes and Sevens," is Jeff Folts, Hatfield, Mass.