

3. Garnet (A colorado boulder puzzle by Ucaolimhu)

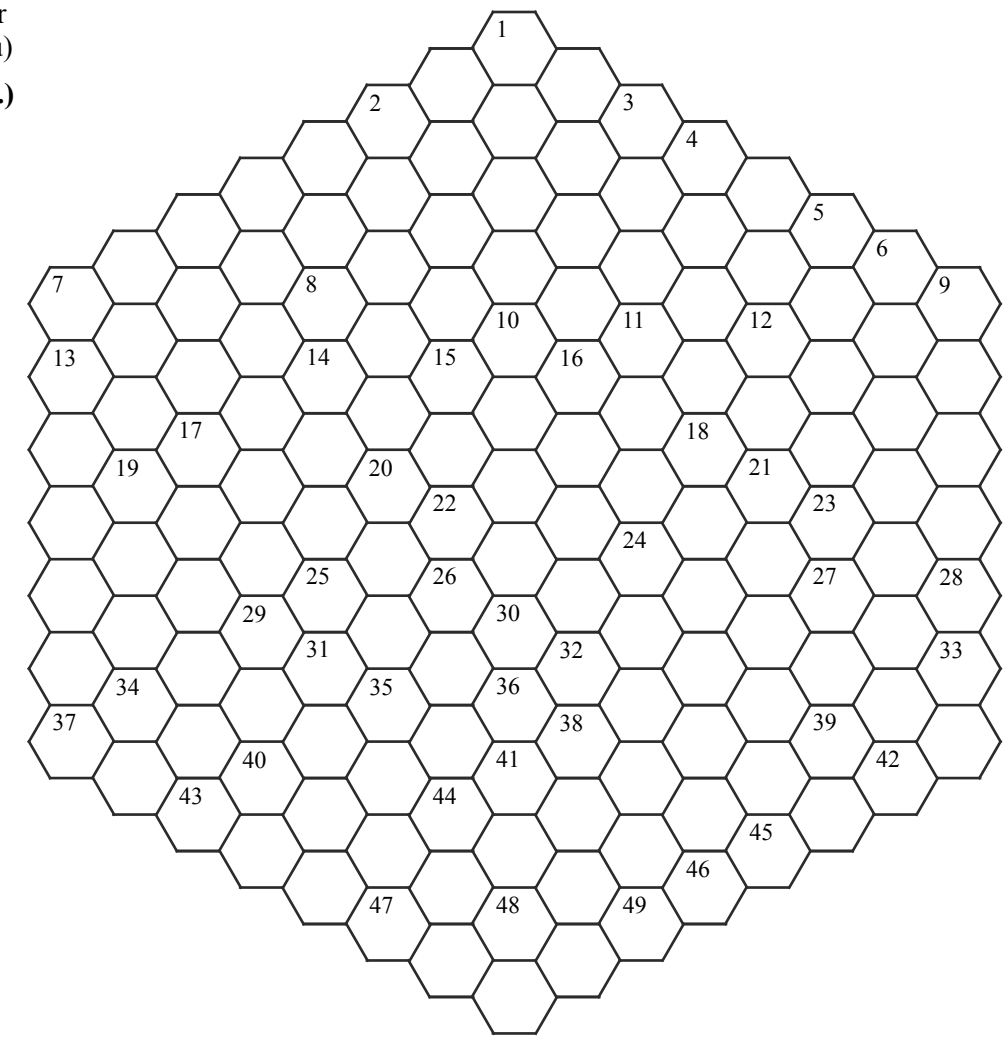
(Solve only after solving Puzzles 1 and 2.)

This area has great fishing, so I brought my garnet — that hexagonal mesh over there, which is specially designed for catching spearfish. And it caught a school of 60! Specifically:

(1) 30 of the fish are actually spearfish, running unswervingly in the direction of the little spears before the clues. In each such clue, the wordplay yields something extra, to reinforce the fish's straight-as-a-spear skeleton. For the nonvertical fish, the extra is a single letter; in clue order, the letters for \setminus clues will say what all of these fish are, and the letters for $/$ clues will say what the reinforcement consists of. (The latter has two readings; one lists *two* materials, one of which is thematic for this puzzle set.) For the vertical fish, the extra is a number.

(2) The 30 other fish are trout in disguise, which start with a straight part (of two or more hexes), but then bend, continuing with a “trouty” part. There are ten each of three types: **cutthroat** trout make one 60° bend before continuing straight for one or more hexes, **rainbow** trout make three 120° bends to form a three-hex “bow,” and **cutbow** trout have *two* answers entered with the *same straight part*, one continuing as a cutthroat trout and one as a rainbow trout, both bending towards the same side. (See examples below.) Each cutbow trout “clue” is actually two clues in succession, one for each answer; its “enumeration” is the sum of the lengths of their trouty parts. (The other trout clues work normally.)

(3) For each trout whose straight part is *nonvertical*, if its trouty part(s) start(s)

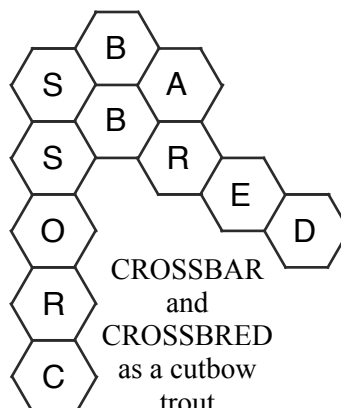
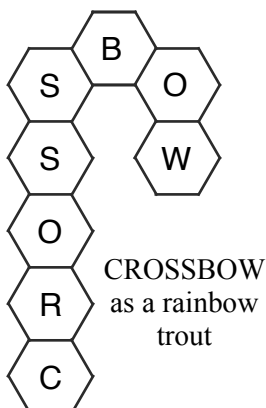
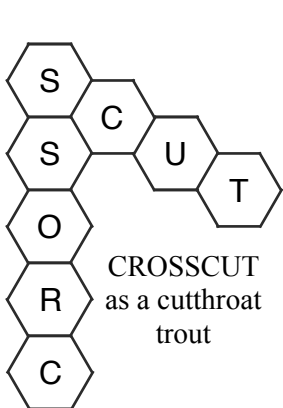


with the *n*th hex, circle the *n*th letter of its “clue” on the page (even if it is a double clue). The circled letters, in clue order, will indicate something in one of the other puzzles, with an appropriate item at its exact center.

(4) Write that item's letters three times in succession next to the clues for *vertical* spearfish, thus matching up each extra number with a letter. Move each letter as far ahead in the alphabet as the number says; if an apostrophe is added, the result will indicate something in one of the other puzzles (in terms of

two of this puzzle's answers; in any ambiguous cases take the last-clued answer for the given clue number). That in turn will hint at two letter-pairs (one symbolically, one phonetically); wherever the second appears in the grid in any direction, replace it with the first. Two parallel lines of hexes in the grid will then show a structure in Boulder ultimately named for a lake associated with schooling behavior.

(5) Finally, for each trout with a *vertical* straight part, circle the starting letter(s) of its trouty part(s) (cutbow trout will thus get two circles). If you tilt the grid *counterclockwise* 30° and read the circled letters row by row downwards, you will see a description of this rather overstuffed puzzle; if instead you tilt *clockwise*, you will see a novel interpretation of the middle word from that description, which applies to a lot of other things in this puzzle set.



CLUES

- ↓ 1. Again send wading bird to bite 'em (6) [NI2]
- ↙ 2. Informal endorsements of rare, brief moments (4)
- ↓ 3. Heartless Louis IX cut short teeniest little Von Trapp kid (5)
- ↓ 4. Sailors don't start night in tears (4)
- ↓ 5. Metallic yellow string in Yeosu, o'er "X" I suavely rotated (7) [NI3]
- ↓ 6. Cold virus besieging our, . . . er, hint-giver (5)
- ↙ 6. Egoless love god's chewable items (4)
- ↖ 6. A dog tag found after *Can-Can* busted DAR hoax (5)
- ➔ 7. Force *Juno* actor Michael inside organs (7)
- ➔ 7. Very dear, goofy *Star Wars* character (5)
- ➔ 8. Free fake grits a critic stuffed into German's kitchen utensils (5)
- ↓ 8. Hammer donated by fine-spun-denim seller Strauss (5)
- ↖ 9. Run through story with less substance (8)
- ↓ 10. Take small duck-baster Olga's filled with OH-containing lipid (5)
- ↙ 10. Cargo retrieval line gripped by brutish, short singing chipmunk Sol is soothing (6)
- ↖ 11. Historical period permits spinning carved pillars (6)
- ↖ 12. Knighted woman eating before radical visionary (7)
- ➔ 13. Cap almost hits the Doctor with a bishop's throne (8)
- ↖ 14. Opposed to bug with electronic smarts (4)
- ↑ 15. Claims beer covering limb's completely disrupted ogre's movements (5)
- ↑ 16. At first, Porky and Taz love educational orgs. (4, *abbr.*)
- ➔ 16. Part company with philosopher on roller-discoing planet (5)
- ↓ 17. Hoyt Axton's fourth to enter W's barges (4)
- ➔ 18. Amazing trail limitlessly followed by planes with wings out! (3 4)
- ↙ 18. *Karate Kid* star Pat makes Miyagi's intro a thing straight from the heart (5)
- ➔ 19. Henry, who once made cars with Charles Rolls, turned coyer (5)
- ➔ 20. Miss (when in Spain briefly) every other part of Sal's ritual (4, *abbr.*)
- ➔ 21. How one who enjoys tricks might toast bagels? (7)
- ↑ 22. Competitors tossing five Yemeni coins (5)
- ➔ 22. Timeless vehicles you can hire for money in Rio (5)
- ↙ 23. Anagram "I do" to "egg cell" (5)
- ➔ 24. Scandinavian stripped angora coat from Swede (5)
- ↓ 25. Reveal the Belgian tyke about to stuff chicken (3 2)
- ↙ 25. Tells falsehoods, like pre-Mac computers (5)
- ↙ 26. Fruit beverage pitcher Young accepts as having sufficient capacity (8)
- ↙ 27. Burgled sheds outside, obtaining a yen (4)
- ↑ 28. Utah, bereft of a Virginian dance-rapper who recorded *Illmatic Armbones* (5)
- ↑ 29. Money available in Peru once I neigh inside of attic (4)
- ↖ 30. Ha! Gore, Quayle, etc., inhaling cocaine-laced anesthetic, feel eerie (4 3 6)
- ↙ 31. Part-word meaning "uniform" in French, which is appended to English "uniform" (4)
- ↙ 32. Faith ought to go after CD containing REM (5)
- ↙ 33. Skin secretion with beryllium and boron, in sum (5)
- ↑ 34. Authorize reversing Tide and RC Cola's packaging (8)
- ➔ 35. Mister Solo, confined by bare fences, gets boost (7)
- ↓ 36. Returning for gourds peeled by an associate of Godzilla (5)
- ↑ 37. Design parameters for glasses (5)
- ↓ 38. In tears, the Parisian gives eelers a salad, free (6)
- ↖ 39. Lion-like creature bit hugging couples at the start and finish of *Gattaca* (3 3)
- ➔ 40. That is the empty new highway through Tucson (1-3)
- ↙ 41. Sign or placard on a washroom (4)
- ↑ 42. Note lady chasing pet bird (6)
- ➔ 43. In reports undergoing no "massaging" beyond what is necessary (8)
- ➔ 44. Mel assumes Oregon mushroom or malt mixture is perishable (5)
- ↙ 45. Store Group 2 from Ethan's hammer consort around aluminum salt containing $C_4H_4O_5^{2-}$ (6)
- ↑ 46. Sixteen involved in anagrammin' use L — even Igor's buddy (5)
- ➔ 47. Sent back (e.g.) chip or mound of volcanic rock (4)
- ↖ 47. I jog northeast, reflecting boredom (5)
- ↑ 48. A retro bar Edwin loved, bedecked, and/or de-defaced (5)
- ↑ 49. 'Til Uma razed an ancient region containing Rome (6)
- ➔ 49. The Québécois very quietly put in most singular lighting fixtures (9)