

The Atlantic PUZZLER

by Emily Cox and Henry Rathvon

TRAFFIC JAM

The rows and columns of the diagram represent city streets (one-way or two-way), with the arrows regulating traffic. Answers to clues *a* through *jj*, entered in the diagram sequentially, trace a tour through the city, starting in the upper left-hand corner and ending in the square just below it. Except for the last one, each clue answer ends at a Stoplight (i.e., in a numbered square), and the next answer begins in the same square. Each Stoplight has its letter provided by one of the clues *A* through *F*; these letters are a crucial guide to constructing the tour. Numbers in the Stoplight squares are unrelated to the tour's progression.

Words never run *through* Stoplights, they only start and stop on them, and each Stoplight is encountered only once in the tour. Unnumbered squares are crossed either once or twice, but never more. A word may take any number of right-angle turns, but traffic signs (arrows) must be obeyed. Answers include a British term (*aa*) not found in Webster's and a possibly unfamiliar word at *ff*. Punctuation may be used deceptively.

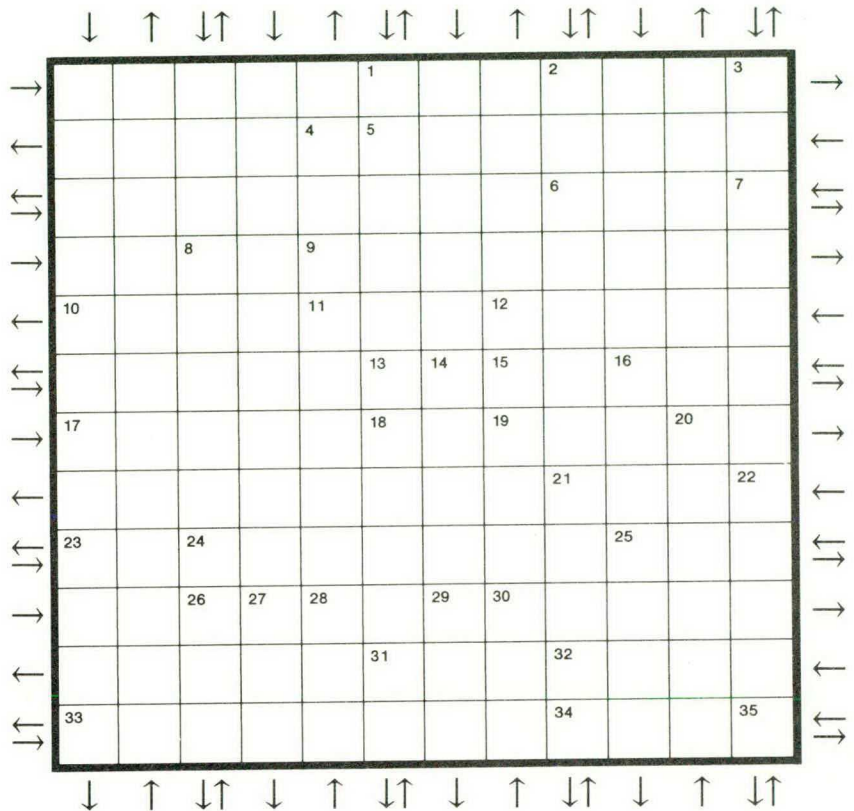
STOPLIGHTS

- A. Yellow in lights is symbolic (5) (13,17,5,33,9)
- B. Most like a stoplight for respite outside an endless whirlpool (7) (28,2,22,15,6,26,31)
- C. Lady's skimpy garb and curves prompt horns (5) (16,32,3,8,19)
- D. Battered auto at stoplight with hook on the front (7) (11,34,23,21,29,18,7)
- E. Fuel pump's last convulsive breath (4) (30,35,10,20)
- F. Race against time—set out (7) (4,1,14,25,27,12,24)

THE TOUR

- a. In need of provisions, auto enters south metropolitan area (8)
- b. Swerves from free-ways (4)
- c. Elevated vehicle at green (7)
- d. Man to creature in UFO: "Right lane, stranger" (9)
- e. Proceed right sickly, running into a relative of King Kong (7)
- f. Flat tire—decelerate, keeping in gear (7)
- g. Get agitated from dirt bus splashed (7)
- h. Drove a bus frantically around fifty streets (10)
- i. Priest lurching about in Gremlin (6)
- j. Taking left in tangled-up cities provokes (7)
- k. Speed-mad, worried about time, rushed headlong en masse (9)
 - l. Routed another way! (6)
- m. Rambler gets right through (5)
- n. Old piece of wreckage makes about 99 around right angle (5)
- o. Center has total divider (6)
- p. Went on wheels in places where rides are extremely bumpy! (6)
- q. Broad Street not in use (5)
- r. Catch most of party going the wrong way (4)
- s. Shown on a sign: "Train Depots" (6)
- t. Some hide from dizzy dame taking right (5)

- u. Come to a turbulent river (6)
- v. Return of The Thing in Hub is causing a sensation (6)
- w. Copper, next to a car that's overturned: "Love and liquor" (7)
- x. Rotten tomato lands on Nash's front seat (7)
- y. Draw blood in convertible to even account (9)
- z. Dash through square, clattering (5)
- aa. Police are nuts for hot drink containers (3,4)
- bb. Make rest break after black goo gets inside car mechanism (7)
- cc. Networks make it a cruel snarl (8)
- dd. Prayers for shortened streets (4)
- ee. Take us back to lodge—it's safest (6)
- ff. Submerged in Datsun amidst tidal wave (7)
- gg. Nightmare in children's primary school bus (7)
- hh. Terribly sick after street jams (6)
- ii. Views countryside's beginning, overwhelmed by liberated sense (6)
- jj. Dollars for those involved in collisions (8)



Note: The instructions above are the special instructions for this month's puzzle. It is assumed that you know how to decipher clues. For a complete introduction to clue-solving, write to The Atlantic Reprint Department, enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The solution to last month's Puzzler appears on page 109.