

The Atlantic PUZZLER

by Emily Cox and Henry Rathvon

THE DJINTECS

(Acknowledgments to Vectis of *The Listener*)

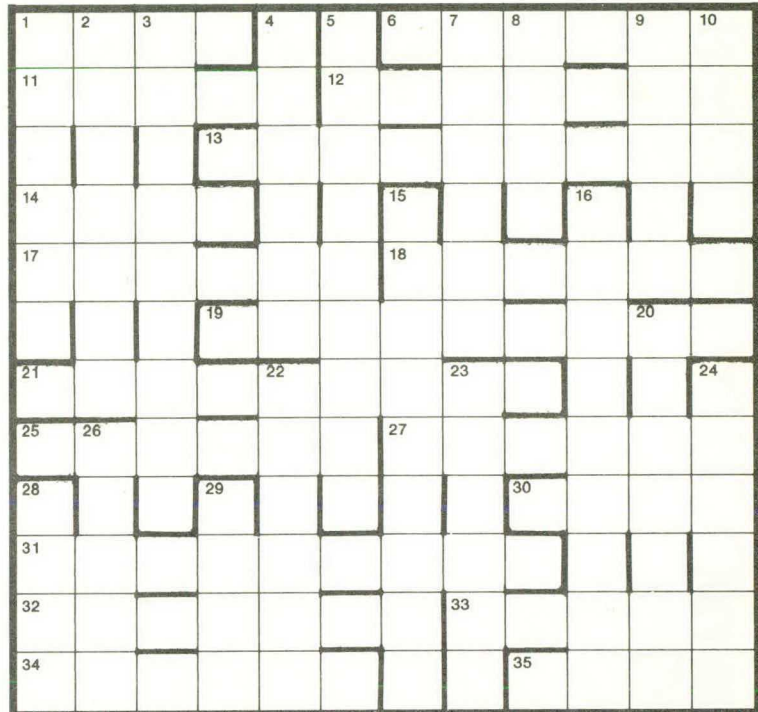
The Djintecs are a little-known tribe of American Indians who worship cryptic puzzles. This cryptic was made by a Djintec family of mother, father, daughter, and son, each member contributing exactly one fourth (9) of the diagram entries and corresponding clues. Western civilization having come recently to the Djintecs, the daughter and son now fill in the diagram in our "orthodox" style; but the parents persist in the ritual way of writing from right to left, and from the bottom of the paper to the top.

Though this backward trait may someday disappear from Djintec puzzle-making, there will never be a change in the one habit peculiar to these people: the females always write the opposite of what they mean. The father and son have each included three proper words among their answers.

There is an old Djintec saying: Punctuation may be used deceptively.

ACROSS

1. Tribe's traditional cryptic written partially in reverse
6. There's nothing lower than this bit of desert in the waste of Iran
11. Run around wrapped in rope at the same time
12. For example, a wind recital
13. Impractical and eccentric, Uncle Art is swallowing iodine
14. Light sack
17. In hermit's dwelling, cunningly made pit has someone trapped
18. To prejudice an Apocryphal character



19. Military plan needs five maneuvers
21. Granite rocks around road slowing things down
25. Nick's home is in South Ellsworth
27. One who rode for honor
30. Leaders of Afghan rebels test shooting skills
31. Edited text about Globetrotter—a show-off
32. Oration broadcast from somewhere in Canada
33. Nine snakes pursuing a woman
34. Pete dances with two ladies in ball
35. Tire ruptured in Roman road

3. In the evening Rae curls up tipsily with the fifth of Scotch
4. Moussorgsky melody's ending with a feeling of delicacy
5. Shows distance I will travel
7. I'm a beginner—there's nothing wrong with that
8. African feature in which there's nothing English
9. Get ready for real bad time
10. Piano moved to S.F.
15. S.A. president intermingling with people on the street
16. Very small article written by me
20. Ruin of terminus—bad luck
22. Close Barney out
23. Writers, or workers in a corral?
24. We're old, sad, and reduced in dignity
26. Mr. Cummings is holding back anger and exciting fear
28. Begin to jump
29. Shape of no value

DOWN

1. Exotic nectar from a Mediterranean island
2. Censure a rendition of Verdi as "pop"

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 97.*