



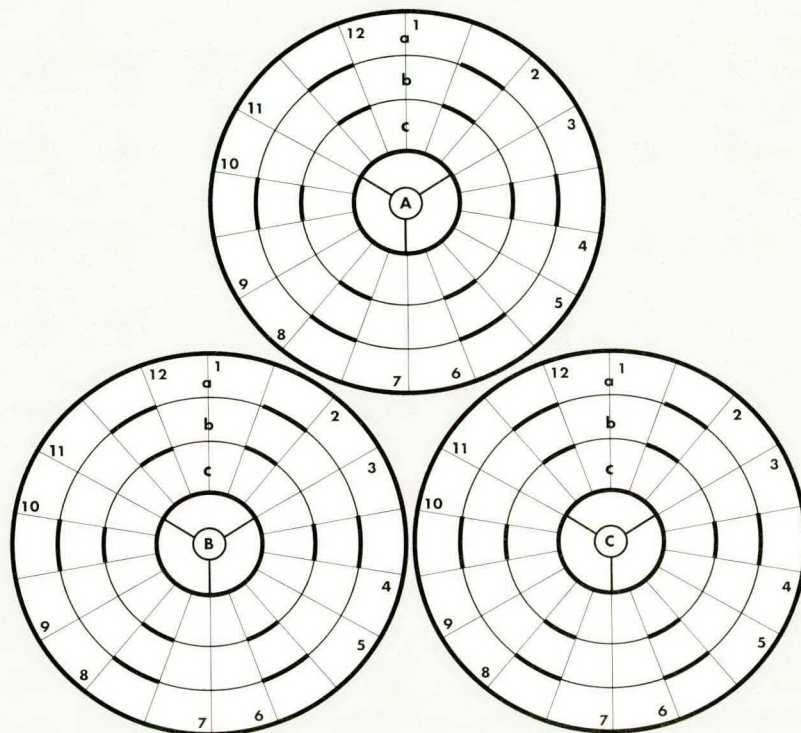
# THE PUZZLER

by Emily Cox and Henry Rathvon

## Three-Ring Circus

Each of this puzzle's three Rings (A, B, and C) is divided into three concentric Circles (a, b, and c) and 18 Sectors. Each of the nine Circles (Aa, Ab, etc.) contains three consecutive six-letter entries going clockwise from an unmarked starting point. The 12 numbered Sectors contain entries (1–12) of either nine or ten letters broken into three pieces, one piece per Ring, entered from the perimeter inward. Any piece may go in any of the Rings. Ten-letter answers have one four-letter piece (which may be the first, second, or third of the entry's three pieces) whose fourth letter protrudes into the center of its Ring. If all this is making your head spin, take heart; when every answer has been entered, you'll find the source of the dizzying effect in the nine letters filling the centers of the three Rings. Clue answers include four capitalized words.

See facing page for contest details. The solution to last month's Puzzler appears on page 111.



### Circles

- Aa.** Suddenly reveal Spanish circus to Caesar  
Merv is prepared for realistic portrayal  
Celebration somewhat satisfies Tarheels
- Ab.** Writer's glassware found in a biergarten  
Get up and go before excessive ingestion, eating a container of veggies (*two words*)  
Glass rods seen in abstract Miró
- Ac.** Clinton initially playing tenor instrument  
Thoughts revolving around curriculum's last part of a weekend in Paris  
Political theorist's goal in creative work
- Ba.** Jellyfish amused crackpot  
Place to get a drink, say, in Tennessee  
Quite a few farm machines initially sent back

- Bb.** Commit poor Eve to sitting behind Democrat  
Singer on the east side of Rhode Island theater district  
Lauder of makeup starting with true guinea pig
- Bc.** Colonial leader married Eskimo  
Disturbed sleep with a tickle  
Make a mistake in addition task
- Ca.** Ice pinnacles frighten ship's pilot on the way back  
*E.T.*, in jest, recast *High Society?* (*two words*)  
A soothsayer's conclusion can answer mysteries
- Cb.** Janitor's helper fixed his melancholy  
Publisher is one bringing legal action  
Horsey adorned with bangles between head and tail
- Cc.** Gym in a ghetto provides refuge  
The first man in Maine married woman abroad  
King with a count's way of fighting

### Sectors

1. Detain navy in Turkey, heading west for volcanic island
2. Again excite the attention of others about bats in tree
3. Experimenter with freezing toes crying miserably
4. Gang member led Quentin astray
5. With quiet bearing, reaches out for pipe
6. Cars backed up outside before "Love Songs"
7. Steered northeast into purple and scarlet
8. Colleague with a bit of marijuana caught by officer attending civil disturbance
9. Sunday, Peter takes Ed's racer
10. Strangely, negativism is efficient (*hyphenated*)
11. Worn-out spot next to counter held by a trio
12. Most sharp, stylish neckwear carried by Kitty

**Note:** The instructions above are for this month's puzzle only. It is assumed that you know how to decipher clues. For a complete introduction to clue-solving, send an addressed, stamped long envelope to The Atlantic Puzzler, 77 North Washington Street, Boston, Mass. 02114.