



Theme and Variations | *a cryptic puzzle by Emily Cox & Henry Rathvon*

Twelve unclued words in the grid comprise four Theme Words (A, B, C, D) and two related Variations based on each.

Across

- 1 Variation on D
- 6 A follower without praise (5)
- 11 Variation on A
- 12 Originally, place of birth of young Louisiana hero (5)
- 14 Ego in Sartre's very essays (5)
- 15 Command First State and First Nations people (6)
- 16 Shout in the ER before ICU cut short noise (6)
- 17 Variation on B
- 18 Variation on A
- 20 Great Plains folk love pungent seasoning (5)
- 23 Baseball features Miami's starter in Mariners' home (5)
- 25 Ring, according to a Wagner work (5)

- 28 Theme Word C
- 30 Theme Word A
- 32 Author of "I, Claudius" at first garners critical acclaim (6)
- 33 Cracked a terse riddle (6)
- 34 Variation on C
- 36 Frenchman who painted outdoors or in bed (5)
- 37 Unfinished Egyptian port petition (3)
- 38 Down-and-out New England ice cream vendor (5)
- 39 Variation on D

Down

- 1 Theme Word D
- 2 Theme Word B
- 3 Copy Italian in one winning move (7)
- 4 Tracker primarily interprets footprints (6)
- 5 "River God of the Norse" sculptor (5)
- 7 As stated, canal parts Highland bodies (5)

- 8 Variation on B
- 9 Vocally disrespects magician's tricks (8)
- 10 New store carrying excellent hi-fi gear (6)
- 13 Get end of URL in spelling contest (6)
- 16 Steep ice wrecked movie sequence (3,5)
- 19 End-of-century hot-to-trot pilot of fame (6)
- 21 Bats are flying side by side (7)
- 22 Diminish sonata's start quite a bit (6)
- 24 People who keep relishes, or so we hear (6)
- 26 Mend a green pair of socks possessed by cardinal (5)
- 27 Needle a Republican with argument (5)
- 29 Variation on C
- 31 Current road crew's odds (4)
- 35 Right after the first lament (3)

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