



# Welcome to a Bridge Acrostic w/Cryptics!

The puzzle below is not a crossword puzzle: it is a quotation from a bridge book. This month, the source was written by an attorney from Michigan, and is about a major ACBL national event.

The words in the quote do not end at the end of a horizontal line; they only end when there is a black square following a group of numbered squares. The unique thing about acrostic puzzles is that the initial letter of each answer, reading down from Clue A through the final clue,

will spell out the name of the author of the quote, and then the title of the book it was extracted from.

### Work the Puzzle

You will notice that all the letters in the quote are numbered, and each letter has a clue referral to guide you as you go back and forth from the quote to the clues. (To illustrate, letter #1 is clued in CLUE Q, the eleventh letter in that twelve-letter, three-word answer.)

Working back and forth from the puzzle to the grid is the secret ... and the fun ...

when solving acrostics. Eventually the whole puzzle can be unraveled, even if you only can figure out a small fraction of the clue answers at first run-through. Simply keep filling in the letters of the clues you do know, and then carry those letters back into the quote. This will help you figure out more words in the quote, and you can carry those letters back into the clue answers.

Eventually, there comes a watershed moment when the entire puzzle will reveal itself.

As a Christmas present to those of you who thrive on cryptic clues, I have included seven of these this month: two homonyms, two hidden words and three anagrams. And for everybody, don't hesitate to use some bridge reference works, or to creatively use Google search or the ACBL's website *acbl.org*

So enjoy yourselves, and don't be afraid to make suggestions or criticisms about how the puzzles are clued.

And ... keep coming back, y'hear?  
-Joel Hoersch

## "Partnership Discussions"

by Joel

	1	Q	2	S	3	I		4	F	5	S	6	N	7	Y	8	U	9	C	10	Z		11	Y	12	L		13	J	14	S	15	P	16	U		17	J	18	C	19	X	20	I				
	21	Z	22	K	23	C	24	V		25	E	26	T		27	N	28	A	29	G	30	Y	31	O	32	Q		33	N	34	I	35	X	36	H		37	O	38	C		39	V	40	B			
	41	K	42	Y	43	X	44	B	45	F	46	H	47	D	48	R		49	L	50	C	51	J		52	A	53	N		54	B	55	R	56	L	57	E	58	U		59	A	60	W	61	M		
62	Q	63	Y		64	U	65	T	66	I	67	G	68	X		69	F	70	S	71	C		72	L	73	D	74	G	75	W		76	V	77	D	78	J	79	M	80	B		81	S	82	C		
83	Q		84	Y	85	W	86	B	87	C	88	H	89	K	90	J	91	O	92	U	93	S		94	O	95	Q		96	L	97	X		98	A	99	O		100	T	101	O	102	V	103	E		
104	U	105	N	106	S		107	N	108	S	109	J		110	K	111	U		112	X	113	F	114	D	115	R	116	A	117	I	118	C		119	H	120	C	121	O	122	F	123	G	124	W	125	S	
	126	U	127	H	128	F	129	L	130	G	131	A	132	I	133	X	134	B	135	D		136	F	137	Q		138	X	139	B	140	Q	141	J	142	L	143	H	144	N		145	X	146	S			
147	Q	148	D	149	F	150	G	151	M	152	V	153	S		154	C	155	K	156	T	157	J		158	Z	159	L	160	H	161	E		162	F	163	D	164	O	165	R	166	B	167	V	168	M	169	K
	170	T	171	Q	172	S	173	C	174	X	175	R	176	Z	177	U		178	D	179	Q	180	C	181	N		182	T		183	K	184	V	185	P	186	C		187	T	188	Y		189	F			
190	Z	191	P	192	U	193	O	194	Y	195	J	196	M	197	G		198	L	199	U	200	T		201	I	202	E	203	A	204	Y	205	Q	206	S	207	J		208	Z	209	B	210	K	211	N		
212	Z	213	P	214	C	215	B	216	Y	217	A		218	Y	219	Z		220	X	221	M	222	E	223	D		224	U	225	H	226	F		227	N	228	L	229	Q	230	U	231	Y					

- A. A common category of signals in bridge.
- B. Peter \_: Howard Schenken's favorite partner.
- C. When using Truscott over big club, one bids the \_ \_ \_ \_ . (4 words)
- D. (\*) Unfortunately, we are sans understanding what is going on.
- E. (\*) Less sensitive digit.
- F. The least you can pay for failing to make your bid. (2 words)
- G. (\*) Absent-mindedly gave ear to the humdrum, ordinary stuff.
- H. Fortuitous victory. (2 words)
- I. Billy Seamon, Edith Kemp and Ann Burnstein, for example.
- J. A jump in a competitive auction is often intended as this. (2 words)
- K. In CLUE A, the type may be defined as discouraging or \_.
- L. \_ \_ " \_ \_ ", you'd better be able to beat the contract! (4 words, slang)
- M. Impression; idea: as in, "I got the \_ that LHO was short in clubs."
- N. "Topper" or "Turn of the Screw," for example. (2 words)
- O. Winning players will often take risks in matchpoints to score an \_.
- P. (\*) In-stead?? Sounds like Stansby ... or maybe Mathe!!
- Q. Phrase commonly uttered when dealing stud poker. (3 words, slang)
- R. Elected; as in, "I \_ to open 1NT rather than 1H, because of my shape."
- S. Scoring consideration for rubber bridge, but not duplicate. (2 words)
- T. (\*) If you trap pet, it evinces a hunger of sorts.
- U. If a contract \_ \_ , envision a layout where it can succeed. (2 words)
- V. Bavarian king, an art collector and patron of Wagner. (name & Rom. no.)
- W. (\*) Live perversely? That's bad!
- X. Shrewd and canny; not easily tricked. (2 words, slang)
- Y. Expression meaning: to become a Life Master. (4 words, slang)
- Z. (\*) Unruly boys were often raised at the bridge table.

- 59 203 131 98 52 116 217 28
- 80 209 44 86 134 54 166 139 215 40
- 23 18 154 120 87 50 38 180 186 82 118 71 214 173 9
- 73 178 163 223 148 77 47 114 135
- 57 222 103 25 202 161
- 162 113 149 128 69 4 45 136 226 122 189
- 123 74 67 29 130 197 150
- 88 160 119 46 36 225 127 143
- 20 132 66 117 201 3 34
- 207 157 51 78 90 109 13 17 195 141
- 41 89 210 22 110 155 183 169
- 96 12 49 159 129 72 142 228 56 198
- 196 221 168 79 61 151
- 144 181 53 27 105 227 211 33 6 107
- 94 164 31 121 99 101 37 193 91
- 191 15 185 213
- 140 205 83 137 171 62 32 147 179 95 1 229
- 115 55 165 48 175
- 14 5 125 93 172 153 206 2 70 81 108 146 106
- 182 100 170 200 156 65 187 26
- 230 8 111 58 177 199 224 104 92 64 192 16 126
- 24 102 76 184 152 39 167
- 75 85 124 60
- 174 133 138 43 112 220 68 97 145 19 35
- 63 11 84 30 216 42 218 204 231 194 188 7
- 10 158 190 208 176 219 21 212

(See Answers on page 14)