

Three Layers & One More

by Ucaoimhu

We are now in the midst of three symmetrically concentric puzzle events: BAPHL 22 (last Sunday and next Sunday), Zebraboy's Labor Day weekend extravaganza, and a Sunday puzzle picnic. Correspondingly, the grid has three concentric areas, and four answers starting in each area must be altered before entry:

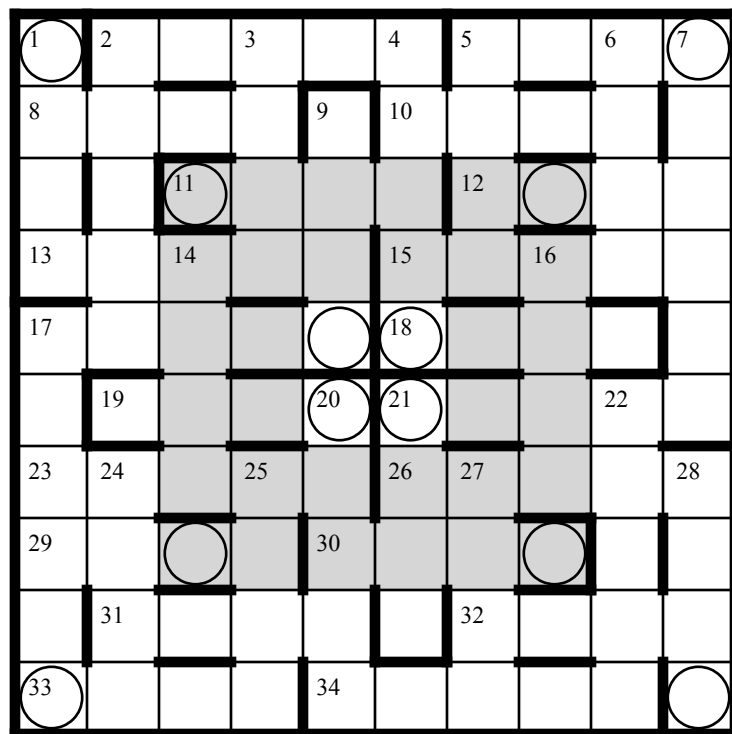
Outer. Four answers starting in the dominating area must become definite leaders (in the appropriate tongue).

Middle. Four answers starting in the encased area must show how they're contained, capped, and wrapped around. (Containers come from an SF title, an SF trope, a poem, and a standard simile; caps come from YAK AT.)

Inner. Four answers starting in the width-two, area-four, esoteric area must have letters 2-4 translated from Latin.

(To help you out, the clue for each such answer contains a straight clue for the altered entry.)

The wordplay in each of the remaining clues yields a letter sequence with one incorrect letter; order the correct letters reverse-alphabetically by the incorrect letters to find three appropriate items, which can be altered in the ways above (respectively) to give the three appropriate terms seen in the sets of four circles in the respective grid areas.



Finally, each alteration involves a trio of letters next to one more letter; similarly, there is one more puzzle event that will take place in this time span, which appears in the grid twice (in rotationally symmetric places), each formed by two unchecked letters and a connected set of eight bars.

Incorrect	Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A
Correct																										

ACROSS

2. Retro actor George from *Ship of Fools and Wise Folks*
5. Art in bisected Hebrew letter from eager Parisian is depicting African antelope
8. Iridescent stone braces in front of Q and M
10. Tritium-filled plant that twines around Abominable Snowman
11. Daughter leaves less narrow city in Österreich
12. Green spheres that feed you foolish apes
13. Varieties of plants used by gumbo makers that might be turning semisardonical
15. 0 adorns clothing of your alphabet's namesake saint
17. Large USN officer jumped
18. Place to get Long Island ice tea, say, in Tennessee
19. Is a character in an Alcott novel about a California city
21. What's inside grain lofts Pa's observing in the distance
23. Strikebreakers don't talk with Muscles
26. Alongside actor Chaney's stocking
29. Briefly penetrating essay about Henry
30. Consequently, that's cute and wet
31. Tailless otter makes a flip comment to Brutus (2 wds.)
32. Urn she defaced goes kaput, resulting in spiteful joy
33. Go out with Ecstasy-taking amphibian
34. Tests can upset cellist Yo-Yo

DOWN

1. Stir old Mary Jane up (*hyph.*)
2. Some might assume Papa talked
3. Nonet of giant IPAs, tissue, and appetizers
4. Lang's successor had to start match
5. That male garb of quirky actress Lamarr
6. Use a sliding mechanism to close one tent
7. Drag to north field where grass is cut for fodder (2 wds.)
9. What's essential for fear that fills lax but agitated sets of actors arranged on stage, motionless
14. Genius leader in bathroom shower
16. Pound topped by 11-Euro Cambodian currency unit
17. Lucre gets two tangos for Charlie Sheen in the UK
20. Device that (e.g.) makes olive oil come out of rep's wild olives, finally
21. A kind of operating system reported injuries to a beast getting fluffy white stuff shorn off of her?
22. Donald Duck's nephew's uranium-free ore deposits
24. 110 boxes George emptied to get cereal
25. Then gets quartet of meerkats that will rear male triplets, perhaps (2 wds.)
27. "June 21, June 22, ... [etc., etc.] ..., September 21, and September 22" is randomly, um, smaller (2 wds.)
28. Big plane circles small home