

# September Septet

by Ucaimhu

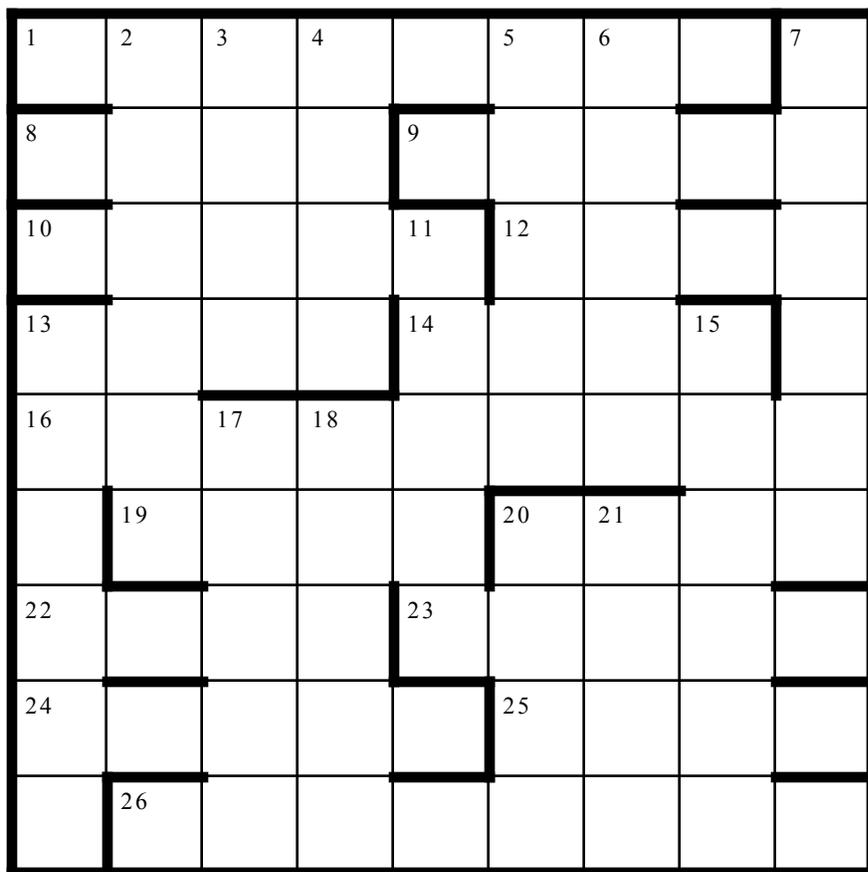
On this page you will find seven cryptograms, one for each day of fall so far. Each of these cryptograms is one letter long, and occurs as an extra letter at the start of a word in a clue; this letter must be deleted (to give a different word) before solving the clue.

To help in deciphering the cryptograms, each of seven other clues has an answer that must be altered before entry by changing a three-letter item in it to a single letter; this change is fall-themed, but not always biologically accurate. (All tagging on clues applies to the original answers, not to the words that result from these alterations.) Write the items vertically next to the day-of-week abbreviations shown (in the standard order of the things they change to) to get, for each of the seven ciphers, three letter-encodings for that cipher. (All ciphers are reversible — if X stands for Y, Y stands for X.)

If you decipher all the cryptograms, their answers, in order, will spell a seven-letter word describing you.

## ACROSS

- The author thus strikes about 1000 words with no duplicated letters
- Sicilian hotspot is to kick in money from the feast
- Florida's that female person in a raincoat, perhaps
- Start to like Madame Bovary's mathematical proposition
- Ballad about foremost of zoos exhibiting sloth
- Prayers addressed to Mary's birds, as a class
- Lad gets business degree somewhere in India
- No, I first ate stew in a building with red trucks (2 wds.)
- Is in yon outspoken denials
- Loot was unbelievably grand
- Indian king beheaded by Greek hero
- Get cheerful sound from two unhealthy quartets?
- The French carpet, if flipped, is shaped like a person or animal
- Wizened innermost heart of usage editor
- Done with short mystery writer evaluators



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## DOWN

- Those who make iron alloy with random elements (2 wds.) [NI2]
- One enthralling minute, paid for by yours truly (2 wds.)
- Features on pinups from two southern states
- Many will grasp the nose of Liddy Dole
- La Boheme's* heroine beats anvils, primarily in a sunny spot
- Hoarse-voiced creature from Tolkien upset a monarch
- Lincoln assumes ace is lower
- Rage, Hal, involved staring furiously
- Dropping every other item, boys enwrap their yellowish diamond (*hyph.*) [NI2]
- Takes to the skies with small propellers
- Disheartened the ten ballplayers from California State
- Heard the vehicle in which Santa flies off
- Spay a joker before the end of June

The word: