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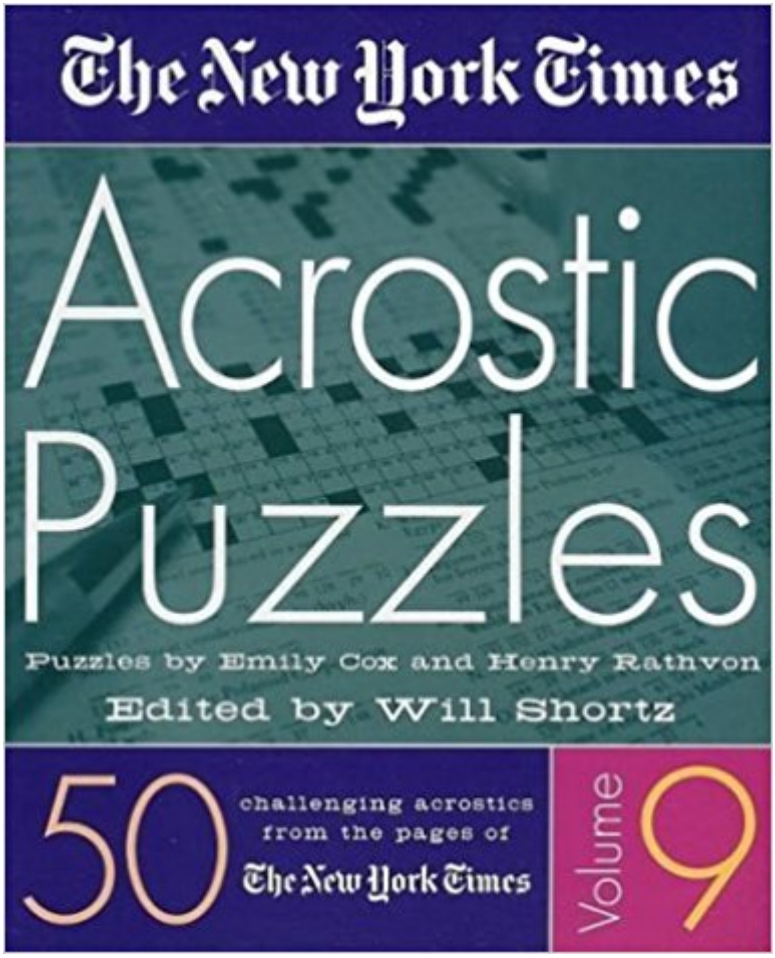
The New York Times Acrostic Puzzles Volume 9: 50 Challenging Acrostics From The Pages Of The New York Times



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Synopsis

50 Quotation puzzles from the pages of The New York TimesEdited by Emily Cox and Harry Rathvon New York Times puzzles are AmericaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s favorite!Whether your tastes are literary or lowbrow, this latest installment of fifty of the Sunday TimesÃ¢â ¬â„¢s famous acrostic puzzles features quotations ranging from Herman Melville to Dave Barry, Stephen Jay Gould to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. So sharpen your pencil, put on your thinking cap, and get ready for some acrostic fun!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Will Shortz has been the crossword puzzle editor of The New York Times since 1993. He is also the puzzlemaster on NPRÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Weekend Edition Sunday and is founder and director of the annual American Crossword Puzzle Tournament. He has edited countless books of crossword puzzles, Sudoku, KenKen, and all manner of brain-busters.Ã Â Emily Cox and Henry Rathvon are full-time freelance puzzle writers. They live in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

I've been hooked on acrostics since my first encounter with them in "The New York Times Magazine," which comes bundled with the Sunday "Times." Vol. 9, which is the work of Emily Cox & Henry Rathvon and edited by Will Shortz (the current crew), lives up to their usual high standard of work. I don't like easy puzzles that can be done in one sitting. And, sure enough, you won't find any of those here. These are brain teasers of the first order. The only acrostics creator I've encountered

more imposing is the great Thomas H. Middleton, who preceded these guys at the "Times." Middleton takes no prisoners. Cox & Rathvon allow the solver to have a bit more fun. But, for me, much of the fun acrostics is in their difficulty. If that's your thing too, you'll like these puzzles!

I love acrostics. I've bought 4 books, so farand loved them all. The trouble is I've finishedall four books and I can't find any more likethose at a reasonable price. When is going to get more like the NY Times or Simonand Schuster's acrostics.?

The book is difficult enough to be interesting but not so difficult that it is frustrating. I am enjoying it

My wife was very pleased with this puzzle book from .signed,DeaconJP

These puzzles are extremely hard but they are clever and fun to do. I've only been able to do two so far without cheating ie: looking up the answers. They are tricky but I'm getting used to some of the tricks such as realizing that a single letter need not be an "a" or an "i" . And clues can have several different meanings and word forms -what looks like a noun can be a verb etc.For example a recent clue was "single" and I was trying to think of a word for unmarried or a one dollar bill. The answer was "one base hit."

since i was searching for Eugene Maleska edited puzzles, it didn't occur to me that the insidious Will Shortz (often thought of as "Mr. Wedgie" for his tortuous construing of nonstandard lexicography) would be the editor of this volume. i consider it to have been a minor catastrophe that he replaced the highly esteemed Maleska at NYT upon his passing. suffice it to say that, while the clues in these puzzles did not very often induce quasi-homicidal fury, there were enough cringers and groaners to remind one of the editor's preference for definitions of a possible future rather than those of the established past.one always learned from Maleska's puzzles; one only learns annoyance from Shortz'. these puzzles are otherwise typical crostics, with a moderate degree of difficulty (not counting wacko clues). the puzzles' authors evidently overwhelmed the editor's creativity. [N.B., i do not oppose neologisms, per se: i simply insist they cover new ideas, not ignorance of established ones.] often the quotes which are the solutions to the puzzles are rewarding in themselves, and can offer direction for new reading. crostics can be rewarding both as entertainment and education.Search out Middleton and Duerr for crostics, and Maleska for all types.

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