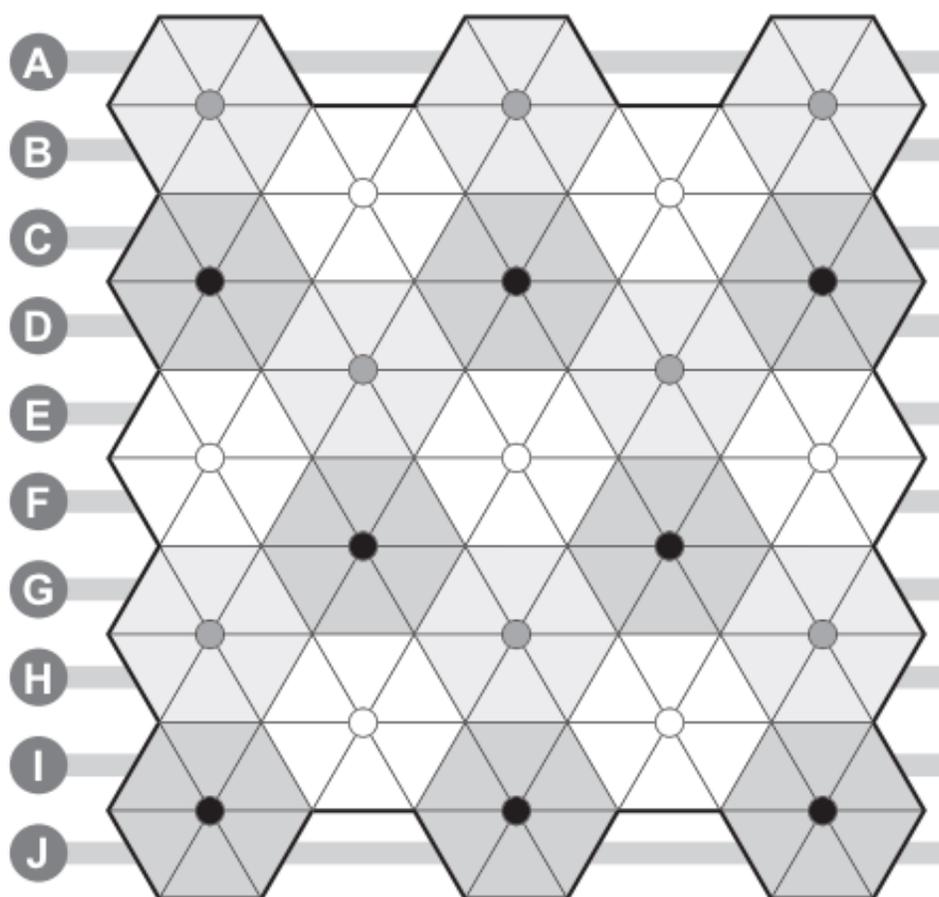


A Child's Garden of Words

by Nathan Curtis

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Each Row of this garden contains two answers reading across, except for Rows A and J, which each have one answer reading across the nine protruding squares; it is up to you to determine where the dividing line is between two answers in the same Row. The answers to the Bloom clues are to be placed in the appropriately-shaded hexagons, starting in any space and reading either clockwise or counterclockwise. The Bloom clues have been alphabetized, so use the Row answers to determine where to plant each Bloom. In each row, however, there is one letter which appears only in a Bloom answer, and is skipped over by the Row answers. These skipped letters, taken in order from top to bottom, will spell out this puzzle's dedicatee, a most special flower indeed.



Rows

- A** February 21, for this puzzle's dedicatee
B Iroquois Confederacy tribe
 Ondes ____, electronic instrument that sounds similar to a theremin
C Showing signs of age
 City on the Rio Grande (2 wds.)
D Fictional puzzle enthusiast Breen
 Boston's time zone
E What an ammeter measures
Animal Farm or *The Old Man and the Sea*, e.g.
F Supporting beam
 Mishap
G Show of respect
 Quinceañera honoree
H Hard to handle
 Places on an I2, figuratively
I One-point horseshoes throw
 Place for some statuary; see H2
J Loathes

Light Blooms

- Albatross relative
 Folk dance style
 Full stop
 Part of a shirt
 Require
 Smoking, perhaps
 The least senior senior senator (no, that's not a typo)

Medium Blooms

- Cleveland:Harrison::Leno:____
 City in southwestern Ohio
 Pothead
 Spiky hairdo
 Swift specialty
 The dedicatee's mother
 Wears away
 Willow

Dark Blooms

- Doesn't go to a restaurant (2 wds.)
 Drank a little bit at a time
 Flinched
 Like ski jumping, but unlike slalom
 Rented
 Rough around the edges
 Use logic
 Writing tablets