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## ***Cryptex Magazine: Cryptex Hunt 2019 Solution Guide***

### **Cryptex Magazine Cover**

This was the start to the Cryptex Hunt 2019. You were presented with only the cover of the Cryptex and needed to learn how to start the hunt.

Focusing on the bar code:



Converting the numbers to text, it says: START HERE, confirming that you're in the right place.

The lines in the barcode don't match regular barcode patterns. However, they have an arrangement of wide and narrow bands that look like Morse code.

As an extra hint, if you zoom in on Justin's glasses, you'll see the word MORSE:



Converting the barcode as Morse code:

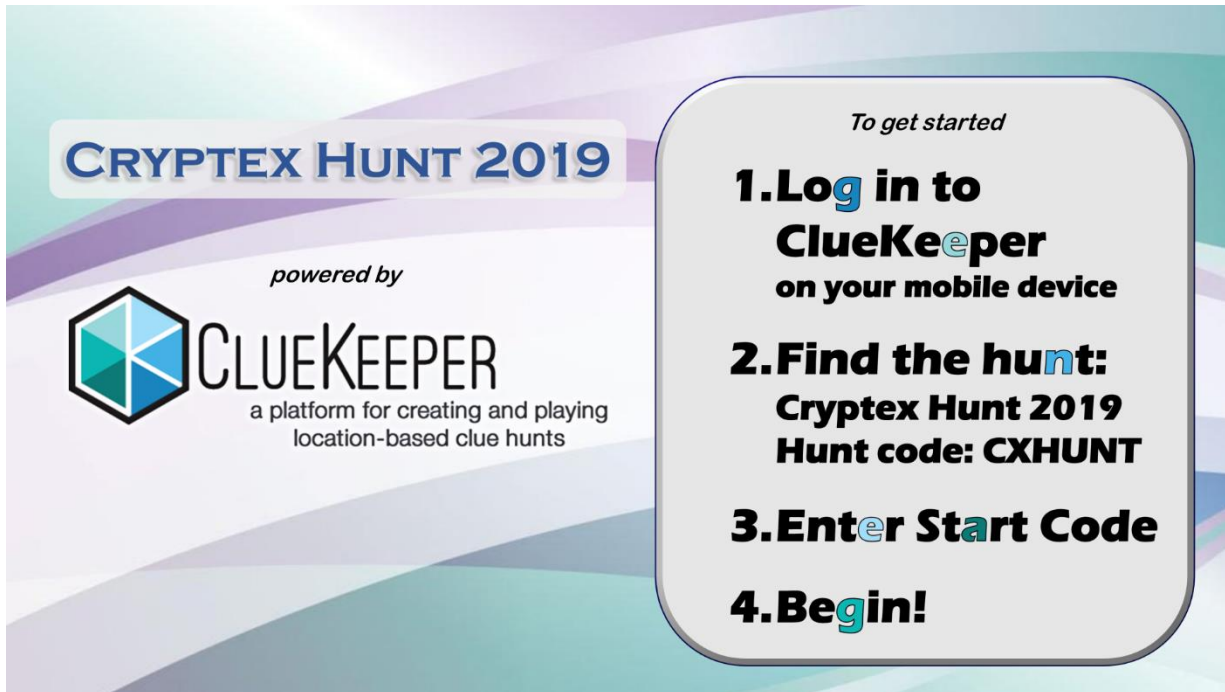
-.-. / .-. / -.-. / .-. / - / . / -.-. / .... / .-. / -. / - / .-.-. / -.-  
./ --- / -- / -.-. / -.-. / .... / .---- / ----.

Solution:

**CRYPTEXHUNT.COM/CH19**

### **Jigsaw + Start Code**

The URL from the barcode took you to a site with a jigsaw to assemble. Solving the puzzle (or just looking at the completed puzzle preview) gave you the following image.



Several letters in the "To get started" box are colored differently than the rest. If you arrange these in the order of the colors in the ClueKeeper logo, clockwise from the top-right, you get the following:

Solution:

**ENGAGE**

This is the code used to start the hunt in the ClueKeeper app.

The start info in the ClueKeeper app provided the URL and password to the full magazine PDF.

<http://cryptexhunt.com/2019/mag.pdf>

**LOCKBOX**

## ***Cryptex Magazine: Cryptex Hunt 2019 Solution Guide***

### **Colorize Your Cryptex**

The ad text gives the order of White, Black, Red, Green, Purple, Blue.

This puzzle is laid out like a telephone keypad, as hinted by "Call us today...".

Each of these Cryptexes appears in one of the cells in the grid, with one or more Cryptexes being shown, representing the number of times the key would be pressed, or the number of the letter on the key.

	A B C Black x 1	D E F Purple x 2
G H I	J K L Blue x 3	M N O White x 1
P Q R S Red x 3	T U V Green x 3	W X Y Z

Go through the order (White, Black, Red, Green, Purple, Blue) and pull out the letter that matches the number of Cryptexes pictured.

Solution:

**MARVEL**

### **From the Editor**

The instructions to pick up on are contained in the next-to-last paragraph of the letter.

perusing each line... those that are ... odd.

Each is chock full of character ... make note of those that come up the most.

To decode the letter, you need to go through it line by line as printed on the page, skipping the even lines, and find which letter occurs the most from each line. When you do, you'll extract the following phrase:

CAPITAL OF GREECE

Solution:

**ATHENS**

### **Editor Photo**

The books pictured in the background are the relevant items for this puzzle. The note in the caption, "counting on you", is a hint to guide you toward treating them as if they were an abacus.

In a normal abacus, the beads below the tally line (the center) have a value of 1, and the beads above the tally line have a value of 5. The beads moved to the center are those that are included in the tally. The beads toward the outside edges are not.

Of course, for this puzzle, the layout is a modified version, having more 5s than would be typical.

Each shelf is treated independently. The left side of the shelf is the lower portion of the abacus (1) and the right side is the upper portion (5). If it helps, you can visualize each bookcase rotated to the left (counter-clockwise).

Tallying each of the shelves:

2	5	15	23	21	12	6	6	15	5
B	E	O	W	U	L	F	F	O	E

**BEOWULF FOE**

Solution:

**GRENDEL**

### **The Tale of Ord**

This puzzle ad is provided courtesy of [PostCurious](#).

The puzzle requires you to find the Jelling Church using Google Maps and to find the interior [Street View from 2017 by A. Simko](#).

Looking around the interior, you'll see a hymn board pictured right.

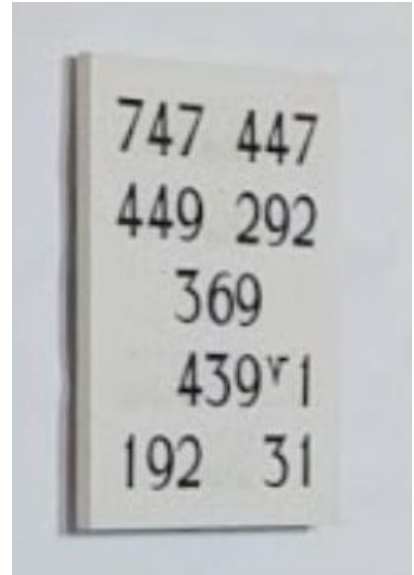
The hymns on the board line up with the catalogue scroll pictured in the ad.

The runestone image on the right side of the ad has runes carved around the edge. These decode to [www.runesnruiins.com](http://www.runesnruiins.com).

Exploring this web site, particularly the section on runestones, you'll notice that some of the locations on the site map to the abbreviations on the catalogue in the ad.

Looking up the numbers you extracted from the hymn board to the appropriate locations:

#	Hymn	Code	Num	Location	Runestone
vi	747	U	47	Uppland	Lovo
vii	447	U	47	Uppland	Lovo
iii	449	U	49	Uppland	Lovo
iv	292	U	29	Uppland	Hillersjo
i	369	Sö	69	Södermanland	Valla
v	430v1	Sö	39	Södermanland	Ada
viii	192	U	19	Uppland	Alby
ii	31	Ög	31	Östergötland	A



If you rearrange the runestone names by the Roman numerals shown on the scroll, the initial letters will give you the answer.

Solution:

**VALHALLA**

*Thanks to Rita Orlov for this puzzle.*

*Be sure to check out The Tale of Ord from [PostCurious](#)!*

### **Feedback and Reviews**

Each of the “reviews” quoted in this feature are references to famous movie quotes, all of which are on the AFI 100 list. The additional text should help confirm the movie in question.

The intro text has these hints:

Over the years... a variety of characters ...

By the size ... whatever else you take away ... it indicates how these reviewers are impressed!

The first step is to find the original quote for each of these modified quotes, and identify the character speaking the quote, the word that was replaced, and the year of the movie. The puzzle provided the initials of the speaker to confirm the name to use.

Quote	Movie	Year	Speaker	Word	Length	Ltr
Here's looking...	Casablanca	1942	BLAINE	kid	3	A
They call me...	In the Heat of the Night	1967	TIBBS	Tibbs	5	S
Made it, Ma! ...	White Heat	1949	JARRETT	world	5	E
Show me ...	Jerry Maguire	1996	TIDWELL	money	5	E
You know how...	To Have and Have Not	1944	BROWNING	lips	4	W
My mama...	Forrest Gump	1994	GUMP	box	3	M
Cryptex, for...	Wall Street	1987	GEKKO	greed	5	O

The next step is to sort the movies by year.

Finally, indexing the speaker's last name by the length of the word that was replaced reveals the answer.

Solution:

**AWESOME**



## ***Cryptex Magazine: Cryptex Hunt 2019 Solution Guide***

### **Conundrum**

This puzzle ad is provided courtesy of Shannon McDowell.

The puzzle provides the following hints:

First and Last

arrange the top ten

You can take each of the phrases and lay them out, one per line. Some lines have multiple phrases joined by a dot – these should be split onto separate lines.

C	onundru	m
O	ther ... als	o
M	ost ... puzzle	s
E	njoy ... ar	t
V	iews ... trave	l
I	t's ... welcom	e
S	tay ... bes	t
I	dlewild ... wes	t
T	he ... adventur	e
U	nique ... puzzle	r
S	ee... draw	s

Noticing the *first* letters, you see it spells out "COME VISIT US", which coincides with the text at the top of the page, confirming the order. The *last* letters spell out "most letters".

Now, to apply the "arrange the top ten" step: find the top 10 letters that occur the most frequently in the ad to get the following letters: ETASNRULDW, which you will arrange to get the solution.

Solution:

**WANDERLUST**

*Thanks to Shannon McDowell for this puzzle.*

*Be sure to keep an eye out for Conundrum, coming soon from Maple Games!*

## **Lexicon Green**

As indicated in the story, the approach is to identify a word that relates to all the Professor's interests that Lex observes.

Golf

Fundraiser

Servo-motor

Car

Road

You also know from the story that the Professor's Cryptex is a 5-ring model.

Solution:

**DRIVE**

## ***Cryptex Magazine: Cryptex Hunt 2019 Solution Guide***

### **Cryptexes In The Wild**

The description of each scene refers to an item, a book, or a movie, many of them with long titles.

The intro text states that you are seeing these Cryptexes from behind, leading you to wonder what you might see if you were to see them from the other side. Each of the Cryptexes pictured is rotated by an offset of almost 13, give or take, revealing a number spelled out on the opposite side.

Theme	Answer	Back	Shift	Front	Num	LTR
Bunker	Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb	UXUITTC	15	FIFTEEN	15	R
Egyptian	Rosetta Stone	ESCPP	11	THREE	3	S
Laboratory	The Andromeda Strain	HKSZJS	14	TWELVE	12	A
Submarine	The Hunt For Red October	RVTUG	13	EIGHT	8	F
Prison	The Shawshank Redemption	JMUDJO	16	TWENTY	20	I
Zombie	World War Z: An Oral History of the Zombie War	EQHQZ	12	SEVEN	7	A

Use the number revealed by the Cryptex to index against the item name or title referenced by the setting. You can then sort the answers by the amount of the shift (or the value of the index, it works either way) to get the solution.

Solution:

**SAFARI**

# Cryptex Magazine: Cryptex Hunt 2019 Solution Guide

## Puzzle Connection

Crossword answers:

	Across	
1	Bard's bother	ADO
3	Gridiron grp.	NFL
6	OSS successor	CIA
7	Ketchum	ASH
8	All time low	NADIR
10	Radical	ROOT
12	Municipality of Kya Lighthouse	OSEN
13	Greek mother Earth	GAEA
15	Six-pack containers	CANS
17	Stopwatch	TIMER
19	Requirement to tango	TWO
21	"Deep Space Nine" shapeshifter	ODO
22	Vermillion	RED
23	Bar or pole	ROD

	Down	
1	Cry of discovery	AHA
2	Earthy pigment	OCHRE
3	Retired iPod	NANO
4	Young chap	LAD
5	Immature insect	LARVA
9	NASDAQ's Altigen Communications	ATGN
11	Fairy tale opener	ONCE
12	Western	OATER
14	Furrier John Jacob	ASTOR
16	Legolas horse	AROD
18	Deface	MAR
20	Brit. ref.	OED

A	D	O		N	F	L		L
H		C	I	A		A		A
A	S	H		N	A	D	I	R
			R	O	O	T		V
O	S	E	N		G	A	E	A
A			C	A	N	S		
T	I	M	E	R		T	W	O
E		A		O	D	O		E
R		R	E	D		R	O	D

4	7	9	5	6	1	3	2	8
8	5	1	2	3	7	6	4	9
3	2	6	4	9	8	7	5	1
7	6	8	1	4	3	2	9	5
9	4	3	6	2	5	1	8	7
2	1	5	8	7	9	4	6	3
5	3	2	7	8	4	9	1	6
1	9	4	3	5	6	8	7	2
6	8	7	9	1	2	5	3	4

Having filled in the crossword and solved the sudoku, noticing that both grids are 9x9, the next step is to go row-by-row. For each highlighted sudoku number, extract the letter in that column from the corresponding column in the crossword. For example, the first highlighted 7 references the "L" in "NFL"; the 5 below it references the "A" in "CIA", and so on.

This extraction will form a phrase read from top to bottom:

LAST NAME OF CROSSWORD INVENTOR

Solution:

WYNNE

### **The Enigma Emporium**

This puzzle ad is courtesy of Logan Giannini.

The puzzle gives the following hints:

I for one

Oh it's nothing

It's all backward

Going through the message and extracting all the Is as 1 and Os as 0, you get the following:

101 001 1011 10011 0100 00110 00101 1101 1001 110 111 1011 000 001 110

Reverse the string, break it into octets, then convert to ASCII:

Binary	Dec	ASCII
01110000	112	p
01101111	111	o
01110011	115	s
01110100	116	t
01100001	97	a
01100111	103	g
01100101	101	e

Solution:

**POSTAGE**

*Thanks to Logan Giannini for this puzzle.*

*Be sure to check out "Wish You Were Here" from [The Enigma Emporium](#), along with their newest, Blowback, currently on Kickstarter!*

## ***Cryptex Magazine: Cryptex Hunt 2019 Solution Guide***

### **Dear Manpans**

As noted in the last question and response for “Missing”, something is missing from the responses to each of the questions.

This type of composition is known as a *lipogram*, which is where certain letters are omitted. To decode this puzzle, you need to examine each response (*not* including the question), and find which letter does not occur.

<b>Response to</b>	<b>Missing Letter</b>
Passwordless	T
Second Fiddle	R
Knock-off Failure	Y
Cryptex Fanatic	S
Missing	T

Solution

**TRYST**

## **The Werewolf Experiment**

This puzzle ad is courtesy of Julianna & Ariel.

For this puzzle, you'll notice that the symbols arched across the top (and bottom) are also represented in the row that occurs over the phrase "ESCAPE ROOM". You'll also notice that the row of symbols aligns with the phrase beneath it, including the doubled moon icons that are lined up over the double Os in "ROOM".

Mapping the symbols to the letters, you can decode the word in the arch.



Solution:





**SCARE**

*Thanks to Julianna & Ariel for this puzzle.*

*Be sure to check out Escape Room in a Box: The Werewolf Experiment!*

### **4 Uses for a Cryptex**

Each of the pictures has a flag somewhere in the background. Also, the sentence capital letters of the introduction spell out the phrase: ISO CC, a reference to ISO country codes.

Picture	Flag	Country	Country Code
Bookend		Saudia Arabia	SA
Paperweight		Latvia	LV
Doorstop		Antigua and Barbuda	AG
Nutcracker		Spain	ES

Solution:

**SALVAGES**









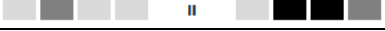


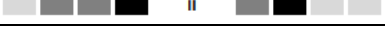
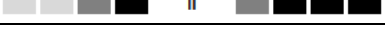
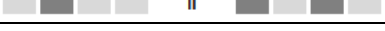
### An Interview with Justin Nevins

This puzzle features gray/black separator bars preceding each interview question. The Editor's Note at the end states that the interview questions (not the responses) are what's relevant to the puzzle.

The gray/black separator bars are in three shades of gray, providing a number in ternary (base 3), with a divider between two sequences of gray/black.

The light gray shade indicates 0, medium gray is 1, and black is 2.

Convert the ternary numbers and the index them into the following question to extract the letters.

Q.	Bar	Ternary	Decimal	Letter1	Letter2
1	 "	0212, 0012	23, 5	T	E
2	 "	1101, 0021	37, 7	H	T
3	 "	0200, 0021	18, 7	E	O
4	 "	0001, 0022	1, 8	B	F
5	 "	0120, 0211	15, 22	I	S
6	 "	0121, 0120	16, 15	R	U
7	 "	0100, 0221	9, 25	T	P
8	 "	1012, 0021	32, 7	H	E
9	 "	0101, 0022	10, 8	P	R
10	 "	0112, 1200	14, 45	L	M
11	 "	0012, 1222	5, 53	A	A
12	 "	0100, 1010	9, 30	N	N

Extraction:

THE BIRTH PLANET OF SUPERMAN

Solution:

KRYPTON

### **Cryptexes and Escape Rooms**

The intro text gives hints to the zodiac, and all the escaper types mentioned are references to astrological signs. It also says to focus on the month when each sign starts.

The final clue in the closing sentence indicates the importance of the brightest star in each constellation. All this information can be collected from [Wikipedia](#).

<b>Clues</b>	<b>Sign</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Brightest star</b>	<b>Ltr</b>
like a lion	Leo	Jul 23	7	Regulus	S
hunt, bowstring	Sagittarius	Nov 23	11	Kaus Australis	L
bullish	Taurus	Apr 21	4	Aldebaran	E
pair up	Gemini	May 22	5	Pollux	U
flounder like a fish	Pisces	Feb 20	2	Eta Piscium	T
weigh, balance	Libra	Sep 24	9	Zubeneschamali	H

Solution:

**SLEUTH**

## Cryptex Magazine: Cryptex Hunt 2019 Solution Guide

### Which Prexcyt Dragon are You?

The first step in this puzzle is to identify which answers went together.

A.	B.	C.	D.	E.
<a href="#">Anfernee Hardaway</a>	One of the Gellers (Monica)	<a href="#">Adolphe Cointreau</a> (triple sec liqueur)	John Smith (I Am Number Four)	Table tennis balls everywhere!
The cohost of Hannibal B. (Eric A)	<a href="#">Kiwane Garri</a>	<a href="#">Paul and Raymond Lillet</a> (rose wine liqueur)	The Power Rangers Super Megaforce (as seen in episode 9) (The Power of Six)	Saul T. Peter
Aqua fortis	<a href="#">Tracy McGrady</a>	The fictional journalist Skeeter (Rita)	Mercury-Atlas 9 (The Rise of Nine)	<a href="#">Grand wormwood</a> (ingredient in absinthe)
Today is September 22, 2005 (The Fall of Five)	Everything is shaking	The smell of fertilizer	<a href="#">Doug Christie, shaking his head in disappointment</a>	An attractive woman singing, "What's love got to do with it?" (Tina)
The Revenge of Seven	Miss Congeniality (Sandra)	Green Eyeshade	<a href="#">Beefeater</a> (Gin)	<a href="#">Trevor Ariza</a>
<a href="#">Maurice Evans</a>	Magdalene (Mary)	Lemon Juice	Gunpowder	T. Hef Ate Often (The Fate of Ten)
Flash paper	Cocktail glass	Shylock's daughter (Jessica)	Rafer Alston	OneUnited Bank (United as One)

Next, you identify how the common answers relate to the respective dragon head and the specific common bond. Each bond was a specific reference that includes a number:

Dragon	Common bond	Word	Num	Ltr
Ice	Orlando Magic players who wore #1 jersey	MAGIC	1	M
Poison	Ingredients to Corpse Reviver #2	CORPSE REVIVER	2	O
Fire	Explosive component, Nitrate NO3	NITRATE	3	T
Acid	I Am Number Four series by Pittacus Lore	PITTICUS LORE	4	T
Electricity	Women named in the song Mambo No. 5	MAMBO	5	O

Finally, looking at the Bonus question, it says:

A squared plus B squared equals C squared – reference to the Pythagorean Theorem

Combined with MOTTO, you can search for the motto of the Pythagoreans to get the solution.

Solution:

**ALL IS NUMBER**

## Cryptex Magazine: Cryptex Hunt 2019 Solution Guide

### Cryptexflix

These satirical movie posters feature David and Lisa Spira from [Room Escape Artist](#), as noted in the "Special Showcase", and each poster has an award on them indicating "Fan Pick", New Orleans and 2018.

On the Room Escape Artist site, you can find information about their "Escape, Immerse, Explore" tours, including [details from the 2018 New Orleans tour](#).

Each of the movie posters relates to one of the rooms listed as being a top pick by the people who participated in the tour. Each poster also mentions one or more numbers (including the stars):

Poster	Room	Numbers	Letters
House	French Quarter House of Curiosities	5, 6, 9, 10	CHAR
Agent	Agent 13	5	T
Inventor	Inventor's Attic	4, 8	ER
Tomb	Tomb of Anubis	4, 9, 12	BUS
Plane	Hijacked	5	C
Entranced	Spellbound	7	O

From the extraction, you get: CHARTER BUS CO.

Pictured on the page (shown right) is one of the charter buses.

Solution:

**GRAY LINE**



### **Room Escape Divas**

This puzzle has an odd layout with areas marked on the top and bottom and along the sides. If you connect the top and bottom markings, it highlights the words "mark" and "spot" – a reference to "x marks the spot".

Connect the lines on the left and right sides of the page to make what appear to be a musical grand staff.

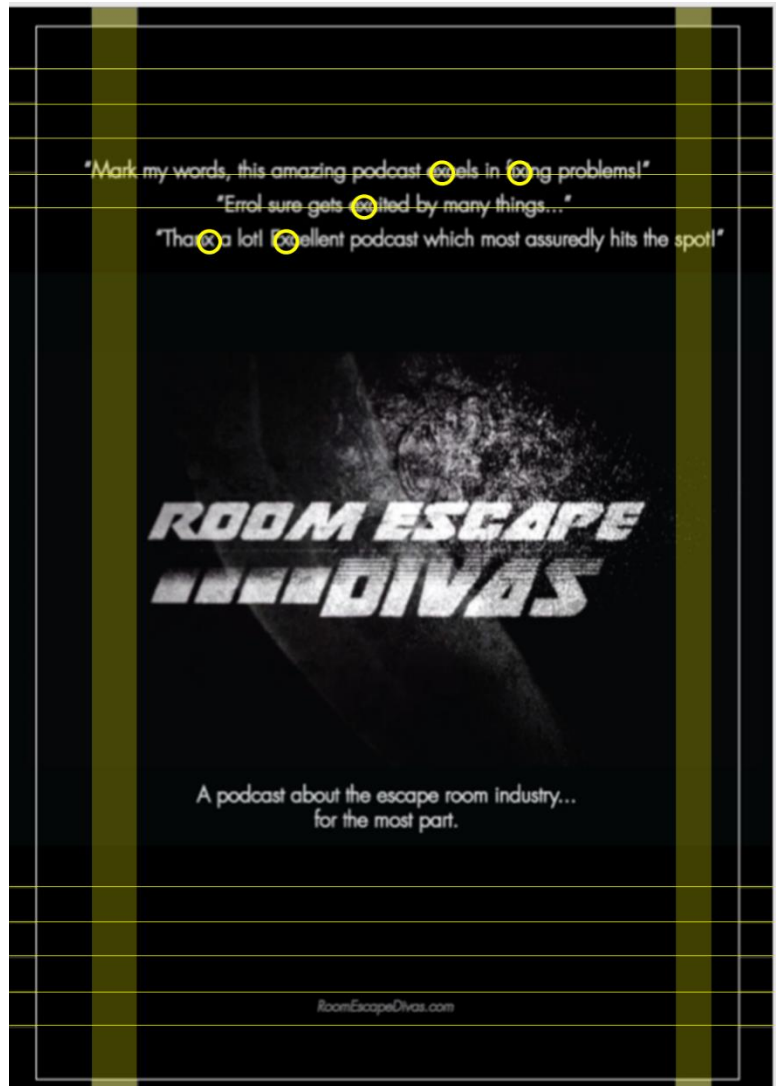
You will also note that the three rightmost Xs happen to fall exactly on the lines, indicating that the last line of text would occur on the ledger line that's between the upper and lower staff.

Since you have an upper staff and a lower staff, the upper staff is most likely treble. Finding the Xs gives the notes C C E G G.

Humming or playing or searching the web for this sequence of notes will lead you to the Blue Danube Waltz.

Solution:

**BLUE DANUBE**



## Cryptex Magazine: Cryptex Hunt 2019 Solution Guide

### How to Make a Cryptex

The instructions on the bottom let you know that once you've read the magazine "backwards and forwards" you should be able to fill in the Cryptex code rings.

This puzzle is a meta, involving the answers from all the other puzzles in the magazine. Besides the "IN BETWEEN" text (shaded out with a different color), the letters provided guide you into which answers go into which slots. Some words need to be placed backward to fit.

Note: the solutions to the barcode, the Cluekeeper start code, and the PDF password were not part of this puzzle, as they were outside the magazine.

G	R	E	N	D	E	L	T	S	U	L	R	E	D	N	A	W
E	V	I	R	D	A	W	E	S	O	M	E	E	N	N	Y	W
G	R	A	Y	L	I	N	E	I	S	E	G	A	V	L	A	S
P	O	S	T	A	G	E	N	B	E	T	W	T	R	Y	S	T
B	L	U	E	D	A	N	U	B	E	E	S	L	E	U	T	H
M	A	R	V	E	L	A	T	H	E	N	S	S	C	A	R	E
I	R	A	F	A	S	R	E	B	M	U	N	S	I	L	L	A
A	L	L	A	H	L	A	V	E	N	N	O	T	P	Y	R	K

The orientation didn't matter for AWESOME, ATHENS, and TRYST.

The next step was to picture the magazine wrapping around like a Cryptex and to picture what letter would appear "in between" (as clued by the grid) the right edge and the left edge.

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

Solution:

**BAZERIES**