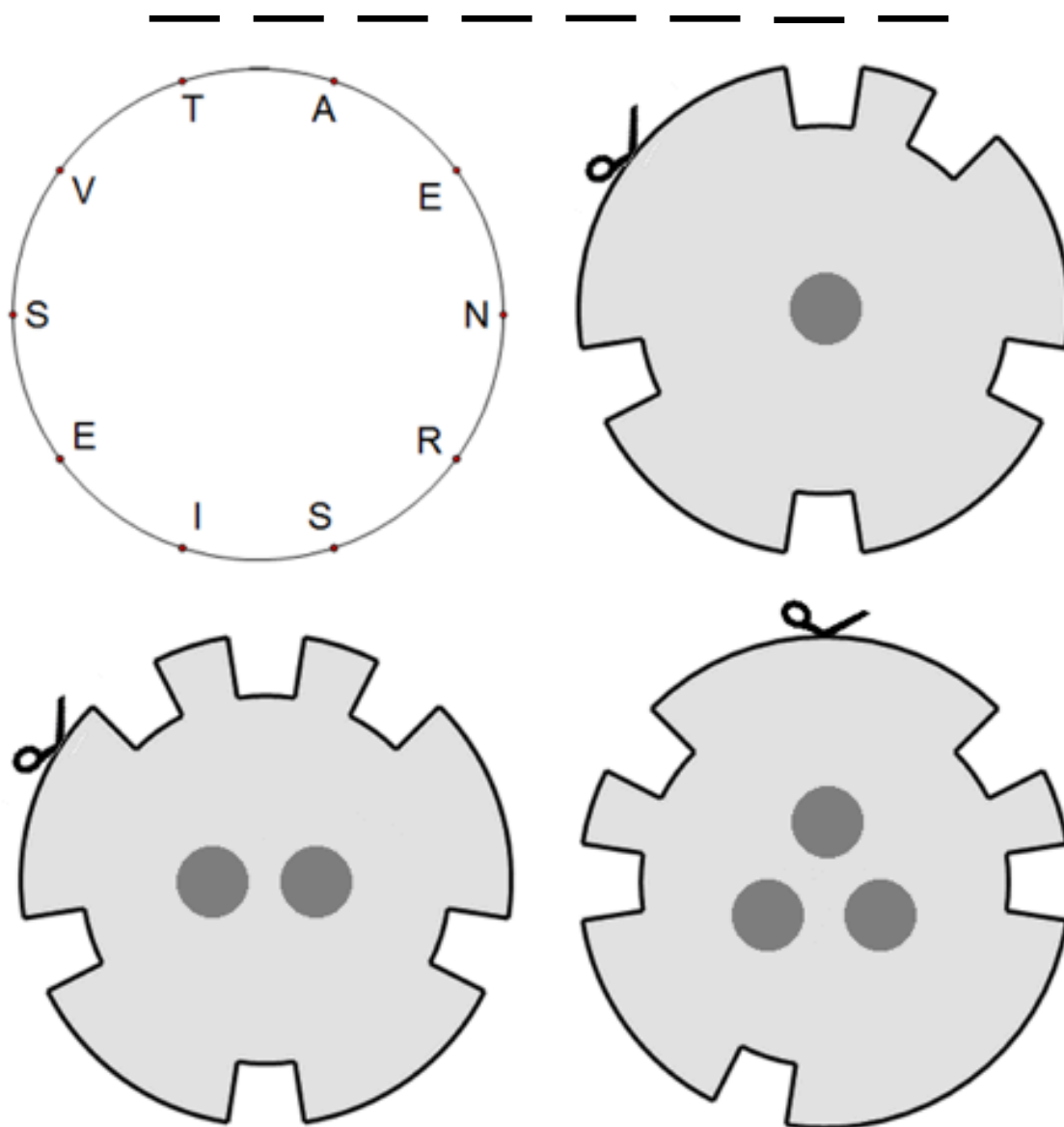


LOCKED CHEST



Through your family grapevine, you heard a rumor that your great-grandfather Nicolas used to be a famous magician. Your parents mention that there's an old chest of his in their attic that they've never been able to open which might give more information about his mysterious past. Supposedly the chest displays a hint about how to unlock it.

When you find the chest, you notice an odd padlock on the front: eight wheels that spin through the alphabet as you turn them. There's also a ring on top with ten letters along the perimeter, and three discs made out of some sort of dark metal. You run your fingers along the discs and discover that they detach from the chest and appear to be the same size as the ring. What's the password to the padlock?





SAW THAT COMING



In the chest you find a page from Nicolas' journal which reads

You might not believe me, but I was the first magician to perform the saw-an-assistant-in-half trick. At least, the first to put them back together successfully. Some spectators were so shocked that they created a big hullabaloo and the authorities came in and shut us down. They said I was a "threat to public safety and decency" or some nonsense.

Not to be stymied, I worked out a less-graphic act where I instead sawed words in half. Now any bozo off the street can break a word in two, but what made my performance special was that the top and bottom halves themselves were still words. The audiences were fickle though - it took me a while to figure out that they were only impressed when the halves were balanced. For nostalgia's sake here's my first ever set, which didn't go over 100% with the crowd. Oh well, you live and you learn.

TOP HALVES	
AMEN	MAXIM
BELL	NOVEL
CAME	OVERT
CARP	PANT
EXPO	RAMP
GENE	ROMAN
IDEA	SCAR
LIME	VASE

BOTTOM HALVES	
AGES	ONES
ALLY	OWING
CITY	RAMEN
DING	RATED
ENTER	RICK
HERS	SURE
LINE	TICS
LIST	TIES

CLUES	WHOLE WORDS
Cats	
Frenzies	
Tchotchkes	
One seen sawing	
Publicity	
Lens gents	
Loud sound	
Type of Jelly	
Suggestions	
All the way	
Modifying	
Utopian	
Produced	
Five lines	
Dearth	
Hand-holders	

*Sure, my act took some hits **at first**. But it goes to show that with a little charm and a lot of hard work, nothing can stop a skilled illusionist.*

Magic _____ !



POWER GRID

You flip to another page in Nicolas' journal:

When I was first starting my magic career there were a lot of people, including family and even other magicians, who didn't think I'd amount to anything and actively put me down. Luckily I had found a supportive mentor, The Formidable Menxos. He went through the same challenges early in his career and was able to sympathize with my plight. Menxos taught me a trick he came up with to get back at those people who didn't believe in his abilities. It was a puzzle that seemed full of compliments, but his detractors only revealed the true message upon solving it. I've recreated his work below.

*Hello my friend! This trick's for you.
And now I'll tell you what to do.
Within each of the squares you'll strive
To place the numbers one through five.*

*But not just anywhere, you know:
One each per column and per row.
And what about the numbers small
Inside some squares where you will scrawl?*

*Each value in a corner labors
To tell the sum of its square's neighbors:
But just the ones who sides unite -
Up and down and left and right.*

*First task complete, you then will turn
Toward this list, our main concern.
Five pleasant words I did transcribe
In hopes of trying to describe*

*(With hours' careful cogitation)
The essence of your reputation.
But one more word this text will yield:
A label that has been concealed.*

*Force from the letters there just sitting
The fourtold word that's most befitting.
For in the comfort of this forum:
A formal claim of your decorum.*

4		6		9
		17		
6				6

FO	RT	HR	IG	HT
HO	NO	RA	BL	E
S	U	P	E	R
A	W	A	R	E
AD	VA	NT	AG	ED

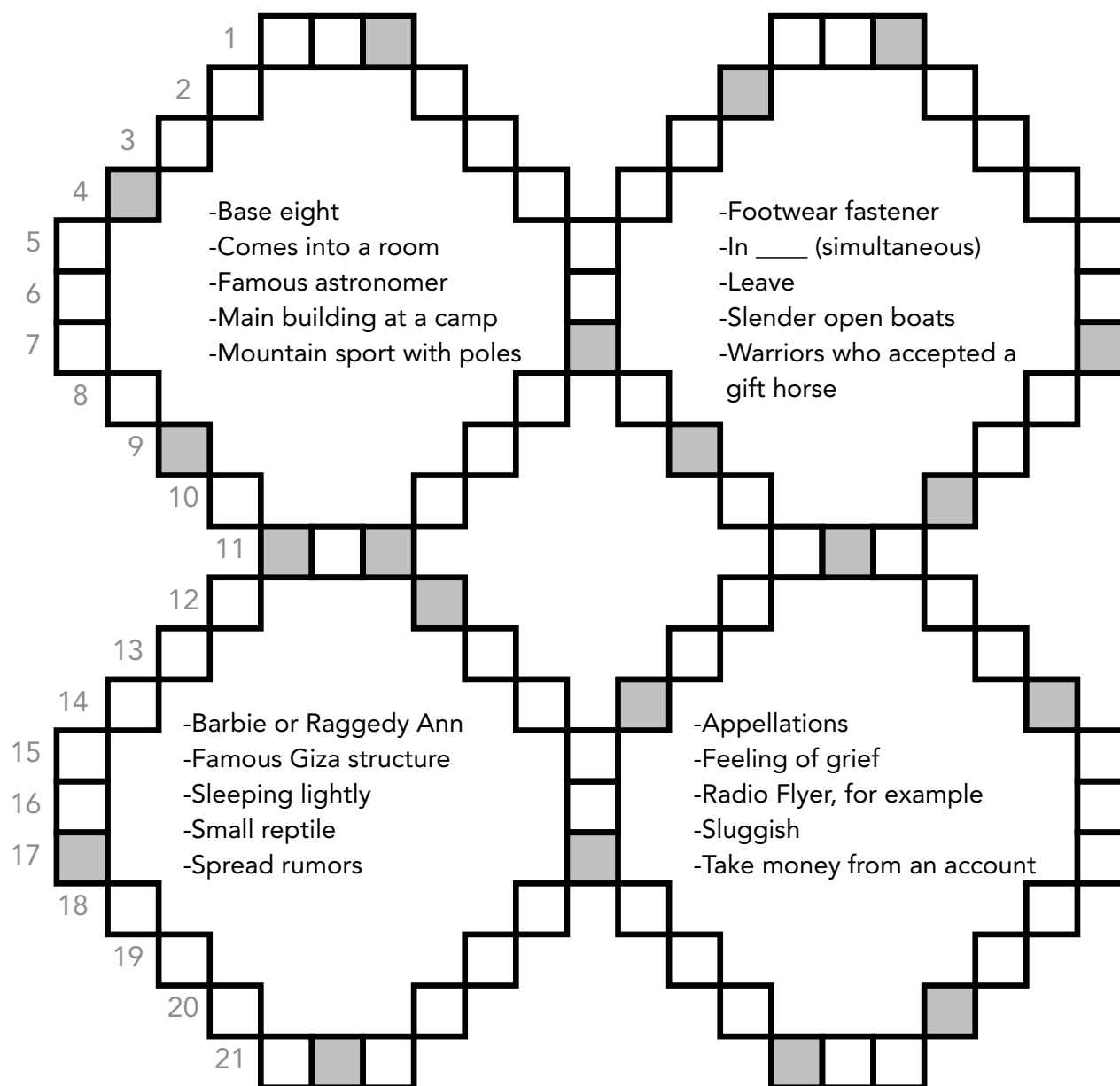
What word did Menxos actually use to
describe his detractors?

MISSING LINKS

You turn to another page in Nicolas' journal and begin to read.

Every magician needs a good pseudonym. After coming up with several tricks of my own, I thought taking the name of an inventor I admired would be fitting. Here's a trick I designed to honor him that is based on the famous linking rings act. The gimmick this time is that instead of metal I've linked words into four rings, and even managed to entwine those.

Each highlighted link is the start and end of a word.



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Can you figure out who my stage-namesake was?

4.4 18.2 1.5 1.2 5.1 4.2 9.4 12.3 19.1
13.2 17.3 7.1 10.3 15.1 19.4 13.4 3.3 9.2 20.3 21.5 21.3 20.1

META: TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Page 1 of 2

The last section with any writing starts:

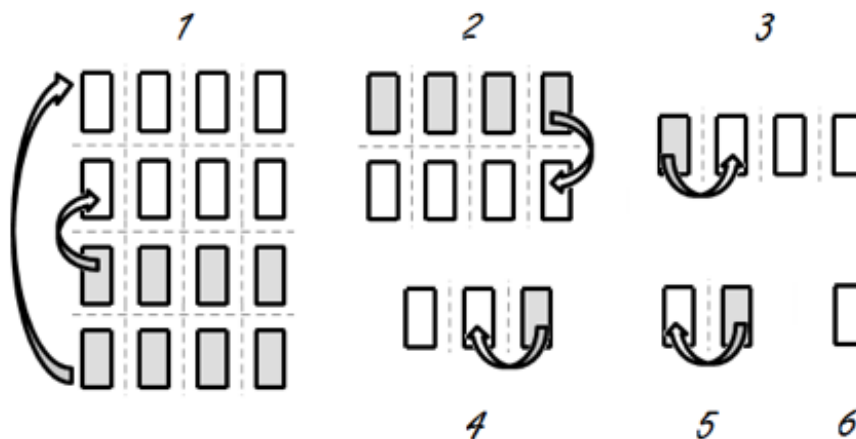
If you've gotten this far through my journal, you know a lot about me and my magical history. There's one more thing I've left to reveal, however, which is a secret about you! Reading through my previous entries, you will have collected four magic words. Each of these will be used to create an alternate word. Find the resulting words and then follow my instructions to discover what you really are!

Here are the definitions of the derived words:

1. Container covers
2. Sustained thunder
3. Bearded animal
4. Burden

1. Write the letters of these words on the blank playing cards on the following page, one letter per card.
2. Cut out the cards and arrange them in a grid, just as they were on the page.
3. Each card has two digits on it. Flip all of the cards face down except for the ones whose two digits are the same.
4. Record the word that you see, which describes what I do to other magicians:

5. You're now going to create one stack of 16 cards out of the 16 stacks of one card. Imagine there are lines between each column and row in the grid. Pick one of these lines and "fold" all of the stacks on one side of the line onto their corresponding stack on the other side. When a stack gets folded across a line it flips over, reversing the order and orientation of the cards in it. Keep picking lines and flipping stacks until you have just one stack. The diagram shows one possible way to do this, but you're free to choose the lines and directions to flip as you wish.



6. Once you have one stack left, a minority of the cards will be facing the opposite direction as the other cards. Rearrange these cards to form a word, which describes the quality of my tricks:

7. As an illusionist, I've developed some pretty powerful abilities. But during this trick your latent powers allowed you to turn the first word into the second, which takes a very special kind of magician. You must be an



META: TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Page 2 of 2

1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4
2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4
4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4