

Dear Reader,

You have by no fault of your own collected this clue by mistake, so please put it down and contact game control. Nobody in their right mind would try to gather this many disturbing things to examine all at once.

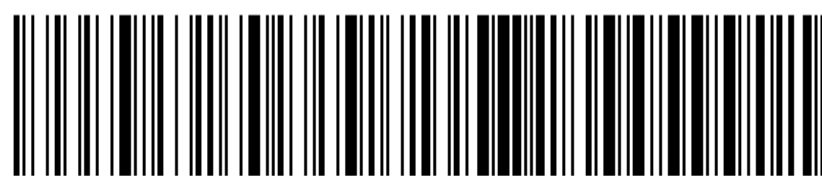
It's difficult to make the case for why anyone would want to read this clue, especially when the evidence is substantial enough to include a mysterious map, adverts from a slanderous newspaper, five particular aircraft, a glossy magazine, and a game that predates the Second World War.

As it is my duty as a witness to attest to the woes of Get A Clue, I find myself on the stand of this dreadful tale, but you are under no such oath. You may instead choose to spend your time in a more circumstantial frame of mind, a phrase here which means "however pleases you", such as high as a kite, in a flight of fancy, or simply watching the planes go by.

With all due respect,

Lemony Snicket

Lemony Snicket



The Ins and Outs with Esmè

In a dimly lit parlor adorned with relics of extravagance and mystery, we sat down with the formidable fashion visionary, Esmè Squalor. Known for her unerring taste and unapologetic candor, Esmè shared her latest insights on what's strikingly chic versus dreadfully passé in today's ever-shifting world.

Daily Punctilio: Esmè, you always manage to reinvent what's considered exquisite. Lately, I hear you're enamored with a certain vibrant central function—a blend of cultural drama and landscape grandeur. What has captured your fancy this season?

Esmè Squalor: Oh, darling, nothing excites me more than when outdoor spaces are transformed into a feast for the senses. It's so "in"! Think of the rushing sounds of water with the sweeping movements of a statue dedicated to the wonderful avian life of this place. It's all about celebrating this town's rich, layered history."

D.P. Fascinating! Surely some trends no longer hold sway over your discerning eye?

E.S. Indeed. I simply cannot linger on putrid production areas. Those are "out"! Nobody wants to think of where the glamour comes from. Likewise, the government buildings bore me, I want priceless, not procedural!

D.P. I see—a clear divide between the dramatic and dreadfully pedestrian. There's also been chatter about

railways, and what's this I hear about clutches? Tell us, how do these fit into your current vision?

E.S. A clutch is absolutely essential to any outfit, my dear. Anything that grasps has a grasp on the pulse. What can I say, clutching is "in"! Things that hold and store surely hold their value. But don't get fast and fashion mixed up—just because the rails are speedy around here doesn't mean they catch the eye. Rail stations are drab and "out" in my book.

D.P. Yet, not all trends are destined for critical acclaim. What do you say to those who continue to champion the uninspired—routine nights out, for example?

E.S. How utterly pedestrian! The messy diners, bars, and clubs in this town need a serious face-lift. How embarrassing! They're "out", truly. I shouldn't say so but slow things like traffic and the Elders, they're a drag on my style too. But if you want a fashionable night out, go flightless. The south end of the lawn in particular is very "in" these days, all the "in" people will be there!

D.P. In the end, your vision is one of both rebellion and refinement. Any final parting words for our readers, poised on the precipice of fashion's next big evolution?

E.S. Remember, darlings, that true style is up and coming, and I'll give you a preview of what's going to be "in": the fashionable way things proceed at the corners of Injustice Hall is inspiring! We love holding dears in the deluxe cells uptown, and where better to indict than in Injustice Hall? ■

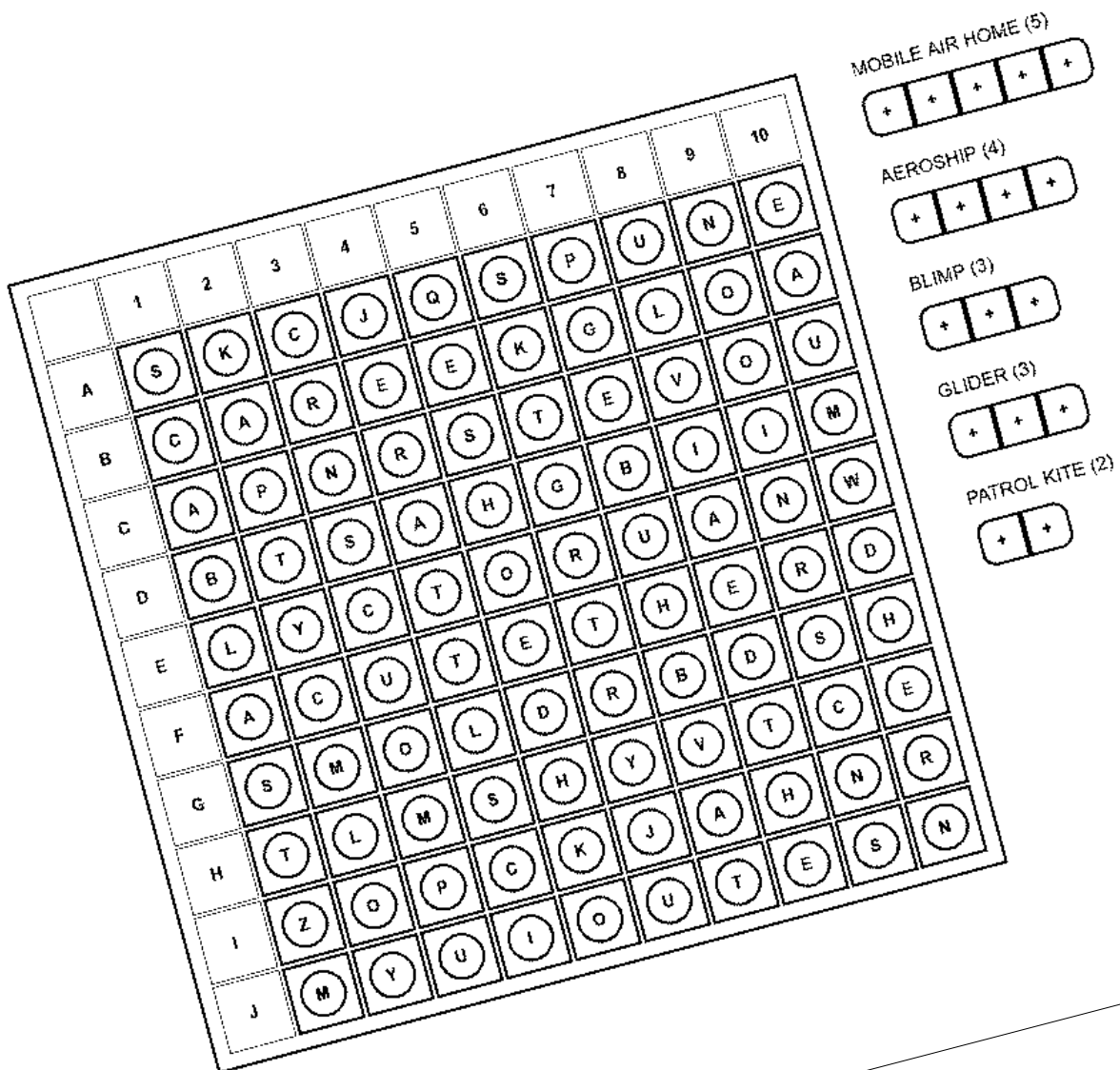


Exhibit 2. A scan of a curious game board left behind in the inventor's garage. Collected by Detective Dupin in the afternoon.

the 20th season.

VILLAGE OF FOWL DEVOTEES - A citizen wielding a harpoon gun shot down a self-sustaining hot air mobile home and several other craft attempting to unlawfully escape the Village of Fowl Devotees late yesterday afternoon. Private detectives are on the scene working to determine the details of the crime. If you have a tip as to where any of the aircraft may have been headed, please call our anonymous tip hotline. Before calling the program listed below, please be prepared to give as much detail about the crime or fugitive including but not limited to the following: where each aircraft was headed at two-thirty in the afternoon yesterday, the flight details in cord breaking teen

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The Village of Fowl Devotees

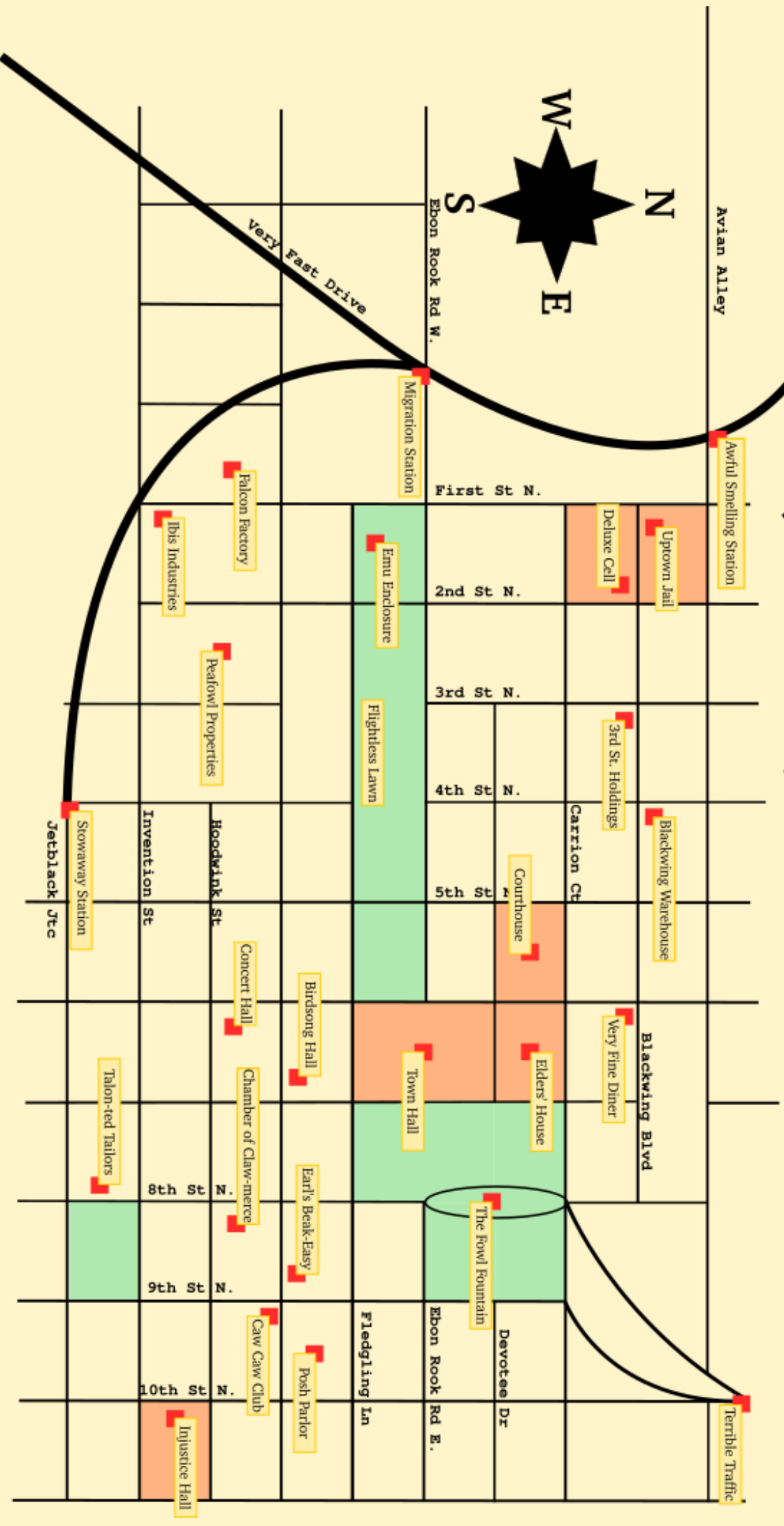


Exhibit 4. A map of the Village of Fowl Devotees, available for free at the Town Hall. Found littered among fashion notes and magazines in the inventor's garage. Collected by Officer Luciana this morning.