

Dear Reader,

There are many combinations of things that are happy, delightful even, but this is not one of them. If you like to think of yourself as someone who spins a situation to look on the bright side, this clue might not be for you. This is the first of many warnings to turn around and engage in another activity altogether.

This particular combination of woes is especially unpleasant, so much so that you may not believe it. If you press on, you will encounter gruesome details on cramped conditions, a rotating cast of hostile relatives, secret historical societies, a daring climb and escape, and an untimely lack of lucky lockpicking.

As the sole author committed to turning these events to light, I must go on to share this distressing tragedy with the world. I needn't twist your arm though, you are free to spin your mind towards other, more comfortably pleasing things, such as a warm cup of cocoa or receiving word that your friend did indeed remember to return a book they borrowed more than a year ago.

With all due respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lemony Snicket". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'L' and a long, sweeping tail on the 't'.

Lemony Snicket

Oh no! Count Olaf has imprisoned Sunny in a cage dangling outside the window of his tower. Luckily, thanks to Violet's quick thinking, you have managed to get to the top of the tower, but the cage is locked with a weird looking padlock! You look around the room for any hints on how to turn the lock. The only helpful thing you see is a puzzle taped to a plaque. Now if only you could figure out what the missing information on this padlock is...

Sudoku Instructions:

Normal sudoku rules apply. The cells passed through by each wheel must contain the indicated values in the given order, but the wheels might have to be rotated into the correct position.



