



Puzzle Hunt 2019:

A FISTFUL OF PANDAS

PANDAMONIUM
2019

There's a legend they tell in these parts about the mysterious black-and-white cowboy with the bamboo twig in his mouth. They say he's been searching for a long time for a hidden cache of treasure that's somewhere near this very patch of the frontier. There are clues to it nearby, of course. People who know something and places that might point the right way, if you can only *solve the riddles they present*. Each one hides a word or short phrase, and *all of them have something in common*.

Find the scenic posters; nearby you'll see those puzzles branded with the question mark in the ten-gallon hat. When you've solved each one, write its answer down here, verify it with the staff, and you'll get *a piece of the map to the treasure*. When the map is all pieced together, you'll have *one final riddle to solve* that will lead to your share of glory.

Good luck. Pando's counting on you.

Location	Puzzle Answer
THE CANYON	
THE CACTUS GROVE	
THE BLACKSMITH SHOP	
THE GRAVEYARD	
THE RAILROAD STATION	
THE RIVER	
THE RANCH	
THE GOLD MINE	
THE MAP	



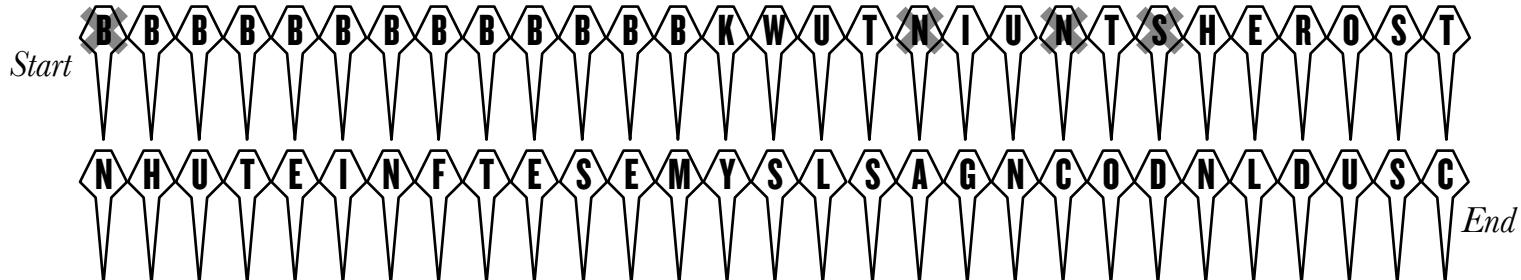
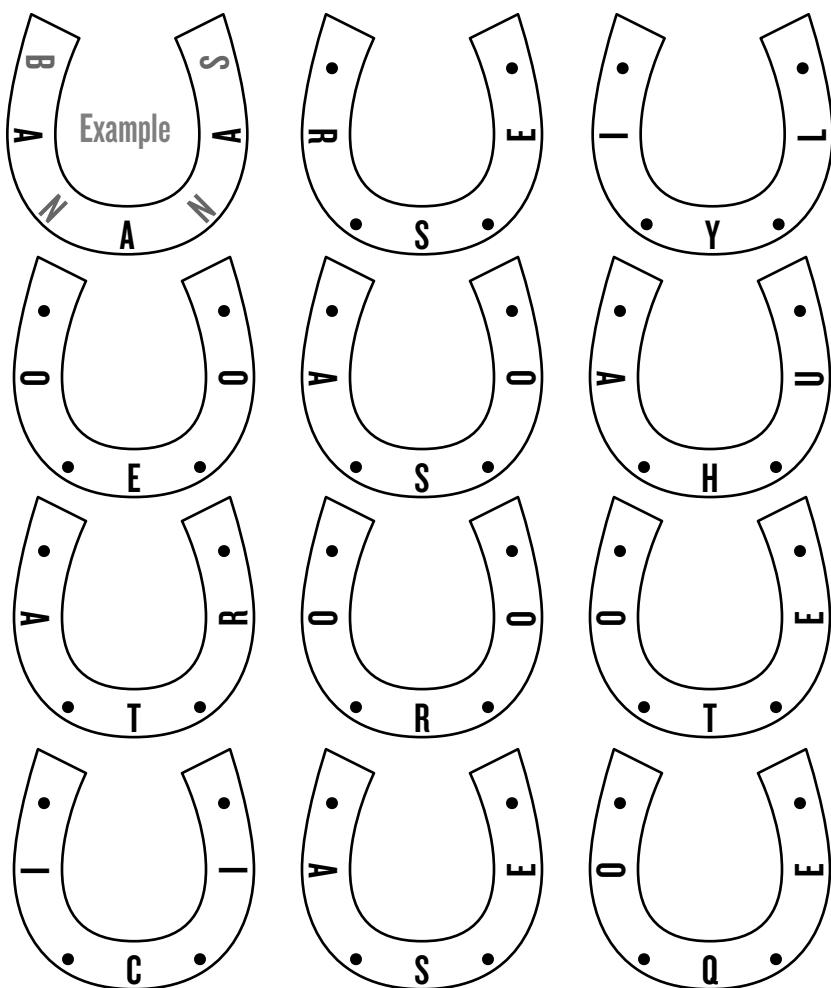
THE BLACKSMITH SHOP

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Down at the edge of town is a shop full of iron, fire, and noise. The bellows are pumping, the coals are hot, and there's always more work. Always another farm tool to repair or a wagon to fix, and there are always more horses to shoe, which is where you could lend a hand. *Pick out the nails to fill each horseshoe with a word matching one of the clues from the list. The clues aren't in any order, and neither are the horseshoes, but the nails are. Always use the first nail in order for the letters you need. When all the horseshoes are complete and the nails accounted for, you'll be able to read the answer. The first one has been done as an example.*

Clues

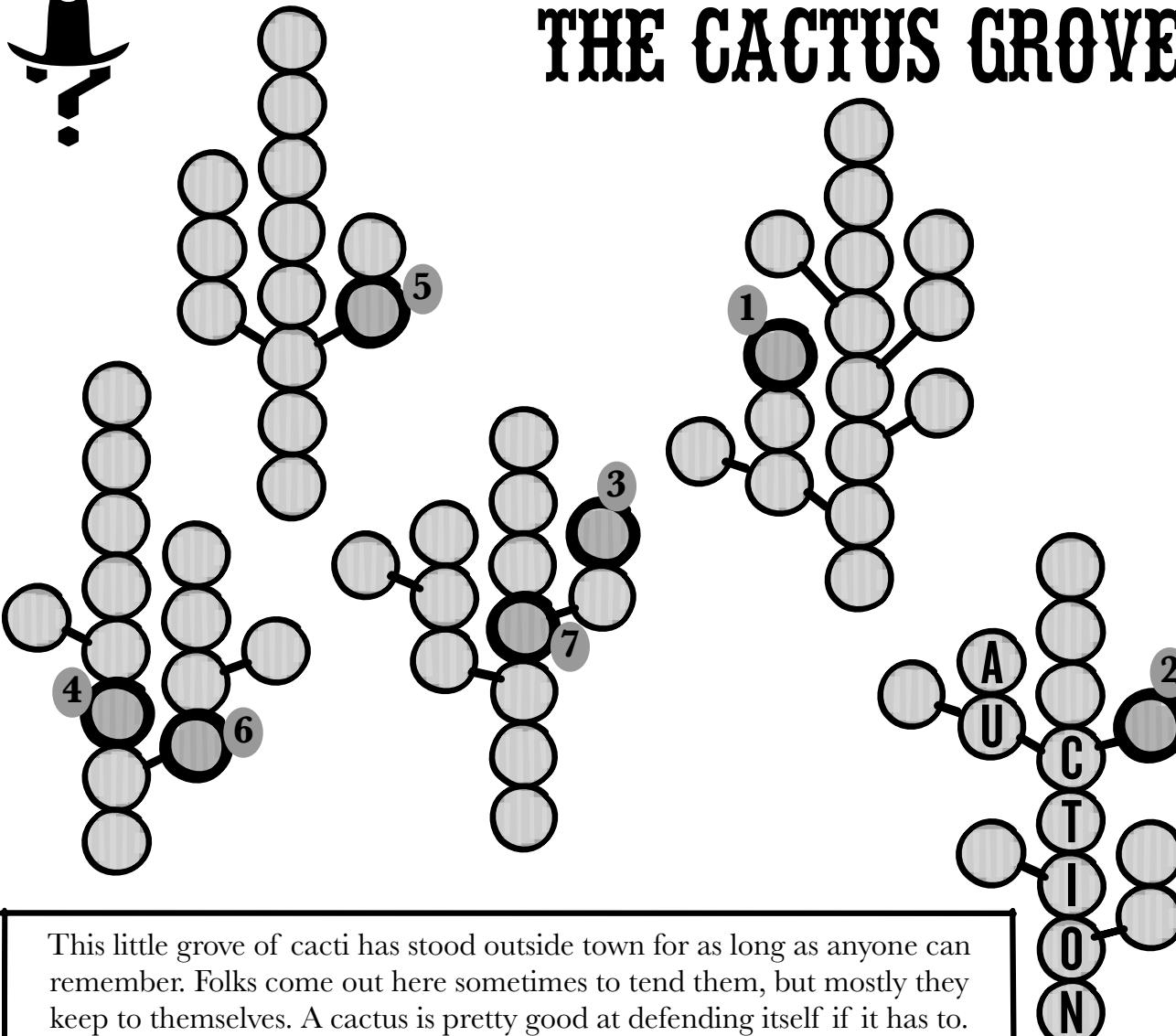
- ~~Curved yellow fruits~~
- Sorrowful screaming spirit
- Served with tea in England
- Cut of beef often used in barbecue
- Two-wheeled transport
- Nicely presented flowers
- Type of Kentucky whiskey
- Large double-reed instrument
- Shy
- State of having nothing to do
- Counterfeit or contraband
- Electric power storage





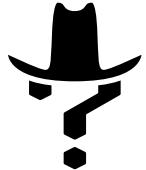
THE CACTUS GROVE

PANDAMONIUM
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This little grove of cacti has stood outside town for as long as anyone can remember. Folks come out here sometimes to tend them, but mostly they keep to themselves. A cactus is pretty good at defending itself if it has to. These cacti are hiding something, though, and those *fruit growing off them* are the key. Figure out the words hiding behind the crossword-style clues and place each into a cactus running **vertically downward** (one has been placed as an example). You'll have to use some logic to figure out which cactus each word belongs to, and where to put it. Once you've filled them all in, you'll be able to harvest this puzzle's solution.

<i>Clues</i>
Bee house
Fried squid rings
Offset, like the start of a paragraph
Difficult struggle or trial
Sightseeing journey through the savannah
Perfect, but often imaginary
Type of religious candle
Vacuum force
Affection
Original to a place; indigenous
Maker of Gauntlet and Centipede
Wisely patient
Comparative; opposite of "absolute"
Resistance between surfaces
Stuff happening
Good but not outstanding
Last
Gas in glowing tubes
In the near past
Maned big cat
Demonstrate the truth of
Bright red bird



THE CANYON

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

CLOUD
DELUGE
DOWNPOUR
FLOOD
RAIN
SLEET
STORM
STREAM
TORRENT
WIND

For centuries, the inhabitants of this land have looked out on the canyon, marveling at its beauty, sometimes even leaving their own marks. In fact, everyone who arrives here comes away with the feeling that they should remember it. There are all kinds of things hidden in these ancient walls, but you should *start by finding the words in the two lists to either side. Look to the places where weather meets land, and assemble what you find there in order, geological layer by layer.*

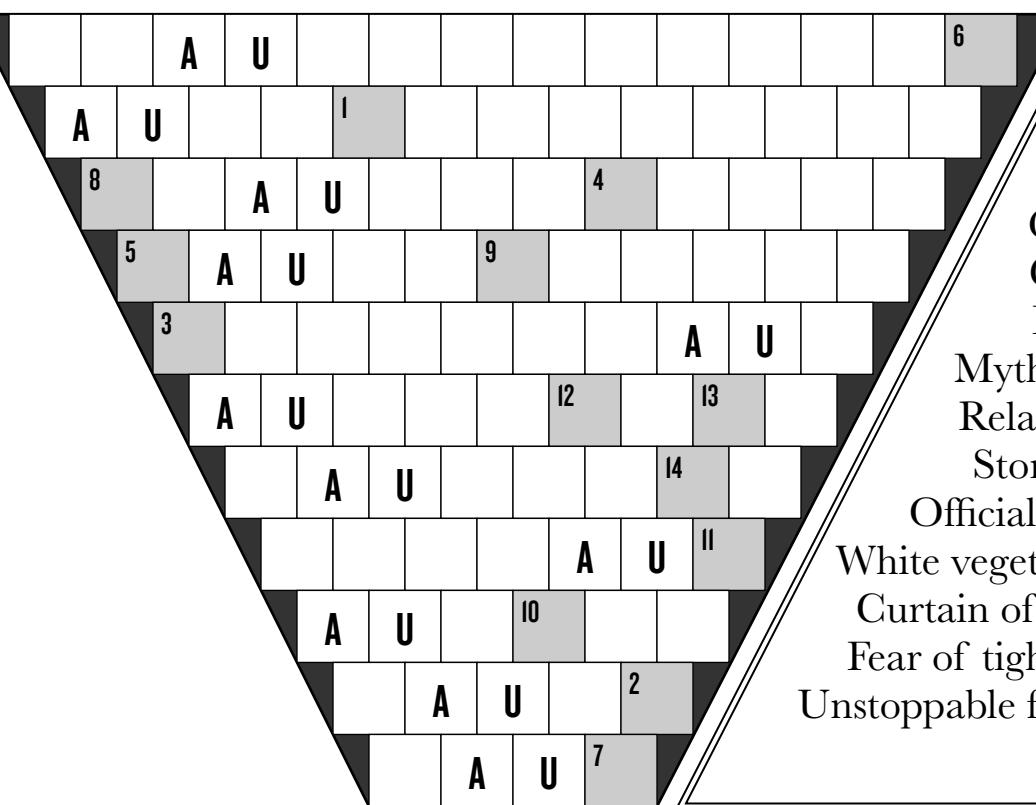
CLAY
EARTH
FLINT
GRANITE
GROUND
MARBLE
MESA
MOUNTAIN
ROCK
STONE



THE GOLD MINE

PANDAMONIUM
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It wasn't that long ago that you could get out into the hills with a pick and a shovel, stake your claim, and take your chances on hitting some paydirt. But picks and shovels gave way to drills and dynamite, and eventually folks came out here with rocker boxes and sluices and big dredging rigs to send river water through. They got themselves a fair bit of gold that way, too, but *maybe they should've been paying attention to the other stuff in the water. Fill the funnel with the right answers in the right order and you'll get the answer to this puzzle spelled out in the shaded spaces.*



Clues

- Genuine; the real thing
- Carry off, as in a sack
- Finnish steam room
- Mythic half-man half-horse
- Related to ships or sailing
- Story of one's own life
- Official start of a presidency
- White vegetable, related to cabbage
- Curtain of light in the polar sky
- Fear of tight or enclosed spaces
- Unstoppable force, like a heavy cart

1	2	3	4
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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THE GRAVEYARD

PANDAMONIUM
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The town graveyard is, for the most part, a solemn place, but the undertaker has a strange sense of humor and has seen more than his share of unfortunate folks pass away out on the range doing some darn foolish things. He keeps a section of the graveyard especially for them to serve as cautionary tales, but maybe there's something else buried here apart from bodies. ***Maybe something can be learned from these tragically short lifespans.***

JESS A. MINNIT 1829-1868

His fingers slipped
He dropped his gun
He'd said 'high noon',
Died twelve-oh-one

EMMET OXIN 1837-1875

You think you're macho
Don't be silly
Don't put weird mushrooms
In your chili

KENT C. NUTIN 1820-1865

His hat's so big
It blocked his eyes
He should have worn
A smaller size

ETTIE PRUFE 1851-1888

The whiskey's flaming?
Stop and think
Put out the fire
Before you drink

NOAH VAYLE 1857-1889

Your aim is true
But you'll be sad
Don't shoot at bears
They'll just get mad

COLE IRONHORSE 1837-1876

Don't race a train
Even in jest
The cars will leave you
Steamed and pressed

HELEN HIGHWATER 1820-1860

Your gold might sink
But you might float
Don't chain yourself
To your own boat

MARCO DEL TORO 1832-1872

Be careful with
That cattle brand
Behind the bull's
No place to stand

HOSEA CANIUSI 1837-1871

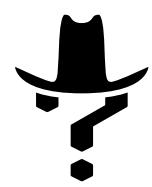
The old mine's deep
And dark as night
Don't light your torch
Near dynamite

BUCK WILDE 1849-1887

Don't throw your saddle
And your tack
On untamed broncos
They'll break your back

JUAN TUFAR 1839-1878

The canyon's wide
And what a view
But you can't fly
Though vultures do



THE RAILROAD STATION

PANDAMONIUM
2019

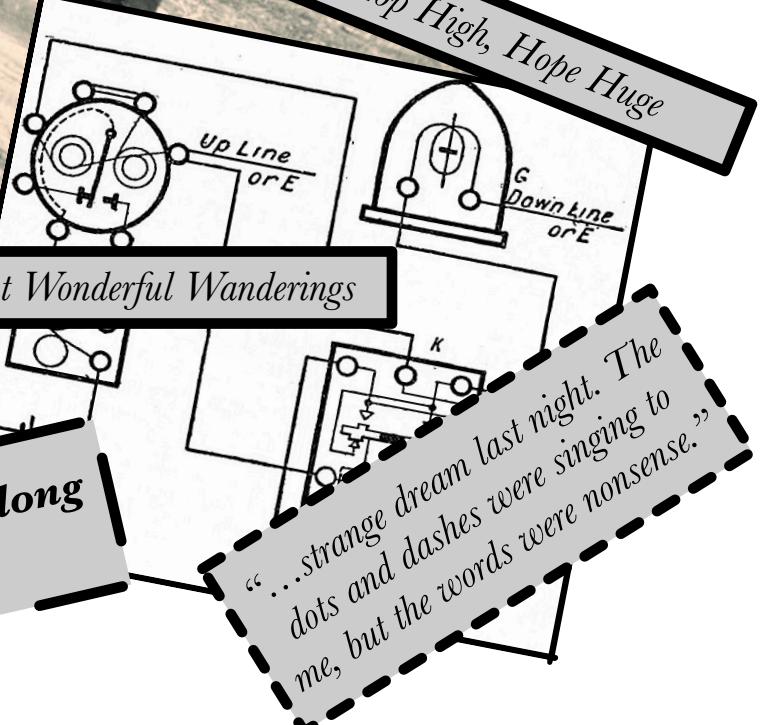
This railroad station is the town's main link to the rest of the frontier, but the townsfolk have always been a little suspicious of the eccentric station master and his signalmen, always tinkering around with odd machines. But they don't raise a fuss so long as the mail gets through, and whatever it is they're doing seems pretty harmless. If you can **figure out the code behind the notes**, maybe you can tell what they're talking about.

"...Most of this is rubbish, but there's a signal somewhere in the noise..."

- The answer is simple!
1. Electric Semaphore
 2. Reflective Signaling Alphabet
 3. Four Compasses Regulate Encoding
 4. Try Everything
 5. This Just Might Resonate
 6. Yes!



What Wonderful Wanderings





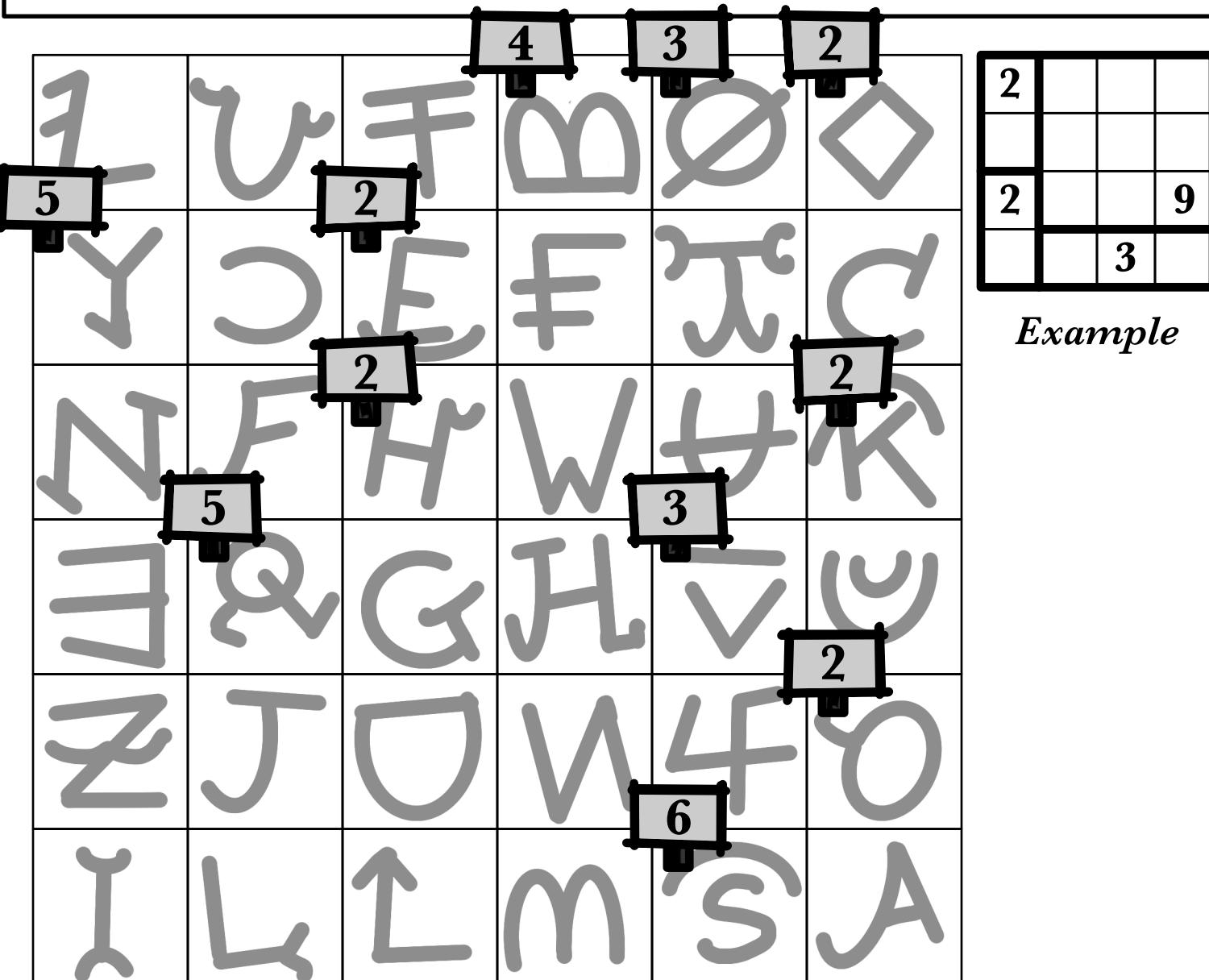
THE RANCH

PANDAMONIUM
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This cattle ranch has seen its share of livestock coming and going, making their way across the prairie from one market to another, all of them bearing the brand of where they came from. It's high time to make some new cattle pens for their latest acquisitions, but the ranchers have a specific plan in mind for what goes where.

Instructions:

Divide the grid below into rectangles so each number matches its rectangle's area (as in the example). The brands in the *lower left corner* of each pen, read *left-to-right and top-to-bottom*, will give you this puzzle's answer.





THE RIVER

PANDAMONIUM
2019

The river that runs past town may seem calm, but a short way upstream it winds its way back and forth through a winding maze of sharp rocks. You'll have to be even sharper to navigate your way to the end, but *what you pick up on the way* will be worth it.

Enter
→

