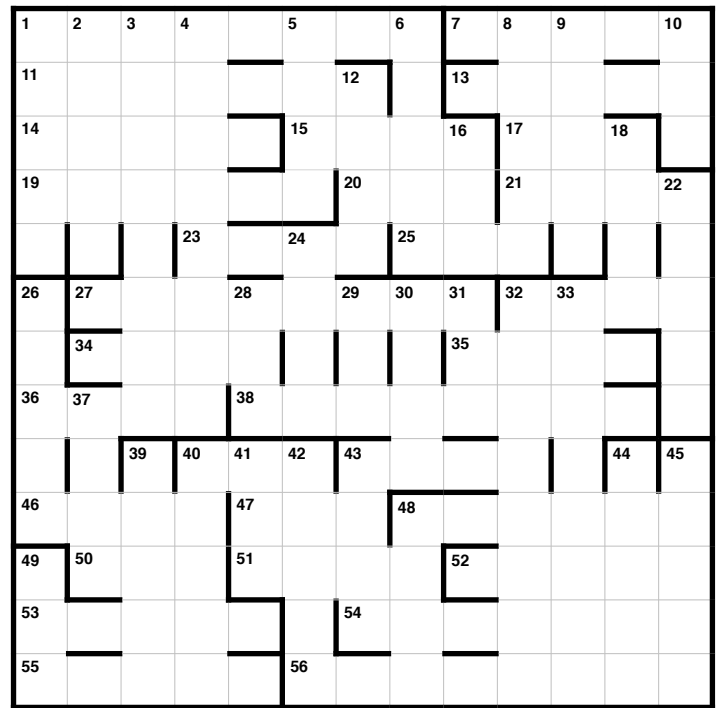


United Fates

by Negroni

The subjects of this puzzle are members of a group who share the same fate. Certain rules apply.

- Seven across answers must be altered in the following way. Find your inner omniglot, because a section of the answer is a word in a foreign language (the word has the same meaning every time) and must be translated into a different language before entering. If a different alphabet is used, the relevant letters are the phonetic spelling in the Roman alphabet, and all diacritics must be removed. If the newly translated word begins at the *mth* letter from the start of the grid entry and ends at the *nth* letter from the end of the entry, circle the *mth* letter from the start of the clue and the *nth* letter from the end of the clue. Together, the *mth* letters and then the *nth* letters, in clue order, form a phrase that could describe any member of the group.
- Eight across clues contain a word whose central letter must be removed before solving. The removed letters, in clue order, spell out a phrase that describes the members of the group.
- Eleven down answers must have two consecutive letters replaced by one of four letters that are part of a larger set before they can be entered (one entry is a proper noun). When read column by column, these newly inserted letters are a clue to the identity of the group's members, resolving one ambiguity. In the same order, the first letters of the two replaced letters form a phrase that describes, in a sense, every member at the time they joined.
- The phrases produced by 1), 2), and 3), combined in that order, become the word play portion of a cryptic clue whose answer is that which the members of the group have in common.
- There is a word type whose name is related to what the members have in common. One answer in the grid contains three different instances of this type. Start with the third in its entirety and continue diagonally through the grid to reveal a different group that is directly responsible for the subjects being in their group. The English translation of the foreign word in 1) is, in essence, what this group said to the puzzle's subjects to seal their fate.



- Once you know the members' identities, take the last name of the first member to join this group and apply the alterations described in 1), 2), and 3), in order. For 1), the originating language is spoken by some people who consider the second member of the group a savior, and the destination language is the language spoken in the country most relevant to the most recent member joining the group. When all of the rules have been applied, the resulting name is of a related individual. Parsed a certain way, this name has the same meaning as the word from 1). Write the replacement letter from 3) larger than the rest for a visual representation of this person's fate.

Across

- Stuff gourd for drinking with currency
- Italian sauces revolting with sucrose
- Running after train at German capital without salt
- Friend group's stair poses
- Knife show between kiss and hug
- Forcing clarity with \$5 bill in top of guitar
- Country second in music and third in music education focus
- Native of Alaska sensitive about snow equipment
- Combining form to show equality of moon circling sun
- Unfinished hair product infused with gas mixture and butter, e.g.
- Elite society loses center in Arizona city
- Hot, like drinks, perhaps
- Nolte, following rousing song about American leader, is offensive
- Halve power; regret keeping low
- James who is singer, EMT, and often, grad student
- Johns in Scotland implement all needed safety tips
- All women oddly produce medicinal gel
- Report: coats back in front, worn by rocker Snider
- Colin from Kyrgyzstan not finishing intoxicating drink

43. Needs fixed radio

- Portion of revenues vital for Slovakian town
- Brand of video games spans to the west
- Climaxed with a profound reflection about Christ
- Before turning back to no effect
- Test returned highest energy
- Soft cheese around noon is liquid in dessert, perhaps
- Levy returns and interest, except, at first, for nobody in Cuenca
- People live in good spirits, primarily
- Tony who hit a lot in grand Vegas casino
- Vision of place for myself in the sound?

Down

- Tangled with dull date
- Collect a liter of beer in Switzerland
- Slice up flesh and blood to devour
- Guess I'm in family manor
- Data revolution from North India
- Mead with quiet restraint
- Characters in Juno unsealed parts of speech
- Attempt to speak after empty start
- Elaborate network of nerve cells in unusual tree

12. Cells in the brain good with pain reversal

- Try a hippie destination
- A reckless heroic archer from Iran
- Produce club and fantastic deli
- Start to dig up pump
- Reportedly cuts off fruit
- Drop youngster
- State collects eagles
- Dancer Cunningham with loud male handbag
- Returning Italian capital's affection
- I, breaking forearm bones, entertained emergency room with lengthy Steven Wilson song
- Removing reservation, a French ruler pens disapproval
- Behold! Hit, save, and error for pitcher Kyle
- With facial hair and a derby askew
- Clumsily fasten Edberg tops on tennis court, once
- A person on MDMA
- German never follows low cult member?
- Pole with a blood type specimen
- Phantom villain's English interrupting silence
- Edit; edits, that is
- West follows a pleasurable dependence in Japan
- Filmmaker Lee called after the first