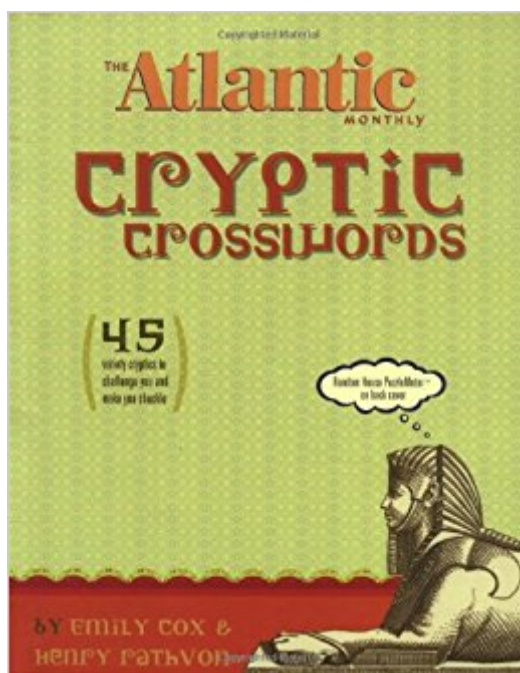


The book was found

The Atlantic Monthly Cryptic Crosswords (Other)



Synopsis

In the mid-1970s, when The Atlantic Monthly's editors decided to feature a puzzle in each issue, they needed something unique that would appeal to their readership. Fortunately, they found Emily Cox & Henry Rathvon, whose variety cryptics have now been appearing in the magazine for 25 years. Cryptic crosswords are a specialized type of puzzle, particularly popular among lovers of books, language and wordplay; variety cryptics go one step further. Cox & Rathvon, arguably North America's pre-eminent cryptic authors, literally "wrote the book". The 45 puzzles in this collection, not previously available in book form, are among their best.

Book Information

Series: Other

Spiral-bound: 64 pages

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Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,174,537 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Crosswords > Cryptic

Customer Reviews

EMILY COX & HENRY RATHVON create half of the Sunday crosswords for The Boston Globe (alternating with Henry Hook) and all of the acrostics for The New York Times.

These two, along with Richard Maltbie at Harper's magazine are by far the best cryptic puzzle makers in the business. Almost all of the puzzles have a theme, or an extra trick about them, that make them WAY more fun than just your standard cryptic. If you do these types of puzzles a lot, you will LOVE the extra challenge in these.

As always, Emily Cox and Henry Rathvon have produced a great selection of cryptics crosswords. Their clues have just the right amount of cleverness without being too hard to figure out. This book doesn't have any "regular" ones, they each have some kind of an extra twist, so they're all

interesting. These have run in the Atlantic Monthly before, but it was before I started doing them in there, so I'm glad for this collection.

This collection of cryptics depends on its inventiveness in the unique structures that the creators have developed for each puzzle. However, this hardly makes up for the forced and unimaginative definitions offered which, after all, is what cryptics are all about. For those of us raised on Henry Hooks' cryptic puzzles, this collection falls way short in humor, wit, joy of language, and the celebration of the enigma. After solving about a half a dozen of the puzzles, I have no desire to finish the book. Go with Hook or New York Times and enjoy.

Emily Cox and Henry Rathvon create some of the most clever and fiendishly difficult cryptic crosswords around. Unless you are already skilled at solving conventional cryptic crosswords, this is not the book for you, since it does not have the several pages of solving hints usually provided as a preface to most cryptic puzzle books. These puzzles originally appeared in The Atlantic Monthly between 1986 and 1998. Each of these puzzles has an additional "gimmick" to it that makes the solving that much more difficult, such as answers that bend around the grid, unclued words, dropped/added/shuffled letters in the clues or answers, random order clues, and so on. If you love a challenge, these puzzles are for you. You will have a real feeling of accomplishment when you complete one.

Who the hell is going to pay \$83.78, or \$123 or \$225 for a USED crossword puzzle book that originally retailed at \$9.95? What is that about? RIDICULOUS!

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