

Rank and File

—Corey Plover,
Kevin Wald

“EXTRAORDINARY!”

Is all you hear as a white cuboid projectile hurtles through the air towards your face. Having the reflexes of a cat and the speed of a mongoose, you let it hit you square in the noggin. It smarts. Bundy pulls you to your feet as your eyes slowly return to focus. Shaking your head vigorously, you slowly make out the figure in front of you. Short, with large ears and a red lab coat that somehow resembles overalls, you’ve found your quarry.

“G’day, me name is Blinky Bill. You think Greenland is greener than Green Patch Hill. Prepare to die.”

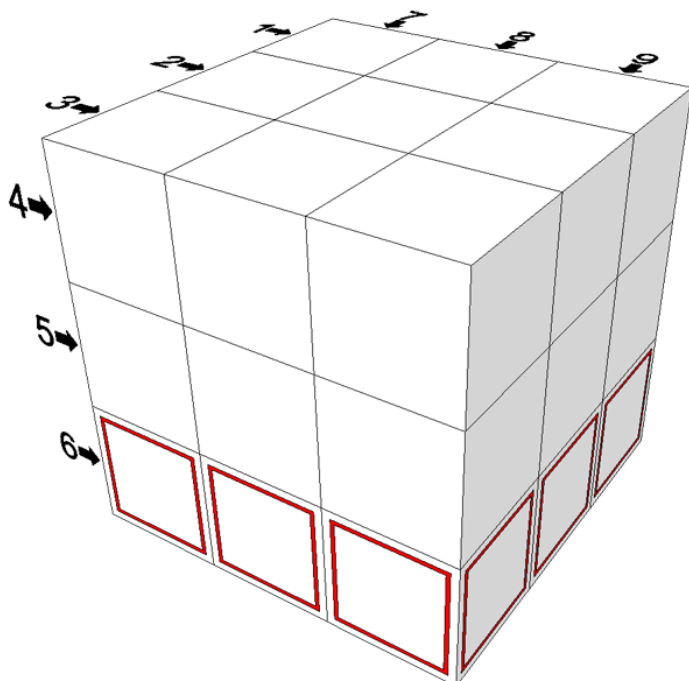
“I’m sorry Blinky. It doesn’t have to be this way. We could —”

“SHUT UP! It’s been a while, Bundy. It has been a while, dearest *friend* Bundy. It has been such a while that I thought that you were dead. Yes, you were... dead *to me*. So yes, maybe... just maybe, you can be dead to everyone-else too. Here ...”

“EXTRAORDINARY!”

Another cube flies at you. This time, you are completely ready, and catch it with your head.

The answers to the pairs of clues below wrap around the indicated bands of the cube below. Starting locations and directions for each band of answers must be determined by the solver.



1. Five plus six is ultimately like fifty and unlike thirteen (6) / Recited pitches will produce turmoil (6)
2. Art’s confused about the Ecuadorean honey badgers (6) / A daughter Spot unexpectedly embraces (6)
3. Ms. Blanchett brought back an ordered sequence of connected items (6) / Time traveller’s initially bitten by, say, a medium-large dog (6)
4. Those who might preach against keeping one automobile (6) / An afternoon nap certainly is Spanish (6)
5. Goes left, hitting overhanging edges (6) / Ace slipped into metal-working shop to browse (6)
6. Was ahead after (say) claiming one scored two under par (6) / Wacky feats shock gutless Tess (6)
7. O’Neill fabricated a black, enamel-like alloy (6) / Spear-flinger is duplicated, at length (6)
8. Jobs around back end of Apple store, in earlier times (6) / Takes the pins out of guns strewn about gym (6)
9. Facebook’s “Top 10” has “Like” button, perhaps (6) / First of glaringly incorrect shirt sizes (6)