

# ***Madness Puzzles***

**A New Form Of Acrostic Puzzle**

## **Instructions**

**[www.MadnessPuzzles.com](http://www.MadnessPuzzles.com)**

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## More about Madness

Madness is a new and novel form of acrostic puzzle. A Madness puzzle, like other acrostics, consists of a grid containing a quote from some literary work, and a set of clues whose answers are written in a series of spaces, each with a number corresponding to a numbered place in the grid. Working in both directions, the solver gradually solves all of the clues, and by transferring their letters into the grid, will unearth the hidden quotation. So far, so good. But in Madness, for each clue, there are **two** possible answers, each with the same number of letters, and **two** grids to be filled in. And herein lies the madness: the solver must determine which answer goes into which set of spaces, and then must determine how to transfer the answers: one answer will go into one grid, and the other into the other grid.

Each clue has two answers. If the clue contains underlines, the two answers will be part of a name, a quote or phrase, or some comparable construct. If the clue has no underlines, the answers will be independent, two of possibly many acceptable answers.

Like the traditional acrostic, the list of clues is numbered alphabetically. These alphabetic references are placed in the grid as top-justified reference letters allowing the solver to easily locate the two clues whose answer might map to that space.

Finally, given the difficulty of creating these puzzles, we were unable to keep the “Double” aspect of most acrostics (i.e. where the first letter of each Answer spells out the source for the Quotation and the author). But since this is a very desirable property of acrostics, we preserve it in spirit: beneath the Bottom grid, there are numbered blanks that, when filled in, will give the source and author. The numbers under the blanks correspond to spaces in the filled-in grids. (Needless to say, the Solver has to decide from which grid each letter is derived;)

From the Creators and Editors of Madness: *Good luck!*