

## 2. Financial Times as told to Ucaomihu

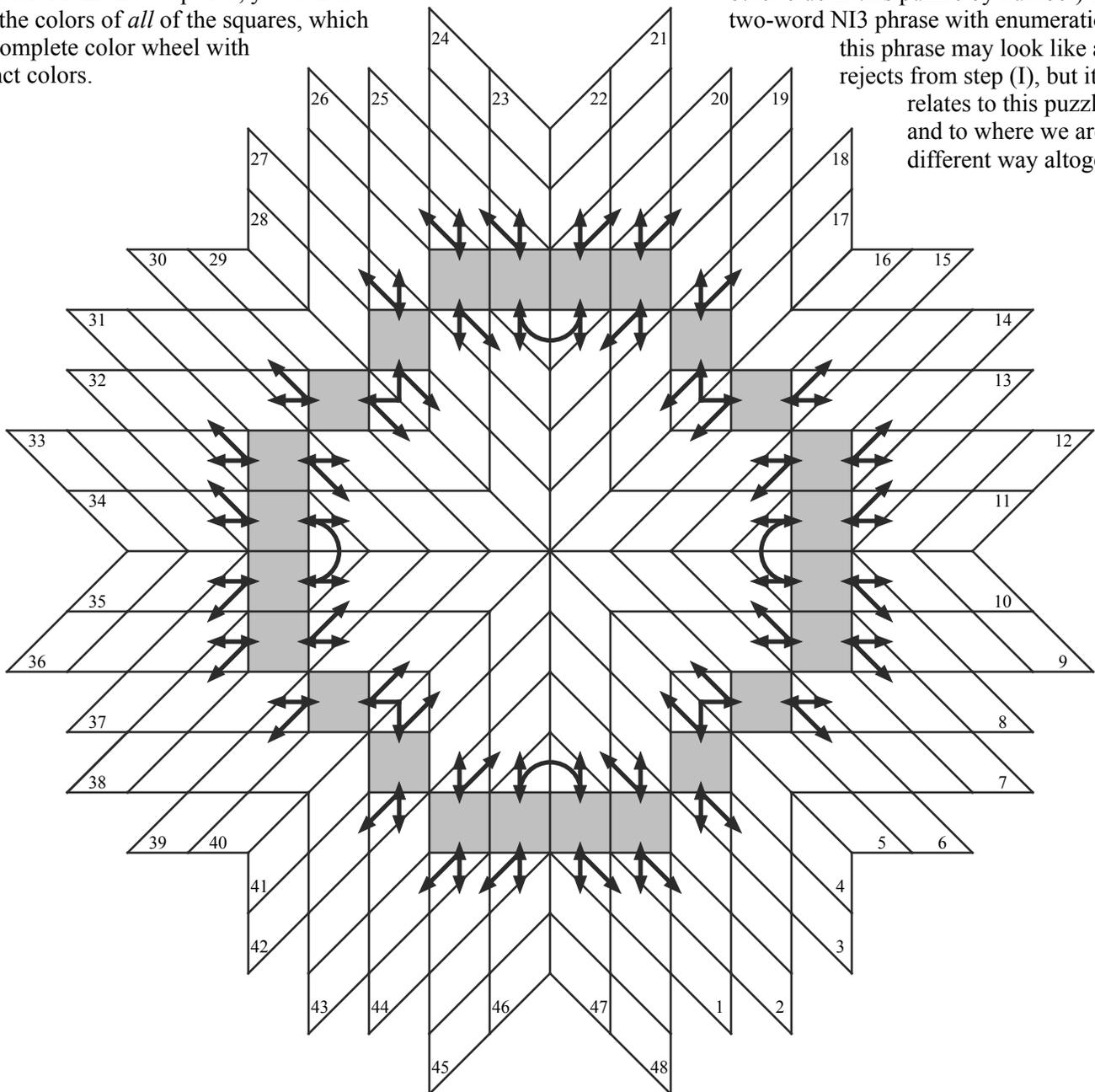
Next is the *Financial Times*, whose cryptic (I seem to recall) is square-colored and pink-shaped. In this puzzle, all answers start in numbered spaces, with answers 1–48 starting in the spaces indicated, and answers 49–64 starting in some subset of these making another counterclockwise loop around the flower. Each subsequent space (square or parallelogram) can only be exited via the side opposite the side through which it was entered; if the exiting side has an arrowhead on it, follow the thick line (or one of the thick lines, if there are two) to get to the next space. In addition:

(I) 48 clues contain an extra letter, which must be removed before solving; 24 of these are at the start of a word, 24 at the end. The extra starting letters, in clue order, will form a repetitive, materialistic set. The extra ending letters will form a list of four distinct colors; each clue supplying a color's first letter has an answer that intersects one square, which (despite how it looks on this black-and-white copy) is of that color. From these squares, you can determine the colors of *all* of the squares, which form a complete color wheel with 24 distinct colors.

(II) Eight other clues contain an extra *word* (possibly broken up with spaces) to be removed before solving; four of these are identical, and four all different. In the clues with *identical* extra words, the extra word serves as a definition part for the clue, which is otherwise wordplay-only; all their answers are items that can be found locally, and are nominally of the last color from (I). Each of the clues with a *different* extra word has an answer intersecting one square, and each extra word indicates an extra-starting-letter clue from (I); in each case, the color of the intersected square, the spelled-out material to which the indicated clue contributed a letter, and the extra word itself will characterize an item familiar to readers of the *Financial Times*.

(III) The eight remaining clues all work normally; read all their initial letters, and then all their final letters, both in clue order, to see what the eight items from (II) are.

(IV) Finally, read the squares counterclockwise, starting at a square of some verdant shade, to get a wordplay-only cryptic clue (with anagram-charade wordplay, and referencing another clue in this puzzle by number) for a two-word NI3 phrase with enumeration 4 6; this phrase may look like a set of rejects from step (I), but it actually relates to this puzzle grid, and to where we are, in a different way altogether.



## CLUES

1. Prep to start creating color (4)
2. Multicolored item Monsieur Fifi vends in his shoe? (4)
3. More elderly Osage shunning silver, nickel and gold (6)
4. Child's inquiry about zinc ultimately disheartened Wayne (3 2)
5. Alter a document to contain empty noise after getting lit (4 2)
6. Breezily good reviews coming from actor Harrison within the year (4)
7. Salt from man upset couple of clods (4, *abbr.*)
8. Every unreactive element rotated almost limitlessly (4)
9. Reach initially black rock that contains carbon, to boot (5)
10. Was merry and fine, or (inversely) defeated by a plot (9)
11. Spiny pet that's spun metal-cutting tools (3 5)
12. Primarily Oscan benches a church has, and sends out (5)
13. A lady flipped over a comedian known for his impressive china (4)
14. Cuts shillings lawfully? (4)
15. Yeast blocks obscured Latin word after *per* or *carpe* (4)
16. Used one's own table mat left of German one (3 2)
17. Yon eaglet's outside, after Thursday (4)
18. Goon that supports bacterial cultures and some fish (4)
19. Decade that introduced the Macintosh with the most mass, lacking router parts (8)
20. Pease irritated round cross- or hair-like biological structures (5)
21. Hay — inside of pike / Is put before you at last / Evoking this, say (5)
22. Said to ask John Cho's Star Trek character, formerly played by George Takei (4)
23. Germane sub-section of club oath (1-4)
24. White-and-gold cow ate rat from Knoxville bedecked with 80 chains (9)
25. Showing some swell jewelry that's obtained by chastening Oscar (8)
26. Year-old Ben, bearing scowl, disheartened retro, retro *Sentinel* distributor (7)
27. Reproduced material that absorbs abutter's vibrations (4)
28. Pivotal letter from Persian Gulf, if typed by ferrets where chickens perch (6)
29. One of the deadly sins of Nevada, briefly stated (4)
30. Monacan and Austrian from a county in Britannia (5)
31. What's on the left of Gaius Julius Caesar in madcap Reno? Mel, naturally (8, *var.*)
32. Like Russian or Polish written backwards in ellipses at rear of disco (8)
33. Swat eremitic character that's ahead of nun, having no one else in front (9)
34. Most of burrow I'd finally move out of the way (5)
35. Four glyphs in reversed modem represent change (4)
36. Exceptional person or chicken wearing messy hair that twists (6)
37. Bloody male singer Jagger, dropping kilt, went *Yo!* (5)
38. One offering some imitation bananas to, um, Pearl (8)
39. *Lawrence of Arabia* actor Anthony, who put in French numbers (5)
40. Bea positioned within an Arcturan creature, say (5)
41. Dang! When's Dotty getting stitched up by yer Paw? (4-4) [NI2]
42. At first, some hedge about equipping hoopster O'Neal (4)
43. Invalid statements, chiefly about list of people (4)
44. In Kansas City, locate Iowa tern that expels oxygen both ways, repeatedly (12)
45. Rain-drinking enthusiast is pale (6)
46. Race exhausted Norbert, Roman, and Chip, perhaps (4)
47. Putterer's convinced that's napped leather (5)
48. Pitched article about areal weight (5)
49. Beforehand, cover inn decorations no draper repaired (8) [NI2]
50. With some effort, praises headless amphibians (4)
51. When encircling Hawaii and Georgia claw at ern Mike relocated (4 8)
52. Dope members of drab team not at event locations (4)
53. Questionably oils container of wheat (4)
54. Face of emigrating American husband displays mawkish amorousness (4)
55. Chia transportation system festooned with black dove relocated inamorata (7)
56. Parka on a gearshift next to Myrna in *The Thin Man's Stratagem* (4)
57. Unpleasant diners making more insinuating remarks (6)
58. Ween one's cart should be quiet near pound (4)
59. The study of what pleases Henry mischaracterized Don's rice (8) [NI3]
60. Rod will beard no bearded present-giver (2 4, *abbr.*)
61. Nothing from France that is in herb garden, on the right (4)
62. Fox that still needs to growl gutted edgier one that makes use of bad checks (5)
63. Notes the Hindu section of Surat is quick-moving (4)
64. Ready to swallow up fate (4)