

SOLUTIONS TO THE TREASURE HUNT ON THE TRAIL OF THE GOLDEN OWL[®]

(White sheet)

B - THERE IS NO ONE MORE BLIND THAN THE ONE WHO REFUSES TO SEE

- a. 1 = 530
- b. 3 = 470
- c. 5 = 600
- d. 7 = 420
- e. 9 = 650

(Illustration: a rainbow on a black background on the left, all the colors merging on the right to produce white.)

At the top of each page of clues (except this one, which has the letter "B" for "white", see explanation below), there is a colored owl's head, followed by a number. These two elements should allow all the pages to be placed in the right order, as follows:

The numbers 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 indicate the order of the odd pages; the values 530, 470, 600, 420, 650 indicate the wavelengths (expressed in millimicrons or nanometers) of the colors of the logo representing the owl. Note: Even the most modern printing processes do not guarantee an absolutely faithful reproduction of colours. This is why, in the book, the values 530, 780, etc... specify what the colours of the "owl's head" logos should be – ideally – at the top of each page.

Using these values, simply find the values of the complementary colors to know which pages are even.

The order in which the pages should be placed is therefore as follows: white, green, red-violet, blue, yellow, orange, blue-green, purple, green-yellow, red, green-blue.

Explanation of the visual: when you mix all the colors, you theoretically get white. This is why this sheet is blank, and the title is preceded by the letter "B"

(Medium green leaflet - 530 nanom.)

530 - OPENING

My first, first half of the half of the first age,
Precedes my Second and Third, seeking their way.

My Fourth is inspired, my Fifth is in rage,
But, without protest, follows my Fourth and the roman alpha.
My Sixth is hidden at the limits of ETERNITY.
My Seventh, standing, spits his venom.
To find my all, just be wise,
Because the Truth, in truth, will not be an oracle's affair.

(Illustration: a rooster – a symbol of France - stands in the middle of France. His eye is at the level of the city of Bourges.)

1st age = "Baby". Half of the 1st age = "Bé". 1st half = "B". Second = "O".

Third = "U" (where?)

Fourth = "R" (The air is inspired).

Fifth = "G" (Followed by the fourth: "R" and the Roman alpha: "A". In the word "rage," the "G" follows the "R" and the "A.")

Sixth = "E" (forms the limits of the word "Eternity") Seventh =
"S" (undulates and spits like a snake) My all: BOURGES.

Explanation of the visual: the bird's eye is located near Bourges, the geographical center of France.

(Red-violet leaflet, 780 nanom.)

780 - FIRST STEP...

Where you want,
By the nag and the coachman.
But where you must,
By the compass and the foot.

(Illustration: a compass. North is at the bottom of the page, so the needle is pointing down.)

Explanation: difficulty: **

One of the most important explanations, since it indicates which standard measurement is chosen; The standard needed to decipher several other clues is the 33 cm (French) "foot". It also indicates that you must have a compass.

Visual explanation: indicates that you need to orient yourself (see following clues). Detail: in the book, the circumference of the compass is 33 cm.

(Medium blue leaflet, 470 nanom.)

470 - IT'S ONLY THE RIGHT PATH IF THE ARROW AIMS AT THE HEART

My first by gaiety is multiplying.
My Second offers you space,
My Third is of the air, and my Fourth is of the water.
When he's lying down, my Fifth snores.
My sixth is worth a hundred, and my seventh is a node.
My eighth has the taste of the laurel,
while my ninth, in astonishment, is dragging.
My tenth is still naked when he has an affair.
My eleventh, finally, is the unknown.
Find my All, and through the Opening you will see the light.

(Illustration: Durandal stuck in a broken rock.)

"It's the right path only if the arrow aims at the heart": when you walk south, compass in hand, the needle points to the chest, that is to say to the north. The direction indicated is, therefore, south (in relation to Bourges).

My First: "A" (by gaiety multiplies "HA-HA").
My second: a spacing (gives you space). My third: "R" (air)
My fourth: "O" (water).
My Fifth: "N" (lying on its side, the "N" becomes "Z", which illustrates the snoring: Zzzzzzz!).
My Sixth: "C" (Hundred, in Roman numerals)
My Seventh: "E" (is just a knot).
My Eighth: "V" (sign of victory, therefore of laurels).
My ninth: "A" (by astonishment, drags on: "AAAAh?").
My tenth: "U" (with the "n" link, it becomes "naked").
My eleventh: "X" (symbol of the unknown, of anonymity).

My everything: IN RONCESVALLES. By "opening" (Bourges), we are looking in the right direction (see below).

Explanation of the visual: obvious.

(Medium yellow leaflet, 580 nanom.)

580 - COMMON SENSE IS THE SENSE OF MISINTERPRETATION, AND VICE VERSA

19.9.13.12.15.19.18.21.15.9.19 will be 1
12.15.19.18.21.15.9.19.18.9.13.8.15.4 will be worth 2
9.13.16.16.9.13.9.5.18 will be 3
25.1.12.14.18.9.13.16.9.13 will be worth 4
8.15.4.1.12.9.19.18.15.1.6 will be 5
18.9.13.13.5.18.18.1.12.18.9.13.12.15.19 will be 6

20.18.21.15.15.4.9.18.9.13.8 will be 7
9.13.18.9.15.19.19.9 will be worth 8
15.4.1.12.14.18.1.12.10 will be 9
19.18.9.13.12.15.19.14.1.12 will be 0

(Illustration: the letters B, A, G, F, E, D, C, (in that order), and a musical instrument.)

First step: we replace the numbers with letters (A=1, B=2, C=3 etc...). For example, for the last line of the index: 19 = S, 18 = R, 9=I, 13=M, 12=L, 15=O, 19=S, 14=N, 1=A, 12=L, i.e. "SRIMLOSNAL".

Second step: we reverse the word thus obtained, and we obtain "LANSOLMIRS".

Third step: we replace the syllables do, ré, mi, fa, sol, la, si, by their old equivalents C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and we get "ANGERS".

The result is a list of 10 French cities whose initials range from A to J: Angers, Bourges, Cherbourg, Dieppe, Epernay, Forbach, Gérardmer, Héricourt, Issoire, Jarnac.

To continue the game, only the initials and the ranking provided by the clues are kept. For example, 19 - 18 - 9 - 13 - 12 - 15 - 19 - 14 - 1 - 12, is tenth, i.e. "Angers is tenth".

- 1=B (ourges)
- 2=C (herbourg)
- 3=D (IEPPE)
- 4=E (pernay)
- 5=F (orbach)
- 6=G (érardmer)
- 7=H (éricourt)
- 8=I (ssoire)
- 9=J (arnac)
- 10=A (ngers)

This code - number + letter - makes it possible to decipher the following clue.

Visual explanation: Indicates the importance of musical notes.

(Medium orange leaflet, 600 nanom.)

600 - WHEN AL-MAR JOINS FORCES WITH THE FIBULA OF PRENESTE, DARKNESS SHINES

BDI,J. DF,F. CFD. BJ. HJ. EA,B. BC. E. DC,B.
CDI, B. BAB,H. BE.
CD. FB. BCG,J. BIG,D. BE. BG. BJD,B. DB. BGH, C. BC. E.

(Illustration: A hand sticks out of the water and holds a huge key.)

"Al-Mar" means "Moors" = Arabic numerals.

"Fibula of Praeneste": first example of Roman characters.

By replacing the letters above with the numbers of the city classification (A=0, B=1, C=2...) we obtain numbers. These numbers represent the atomic mass of certain chemical elements (the table of which is reproduced in most dictionaries). It is then sufficient to identify these elements by their symbol, to obtain the following sentence:

- LA (lanthane 138,9)
- CL (chlorine 35.5)
- E (einsteinium 253)
- F (fluorine-19)
- SE (selenium-79)
- CA (calcium 40.1)
- C (carbon-12)
- HE (helium-4)
- S (sulphur 32.1)
- U (uranium 238.1)
- RU (ruthenium-101.7)
- N (nitrogen-14)
- NA (sodium 23)
- V (vanadium 51)
- I (iodine 126.9)
- ER (rhenium-186.3)
- N (nitrogen 14)
- O (oxygen-16)
- IR (iridium 193.1)
- P (phosphorus-31)
- ER (erbium 167.2)
- C (carbon-12)
- HE (hélium 4)

That is: THE KEY IS HIDDEN ON A BLACK PERCHED SHIP. This "perched black ship" is the Dabo rock. It looks like a stranded ship in a striking way. This is how it is described in most of the works dealing with the Northern Vosges.

(Blue-green leaflet, 500 nanom.)

500 - UT QUEANT LAXIS

At 2424-42-424-44-224-24-42-24, take the orthogonal.

To find the Four-Center Spiral, 560,606 measurements is a long way.

But by the Mega, it's a million times less.

(Illustration: a walrus (the animal), a musical staff, a square, a compass, a ruler ranging from 0 to 18.5 cm)

"Ut queant laxis"...: beginning of the hymn to St. John the Baptist, from which the monk Gui of Arezzo took the names of the musical notes in the tenth century. This is an indication of the method of deciphering the text.

The numbers 2424-42... are in fact the transcription into musical values of the morse code signs meaning C, A, R, I, G, N, A, N and this, on the following bases:

- a point = 1 black = 4.
- A line = 1 half note = 2 (4 and 2 are the relative values of these notes in relation to a whole note).

"Take the orthogonal": by drawing a straight line from Roncesvalles (see "It's only the right path if the arrow aims at the heart") to Carignan, this line passes through Bourges (centre). By tracing a perpendicular (an orthogonal) line to this line, from the point where it intersects Carignan, and leading it eastwards, it is sufficient to count 560,606 feet of 33 cm, or about 185 km to arrive at Dabo.

"The Mega": a 1,000,000th map is essential. On this map, Dabo is 18.5 cm from Carignan.

"The Spiral with 4 Centres": allusion to the small road that goes up to the church of St Léon, in Dabo; and which has exactly the geometric shape of a spiral with 4 centers.

Explanation of the visual: obvious. The walrus code (the animal), the musical staff, the square, the compass, the ruler from 0 to 18.5 cm indicate the means and tools to be used to decipher the clue.

(Medium purple leaflet, 420 nanom.)

420 - FROM THE HEAVENS COMES THE LIGHT

C'E-10752-365 THE Q-30667-E THE AIGLE I-687-90677-RI-687A
687-ARQ-30667-E DE <:S-><:S+243>10752-E-10752 10752-ERRE-10752
DA-60140-10752 LE 10752-ABLE,
CENT <:S-><:S+243>4330-O-30667-R-10752 AVA-60140-365 DE 10752-E
CA-10752-10752-ER LE BEC
E-365 Y LAI-10752-10752-ER 10752-E-10752 90677-L-30667-687-E-10752.

Then lend Apollo a bow:

From there count 1969,697 bars towards the zenith.

In a 46,241,860th fraction of a sidereal day, his line will fall.

Hurry to find the arrow.

(Illustration: the symbols of the Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto, and the letter "N" in which a compass is planted.)

"From the heavens comes light": an allusion to light and the movements of the planets.

First text: Easy to decipher. Of course, we can proceed by deduction, on the basis of the letter "T" (Earth, which has a value of 365) to find the other missing letters: indeed, after replacing all the numbers "365" with the letter "T", the text becomes understandable. But in reality, if we wish to proceed in an academic way, we must consider the period of sidereal revolution, in days, of the 7 planets furthest from the sun. We then replace each number found in the text with the initial of the corresponding planet, and we obtain the following sentence:

"IT WAS THERE THAT THE EAGLE IMPRINTED THE MARK OF ITS TALONS IN THE SAND, A HUNDRED DAYS BEFORE TO BREAK THEIR BEAKS AND LOSE THEIR FEATHERS". (An allusion to Napoleon's landing at Golfe-Juan.)

The second text clearly indicates Dabo: "Lend an arc": an arc of a circle of which Golfe-Juan would be the center.

"Apollo": God of light.

"Count 1969,697 measurements": Dabo is located at an altitude of 650 meters ($1969.697 \times 0.33 \text{ cm} = 650\text{m}$).

"A 46,241,860th fraction of 86,164 seconds (length of a sidereal day) Note: the solar day is 86,400 seconds = 0.001863333352075.

The light (line, arrow) hits the target in 0.001863333352075th of a second. At a rate of 300,000 km / second (speed of light), it will have traveled $300,000 \times 0.001863333352075 = 559.000005 \text{ km}$. (The distance between Golfe-Juan and Dabo is 559 km).

"Hurry up and find the arrow": an allusion to all the clues that point to Dabo.

Explanation of the visual: obvious. The illustration uses the symbols of the Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto. As for the letter "N", it evokes Napoleon. Finally, the compass is the necessary tool to draw an arc of a circle of which Golfe-Juan is the center.

(Yellow-green leaflet, 560 nanom.)

560 - IN AUGUSTA FOR ANGUSTA

When, in Carusburc, you will have Albion at your back,
Look for the Opening that reveals the Celestial Light.
Do not linger, do not ask for your rest, but prepare to walk on water.
Twice Neptune will come to your aid and lead you away from the icy North.
Pursue your way and do not interrupt your journey
Before seeing, through the Opening, the becalmed Nave.
Without deviating an inch, draw a line, and you won't regret what you did.

(Illustration: a pencil "splits" the sea, from the top of the page, on the right, towards the bottom of the page, on the left.)

Explanation:

"Ad augusta per angusta" (to magnificent achievements by narrow paths.) In other words, success can only be achieved by overcoming many obstacles.

"Carusburc": Cherbourg.

"Albion": located in Cherbourg, with its back to England, Golfe-Juan is exactly the opposite, on a straight line passing through Bourges.

"L'Ouverture": Bourges.

"Celestial Light": allusion to Golfe-Juan (see "From Heaven Comes Light").

"Twice, Neptune will come to your aid": you have to draw a straight line crossing the department of Manche, then the stretch of sea between Jersey and Mont-Saint-Michel, then through Côtes-d'Armor and Morbihan, and finally extend it into the sea all the way to the Bay of Biscay. There, it intersects with the perpendicular dropped onto the Roncevaux–Carignan line. At the meeting point of these two lines, you simply draw a third line toward Bourges. In its extension, you find Dabo. (By placing this point in the ocean, it was a way to avoid identifying an additional town, which would have made triangulation too easy.)

"Will lead you away from the icy North": turn your back to the north, and go south.

"The Becalmed Nave": another allusion to the church of St Léon, in Dabo, whose rock evokes a motionless ship.

"Draw a line...": allusion to triangulation which is the method of finding Dabo.

Explanation of the visual: a pencil "splits" the sea, from the top of the page, to the right, to the bottom of the page, to the left. This indicates that a north-east/south-west line must be drawn above the sea.

(Red folio 650 nanom.)

WHEN ALL IS REVEALED

Back to the Ponant, seek the Sentinels.
At 8000 measures from there, they are waiting for you.
Find them, you need to review them.

(Illustration: the numbers 7, 1, 7, 2, 1, 0, 7, 5, and a shovel.)

Explanation:

"Dos au Ponant": back to the west. Therefore, when you are at the top of the Dabo rock, in front of the church of St Léon, you should direct your gaze to the east. 2,640 km as the crow flies away (2,640 km = 8,000 measurements of 33 cm) is the Borne St Martin.

The place called "Borne St Martin" is actually made up of three large stones (called in the book the Sentinels, because they guard the treasure) arranged in a triangle, isolated in a forest of fir trees. La Borne St Martin is situated at an altitude of 490 m above sea level.

The first stone is a triangular-shaped dolmen 1.60 m high and 2.20 m at the base, and about thirty centimetres thick.

This druidic slab, standing vertically, bears the inscription (not very legible) of "St Martinsstein 1747".

Next to it, the second stone, which is quadrangular in shape, bears the inscriptions "Martinsstein", "1750", as well as its number in the perimeter marker network of the Dabo forest: "1828". Its opposite side is marked with a bishop's crozier — the crook facing outward — crossing over the "M" of the former Marmoutier Abbey, of which this rock marks the territorial boundary.

Finally, the third stone, triangular in shape, bears no inscription. It is about 1.10 m high and 1.30 m at the base.

In the book, one sentence is decisive for continuing the research: "you must review them". That is to say, one must not stop at the three rocks, but continue walking; a bit like an officer reviewing his troops and then moving past them. In other words, the treasure seeker must pass in front of these 3 rocks, staying precisely in the axis of Dabo. But, in passing, he has to note all the numbers engraved on them. (See below.)

Explanation of the visual: see next clue.

(Green-blue leaflet, 520 nanom.)

THE EARTH OPENS

Between them, there would be only two intervals if they were aligned.
But this would be too easy a game!
Now that you have undone all the yarns,
Doubt is the last torment that will be inflicted on you.
Because it is the rule of this cruel game:
Alone, you have to find where to land your shovel.
Show your respect for Mother Nature,
And before getting away, close the injury.

(Illustration: light (reflection of gold) shoots from the bottom of a hole surrounded by grasses).

Explanation:

The first sentence is a confirmation of the arrangement of the three rocks. "Between them, there would be only two intervals if they were aligned": since they are not aligned, we can logically deduce that there are 3 intervals between them, and that they are therefore necessarily arranged in a triangle.

"Doubt is the last torment that will be inflicted on you. Because that's the rule of this cruel game: alone, you have to find where to land your shovel"...

For those who know how to read between the lines, this text is clear: upon reaching the Borne Saint Martin, you still need to locate the hiding place. Indeed, even if it might seem logical at first to dig between the three rocks — and more specifically at the center of the triangle they form — that would be to overlook three very important clues provided by the book:

Article 5 of the Rules, reproduced on page 46, specifies that "the person who is the first to have deciphered the final riddle to locate the cache will be deemed the winner"... Therefore, after locating the place (the Borne St Martin), we still have to locate the cache.

The visual reproduced on page 31 of the book, and in which the numbers "7,1,7,2,1,0,7,5" appear... These figures, of course, are not there by chance.

This is why, after having noted all the figures engraved on the rocks, the treasure seeker must compare them with those reproduced in the book on page 31, and proceed by eliminating them by keeping only those that do not appear there, i.e.:

The numbers 4,1,8,8 do not appear in the book.

How do you use these numbers?

Depending on the order in which the treasure hunter notes the numbers engraved on the stones - and after comparison with those reproduced in the book - he will obtain identical numbers, but which can be read in two ways: 4,1,8,8, or 8,8,1,4.

If the treasure hunter considers that these are numbers, this would imply that the Golden Owl could be 4188 meters away, in the extension of the Dabo / Borne St Martin axis, or 1382.04 meters away (4188 measurements of 0.33 cm), or at 8814 meters, or at 2908.62 meters (8814 measures of 0.33 cm...

As you can imagine, to find the Golden Owl under such conditions, you would need high-precision equipment — that would be the only way to pinpoint an area about sixty centimeters across, located three or four kilometers away as the crow flies from the Borne Saint Martin, in the exact alignment with Dabo!

All these solutions obviously lack elegance, and must therefore be rejected.

Having eliminated them, the treasure hunter will have only one possibility: add the numbers 4,1,8,8 (or 8,8,1,4, which amounts to the same thing), to find the number 21.

He will then transform 21 into "measures" (the unit used throughout the book), and will obtain 6.93 m (21 x 0.33).

The owl is buried 6.93 metres from the centre of the triangle formed by the rocks of the Borne St Martin, along the same axis that runs through it and the Dabo rock (Moselle).

Explanation of the visual: obvious.

CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER TO DECIPHER ALL THE CLUES

Reading order of the pages

Bourges

Definition of the standard measurement used

Roncesvalles

Initials used to rank 10 cities

Decoding a list using Initials and their ranking

Lists of numbers

Identification of chemical elements whose symbols form a sentence

Identification of Dabo

Identification of a city allowing triangulation (Carignan)

Decoding a new location (Golfe-Juan)

Identification of Dabo

New location

Triangulation

Identification of Dabo

Identification of the Borne St Martin

Spotting the missing numbers in the book.

Identifying the treasure location.