

Exercise 9: His Birds Tore Us Apart

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Puzzle Solving 101 ■ Lesson 9: Lateral Thinking

GCYXZ9 ■ Originally published 2007-09-20

ps101.puzzlehead.org/gcyxz9

The solution to this puzzle is a set of geospatial coordinates (longitude and latitude) in the form:

N DD° MM.mmm' W DD° MM.mmm'

Where "DD" is degrees and "MM.mmm" is minutes (in thousandths). These coordinates are the solution to the mystery cache Puzzle Solving 101 - Lesson 9: Lateral Thinking (GCYXZ9). (This cache has been archived—the puzzle-solving lesson on the cache page is still visible, but the cache can no longer be found and logged.)

This solution can still be used to complete, discover, and log the cache Puzzle Solving 101 (GCYXN0). Concatenate the five digits in the north minutes followed by the five digits of the west minutes (ignoring spaces and decimal points). Use that ten-digit sequence as the password for the web page ps101.puzzlehead.org/gcyxz9/clue, which will give you one of the nine clues you will need to complete The Final Exam.

Professor Arnold Thopter, Ph.D., is the founder, president, and chief executive officer of the Superior Naturalist Outdoor Bird Spotters (SNOBS). As one of the world's leading avian parapsychologists and the creator of the sport of competitive birdwatching, he is widely renowned as a lecturer, researcher, and educator.

Dr. Thopter's recent work has been wholly focused on the effects of enclosed spaces upon the behavior of birds. He discovered that changes in avian behavior did not depend upon the size or shape of the enclosure; rather, what counts is the number of enclosures. He recently published his findings in the book *Birds of a Feather Locked Together*, which won the National Audubon Society's prestigious "Golden Peacock" award.

Unfortunately, Dr. Thopter has developed a reputation as person who spends more time writing his lectures than he does in being hospitable towards his audience. His post-lecture receptions for the SNOBS are known for their stale pastries, weak coffee, and characterless finger sandwiches. After the most recent meeting of the SNOBS, one participant remarked that the donut he was eating was so stale that he was afraid he had accidentally bitten into his coffee mug!

For the next meeting of SNOBS, Dr. Thopter has found a location that he feels will be far more well-received than that of his past gatherings. But, as a bird-brained puzzle-head, he's written his invitations so that only SNOBS who are truly familiar with his work will be able to locate it. A copy of the invitation is shown.

Will you be at the reception, too? I'm sure that the professor will serve you a proper cup of coffee.

The Superior Naturalist Outdoor Bird Spotters

proudly present

Birds of a Feather, Locked Together

A lecture by Professor Arnold Thopter, Ph.D.

A National Audubon Society "Golden Peacock" Winner

Bird-Spotting Scorecard

<u>Bird Name</u>	<u>Score</u>
SWALLOW	7
BLUEBIRD	6
SISKIN	0
ARIZONA WOODPECKER	2
TIN SPARROW	5
GREBE	8
QUAIL	0
CALIFORNIA CONDOR	9
GULL	3
TEMINCK'S STINT	7
LORRIEBIRD	8
YELLOW-BILLED LOON	4
BURROWING OWL	0
GREATER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN	5

Reception to follow.

HINT (in ROT13): Gur fbyhgvba qbrfa'g vaibyir jbeqcyln, naq vg'f abg n gevivn punyyratr. Rirelguvat lbh arrq gb xabj gb fbyir vg vf pbagnvarq jvguva gur chmmyr vgfrys. Jung jnf gur qvfpbirel qrfpevarq va gung obbx? Lbh pna pbhag ba rirel oveq va gur yvfg. Jngpu bhg sbe gur fbegf bs oveqf gung yrnq gb n pyhcrn ynprq jvgu zrephel bkvrq.