

BLACK AND WHITE AND READ ALL OVER: SOLUTION

As hinted by the name Cal Dee Caht--or *Caldecott*--and the Literature theme, all of the Classified ads in this paper reference children's books! The chosen books all have something in common, too--they either have a color in their title, or feature a character with a colorful name (as hinted by phrases *Prism Coffee* and the phrase "take a look," which features in the theme song of *Reading Rainbow*). In color order, the books are:

LOST PET!: *Clifford, the Big Red Dog*; the ad hints at a super-sized canine, and names "E. Elizabeth," or Emily Elizabeth, Clifford's owner

HOUSE PAINTING SERVICES!: *The Big Orange Spot*; this is probably the most obscure book we used. :p Hints include Mr. Plumbean (the main character of the book), the "Seagull Squad" (in the story, a seagull drops a can of orange paint on Mr. Plumbean's house), and "Your house is you" (a refrain throughout the story).

LOOKING FOR LOVE!: The Man in the **Yellow** Hat, from *Curious George*; in addition to a clue about "monkey" business, he lists events that come from the original series' titles (*Curious George Flies a Kite, Goes to the Hospital, etc.*). He also does not give his name--as he never had one in the books.

GET ON TRACK WITH VEGAN SNACK!: *Green Eggs and Ham*; this ad, written in Seussian rhyme, suggests eating "green" with "plant-based foods", which might well be a greenish shade; a "chicken and a pig" are named.

FARMER'S MARKET THIS WEEKEND!: *Blueberries for Sal*; the ad suggests making a cobbler (mmmm...blueberry cobbler) and "hand-picked fruit." The story is about two moms--one bear and one human--collecting blueberries for the summer; the clue about "Fats" is a reference to Fats Domino and his famous "Blueberry Hill."

ART CLASSES!: *Harold and the Purple Crayon*; in this book, Harold (or "Harry") literally draws "the boundaries of his world." The "basics" suggests the crude line drawings of the illustrations, while "Crayola" is a big fat hint. :p

Once the books have been identified, solvers are left with a set of tantalizing ad numbers. The name of the newspaper--"A-1"--hints at the next step: using an

A=1, Z=26 cipher to turn the numbers into letter strings, with four letters per string. In color order, the strings are:

ISTL

THIO

HETW

ISFS

NGOI

KOLT

Reading the letters in vertical columns, as opposed to rows (just like you would do with a rainbow) reveals the phrase "I THINK SHE'S GOT IT" FOLLOWS IT. The answer is **BY GEORGE!**