

CASE NAME: CODEBOOKS

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CRIME LOCATION: ADAMS PARK

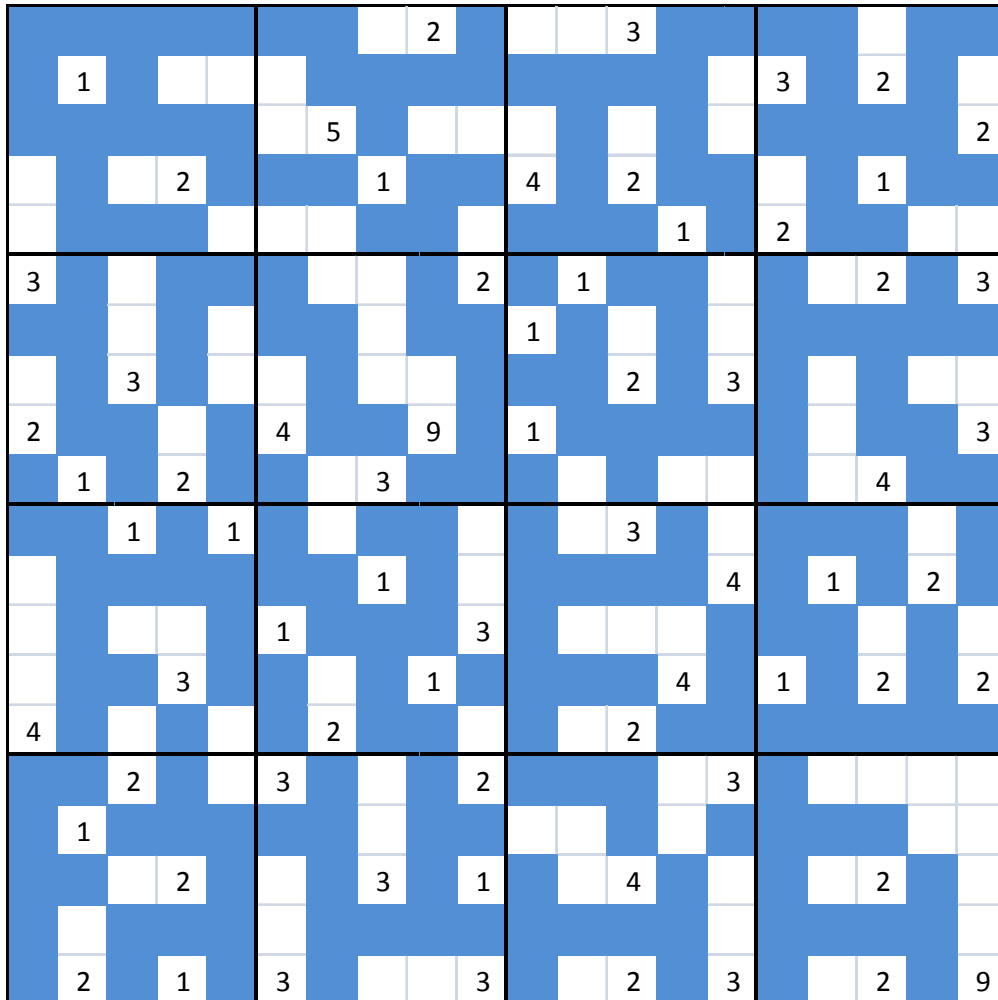
SOLVED!



Answer: KITE

The first step is pretty straightforward - solve the two grid-based puzzles (a Nurikabe and a nonogram):

Dyson Oreck's puzzle:



Once these are solved, the real fun begins. Dyson and Mystere each have their own simple substitution cipher. The two puzzles act as masks on the plaintext; where a puzzle's cell is "filled", the plaintext is encrypted by that person's cipher. If both puzzles' cells are unfilled, the plaintext is left in the clear.

Some cells are filled on both puzzles. In that event, the plaintext is encrypted first by Dyson's cipher and then the resultant letter is encrypted by Mystere's cipher - EXCEPT for one instance of each letter (per the flavortext), which is encrypted first by Mystere's cipher and then by Dyson's cipher.

Correctly deciphering the text gives you the following:

A		L	I	M	E	R	I	C	K		P	A	C	K	S		L	A	U
G	H	S		A	N	A	T	O	M	I	C	A	L		I	N		A	
S	P	A	C	E		T	H	A	T		I	S		Q	U	I	T	E	
E	C	O	N	O	M	I	C	A	L		B	U	T		T	H	E		S
T	R	O	N	G	E	R		I	V	E		S	E	E	N		S	O	
S	E	L	D	O	M		B	E		C	L	E	A	N		A	N	D	
T	H	E		C	L	E	A	N		A	R	E		S	O		O	F	T
E	N		A	C	O	M	I	C	A	L				A		D	I	R	E
	Y	O	U	N	G		N	E	W	L	Y	W	E	D		B	R	I	D
E		H	A	D		T	O	O		M	A	N	Y		B	I	N	G	E
S		A	N	D		D	I	E	D		W	H	I	L	E		H	E	R
	P	A	R	T	N	E	R		L	A	M	E	N	T	E	D		H	E
R		S	T	O	M	A	C	H		F	E	R	M	E	N	T	E	D	
A	N	D		M	A	D	E		C	I	D	E	R		I	N	S	I	D
E		H	E	R		I	N	S	I	D	E				P	U	Z	Z	L
E	S		M	A	Y		B	E	F	U	D	D	L	E		A	N	D	
L	E	A	V	E		Y	O	U		P	E	R	P	L	E	X	E	D	
S	T	I	L	L		M	A	N	Y		O	F		O	U	R		B	A
D		J	O	K	E	S		G	E	T		Y	O	U		A	U	D	I
B	L	Y		Q	U	I	T	E		W	E	L	L		V	E	X	E	D

Yes, the final poem doesn't quite scan. Sorry 'bout that. At any rate, once correctly decrypted, you have the following information directly (Blue is Dyson's cipher, yellow is Mystere's, green is plain -> Dyson -> Mystere, and red is plain -> Mystere -> Dyson):

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
L		N	K	C		F	E	R		W	A	P	T	B	O		Z	G	D	H	J	M		U	
G	X	O	R	A	Z	K		H			V		D	B	W	J	Y	I	T	E	M				
V	H		P	O	S		A	Y		N	G	W	T	X	B			K	R	U		L		E	M
F	Q	B	Z	L	V	W	H	E	N	O	J	A	K	I	M	S	U	R	D	C	P	T	Y	G	X

Again from the flavortext, remember Dyson's additional clue - "4, 5-5, 4, but not the other 8." Dyson has hidden a hint in his cipher. Use your knowledge of the relations between the various ciphers to fill in the rest of the data. As an example, look at plaintext B. We do not have direct data on Dyson's encryption for B; however, we know that B encrypts with Dyson's cipher to <something>, which in turn encrypts with Mystere's cipher to H. Scanning through Mystere's cipher for H, we find it in plaintext I; Dyson therefore encrypts B with I. It is possible by similar logic (including a couple of process-of-elimination steps) to recover the entirety of all cipherkeys:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
L	I	N	K	C	Y	F	E	R	S	W	A	P	T	B	O	X	Z	G	D	H	J	M	Q	U	V
G	X	O	R	A	Z	K	U	H	C	P	V	L	D	B	W	J	Y	I	T	E	M	N	F	S	Q
V	H	D	P	O	S	Z	A	Y	I	N	G	W	T	X	B	F	Q	K	R	U	C	L	J	E	M
F	Q	B	Z	L	V	W	H	E	N	O	J	A	K	I	M	S	U	R	D	C	P	T	Y	G	X

Dyson's hint should now be fairly evident (if poorly-spelled): LINK CYFER-SWAPT BOXZ. This plus the hint to "crack the encrypted text and draw your own conclusions" should lead you to the final step.

By this point, you know the locations of the twenty-six letters that are encrypted in the wrong direction (the red ciphertext). Connect the dots, in order, on the encrypted text, to get the final answer, a KITE:

