

TRIPLE SEC (answer)

by Peter Sarrett

This puzzle is all about triplets and recursion. Each numbered line is a clue broken into triplets of three letters, with 3 extra triplets added. As a solving aid, the answers are in alphabetical order.

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| 1. MAKER IN ORSON SCOTT CARD NOVELS | ALVIN |
| 2. HOW FOLKS DO THINGS IN THE UNITED STATES | THE AMERICAN WAY |
| 3. BRIT SOME THINK WAS SHAKESPEARE | BACON |
| 4. FOURTH ACTOR TO PORTRAY TITLE CHARACTER ON <i>DOCTOR WHO</i> | BAKER |
| 5. VICTIMS OF GOLDBLOCKS' TRESPASS | BEARS |
| 6. ASK SOMEONE FOR A HANDOUT | BEG |
| 7. FAMOUSLY SAID, "MR WATSON, COME HERE—I NEED YOU." | BELL |
| 8. PERPLEXED BY ORIGINAL WILLY WONKA PORTRAYER, PERHAPS | BEWILDERED |
| 9. DICK YORK / ELIZABETH MONTGOMERY SITCOM | BEWITCHED |
| 10. SMALL OR BIG FORCED POKER BET | BLIND |
| 11. NAME OF <i>FIREFLY</i> PREACHER | BOOK |
| 12. TO TAKE TEMPORARY POSSESSION OF | BORROW |
| 13. CAUSED INCONVENIENCE OR DISCOMFORT TO | BOTHERED |
| 14. ALICE'S <i>BRADY BUNCH</i> BEAU SAM, FOR EXAMPLE | BUTCHER |
| 15. UNAGITATED OR PLACID | CALM |
| 16. WHAT FLICKERS INSIDE OF A JACK O' LANTERN | CANDLE |
| 17. HE WORKS WITH PARAFFIN AND WICKS | CANDLESTICK MAKER |
| 18. SALVATION ARMY OR UNITED WAY | CHARITY |
| 19. WHAT BANANA REPUBLIC AND BENETTON SELL | CLOTHING |
| 20. ASSEMBLED A COMPLETE SET | COLLECTED |
| 21. SNOOPY'S ALTER EGO JOE | COOL |
| 22. SOUND OF MANY SHARP SNAPPING NOISES | CRACKLE |
| 23. JACK PALANCE <i>CITY SLICKERS</i> ROLE | CURLY |
| 24. LIKE PHILLIP PULLMAN'S MATERIALS | DARK |
| 25. BEREFT OF AUDITORY SENSE | DEAF |
| 26. CATALOG SYSTEM INVENTOR | DEWEY |
| 27. <i>AMERICAN BANDSTAND</i> FRONTMAN CLARK | DICK |
| 28. STRICKEN SPEECHLESS | DUMB |
| 29. EXISTENTIALIST RALPH WALDO | EMERSON |
| 30. MISTAKES REPORTED BY A COMPILER | ERRORS |
| 31. HOODED MAN WITH AN AXE | EXECUTIONER |
| 32. ELIZA DUSHKU'S SLAYER | FAITH |
| 33. MCDONALDS' AND TACO BELL'S IS FAST | FOOD |
| 34. CONTENTS OF HOLSTERS | GUNS |
| 35. GOOD LOOKING, AS A FANTASIZED PRINCE | HANDSOME |
| 36. AT THE MOVIES, HE MET SALLY | HARRY |

37. SONGS ON THE TOP FORTY CHARTS	HITS
38. ADDRESS FOR A JUDGE, WITH "YOUR"	HONOR
39. SPIELBERG PETER PAN FILM	HOOK
40. FREQUENT TROOP ENTERTAINER BOB	HOPE
41. LEWIS WHO HEADLINED THE NEWS	HUEY
42. COURTHOUSE BENCH-SITTER	JUDGE
43. GROUP THAT RENDERS A VERDICT	JURY
44. SUPREME COURT MEMBER	JUSTICE
45. WORD BEFORE MEAD OR AFTER CRATER	LAKE
46. MISTER KING, FLYNT, OR BIRD	LARRY
47. FROTHY FOAM FROM SOAP	LATHER
48. PROSECUTORS AND PUBLIC DEFENDERS, FOR EXAMPLE	LAWYERS
49. BASIC FOUNDATION OF MOST SALADS	LETTUCE
50. CRUISE SHIPS OF MATCHING OWNERSHIP	LINE
51. NYC LIBRARY ENTRANCE GUARDS	LIONS
52. FOCUS ONE'S AUDITORY SENSE ON	LISTEN
53. DIRECT ONE'S GAZE TOWARDS	LOOK
54. WHEN DOUBLED, A KINGSMEN ROCK AND ROLL STANDARD	LOUIE
55. WORST POSSIBLE TENNIS SCORE	LOVE
56. HOMER'S BARTENDER	MOE
57. THE BEATLES SAID IT CAN'T BUY YOU LOVE	MONEY
58. FOLLOW A COMMAND OR ORDER	OBEY
59. SLEIGHT-OF-HAND ARTIST, OFTEN	PALMER
60. ORIGAMI MATERIAL	PAPER
61. A SUGARY CARBONATED BEVERAGE, GENERICALLY	POP
62. BABY'S NOISEMAKER	RATTLE
63. SAY OR DO SOMETHING AGAIN	REPEAT
64. WASH OFF REMAINING GRIME	RINSE
65. THIRD CHAMPION OF <i>HELL'S KITCHEN</i>	ROCK
66. RAPID CONTINUOUS DRUM SOUND	ROLL
67. RIPS IN PANTYHOSE	RUNS
68. OVERSIZED MALL OPENING PROP	SCISSORS
69. THICK ICE CREAM DRINK	SHAKE
70. LODGING FOR HOMELESS	SHELTER
71. "SIMPLE" NURSERY RHYME CHARACTER	SIMON
72. A DOWNWARD-CURVING PITCH	SINKER
73. SUDDEN COLD SPELL	SNAP
74. ADVANCE A BASE DURING A PITCH	STEAL
75. EIGHT-SIDED TRAFFIC SIGN	STOP
76. SMALL SERVING SIZE AT STARBUCKS	TALL
77. ROOSEVELT WITH BIG STICK	THEODORE
78. DETROIT BASEBALLERS	TIGERS

- 79. PLAYWRIGHT STOPPARD
- 80. MARINARA INGREDIENT
- 81. ABOLITIONIST SOJOURNER

TOM
TOMATO
TRUTH

Each clue has three unused letter triplets after it. Each of the 81 answers is part of a familiar or idiomatic triplet with two of the other answers. Reunite these triplets, then form a new scrambled clue from the nine letter triplets left over from their original clues. Rearrange six triplets to form a new clue, leaving three triplets unused. Solve these clues as before.

BUTCHER, BAKER, and CANDLESTICK MAKER:	MAYIM BIALIK'S SITCOM	BLOSSOM
CALM, COOL, and COLLECTED:	PROOF OF CARBONATION	BUBBLES
TOM, DICK, and HARRY:	<i>PRINCESS BRIDE</i> BRIDE	BUTTERCUP
DEAF, DUMB, and BLIND:	THE ACT OF COPULATION	SEX
FAITH, HOPE, and CHARITY:	NOSE-ELONGATING ACTS	LIES
SHAKE, RATTLE, and ROLL:	CASSETTE INSIDE A VCR	VIDEOTAPE
LOVE, HONOR, and OBEY:	PUMPKIN EATER OF NOTE	PETER
HUEY, DEWEY, and LOUIE:	DAVE'S <i>LATE SHOW</i> CRONY	PAUL
BEWITCHED, BOTHERED, and BEWILDERED:	OWNER OF A LITTLE LAMB	MARY
SNAP, CRACKLE, and POP:	VAMPIRE'S LIQUID FOOD	BLOOD
TALL, DARK, and HANDSOME:	SALTY SKIN SECRETION	SWEAT
RUNS, HITS, and ERRORS:	DROPS OF UNHAPPINESS	TEARS
EMERSON, LAKE, and PALMER:	CEREAL LIKED BY MIKEY	LIFE
TRUTH, JUSTICE, and THE AMERICAN WAY:	EVERYTHING ANYWHERE	THE UNIVERSE
BACON, LETTUCE, and TOMATO:	GROUP THAT SANG HOOCH	EVERYTHING
FOOD, CLOTHING, and SHELTER:	ANISTON / COX TV SERIES	FRIENDS
STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN:	SUCCESSORS TO GREEKS	ROMANS
LATHER, RINSE, and REPEAT:	FOLK FROM SAME NATION	COUNTRYMEN
LIONS, TIGERS, and BEARS:	HUMANITY'S HOMEWORLD	EARTH
BEG, BORROW, and STEAL:	AIR MOVING WITH FORCE	WIND
BELL, BOOK, and CANDLE:	GIVE SOMEONE THE SACK	FIRE
LAWYERS, GUNS, and MONEY:	CRIMSON OR VERMILION	RED
JUDGE, JURY, and EXECUTIONER	LETTER-FLIPPER VANNA	WHITE
HOOK, LINE, and SINKER	MAGENTA'S CLUEFUL PAL	BLUE
LARRY, MOE, and CURLY	SOMMELIER BAILIWICK	WINE
ROCK, PAPER, and SCISSORS	OLDER VASSAR ALUMNAE	WOMEN
ALVIN, SIMON, and THEODORE	FAILED DELTA SPINOFF	SONG

Repeat the same process with the new answers and the leftover triplets from their clues:

BLOSSOM, BUBBLES, and BUTTERCUP:	MONOPOLY OR SCRABBLE	GAME
SEX, LIES, and VIDEOTAPE:	FIRMED UP, AS CONCRETE	SET
PETER, PAUL, and MARY:	STRUCK FLAMESTARTER	MATCH
BLOOD, SWEAT, and TEARS:	MASTER OR YALE DEVICE	LOCK

LIFE, THE UNIVERSE, and EVERYTHING:	SHOP'S CURRENT SUPPLY	STOCK
FRIENDS, ROMANS, COUNTRYMEN:	VESSEL A COOPER MAKES	BARREL
EARTH, WIND, and FIRE:	QUICK JUMP ON ONE FOOT	HOP
RED, WHITE, and BLUE:	ALBUM PLAYBACK ERROR	SKIP
WINE, WOMEN, and SONG:	JOLT A BATTERY TO LIFE	JUMP

And again...

GAME, SET, and MATCH:	BEAT THE COMPETITION	WIN
LOCK, STOCK, and BARREL:	KICK OR MATS PRECEDER	PLACE
HOP, SKIP, and JUMP:	A STAGED PERFORMANCE	SHOW

From 81 to 27 to 9 to 3, and now to 1:

WIN, PLACE, and SHOW:	WINNING BET ON PREVIOUS TRIPLET
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A winning bet on WIN, PLACE, and SHOW is a **TRIFECTA**, which is the final answer.