Adalogical Ænigmas
No. 2

ADA'S
TECHNICAL BOOKS AND CAFE
for the cravings ~of~ the technical mind

425 15th Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112
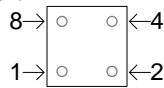
Gentle patron,

We've entered upon the season of winter holidays, and that always puts me in mind of Father Christmas (or Santa Claus, as you may know him). Specifically, just who *is* it that plans out his yearly journey to children all over the world? That question inspires this ænigma.

Draw a single loop, connecting the centers of squares, that passes through *all* of the boldly outlined regions on the grid. The loop mayn't touch or cross itself, and it must enter and leave each region exactly once. If a region contains a number, the loop must pass through exactly that many squares within that region. Finally, and this is *quite* important: if two adjacent squares are in different regions, then the loop must pass through at least one of those squares.
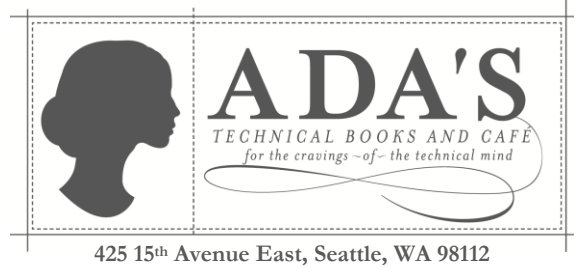
Once you've drawn your loop, you can move on to finding the final answer to this ænigma. You see those little dots in each square? Those represent binary bits; empty dots are off and filled dots are on. Each dot has a different value, as shown in the diagram at the right.

$8 \rightarrow$ ○　　○ $\leftarrow 4$
$1 \rightarrow$ ○　　○ $\leftarrow 2$

In each column of the grid, sum up the values of only the filled bits that are *inside* the loop, and then translate that sum into a letter (1 = A, 2 = B, etc.). Proceed thereafter to read out those letters for a clue to your final answer.

Good luck!

Ada

Example

Sums:	2	1	11	5	18
Answer:	B	A	K	E	R

Fill in your answer and give to a cashier for your prize.
This month's prize: **one free non-alcoholic drink**!
(Limit one per solver. Offer available through 12/31/2013.)

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