

Thanks to all those who submitted puzzles for our contest. Congratulations to Paul Rundle for the winning submission **Not Without Precedent!** And, congratulations to Justin Ahmann for the runner-up puzzle, **We Need Better Authors.** You can check your answer to both puzzles on our website (<http://puzzle.berkeley.edu>).

Runner-up, by Justin Ahmann:
We Need Better Authors

*Apparently, this week's puzzle writer was not on the ball, and failed to compose a puzzle in time for its inclusion here. (That should teach us not to put our eggs in one basket.) Instead, we will print an excerpt from said writer's unfinished novel, *The Missing One*.*

He kept running. He knew that the giant lynx was still chasing him. He would have been at liberty if the beast had broken off the chase, but it hadn't. Then he found a door into the building, ran through it, and

slammed it shut. There was a lock on the door, so he locked it. He was safe.

Inside the building it was dark, which made him recall the time he had spent with his grandfather, almost twenty years before, climbing a hill near the old farm in the dark to look at the stars.

It was not long after the sun had gone down. His grandfather had gestured to the west, where a faint reddish tint was still visible in the sky. However, points of light already dotted the firmament.

"Do you see that one, there?" his grandfather had asked. "That's another planet. It's Mercury."

"Is it more than fifty million miles away?" he had wondered.

"Yes," he had said, and then the two of them had stood together as the Milky Way arched above their heads like a cosmic arch. His grandfather had died in a car accident about eleven months later, but he did not think about that at this point.

Inside the building it was even darker than it had been outside after dusk with no moon. He hunted for a light switch. He found a lever on the wall and pulled it. Sparks flew. He experienced a painful shock. Some extremely weird stuff occurred.

Then he woke up. Everything since the arrival of the mystics had been a crazy dream. At least the storm was over.

Winner, by Paul Rundle:
Not Without Precedent

D : The dawn (2'1 6 7)

L : You (can) walk (5)

G : Christmas ('4 3 5)

D : Time (3 4)

L : Zod (5)

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