

A More Perfect Union

by Mao Reynolds & Sandy Weisz

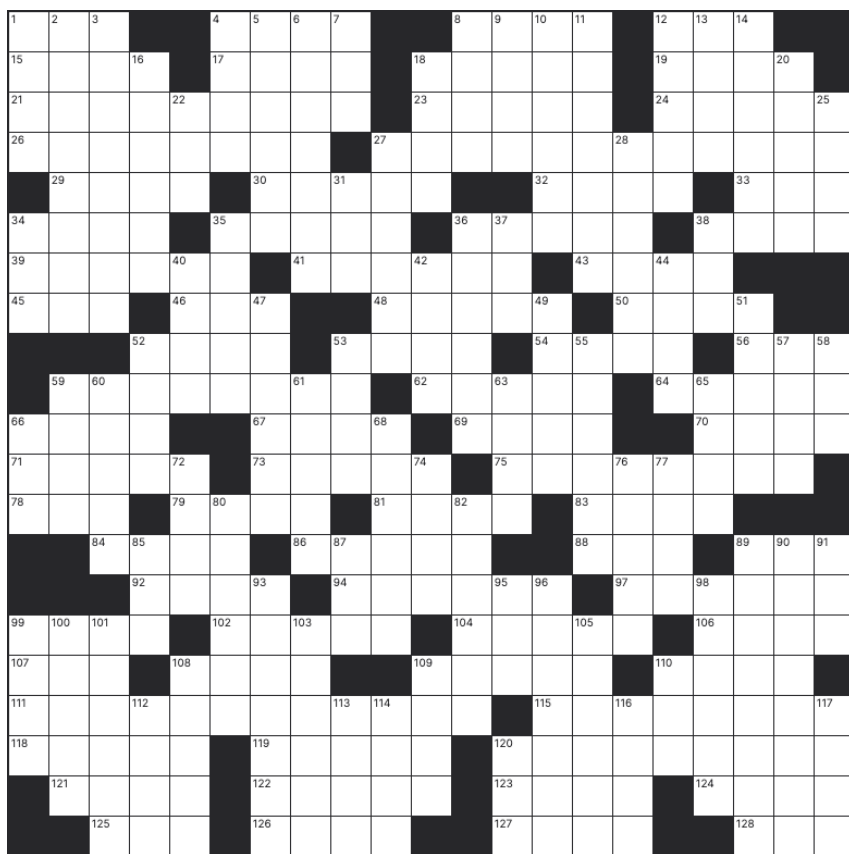
The answer is a 12-letter phrase you might promise in a wedding vow.

ACROSS

1. Response to an oversharer
4. Inquires
8. Malek who played Mercury
12. Crown, in Persian
15. Hon
17. Like much of Iran
18. Host of 2026 Olympics
19. "I know _____ who knows _____"
21. Way to check if leftovers are spoiled
23. In progress
24. Sire, Bible-style
26. Comedically spoofs, like in "Tropic Thunder"
27. Nickname for literary criminal Jack Dawkins
29. Prejudice that might make you take sides... like you need to do at the end of this puzzle (in grid order)
30. Some hospital work
32. Dynamic leader?
33. Phone standard, for short
34. Bean on TV
35. It used to be called Orchard Field
36. Opposite of veracious
38. Hall of food?
39. Dorothy was one
41. Home to Sauron, in "Lord of the Rings"
43. Brontë heroine
45. Jr. and sr.
46. ____ Kids on the Block
48. Sign of late summer
50. Flotsam and Jetsam, for two
52. Trickster god
53. Witty remark
54. Hop, skip or jump, e.g.
56. Bo Derek movie
59. Superhero with 58-Across rings
62. Appropriately-named '50s bandleader Bill _____, who fronted His Comets
64. "Hello" singer
66. Email folder
67. Provide for free, informally
69. Certain

DOWN

70. Annoys
 71. Dark brown shade
 73. Like 60% of the world's population
 75. Tenses up
 78. Place to spend the night
 79. Small change
 81. Mo. for some 48-Acrosses
 83. Zeros, in soccer
 84. Hit the road
 86. Former Nebraska senator Ben
 88. Sticky stuff
 89. One before juan
 92. Negative votes
 94. Checked for accuracy
 97. Well-known reference book, familiarly
 99. Knee parts: Abbr.
 102. Middleton and Moss, for two
 104. Strength in an interview
 106. Emanuel of Chicago politics
 107. Asian honorific
 108. 1974 Peace Nobel from Japan
 109. Rock group ____ Boingo
 110. Pickle flavoring
 111. With 115-Across, a certain proclamation that you need to make six times in this puzzle
 115. See 111-Across
 118. Coarse wheat variety
 119. In unison
 120. Unofficial poll
 121. Of untarnished character
 122. Ditties
 123. Schlep
 124. Ireland, poetically
 125. Easy mark
 126. Protestant denom.
 127. Butter substitute
 128. Toastmasters
- ## DOWN
1. Shortening for a chef?
 2. Protective parent
 3. People from Spain and Portugal
 4. Sweet Italian bubbly



5. "Jeez!"
6. What covers first base at a ball game?
7. Plopped down
8. Pandemonium
9. First letter of the Arabic alphabet
10. Handbook
11. Language of the Stati Uniti d'America
12. Not allowed; also a party game by Hasbro
13. Like some cheese
14. Multitask
16. Modern-day cash advances
18. Dept. store supervisors
20. Throws, as a Zoomer might
22. Mormon Church inits.
25. Uno y dos
27. Strike _____
28. Edy's partner in ice cream
31. Not prone to crushes, for short
34. Chicago's WNBA team
35. Weight of a liter of water (abbr.)
36. 60s Supreme Court justice Abe
37. Buenos Aires' country: Abbr.
38. Blanc who was Bugs
40. In the near future
42. Menu selection
44. Country singer McEntire
47. Certain neopagan
49. Obvious
51. Unsmiling
52. Home for a djinn
53. Rock legend Hendrix
55. Watching
57. They fill a lodge
58. Switch ancestor, for short
59. Length of time
60. Emulate a ghost
61. Toastmasters
63. One of the deadly sins
65. Hits 0% battery
66. Bad thing to catch (abbr.)
68. Doesn't flunk
72. ____ dor, country whose name literally means "equator"
74. Branch headquarters?
76. Flower, in Florence
77. ____ Powder (teleportation substance in "Harry Potter")
80. Neo-soul singer Badu
82. How Farmer Hoggett might refer to 15-Across
85. Wimbledon runner-up Jabeur, first African woman to appear in a major

- singles final
87. Hail, to Caesar
89. Larva used in some science projects
90. One "A" in NCAA
91. Suffix with social or skeptical
93. Fill to capacity
95. Long time
96. Handy?
98. Lament
99. "Even _____ speak..."
100. Pinch, as pie crust
101. Type of test
103. Fifty-fifty chance
105. "Amen to that!"
108. Throat affliction
109. Singles
110. Drops on the ground?
112. Queen of Mount Olympus
113. Rice-A-____
114. Agnes, in Argentina
116. Angelic aura
117. Lions' lairs
120. HBO rival

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