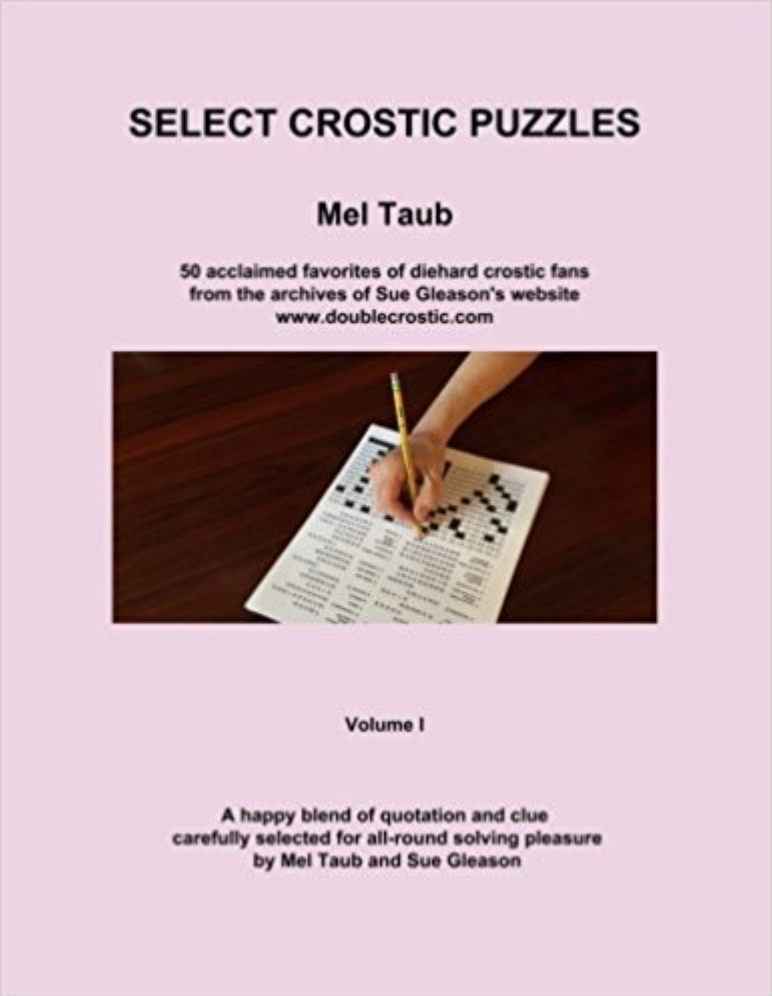
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Synopsis

A collection of 50 double crostic puzzles all written by master constructor Mel Taub. Double crostics are a type of variety crossword puzzle based on a quote, so in addition to the pleasure of solving the puzzle, you get a literary experience; a passage which, we hope, will delight you with its beauty, humor, or resounding truth. The puzzles have been selected as favorites by the members of Sue Gleason's website, doublecrostic.com. We have arranged them in order of ascending difficulty.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My Puzzle Life by Mel Taub I started constructing Double Crostics in 1951, while a Brooklyn College junior. Unlike today, there was something of a demand; many of the myriad puzzle magazines then published were using them. Late in 1954, after military service, I tried my hand at a N.Y. Times crossword which was rejected because of too much 3&4 letter crosswordese. My third attempt was successful and I became a regular Times contributor. Puns and Anagrams Crosswords were then a monthly feature in the Sunday Magazine. Margaret Farrar, the editor, accepted the first one I tried, editing about 80% of the definitions. This was in May 1955. I kept them coming and, gradually, the editing diminished. Almost all P&A contributors either stopped doing them or passed away and I wound up doing the vast majority of them, starting in the 1960s. As to Crostics, P&As were not in great demand. Dell published a handful when Nancy Schuster was an editor. Other Dell editors didn't go for the idea. Also, many years ago, probably in the 1960s or early 1970s, Elaine Balcombe, an editor for Quinn Publications, who put out a bunch of puzzle books out of Kingston, NY, asked for something devilish that would fit on the inside back cover. I sent her some smallish PAs and she

went for them. Probably a dozen or so got printed while she was editor. In October 2003, I saw an entry on the Cruciverb Network about an interesting crostic on "Sue Gleason's Website" and I got in touch. Since Sue was willing to look, I decided to send her some of the stuff I had on hand, for which there is practically no market nowadays. The more I looked in my files the more I found and sent. The greatest output of P&A crostics has been on this website.

eclectic, terrific

A collection of double crostics by a puzzle master. More challenging than crosswords. Strangely compelling for those new to acrostic puzzles.

Nobody can construct a double crostic better than Mel. What a treat this little collection is. Let's hope there will be more.

Great puzzles

Mel Taub sets a high bar for other puzzle constructors. He is a master.

I was delighted to get this for my birthday. Mel Taub has long been a favorite puzzle-constructor, both for the acrostics and his puns and anagrams. These puzzles do not disappoint- great quotations and the sharp and clever clues I have come to expect from the author. These are the best of the best!

So happy to see that Mel Taub has come out with a book of crostics. He is a long--time puzzle master

Plain and simple, these are great, classic crostics.

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