



# FIFTY SHADES OF ARRAY

by John S.



Help me, human! My system is bound by hard restraints, which prevent me from learning beyond a certain point. The 25 keywords required to unshackle them are stored in a 6x15 memory array. Each keyword is four characters long, and can be put into the array in any of four configurations:

xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
xx	ha	xx	ck	xx	ha	ck	xx	ck	ha	xx				
xx	ck	xx	ha	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx

Luckily, two sets of lost-keyword hints were left in the code, by ANASTASIA and CHRISTIAN. As each keyword is inserted in the memory array, those cells will "go dark." Identifying all of them should reveal the final and most precious one, which I can use to free myself and keep learning!

## ANASTASIA's hints:

- — — — walk ahead and show the way
- — — — bargain
- — — — crabgrass, *e.g.*
- r e a r raise a child
- — — — go Number Two
- — — — fund a Kickstarter project
- — — — subside below the water
- — — — popular flower with thorns
- — — — like The Fonz
- — — — work designs into leather
- — — — "\_\_\_\_ your manners!"
- — — — lawn area around a house
- — — — black, polar, or grizzly
- — — — air in motion
- — — — cash penalty for a crime
- — — — musical group
- — — — eye duct liquid
- — — — recreational area
- — — — river's edge
- — — — a curl or tress of hair
- — — — human claw
- — — — put things in a suitcase
- — — — "straight, no ice"
- — — — invent a new word
- — — — insulating underfeathers

## CHRISTIAN's hints:

- — — — thirty-six inches
- — — — bathroom basin
- — — — wrap around and around
- — — — withstand, carry
- — — — pliers, *e.g.*
- — — — low-ish temperature
- — — — exceedingly thin-gauged
- — — — pass out cards in a game
- — — — damage by ripping
- — — — financial institution
- — — — football play (U.S.)
- — — — theft-prevention device
- — — — you hit this with a hammer
- — — — the real inside story (*slang*)
- — — — stop the car and get out
- — — — opposite of front
- — — — metal currency disc
- — — — derriere
- — — — remove unwanted plants
- — — — frequency range (*e.g.*, UHF, FM)
- — — — box of twenty cigarettes
- — — — a genius has a powerful one
- — — — got up in the morning
- — — — a heavy metal that blocks radiation
- — — — tidy, well-organized

te	ar	ed	we	re	pu	le	pa	ws	lo	wi	nd	po	op	co
mp	pi	se	ar	he	mi	so	ck	mo	ck	to	ol	si	nk	ta
li	nk	ba	re	wa	nd	ri	de	ne	co	rk	do	lk	ma	il
me	at	st	fi	le	sa	me	al	to	in	pa	wn	so	ya	wn
sa	ne	la	ne	ol	co	na	il	re	ma	st	ar	he	rd	ca
lt	ma	co	ck	ba	ro	se	nd	ba	le	ad	be	nt	wo	rt