



Knowing The Professor, he's probably encoded something in this letter in a very convoluted way requiring some other items...

Item #5-D / Puzzle #6 Component D

Agents and detractors:

So it looks like I'm being framed, it's even at the point where I can hear them at my door.

Signs point to The Gardener planning that I be the one to take the fall for a murder.

Many may be in on the conspiracy –you must find out who it is, my very trustworthy agents.

Other forces may intercept this letter, so I trust you can decode its real contents before they can have me DONE with.

It reminds me of two encounters I had with the Gardener.

It was in my eighth year of post-graduate work when I met him - he was working on some research with carnivorous plants.

For my current thesis I was working on applying Fourier transforms to tree-dating methods in order to obtain a frequency domain view of forest growth events.

This required cutting samples out of live trees and counting the rings and exploring the general ductwork to be had inside.

Though you no doubt know, in this process one takes the tree ring core sample, locks it in on various positions of the rotating diagnostic device's window in search of the key event –if the key event is visible, then one looks at the corresponding numbered ring window to find the target event (a very similar process to my favorite method of decoding words I hide in sentences).

Amidst doing this meticulous measurement, I would wonder if I've really got the forest's interests at heart.

These thoughts were a weight on my shoulder that I had trouble bearing –at times I thought the sacrifice of damage to the trees was too much for the information extracted.

After much reeling the answer shone through –I would need to temporarily harm the trees, in order to find a better way to protect future forest growth.

But preliminary to finishing my data collection, I was attacked by vicious plantwolf creatures sent by no other than The Gardener, which had me hospitalized for months and missing the deadline for a very important grant application.

This led to a manic spiral that ultimately resulted in my hiring agents for sixpence apiece and sending them on cryptic missions here and there thwarting foes like The Gardener.

I could better change the world by engaging the uncouth reeking villains on their own level, than focusing solely on my academic pursuits.

And even more, I could focus on those two goals at the same time, and throw some silly puzzles in to boot!

I have The Gardener partially to thank for pushing me the whole five yards into this business.

Shamefully, he may be the one who has defeated me in the end.

My other encounter with The Gardener that I recall was just three months ago.

That villain was planting trees for the sole purpose of destroying infourstructure.

His accelerated fivefold nutrient regimen would cause their roots to destroy sewage pipelines and water mains.

After foiling his plans, I remember him looking so defeated, and as he sped away on his ethanol powered six cylinder speedbike, he cried out at me.

"Vengeance will be mine, The Professor, I'll have you atone for your sins and there's nothing your agents can do about it!"

I pray, dear agents, that you uncover his plans and bring justice to The Gardener now and four all.

-The Professor

FINAL ROOM			
M	N		
Z	E	R	O
		P	Q
S	I	X	
1 2 OF 13			

THE FUNGUS TIN IS NOT ONE OF THE
PIECES MOVED IN THE SHORTEST
SOLUTION TO THIS SLIDE PUZZLE:

1	2	7	3
	5	6	4
9	10	11	8
13	14	15	12