

The Mysterious Book

There's always a lot going on in the small town of Kronach, Geocachers can for instance see interesting things at the "[Housnkuh-Stadtführung](#)" guided tour or hear remarkable aspects about the indigenous use of language here at the gate to the Franconian forest. But the (Celtic) grammar and the subtle differences in the use of dative and accusative in modern German (mir/mich – dir/dich – in English always me or you) have never been the Kronacher's cup of tea, even after a 1000 years of history and in spite of the industrious efforts of the learned professor doctor Johann Kaspar Zeuss. He worked for his hometown and its language. Since eternity it seems he sits on his stone, corrects books and reads standard German to the people of Kronach. But none of the stubborn natives, as we may call the inhabitants, would listen to him, who had been an outsider, a nerd, even as a child and who studied in Munich later, of all cities! And even today his work with books doesn't get less, since in front of his statue, there's a branch of the local library.

You can help him with a bit of variety by leaving a book or two and you can take other books in exchange.

Only one of the books has been a mystery to him ever since, even if it isn't a closed book...

Johann Kaspar Zeuss

You are approaching Johann Kaspar, who has a remarkably good posture in spite of his old age. He doesn't look very awake, though. Well, Celtic grammar isn't really a thrilling reading matter, is it? You are about to take *the* book in question from the shelf, when he starts talking to you: Hey, it isn't as easy as that! You have to make an effort to get your money, er... book, er... box...! So look in on my friends in upper town and collect information. They are all somehow in the writing business and can understand what you want. I don't think they will make it too difficult for you.



You just note down the tasks and off you are.

Johann Kaspar tells you the way: First, look in on Lucas Cranach, he sits right in front of the town hall. You just have to walk up the stairs, pass by the church, cross the square and take the street upwards on the right.

Lucas Cranach

From the distance you can already see Lucas Cranach sitting in front of a piece of horrible modern architecture. He wouldn't have had it in his time. But he had a wood carving workshop anyway. He is greeting you friendly with his brush and is looking at you expectantly. Perhaps he is hoping you might take his brush and change some of the ugly grayish brown behind him. But you won't do anything of the kind, but you are thinking at your tasks. You are looking at your notes and are checking what you have to find out with Lucas Cranach. What?



You have to count his paint brushes? Who the hell can come up with that? Ok, right, then be it so: A then is:

Fine, your first task is done. Quite exhausting that was? You feel like having some delicious Bratwurst now. You follow the scent round the street corner and find yourself in front of a butcher. Ah, there's another guy out of stone sitting there, how practical! This must be another pal of Johann Kaspar.

The Master of the Quarter

The master of the quarter seems quite busy and can't be disturbed by you eating noisily. He is murmuring names and numbers. You ask him curiously: What are you doing there? – But I'm the master of the quarter, I'm responsible for this part of town. I'm the regulatory agency, the chief of the fire department and the minister of defense all in one person.



You can see that the man is really busy and you don't want to be sent to one of his missions. So you just quickly **count the flowers on his pedestal to get B** and hurry on to his colleague diagonally across in front of the hotel.

The Keeper of the Records Georg Hummel

Schorsch (= short form in Franconian for Georg) is looking at you wide-eyed. No, you don't want to rob him. Who wants to have the dusty files of a civil servant anyway? What would you do with a tax list of Kronach? You can calm him down and Schorsch relaxes. He shows you his rabbit breeding he is holding in the grid.

On one side you can see C rabbits (Franconian: Housn).

Right, enough stumbling across Kronach's paved roads. Time to go back to Johann Kaspar.



Back with Johann Kaspar Zeuss

Johann Kaspar gives you another friendly welcome and finally discloses to you that the republication of his *Grammatica Celtica* of 1853 can be bought as paperback nowadays (ISBN 1 148669353) and more importantly, what you must do with all the numbers. You already know THAT, don't you?

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Hint: N, O naq P fubhyq or fvatyq qvtvg ahzoref.