



Mazeophobia (SOLUTION)

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The capital R in the beginning indicates your starting location on the grid. After that follow the direction related words to progress through the grid. Each paragraph spells a word. Highlighted words are followed by the letter they produce in the message. The message reads ROTATE REMAINDER BY ONE. Take each unused letter in the grid, TMENTMCDC and rotate the letters by one in the alphabet to create the answer: UNFOUNDED.

R (begin here :R) eady to begin your journey? Not too long ago I was **up(O)** to my ears in work when I got a message. "We are lost for ideas so we **left (T)** one puzzle for you to create for this month's Puzzled Pint." Time was limited and I had to come **up(A)** with an idea for the location puzzle fast. I looked at some puzzles I sketched and **underneath (T)** a pile of books I found something that looked interesting. Would people enjoy a maze, or was that something that was too simple and **beneath(E)** them? **(Paragraph word: ROTATE)**

The answer seemed to be **right(R)** in my face the whole time. People might enjoy a maze if it was good. I felt my fortunes **reverse(E)** and I knew I had something that I liked. A maze just wouldn't do by itself. I would need to create something more to it so I **ported(M)** an idea from another thought. I was on a roll and nothing seemed to **top(A)** this moment of ingenuity. There wasn't much time **left(I)** to work here, so I jotted my ideas **down(N)**, as fast as I could, **right(D) up(E)** until the final moment. I questioned whether I was creating the **right(R)** puzzle for the night, but I pressed on. **(Paragraph word: REMAINDER)**

Right(B) above(Y) my desk the clock loomed. My deadline was near. **(Paragraph word: BY)**

I was **left (O)** with no choice but to **top(N)** this puzzle off and hope that my instincts about it were **right(E)**. When I was done, I discovered what my fear of being lost for ideas really was. **(Paragraph word: ONE)**

