



Magic Carpet

by Karen Stabile

ANSWER:
PHOENIX

The flavor text indicates "bears, bengals, lions, and rams", which are all NFL teams. The colors on the carpet correspond to each team (navy and orange, orange and black, blue and grey, and navy and gold).

Three five letter words are found among the strips: WEAVE, RIGHT, and UNDER. These indicate that the next step is to weave the carpet, while also indicating orientation.

Match the team colors to get the following horizontal and vertical layout, with RIGHT along the right vertical.

Horizontal

23	5	1	22	5
18	1	19	14	20
19	12	15	14	18
5	1	19	15	12
12	3	4	4	19

Vertical

21	9	5	18	18
14	14	2	24	9
4	13	15	7	7
5	3	14	15	8
18	5	1	6	20

After weaving, with the left vertical strip underneath (top border is colored to represent the square behind after weaving):

23	9	1	18	5
14	1	2	14	9
19	13	15	7	18
5	1	14	15	8
12	5	4	6	19

Group the numbers by the sports team the two layered colors represent, and read left to right as letters to spell WINGED ANIMAL REBORN OF ASHES, which is a PHOENIX.