



BAND 18. Pillars of Mutual Support

Time Factor: 3

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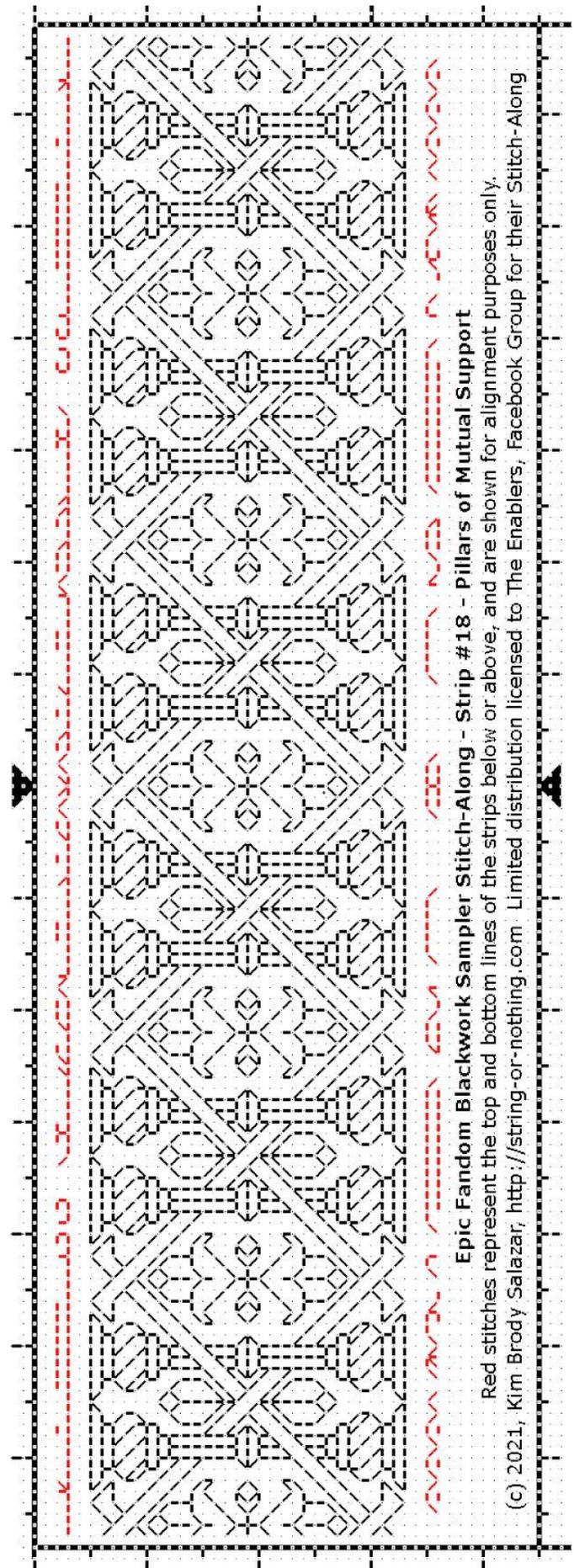
You’ve stuck with this for a good long while now, and we’re almost done. Just one more strip after this. So please excuse me for inserting a bit of serious into all this silly.

Greater Fandom as a whole depends on the output of creative professionals. These range from big-money movie studios, highly paid actors and other high-impact performers/public personalities and well known/successful writers; to small one-person artisan shops selling on Etsy and other venues, authors struggling to get a toehold in the market, and independent musicians/artists/designers/costumers/craftspeople and artisans. Times have been tough for us all, and things have been especially hard for the creative community who depend on in-person consumption of their content, either in theaters or arenas, on screen, or interaction with their books or other publications. Many creative folk have just barely eked by for the past two years, and are hoping against hope that this year is an improvement.

If you have the means, please consider paying forward the time and attention invested in this group project by purchasing something – it could be something as small as a 99-cent short story on Kindle – or otherwise offering support and acknowledgement. If you are hurting, too, consider leaving an honest review for a maker/writer/performer whose wares you might have bought and enjoyed in better times. The arts, especially those that feed the imagination, are what keep us human when all else conspires to strip back mutual respect, compassion, and empathy. Let’s work together to preserve them.

134 stitches wide x 30 stitches tall. 2 blank rows left between this and the following strip. If worked as a stand-alone continuous band, one full repeat in 22 units.

Time Factor 3, mostly for size. The over/under crosses can be a bit tricky, however, the repeat isn’t very long, and being quite symmetrical is quick to memorize, and is an easy field in which to spot errors.

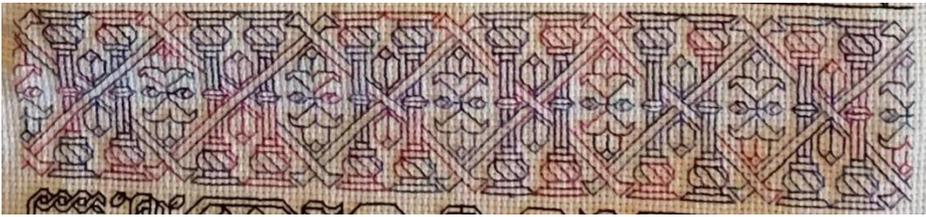


Epic Fandom Blackwork Sampler Stitch-Along - Strip #18 - Pillars of Mutual Support

Red stitches represent the top and bottom lines of the strips below or above, and are shown for alignment purposes only.

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Band 18 – Pillars of Mutual Support:

Samples	Fabric used	Stitch	Thread Use Notes
	18 count Aida	Back stitch 1 ply	Variegated floss
	28 count evenweave	Back stitch 1 ply	One strand of Sulky 12 weight worked well (consumption not tracked)
	28 count evenweave	Double running 2 plies.	About 1.25 yards of light blue, 0.75 yards of light green, 0.5 yards of light red, and remnants of dark yellow.

Top to bottom: Renditions by Beta Testers Danielle and Callie, plus Kim

Hints:

- As noted, the various crossings can trip you up. It always alternates over then under, regardless of whether the ribbons (done in green in my sample) are crossing other ribbons or pillars. But if this is too much of a headache, just pick a layering, for example, all pillars in the front, and stick with it throughout.
- I went a bit “off script” for the yellow bud tips of my flowers. Instead of working them as a plain, empty diamond, I took an extra stitch from each corner point to the center of that diamond. That’s why they are so prominent in mine.
- Yes, the pillar bases and crowns kiss. That’s deliberate
- This pattern also appears in my free book *Ensamplario Atlantio, Volume II*. That work is available from my blog (link at the bottom of this page).

All general project information can be found in download that includes Band #1 – Giant Robot and Kaiju