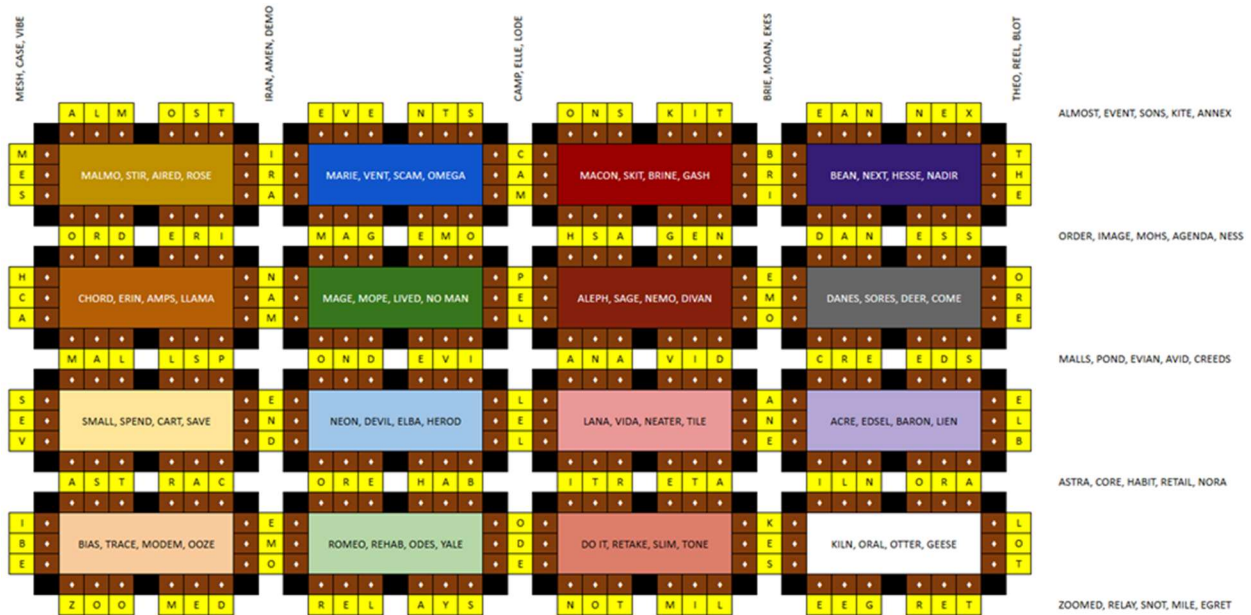**Pool Cues**
Adam Maresca
Answer: **THE DEEP END**

The "pool hall" is a letter-based word entry puzzle similar to a Rows Garden, but obeying some specific billiard-themed rules. The clues around a given table match the color pattern of the ball that shares the table's number; the first (top left) table is made of all yellow clues, the second in the top row all blue clues, and so on. For tables nine to fifteen, two clues are white and two are the appropriate color. (The order of colors, reading from the top left corner clockwise, is always white-color-color-white. The cue ball table, naturally, is four white clues.)

With the tables complete, one can read the trajectories of the shots traced on each as a nearly complete term in billiards lingo, with the last letter "pocketed" at the end:

MASS[E]	ACTIO[N]	TIGH[T]	RAIS[E]
ANCHO[R]	POIN[T]	ENGLIS[H]	SCOR[E]
SPEE[D]	ABOV[E]	LEAV[E]	CREE[P]
BAIZ[E]	SALOO[N]	DIAMON[D]	[cue ball]

Reading these last letters in order spells out the answer phrase "ENTER **THE DEEP END.**"

Author's Notes

Adam: This took a lot of rewrites, but it was worth it. If you ever go crazy and decide to make something like this, start from the central spaces and use the forgiveness of the outer rim to clean up. I admit there's an appeal: why double-check a cell when you can *triple-check* it?