

"Cut the Ending" a metapuzzle by Peter Washington

ACROSS

1. Daintily uses a napkin
5. Fair or circus, for example
10. Like you've just seen a ghost, maybe
14. ___-Z
15. Diet coke size
16. Style associated with Kate Moss and others
17. Jibe
19. Linen-colored
20. Some electric beard trimmers
21. Whence Wyclef Jean
23. [Giggle!]
24. Shakes off
26. Crest competitor
29. Partner of 71-across
31. Material for some models
33. Gunpowder/projectile go-between, in old muzzleloaders and modern shotguns
36. Crocodile habitat, in cartoons
37. Two frames
38. Typed back and forth
40. Awards for this sort of thing
42. Prosecco alternative
43. "Eugene's ___" (track featuring violin on "Ill Communication")

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The answer to the metapuzzle is a nine-letter word.

DOWN

1. Apple, but not banana, to a botanist
2. Surfaced
3. Preferred seating option, sometimes
4. Gravel sorting device

5. Lilly and Whitney, for two
6. Information needed for a Carfax
7. Information needed by a car service
8. Word with world or regions
9. It's usually measured during a rotation
10. Verb for a lookout or a wheel man
11. Right-winger's bogeyman
12. Boxy Chevy from 2006-2011
13. "Hey ___!"
18. The ___ Shake (signature move for Hakeem Olajuwon)
22. 6-across analogue seen at Barnes & Noble
24. Jeremy Irons voiced him in the original
25. It feels good to bury it
27. "It may be shocking to some, but being someone's daughter actually ___ career qualification." -- AOC, 6/29/19
28. Wise men don't believe in it
30. Carbon, mostly
32. Funnywoman Gasteyer
33. Boonies
34. Italian herbal digestif
35. Joe McCarthy, archetypically
37. "My stars!"
39. "___ Bones"
41. Not hydro- or terra-
44. Bread traditionally cooked by sticking it to the side of an oven
46. Arrange in advance, as a participatory audience member
49. Buyer ___
50. Title word in a 1983 song featuring the lyric "you said you had to get your laundry cleaned" (which makes so little sense I've always assumed I was hearing it wrong ...)
53. Sets one back
55. Truck output?
56. Gobsmailed
57. Whom Paul was Mad About onscreen
59. Nut-based snack bar brand that got in a social media war with Clif Bar in March 2019
60. Pull down
61. Loopy animation?
62. Fury
64. Pal
65. Costar of Rue and Betty