

"Character Set" a metapuzzle by Peter Washington

ACROSS

1. Title with three asterisks
5. Successful trips to the toilet, in medical records
8. Ann ____
13. Bedrock pet
14. "This is the worst ..."
15. "Cool beans!"
16. "My Guy" and "My Girl" songwriter
19. Affliction of Garth and Mountain Girl in "The Ladykillers"
20. Country singer LeAnn
21. 1969 Dennis Hopper co-star (and co-writer)
25. "That a-hole's no good for you!"
29. Place for emergency meetings
30. Descriptive moniker for artist Doménikos Theotokópoulos
32. Agcy. that manages the U.S.'s spy satellites
33. "Two ____ sodas, Gary" (line near the end of "The Big Lebowski")
35. Wedding veil material
36. What a back-to-nature type might be looking for in an essential oil
41. Rock made of tiny quartz crystals
43. Where 28-down sits, if this grid were a compass
44. Wyatt:Kurt::Doc: ____
47. Golden raisin named for its Turkish origin
50. Adjective for a hilltop city?
53. John who wrote "Roundball Rock"
54. Ruby Dee's husband
56. Like Barney Gumble or Peter Griffin
58. What the "Ice Bucket Challenge" was meant to raise awareness of
59. Andrew McCabe's highest FBI post (except when he was Acting)
65. Mediterranean flowers, pluralized fancily
66. Places for 1-down
67. Light
68. Boot camp, slangily
69. ____ Dawn Chong ("The Color Purple" actress)
70. One of the universally-agreed "suspect classifications"

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

DOWN

1. Figures in 66-across
2. Crest competitor
3. ____-Caps
4. More mawkish
5. Goes to a restaurant, say (remember those?)
6. Work team leader (abbr.)
7. Like Samson, eventually
8. Shackled muppet
9. Georgette's husband, as you might know from an extremely wordy Paul Simon title (or just if you know your artists' wives)
10. Kick, in musicians' lingo
11. 22-down-related (pref.)
12. Sitcom character Swanson
17. River through Zaragoza
18. Wait patiently
21. Dominate, in gamer lingo
22. See 11-down
23. Masons' tools
24. Nanas, in the Netherlands
26. City on the Mediterranean's eastern shore
27. Connective tissue injured by a blow to the outside of the knee (abbr.)
28. Adversary
31. Classic Pontiac
34. Nautical rope with an archaically-spelled name
37. Bone doc
38. NFL preseason exercise
39. ____-BBS (early internet graphic interface)
40. Practice to make perfect
41. Chicago setting, until recently
42. Monitor adjustment
45. Singer DiFranco
46. Some TVs
48. Of the intellect
49. Callipygian, far more crassly
51. Like chit-chat
52. Talladega pursuit
55. Event many may have to cancel or downsize on April 9, 2020
57. Osso ____
59. Year during the reign of the Byzantine emperor Maurice
60. Directional add-on
61. Glass of Chicago Public Radio
62. ____ Maria
63. Goblin
64. Main ingredient in a Manhattan