

Meeting Friends

It's always nice to encounter friends all through the path we take. Sometimes we can even help them with their problems.

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What is your role throughout and at the end of this journey?

Across

4. Pilgrims' ship might flourish (9)
11. Discussed creepy lake (4)
12. Photograph fudge (5)
14. Part of Keanu Reeves knew unlimited love (3)
15. Lost \$1000 in a card game and left (4)
16. Frog's head became a constant treat (5)
17. Old country's last bit of pasta eaten by a virtual person (4)
19. Class binder (4)
21. Gym time, buddy (3)
23. I understand Mike's bit of resistance (3)
24. Stir up obscure vegan ingredients (3)
25. Small muscle with concerning wound (5)
28. Fungus that'll mainly cause irritation (7)
29. There we go... just switch the input and the output and it'll make music (5)
30. Emily and Deborah returned to drive-in (4)
32. Desire put Eden in chaos (4)
34. One thousand in possession of tomb's location perhaps get too lit to loot it (7)
36. Stumble and trip (6)
37. Old house that is an adorable little thing (6)
40. Beyond glen's outskirts find first sign of unknown animal (3)
41. Common format for puzzles regularly paid off (3, abbr.)
43. Woman's second bit of Perl code used to reproduce a bug? (4)
44. Blow up careless general (7)
47. Bring back a drink to Leonardo's place (4)
49. Reportedly auction off tool for artists (3)
51. American jury tipped off to a financial crime (5)
52. You can do it, Alfred, never give up hope (4)
53. Christmas carol's half-audible peculiarity? (4)
54. Spooner's basement is smaller (6)
58. I can't believe you overthrew my glorious leaders (3, abbr.)
61. Press on after I finally recover (4)
62. Large container holds... a tongue (5)
63. Nicest weapon in the west (7)
65. Each agent retired (3)
66. Attire of doctor with multiple satisfactory evaluations (7)
69. Reared in lap of luxury (4)
71. Small oat wrecked car (6)
72. One behind a smear platform (5)
73. Periodically chooses to work in the yard (3)
74. Quiet bit of fuming before I club monster straight out of a horror movie (5)
75. Wow, crazy in retrospect (4)
76. Torn apart; beheaded! (5)
77. Treason's distressed politicians (8)

Down

1. A couple of nerds start to write novel (3)
2. Barn housing not one but three disheveled brothers (8)
3. The smallest uniform with a very small skirt was lifted up, interrupting thousands (7)
4. Cadence and my ex? They're just odd (5)
5. Snake found in African provinces, primarily! (3)
6. Masculine, energy-filled leaders (7)
7. Rob's the second to flee out of Scotland (4)
8. Japanese food was a bit unfinished (6)
9. Genuine selection of rare albums (4)
10. Focus on where your friends and family are (4)
13. Bone found buried in archipelago (3)
14. Explosive intro turns heads (5)
18. Trouble for Steam (3, 5)
20. Favor losing parking pass (5)
22. Local vet ran wild (6)
25. Pirate seems endlessly lost (4)
26. Antelope doesn't know how to quit Vim (4)
27. Arrival of first of desserts (filling flan from top to bottom) was supported by everyone (8)
31. Walls of dusty housing are not cute (6)
33. A bit of attractive muscle exhibited by doctor coming back to vacation spot (4, 3)
35. Grandma, you are going to read out loud for a bit (7)
38. Burden is our responsibility (4)
39. Oscar upholds criminal pleas for a city (2, 4)
40. Robot, taken in by Georgia's mother, who means the world to some people? (4)
42. Aired runs and reruns becoming more depressing (8)
44. First-rate lunatic covered up lies (8)
45. Inga got somewhat quiet (3)
46. Powerful revolutionary lost fifty-two (3)
48. Term for what you do when there's a bee? (5)
50. There's no way to hold something that melts in your hands (4)
55. Sy adopted do-nothing pooch (6)
56. Lock up in an African city (5)
57. Destroyed hotels surround university in Rhode Island (2, 5)
59. Leave a moron confused (6)
60. Heartily, Hagrid watched and aged (6)
64. Mass within ocean's borders (5)
65. Climbing mountain toward a wise man (5)
67. Certain people's speaking volume (4)
68. Duplicate "It's a me" segment (4)
70. Father read letter over the radio (4)
71. Best time to start hugging everyone (3)