

"Texas Hold 'Em" a metapuzzle by Peter Washington

ACROSS

1. Milhouse's pal
5. It might be sent in a SASE
9. Confuse
14. Hindi for "potato"
15. State last carried by the losing presidential candidate in 1960
16. Strongbow product
17. Abbreviation for a classical republican government
18. Hops oven
19. Prepare to remove, as shoes
20. Your first hole card
23. Anti-workplace-discrimination initialism
24. Three-way intersection
25. Garbage
28. Where Bill Russell won two NCAA championships
30. Your second hole card
35. Breakfast area
37. Misspelled article in NWA's famous protest song
38. Classic fabulist
39. The first flop card
43. Immature egg cell
44. Uno, due, ____, ...
45. Belief system
48. __ Mix-a-Lot
50. Word before Town or Gang in old titles
51. Three-time Olympic gold medalist Devers
52. The second flop card
57. Its meatballs are called Allemansträtten
58. Committed
59. Eeyore-like
60. Role for Keanu
61. Springtime flyer
62. Debate topic
66. The third flop card
71. Reverence
73. Grounder or pop fly, often
74. French for "we"
75. The turn card
79. Song whose title reverses to its producer's name
80. Songbird whose name might produce giggles
81. Co-star of Bea, Betty and Estelle
82. Rascal
84. The river card
90. Cathedral feature
93. Useless
94. Hockey enforcer
95. Paul's "Mad About You" co-star
96. Frequent eruptor
97. Monstrous-looking creature
98. Flagged down
99. "Old ____" (country standard about a boy and his dog)
100. Monstrous look from a creeper

DOWN

1. Dow Chemical Co. competitor
2. Iams competitor
3. Especially stinky cheese
4. Mexican chess grandmaster Carlos for whom an opening "attack" is named
5. Overhead shelter
6. Mideast monarch

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The answer to the metapuzzle is what you might be thinking after seeing the river.

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| 7. Workbench attachment | 53. "I Like ____" (old slogan) |
| 8. Common starchy side | 54. Purchase at the student bookstore containing maps |
| 9. What hospitals deliver | 55. Feudal estate |
| 10. Clamors | 56. Disfigure |
| 11. "Hey farmer farmer, put away the ____ now ..." ("Big Yellow Taxi" lyrics) | 61. 2012 Justin Bieber single |
| 12. Luau giveaway | 63. Martha Stewart's "Potluck Dinner Party" co-host |
| 13. Prior to | 64. Valley in Mordor |
| 21. "That didn't go well" | 65. Philosophical nature |
| 22. Zebra, slangily | 67. Global commerce regulator |
| 25. Steppe son? | 68. Flawed from the outset (abbr.) |
| 26. Abbreviation in a used car listing | 69. Permanently placed contraceptive |
| 27. Baker's abbreviation | 70. Ingested |
| 28. Golden Rule word | 71. Winter hrs. in LA |
| 29. Neighborhood known for artists' lofts (though it's gentrified quite a bit since it got that reputation) | 72. Jr.'s jr. |
| 31. Ear doctor's prefix | 76. RAV4, e.g. |
| 32. 1989 film starring "Weird Al" Yankovic | 77. Annoyances |
| 33. Crowd noise | 78. Drink daintily |
| 34. Call followed by "first service" | 83. Cartoon geezer |
| 36. Atlanta Mayor ____ Lance Bottoms | 84. Available |
| 40. Mark up | 85. Vow |
| 41. Small toiletry case | 86. Monetary punishment |
| 42. Tapestry behind which Polonius hides in "Hamlet" | 87. Button alternative |
| 46. Crossworder Sivakumar | 88. ____ the Young (first king of Rohan) |
| 47. Jozy Altidore's org. | 89. Snick go-with |
| 49. Big street name in luxury fashion | 90. [I'm trying to listen!] |
| 50. Unusual | 91. Tiny veggie |
| 51. Your best friend's kid, maybe | 92. Word in two Beastie Boys album titles |
| 52. Digits on a corporate tax return | |