December 2023 Surround Sound by Pete Muller

ACROSS

- 1 Smokes
- 5 Tennis great Mandlikova
- 9 Dog docs
- **13** Gone fishing, perhaps
- 14 Show won by Jordin Sparks, familiarly
- 15 End of a ball game?
- **16** 1974 Queen song or 1985 Fine Young Cannibals song
- **19** Center word of a palindrome attributed to Napoleon
- **20** Title of a Rihanna or Abba hit
- 21 "____ Go Back" (Eddie Money song)
- 22 ____ alcohol (cosmetics emollient)
- 24 "Black Beatles" hip-hop duo _____ Sremmurd
- 25 Letters on many Delta luggage tags26 Singer Victoria with a "gothic blues"
- style
- 27 Some fire starters
- 30 1968 Beatles song
- 33 Placate
- 34 Blanchett of "Blue Jasmine"
- 37 Steak option
- **40** Escort, slangily
- 41 Bagpipe sound
- **42** 1981 Grover Washington Jr. song featuring Bill Withers
- 46 Fifth word of the Quran
- **47** Silk-pajamaed female objectifier with an infamous mansion, familiarly
- **48** "____You Again" (11x platinum hit by Wiz Khalifa featuring Charlie Puth)
- 49 Vintage Jags
- **50** "_____ of Life" (Florence and the Machine single)
- 53 1975 Bad Company song
- 58 United States : Donald Duck :: Denmark : ____ And
- 59 Cracker topper
- **60** Greek letter that becomes another Greek letter with a "b" or "z" in front
- 63 The "S" of GPS: Abbr.
- 64 Cow
- 65 Pigeon perch places
- 67 Ending for fool or owl
- **69** Beer that comes in "double" and "hazy" varieties
- 70 1985 Sade song
- 73 Venue for Keith Urban or Carly Pearce, familiarly
- 74 Binge, as a TV show
- **75** Nu metal band whose name sounds like a vegetable
- 76 "Stormy Weather" singer Horne
- 77 Epithet for kid-lit's Ramona
- 78 Country singer Tenille with the hit "Somebody Like That"

DOWN

- 1 Fight scene location in "Bullet Train"
- 2 "You betcha!"
- 3 Word with marker, testing, or algorithm
- 4 First word of Costa Rica or El Salvador's capital
- 5 Kermit's greeting

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The meta for this puzzle is a song whose music video has over one billion YouTube views.

- 6 Brouhahas
- 7 "Had all I can take, ____ I'm leaving ..." (song lyric from 1985)
- 8 Formal relationship that, with a "d" in front, becomes an informal relationship
- 9 "____ Voom" (Nicki Minaj song)
- 10 2022 Wimbledon champion Rybakina
- 11 Besmirch
- 12 Rope fiber
- 17 Rival of LV or DKNY
- 18 Give credit for
- 23 Prey for a Tibetan wolf24 Like the title men in a viral Oliver Anthony hit
- 27 First class?
- 28 Woodworking tool
- 29 Showstopping, in old-time Hollywoodspeak
- **31** Troye Sivan hit that topped Billboard's "Dance Club Songs" chart
- 32 Babes in the woods
- 35 "Please believe it's ____ when I tell you I love you" (lyric from a 1993 song)
- **36** If's counterpart, to a coder
- 37 "Iliad" warrior with a huge shield
- **38** Hogan who played the wrestler Thunderlips in film

- 39 Some map dots
- 41 Giant opening?
- **43** Actress Smith of "Why Did I Get Married?"
- 44 "____ Satanic Majesties Request" (Rolling Stones album)
- 45 Gradually withdraws
- 50 Big British beauty brand, with "The"
- 51 GPS suggestions: Abbr.
- 52 British bank with deep ties to East Asia
- **54** Word after sudden or delayed
- 55 Olivia Rodrigo song whose chorus starts "You betrayed me and I know that you'll never feel sorry"
- 56 JFK, e.g.
- 57 Gains back, as trust
- 60 It sets en el oeste
- 61 Arizona home of the band Gin Blossoms
- 62 Bedeck
- 64 NYSE unit: Abbr.
- 66 "The Third of May 1808" painter
- 67 NYSE events

72 Rap sheet letters

- 68 Enthralled
- 71 "____ to My Family" (Cranberries song)
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