

ACROSS

- 1 Characters in "Don't You (Forget About Me)"?
 - 5 Unrivaled
 - 12 First sounds heard in Metallica's "For Whom the Bell Tolls"
 - 14 Hardened, as melted ice cream
 - 15 Judge who often goes on strikes?
 - 16 Charlie Parker's instrument
 - 17 Lorne Greene song about an outlaw
 - 18 Ingrid's role in "Casablanca"
 - 19 Singsong syllable
 - 20 Spritzes, say
 - 22 Palme ___ (Cannes award)
 - 25 Boot blemishes
 - 27 Reached the breaking point
 - 29 8, 6, 7, 5, 3, 0, and 9: Abbr.
 - 30 James Taylor song about a place he's never been
 - 31 Response to a general question?
 - 34 Letters after CD
 - 35 Canadian rapper with the album "Reckless"
 - 36 What a landlocked land lacks
 - 37 Qatari leader
 - 39 ___-poly (crustacean often mislabeled as an insect)
 - 40 Some swirly shortcut symbols
 - 41 Key of Vivaldi's "Spring": Abbr.
 - 45 Lab safety org.?
 - 47 Name in many 1997 headlines
 - 48 Dir. from EWR to LGA
 - 51 Indoor rowing machine, for short
 - 52 Enter Edinburgh, e.g.
 - 53 Van Morrison song that's a tribute to a New Orleans musical legend
 - 55 Former Pentatonix singer Kaplan, or a bird-related prefix
 - 56 Target
 - 57 Put in one's two cents
 - 60 MC ___ (rapper with a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award)
 - 61 Actress Lee of "Funny Face"
 - 62 Insignificant issue
 - 64 High, in the Alps
 - 66 Tot's head?
 - 68 Some shopping centers
 - 71 Glitterati, say
 - 72 Rod Stewart song about connecting with the divine
 - 73 "My bad!"
 - 74 "___ Dream" (4x platinum Smashing Pumpkins album)
 - 75 Sleuths, slangily
- DOWN**
- 1 "Separate Ways (Worlds ___)" (Journey song)
 - 2 Encores, say
 - 3 Bygone "Magnificent" character on "The Tonight Show"
 - 4 Tedious trek
 - 5 Marks, maybe

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13		14					
15						16					
17						18					
19				20	21			22	23	24	
	25		26				27				28
			29			30					
31	32	33			34			35			
36					37			38			
39					40			41	42	43	44
			45	46			47				
48	49	50		51			52				
53			54			55					
56					57			58	59		
	60				61			62		63	
			64	65			66	67			
68	69	70					71				
72							73				
74								75			

The meta for this puzzle is the grid entry whose clue needs to be changed to make the meta mechanism consistent.

- 6 "___ Kitchen" (2023 Alicia Keys jukebox musical)
- 7 Small salamanders
- 8 Big feller?
- 9 Sister of Helios and Selene
- 10 Singer with the #1 hit "Kill Bill"
- 11 Ritter in the Country Music Hall of Fame
- 13 White house of a sort
- 21 What fluff is mostly made of?
- 23 God with the horse Sleipnir
- 24 Half of a Central American country's name
- 26 Tech company formed by the merger of Sperry and Burroughs
- 27 Powerful engine
- 28 Good, in Hebrew
- 30 Recipients of some mid-May merriment
- 31 Big name in ATMs
- 32 On vacation, in workplace lingo
- 33 Khan Academy founder Khan
- 34 Mark up or down, say
- 38 Check
- 40 High to begin with?
- 42 Ding, maybe
- 43 Mayo container?
- 44 Carrier with a crane logo, in brief
- 46 Restrained, with "up"
- 47 Strays
- 48 Author and educator LeShan
- 49 "Vide ___" (Lord Huron album whose name translates to "Black Void")
- 50 Mononymous, palindromic model
- 54 Bilbo Baggins portrayer
- 55 2024 hit for Rosé and Bruno Mars
- 57 Dark time, perhaps
- 58 Impartial?
- 59 Coke Zero alternative, once
- 61 Pompeii or Petra sight
- 63 Crabs, in poker lingo
- 65 "Video" singer India. ___
- 67 "___ of Things Different" (2002 country hit for Kenny Chesney)
- 68 "Suspicious Minds" intro or outro?
- 69 R&B singer Ella who won a Grammy for "Boo'd Up"
- 70 Singer and actress Zadora