

A Mere Plaything

Ross Trudeau

ACROSS

1. "Didn't that JUST happen?"
6. Hollywood surname that's a portmanteau of Alphonso D'Abruzzo (how about that!)
10. Boston's Mass, e.g.
13. Gulf of Guinea megacity
14. 13 popes
15. What you might find a crank or a crab in
16. *"Last week Jessie forgot what Scrabble tiles she was going to use. She ___"
18. Connects with on Discord
19. Name among named names
20. Sean's mom/John's hon
21. Approve a tweet, casually
22. Like cabs
23. *"Jessie never lasts more than 10 turns before losing at Monopoly. She always ___"
26. Mini clusterf*ck
28. ___ al-Fitr: end-of-Ramadan feast
29. "The surgeons just saw you in the OR, and now ___! Ha ha ha. Just some post-op nurse humor there. Seriously though, welcome to the ___"
30. Head for Vegas
32. Cosmo, e.g.
33. Zhuzh
34. Recreational activity goal, and the last word of the starred answers vis-à-vis their clues
39. Cat call?
40. "I just don't see this puzzle's th--OHHHH!"
41. Slump
42. One who doesn't experience sexual attraction, for short
43. Port type
44. Used book store, briefly?

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48. *"Jessie likes to take unnecessary risks in Dungeons & Dragons. You can generally bet she'll ___"
53. Wu-Tang Clan co-founder a.k.a. ___rector
54. Pouty face
55. Stove cover
56. Automated twitter accounts (like @oldroadside)
57. One of 12 popes
58. *"Jessie accuses me of cheating when she loses at Go. She will always ___"
60. "Ten-four, boss!"
61. Iris layer
62. Hulk, before you MAKE HIM ANGRY
63. Rx dosages
64. Pair of cryptic puzzles?
65. Program to
3. To-do list
4. State whose east and west borders are navigable rivers
5. Cryptanalysts' org.
6. Earmark
7. Disclosures to reporters
8. Silica gel packet warning that my cat enthusiastically ignores
9. Pose
10. "Almost... done... there!"
11. Security footage taker
12. GRE org.
15. Swedish firm that used to make cars and now makes anti-tank weapons (among other stuff)
17. "Peace"
21. T-man, e.g.
23. Clipped dip on a chip
24. Euphoric periods
25. Bop or ditty
27. Moved like a crane
31. Apt rhyme of "cache" and "hash"
32. Creative writing deg.
33. Toaster Swirlz brand
34. Congresswoman Ilhan memoir
35. Michelle Obama
36. Boxing's "Brown Bomber"
37. "Stop flirting! But not really ..."
38. Roof part
43. Colorado native
45. Pastry portmanteau (presumably gluten-free since it's made with no do)
46. Estadio ___ (Mexico national football venue)
47. Long-eared hound
49. Thirst (for)
50. Gave drugs to
51. Little bits
52. Stack on a rack
56. Sleep-inducing speechifier
57. ___ Wonderful juice
58. Dad's bro's kid
59. "Full Frontal" airer

DOWN

1. Birch trees
2. Where bulbs that don't light up get installed