

ROCKY HILLSIDE / ROUND TWO METAPUZZLE SOLUTION - ANISE MIRABILIS

The fourteen answer words from the other puzzles in this round can be aligned with the diagram given so that the letters falling on question marks form types of seeds or spices spanning a gap. This is a (vague) tribute to the device of the stories being interrupted in the middle, in much the same way that the Round One meta nods to the "tales within tales" device.

S	A	L	V	A	G	I	N	G	E	R	R	O	R			
	I	N	J	U	R	Y	E	X	O	C	A	R	P			
	F	I	L	T	H	Y	M	E	T	A	B	O	L	I	Z	E
	M	A	S	C	A	R	A	W	A	Y	S	I	D	E		
	M	E	D	U	S	A	G	E	N	T	L	E				
		M	A	M	B	A	S	I	L	L	I	E	R			
	R	I	P	O	F	F	L	A	X	E	S	T				

The outermost complete columns, shaded above, give the "wonderful spice" ANISE MIRABILIS ("Open Anise Mirabilis" was also accepted as an answer).