

SHE-GHOUL SOLUTION - METABOLIZE, MEDUSA

Solving the cryptogram reveals ten cryptic-style clues. Unlike typical cryptic clues, however, these consist of only wordplay. The definition portion of the clues is implied by the she-ghoul's question "what kind of monster do you think I am?", as the answer to each clue is a type of monster. Another oddity in each clue is the presence of a superfluous word, parenthesized below.

FOOLISHLY MAP (THE) RIVER OMITTING EASTERNMOST BIT = VAMPIRE "map (-r)iver" anagram

WE SENT BACK (UGLY) JONQUIL, PHLOX, OR AZALEA = WEREWOLF we + "flower" reversed

STILL YOURS, (WOMAN), TRULY = YETI yet + I (yours truly)

KITCHEN TOOL (YOU'LL) NEVER DISCARD, EVER = KRAKEN k(itchen) + rake + n(-ever)

IGNOBLE CRIMINAL (AT) PALACE FINALLY REMOVED = GOBLIN "ignobl(-e)" anagram

(LAST) TWO GREW SOMEWHAT = OGRE twO GREw

BOOK NUTS ON FRINGES (FIND) LURID = KOBOLD "book" anagram + l(-uri)d

MAY (IS) IN A RUT, SADLY EARNING NOTHING = MINOTAUR M(ay) + "in a rut" anagram holding O

(SLYLY) CALDWELL ENTRAPS MYSTIFIED PREMIER TWICE = ZOMBIE Zoe holding m + bi

BACKWARD BOW ENTERTAINS THAT (AMUSED) FELLOW... EXCELLENT! = CHIMERA "arc" reversed w' him + E

Answer words may be derived in two ways. First, solvers may note that the word count of each clue is the same as the letter count for its answer (particularly noticeable in the short clues/answers). Taking the letter in each answer that falls in the same position as the extraneous word in its clue spells METABOLIZE.

Second, the extraneous words form another cryptic clue, this one including a definition:

THE UGLY WOMAN YOU'LL AT LAST FIND IS SLYLY AMUSED = MEDUSA "amused" anagram

Note that the cipher key contains the phrase ONLY THE PAIR, a reference to the fact that the puzzle only has two answers, neither of which is to be found in the cipher key.