







The font choices and style of text boxes, as well as “Friends Grey” in the title and “trolls” in the intro text, all clue the visual novel game Hiveswap Friendsim, which is set in the Homestuck universe. The game is split into volumes with two befriendable trolls each (all of them come from the Troll Call list - <http://hs.hiveswap.com/trollcall/>)

Each befriendable troll possesses a distinct typing quirk. This allows for unique identification of the trolls (the text box colors can help in confirming the correct troll) as shown below.

Typing Quirk	Troll’s name	Highlight
Starts with a hyphen, encases phrases with !!! !!!	LYNERA	E
Separates clauses with /	CHIXIE	X
Adds a signature line, * _____, when finished speaking	TAGORA	T
Adds E to the ends of some words, uses “que” in place of “ck”	REMELE	E
Encases sentences with vV Vv when excited	BRONYA	N
Encases sentences with (   ), highlights hot dog words in yellow	DIEMEN	D
Capitalizes all Ls	ELWURD	E
Encases sentences with ( ), starts with “psst” occasionally.	BOLDIR	D
Replaces spaces with underscores, _	FOZZER	Z
Separates clauses with *, ends with *	POLYPA	O
Encases sentences with	AZDAJA	D
Replaces the letter E with 33	TIRONA	I
Doubles all Ys	SKYLLA	A
Ends sentences with “lmao”	CIRAVA	C

The highlighted ?’s spell the phrase EXTENDED ZODIAC. This refers to a huge grid of 288 zodiac signs released on November 27, 2017 (<http://hs.hiveswap.com/ezodiac/index.php>). All of the above trolls possess zodiac signs in this grid, of the same color as their text boxes. The use of “blocks” in the text suggest treating the grid as a city map, and following the paths given by each troll starting from their sign. The signs at the end of each path resemble an English letter (clued by “These signs look very familiar.” in the flavortext).

All of this information is summarized below:

Start sign	Traversal	End sign	Start sign	Traversal	End sign
 LYNERA	1 north, 4 east	 C	 BOLDIR	5 east, 10 north	 A
 CHIXIE	6 south, east to edge	 A	 FOZZER	7 east, 8 south	 N
 TAGORA	1 west, 8 north	 L	 POLYPA	5 east, 3 south	 D
 REMELE	1 east, 11 south	 L	 AZDAJA	4 east, 7 north	 A
 BRONYA	4 south, 3 west	 I	 TIRONA	3 south	 I
 DIEMEN	6 east, 12 south	 N	 SKYLLA	19 south, 8 east	 D
 ELWURD	3 west, south to edge	 B	 CIRAVA	1 west, 5 south	 S

The end signs spell out “CALL IN **BAND-AIDS**”, which certainly come in handy for a bit of medical attention!

As an additional reference, a labeled grid of the 288 signs is provided. Numbers 1-14 are provided based on puzzle order. Blue numbers denote the Friendsim trolls' signs, red numbers denote the end signs.

