

Alien Invasion

David Alfred Bywaters (davidalfredbywaters.com)

ACROSS

1. Little blob
4. See 73–Across
9. Post-refinement stuff
14. Pre-refinement stuff
15. Pedro's parting word
16. Excavated again
17. Crumpet accompaniment
18. Scientific dry-cleaning expert?
20. Capable of reason
22. Funereal poets
23. Deviate from the vertical
27. Retiree's lot
28. Geologist?
33. Mo. after Mar.
34. Breathing need
35. Like Vikings
38. Victory signs
40. See 73–Across
43. Void partner
44. Like some smartphone purchases
46. December 24 and 31
48. Sargasso Sea breeder
49. Exhortation to a literary agent?
53. Sauce thickener
54. PDQ
55. Chesapeake crustacean
59. Paves the way, in a way
63. Astronaut's dessert?
67. Imitate a dove
68. Archipelagic units
69. Swap
70. Crop crops
71. Persists
72. See 73–Across
73. Creatures who come from 4–Across (and 18–/28–Across), invade 40–Across (and 49–/63–Across), and are sent into a 72–Across by terrestrial defenses

DOWN

1. Signs of omission
2. Realtor's figure
3. Pod occupant
4. Symbolic goateed uncle

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5. Short subway smooch, e.g.
6. Breathing need
7. Soft drink not named for a steel-manufacturing fuel
8. Big Sur retreat center
9. Brings up for no good reason
10. Trusts to
11. Frozen treat maker
12. Sailor's challenge
13. NCOs
19. Tidy
21. Antlered ungulate
24. Would-be Anglophone's class
25. Take ___ from (imitate)
26. Sister ship of the Pinta
28. Sitarist Shankar
29. Doing business
30. Common coffee additive
31. Heron
32. More loyal
36. Sit and slide in snow
37. Hollow centers
39. Houseguest's aid
41. Home-viewer's rating
42. Attention-getting cries
45. Product producer
47. UAL competitor
50. Weill or Vonnegut
51. Specific bet
52. Choose
55. Jewish rite for baby boys
56. At sea
57. West Coast sch.
58. Stinging remark
60. Peak
61. Plant anchor
62. Boar mates
64. Vote against
65. Oral surgeon's deg.
66. "That's right!"