Serling Silver
by Ucaoimhu

You have just crossed over into another dimension — a dimension where half the clues both work normally and have their answers entered normally — a dimension where, in some clues, the cryptic part yields one wrong letter — a dimension where, despite all the laws of number theory, the sentence you obtain by reading all the wrong letters and then all the right letters is still true — a dimension where, to prove this, the grid includes a certain number of instances of a particular item, some in the two central squares, and the rest in single squares throughout the grid — a dimension where the clues for the four shaded entries are ambiguous, so these, collectively, may be filled in two possible ways, each yielding a different but equivalent entry for the the two central squares — a dimension where Ucaoimhu can write a cryptic with one sentence of intro, à la both possibilities for the central squares — a dimension we call the Kind Of Grayish Zone.

ACROSS
1. Onward, drinking unfermented beer in a [9 Down] city (2 wds.)
6. Swell lady inside submarine, say
10. Counter-intelligence group adopting Rod’s language
11. Bravo eats very unsatisfactory, tiny egg
12. Throws dogs out — Webster only has them by mistake (2 wds.)
15. Understands about request for joint sealers
16. Live next to a sphere
17. A German assumes 50% of UFOs to be French, ultimately
19. Which part gets put in the central squares with energy, back on a boat
22. Again appraise a show about Gore
25. Sound of a cat spinning without purpose
27. Spot modern Viennese word for “goodbye”
28. Ran to hug alien director John and British rocker Mick
30. Admit female into tepee, say, before [19 Across] end of rye-grass finally gives
33. Singer Sheryl had three?
35. Cure always contains (NH₂)₂CO
36. Odd characters from arc who are half Greek, in the Iliad
39. Worst dolls must be repaired in places like Shangri-La (2 wds.)
40. Again showed most of Ray twice before noon
41. Decoration — one with pieces of candy!
42. Produces pads inscribed with ‘K’
43. Females who deliver explosive report about street sign

DOWN
1. Lover with $1000 tooth
2. Argon-treated paper, say
3. Outspoken character on Frasier or Cheers
4. Polite refusal to climb up
5. That girl’s, um . . . in high school
6. Is indicative of British poetry
7. Gallic or wet or injured or exhausted
8. Woody eats 0.00000000239-calorie substance that causes hives, maybe
9. Sailor embraces former spouse from the Lone Star State
13. Oscar and Kate will have no time for [9 Down]’s neighbor
14. Stuffed creature that’s winged Mr. Asner
17. “Trees,” in the Spanish manuscript
18. Unravel in battle
19. Liquid from tea, perhaps in low ending bit of roof
20. Herbal healers of Frodo essentially shoving into excellent guitarist Paul
21. Spaniard’s aunt traps code developer in waters off Australia (2 wds.)
23. Diana put on act for Carthaginian queen
24. Poetic contraction confused UW dolt
26. Uttered terrible rubbish
29. In a speech Titania perhaps will broadcast on the radio
30. Rout ewm-shattering caterpillar
31. Troy, in the Empire State, gutted broadcasting association
32. Cuban is holding up salmon’s genetic code sequences
33. “XXX” subsumes “R,” Mr. Rock
34. With a spy to kill
36. A dad’s heading north PDQ (abbr.)
37. Cheesy Dutch product is what obstructs the flow of bytes?
38. Anna’s fried bread