

Cryptic

Clue Answers:

Across:

3. Bribe taker holds ante (3): BET hidden inside bribe taker
5. Dislike the ravine - so turbulent (8):
9. Even worse: revile from head to toe (6): EVILER revile reversed
11. Brief education in Los Angeles for a mythological figure (4): LEDA ED inside LA
12. Piercing aquatic animal, without mixed drink, is lacking direction (5): STRAY 'stingray - gin
13. Western first leads beheaded lawman to deformation(4): WARP w + (earp - e)
15. Street for Superman's girlfriend (4): LANE dual definition
18. Footless BARbie, mangled, is a religious figure (5): RABBI anagram of barbi
19. It's shed when a sun god and extraterrestrial return (4): TEAR ra + et, reversed
20. English author pairs engless greed with headless one (6): GREENE (greed - d) + (one - o)
21. The ayes have it, positively (3): YES hidden in ayes
23. Bit of bread directed to ground (8): CRUMBLLED crumb + led
24. Have a mix up, currently (3): OWN anagram of now

Down:

1. Baseball statistic of numerals (3): ERA hidden in numerals
2. Barbara's one who throws punches in the ring (5): BOXER dual definition
3. Iron Blair, oddly, and a ringer (7): BARBELL odd letters of Blair (bar) + bell
4. Pond dweller hides, to a degree (4): TOAD hidden in to a degree
6. Me and a cat, upside down - what a disaster (4-2): MESS UP me + puss reversed
7. Endless palace, mixed up with a llama (6): ALPACA anagram of palac
10. Programmers drink of choice? (4): JAVA
14. Drifted, or made badly (6): ROAMED anagram of or made
15. Stressed worker? Just hang out for a while!(6): LOITER anagram of toiler
16. A B C D F or G? : NOTE dual definition of note and not e
17. Rotten noise or gradual depletion (7): EROSION anagram of noise or
20. Denzel Washington movie is bloody with lacertaions, initially (5): GLORY gory + l
21. Toy cellist (4): YOYO dual definition
22. They televise mediocre bullshit (3): CBS c + bs

To get the final answer, look at the sets of across words - each forms a workable phrase that can be turned into an alternate phrase by shifting a single letter. Take the shifted letters to spell out the end answer.