Clue: Loplop Cryptic #019 [15x]
By George Ho

Across
1 Ruby liquor, knocked back, put someone to sleep (6) MURDER...RED RUM<
5 Loplop's second attempt to pen English puzzle (7) MYSTERY...MY OT ERY
9 Piece of data on electric vehicle... is it for an executive meeting? (5,5) STATE VISIT...STAT + EV + IS + IT
10 American Express moving up second half in inspection (4) EXAM...AM/EX)
11 Breadwinner's musical skill initially not even recognizable (6) EARNER...EAR + N[ot] E[ven] R[ecognizable]
12 Scheme of chief of police thronged by pliable cronies (8) CONSPIRE...P[olice] contained in (CRONIES)*
13 Officer sounds like a bit of an earful? (7) COLONEL..."kernel"
15 Tame reminder to renew your Twitch membership? (6) SUBDUE...Double definition
17 Sharp rock band to cover singles - not just one but two (6) ACIDIC...AC(I)D(I)C
18 Nasty political accusations involving celebrity - spicy stuff (7) MUSTARD...MU(STAR)D
19 Smoked outside of apartment? Apprehended (8) CAPTURED...C(A)PTURED
21 Detective's crazed hustle (6) SLEUTH...HUSTLE)*
23 False witness trains to backpedal (4) LIAR...L(AIR)<
24 I'm about to stuff fruit with trace of radium - it might bring death (4,6) GRIM REAPER...GI(RIM + RE)APE + R[adium]
25 Repository rapidly emptied after a sign (7) LIBRARY...LIBRA + [rapidly]
26 Painfully separate from small songbird near church (6) WRENCH...WREN + CH

Down
2 Super-super sound kind of treatment? (5) ULTRA...Double definition
3 Trio of detectives went fishing and unraveled... (9) DETANGLED...DE[T]ectives + ANGLED
4 ...final part of cipher - done with perserverance, say? (5) ROVER...[cipher]R + OVER
5 American in Michigan, California or maybe Oklahoma! (7) MUSICAL...M([US])I + CAL
6 Assistant improvised for some devilish people? (9) SATANISTS...ASSISTANT)*
7 Starts to examine yearningly... entranced, utterly possessed! (3,2) EYE UP...E[xamine] Y[earningly]
8 Darn, you're going through the wringer all the time (4-5) YEAR-ROUND...DARN YOURE)*
9 Tucked into coat, casebook's covering sources for investigation - every last caged taker (9) COCKATIEL...C[asebook]K inserted in COAT + I[nvestigation] E[very] L[ast]
14 State during picnic: "A ragu! Amazing!" (9) NICARAGUA...PI[NIC A RAGU] Amazing
16 Finger pointing at couple of blisters on a gigantic self (5,4) BLAME GAME...BL[isters] + A + MEGA + ME
18 Joe (Democrat) is over Illinois? Yes, confusedly (7) MUDDILY...MUD + D + IL + Y
20 Beat pair of thieves before hold up (5) THROB...TH + ROB
21 Shril squealer is endlessly cunning (5) SHREW...SHREW[d]
22 Teen drama's emotional outburst starts in weed ingredient (3,2) THE OC...E[motional] O[utburst] inserted in THC