The answer to the meta is a phrase that describes what each themer has

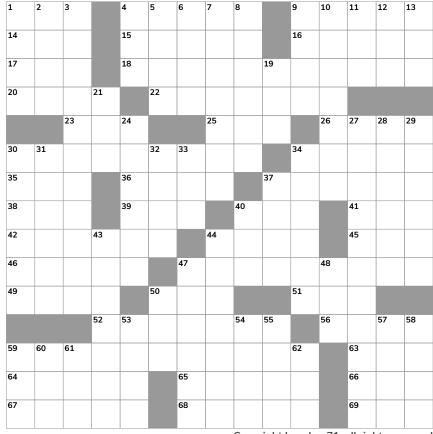
ACROSS

- 1 Easy as ____
- 4 Amphibians with shorter legs so they prefer to crawl around rather than hop, apparently
- **9** Automaton of Jewish legend
- 14 If an Aussie asks to skip to your ___ just point them at the WC
- 15 Extend, as a subscription
- **16** Japanese cartoon genre
- 17 Upscale German car
- 18 Roguelike environment that's continually changing?
- 20 "Mamma mia!" band
- 22 Quark of "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine", for example
- 23 Another song from 27 down
- 25 Music releases with only a few songs
- 26 ___ Nui (Easter Island)
- **30** Garden statues baling dried grass?
- 34 Fancy tie
- 35 Sphere
- 36 ___ in (Aussie for "turns someone over to the authorities")
- 37 National song
- 38 Cubes in a drink
- 39 Suffix that is usually spelled -ISE here in Australia
- 40 "The Tell-Tale Heart" author
- 41 Answer to the very specific question, "What are the last three letters of the surname of the French DJ who wrote 'Titanium'?"

- 42 German professional motor racing driver and television personality, ___ Schmitz, who became known for being an expert on the Nurburgring circuit and appeared several times on "Top Gear"
- **44** Soup du ___
- **45** www.ephesusscroll.co m/about, for example
- **46** Non-carbon-based chem.
- **47** Powerful long-playing record?
- 49 Back of the neck
- 50 Soup container
- 51 Hen fruit
- 52 NASA program that produced the first probe to leave the Solar System
- 56 Rhyming scheme of the following (original) stanza: I sip my drink / And write this clue / I try and think / Of words that rhyme.
- 59 Striped cat suffering from acute grief?
- 63 Fuss and commotion
- **64** Regions
- 65 Wear down gradually
- **66** Feathery accessory
- **67** Was given no alternative
- 68 Playground retort
- 69 Nevertheless

DOWN

- 1 Actress who played Susan Storm / Invisible Woman, Jessica ____
- 2 Fail, as a stage show
- 3 16 across with Jet Black, Spike Spiegel, Faye Valentine, Edward, and Ein
- **4** Appropriate acronym for Toyota Racing Development



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- 5 Parisian's 51 across
- **6** Queen from Cleves
- 7 Academic awards (not Academy awards)
- 8 Chimney cleaners
- 9 Theatrical performance by members of Scouts and Guides, ___ Show
- 10 Where Who is in a famous comedy routine
- 11 Diminutive rapper
- 12 Flightless bird
- 13 Tex-___ cuisine
- 19 Partners of offs
- 21 "Hulk" director, ___ Lee (I have never seen so many different video transitions in a single movie; it's worth watching just for that!)
- 24 "There is no real ___. It's just the place where you stop the story." (Frank Herbert)

- 27 U2 album with "The Fly" and "Mysterious Ways"
- 28 Stanza in the clue for 56 across, for (a not very good) example
- 29 Brief note telling your significant other you've slipped off to the shops
- 30 Dark Chinese sauce that I quite like, not that that's going to help you very much
- 31 Mysterious knowledge
- **32** Seep
- 33 UK honour that's below an OBE, but still pretty impressive if you're into that sort of thing
- **34** "You've got ___!" (How dare you!)
- 37 August in Paris
- 40 Cooking receptacle
- 43 "Let me say that again..."

- **44** Rio de ____
- **47** Word on a Western poster
- 48 Supermarket chain
- **50** Collapsible bed
- 53 "In that case..."
- **54** Every entertainer's dream ('tho many would never admit it!)
- 55 Go back to square one
- 57 "Whiles, like ___, I go to find my fawn" (As You Like It, Act 2, Scene 7)
- 58 Cryptic crosswordese for a word split between the beginning and end of a grid entry (hint, hint)
- **59** "___ humbug!"
- 60 Period of history
- 61 Colourful Taylor Swift album
- 62 ___ Speedwagon