

Answers

Foul Play (page 6)—Dr. Quicksolve knew that Calvin Callumwright was a football referee. It seemed that as he lay dying he had put his hands in position to signal “holding,” meaning Holden was the killer.

Pie (page 12)—Junior knew that the kitchen floor was mopped just before they went to bed. He also knew that footprints were just as individual as fingerprints, even between twins.

A Ride with Grandma (page 14)—Apple trees are grafted. A branch from one tree is attached to a new tree. That's how you know what kind of apple you will get from a new tree. Since you can graft different kinds of apples to the same tree, you could not guess very well how many kinds of apples might come from four trees.

Also, Junior figured he could not guess because he already knew the answer.

Sick Trick (page 16)—He had four reasons.

1. He was suspicious about the missing ketchup and the thick “blood” on his cousin.
2. Junior knew Fauna rode correctly, on the right side of the road. She would have seen a car coming and probably avoided it.
3. A car was not likely to be speeding so recklessly in a school zone.
4. Amnesia victims lose their memories to some degree; they do not think they are dogs.

You probably thought of even more clues!

Country Killing (page 18)—Spinner Webb said he could see through the small crack in the door that the house had been ransacked, yet it was so dark he tripped over his aunt's body. If he could see it was ransacked through the crack, he should have seen the body with the light from the open door. He probably killed his aunt, locked the chain, went out the window, and then broke down the door to set the scene for his story.

Mary Contrary (page 20)—Dr. Quicksolve noticed the car seat had to be moved forward to remove the body. Someone had put the body in the back and then moved the seat back, wedging the body in between the seats. Being only five feet tall, Mary would have moved the seat forward. It was also doubtful, of course, that such a petite woman would have been able to lift the body of a full-grown man in the first place.

Cattle Feeders (page 22)—Junior knew there was a party in Canton in several states, including Ohio. Cheboygan, Michigan, though, unlike Sheboygan, Wisconsin, is spelled with a "C." They told the police to follow the Spartan truck.

One Foggy Night (page 24)—Dr. Quicksolve was afraid Officer Goodheart robbed the bank and made up his story to cover up after he wrecked the police car trying to get away with the money. Dr. Quicksolve knew that an experienced driver would not turn on his bright lights in the fog, and a suspect in the back of a police car would be locked in and unable to escape very easily.

Hijack (page 26)—Sergeant Shurshot said the papers matched the sign on the truck. The word used for a navy base should be "naval," not "navel." A navel is a belly button.

Miss Cherry Blossom (page 28)—Dr. Quicksolve thought a convertible in a parade entrant's parking space would make a good getaway car because no one would be suspicious. He knew, though, that Miss Cherry Blossom's float was a wagon. He checked the back of the convertible for the trailer hitch needed to pull the float. When he saw there was no hitch, he had reason to be very suspicious.

Woof! Woof! Bang! Bang! (page 30)—Sergeant Shurshot suspected Barrie Scarrie and was talking about his picture on his driver's license. Scarrie said he heard the dog bark and two shots. If a stranger had broken in, the dog would have probably reacted to protect his owner and their home. The dog would have been shot first. If a friend, like Scarrie, had been let in, the dog would not have barked until he saw his owner was hurt. Scarrie looked like a serious suspect.

Speedy Getaway (page 32)—It is unlikely that bank robbers would use such an unusual car unless they planned to get rid of it quickly. The two women could not have seen a dent on the driver's side of a car going the same direction as Dr. Quicksolve because they were at the bus stop on the right-hand side of the road where Dr. Quicksolve had to roll down the passenger window to talk with them. The bearded bank robber who did not speak could easily have been a woman in disguise. Dr. Quicksolve suspected the women ditched the car nearby and told the story about the passing Jaguar to steer the police away from them.

B.B. Bigstuff (page 34)—Bluntnose could have shot B.B. the first time he was there by using a .22 with a silencer. He could then have left and gotten rid of the .22. After returning, he could have shot his .38 twice, out the window or with blanks, and quickly replaced one of the bullets in his .38 to make it look as if he had just fired one of the shots heard by the secretary.

Disappearing Duffel (page 36)—Junior thought John Biggood took his bag and quickly shoved it into his own football bag as he walked out of the locker room. Then he tossed his bag into the girls' locker room to hide it and look innocent when Junior came out into the hall.

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Izzy Dizzy? (page 38)—Dr. Quicksolve knew one man could not be in two places at once, as the evidence implied. But two men who looked alike could make it seem that way. Dr. Quicksolve suspected Izzy might have had a twin named Dizzy, because Lieutenant Rootumout had said, "One guy said he was dizzy." Dizzy may have acted up in the bar to provide an alibi for his twin, Izzy.

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Lady Hope (page 40)—The dog had just received her name that morning, yet the ransom note, dropped before lunch, contained the dog's name.

16

The Butler Didn't Do It (page 42)—From the maid's story, it sounded as if the robbers rang the bell, shot, and ran. That would not have given them time to ransack the house the way they did. Her story could not be true. She must have been in on the robbery.

17

Classroom Crime (page 46)—If Bobby was only in the room a minute and used that time to wash his hands, the sink would be wet. If he is lying, and he took time to steal the money, the sink would be dry.

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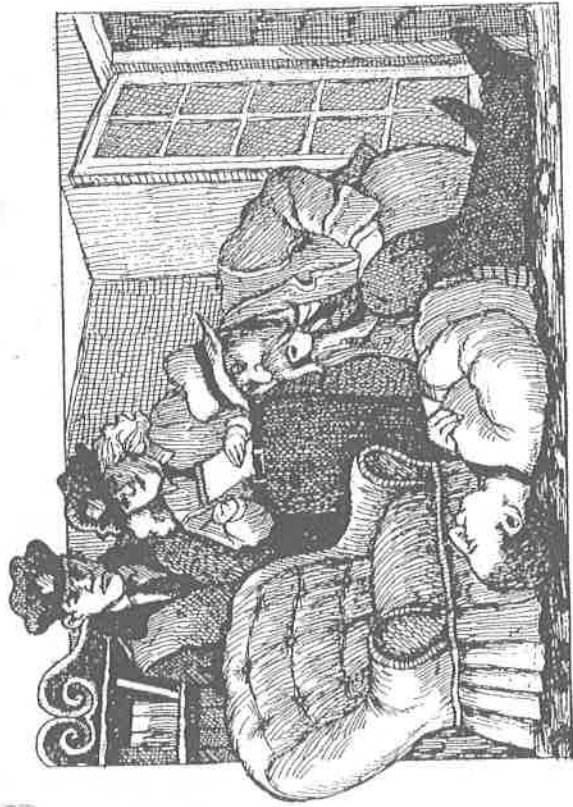
Dark Suspicion (page 48)—The light came on inside the van. Since they watched it closely and it remained dark, they knew no one had opened that door and gotten out.

20

Train Robbery (page 50)—Paula said she went to the rest room and then fought with a man for several minutes before falling off the train where two women immediately jumped on her and took the diamonds. How could the two women have known exactly where Paula was going to "fall" off the train unless they had planned the whole thing together?

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Foul Play

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Sergeant Rebekah Shurshot wondered if it bothered her more when the murder scene was a spooky place like a dark woods or a railroad yard, or a comfortable and cozy-looking place like this living room in a warm suburban home. She, Dr. J.L. Quicksolve, and Lieutenant Rootumout looked down at the body of Calvin Callumwright. The body lay on its back. The arms were crossed over his chest as if a mortician had positioned them for a funeral. The left hand made a fist, and the right lay across the wrist as if grasping it. It looked staged to Sergeant Shurshot. "Maybe he was killed somewhere else and brought here," she said to Lieutenant Rootumout.

"There's no sign the body was moved," he said. "Any suspects?" Dr. Quicksolve asked as he looked around the room. He noticed an overturned lamp, and a chair had been pushed out of place.

"We have reports that two local football heroes, Hal Holden and Pierce Fumble, were in a local bar a few hours ago. They both were threatening to do something about the way Calvin Callumwright refereed this afternoon's football game. Apparently, they lost the championship game on several close calls," Lieutenant Rootumout said.

"Did they leave together?" Sergeant Shurshot asked.

"No. Hal left around 10 P.M. Pierce left about an hour later," Lieutenant Rootumout said.

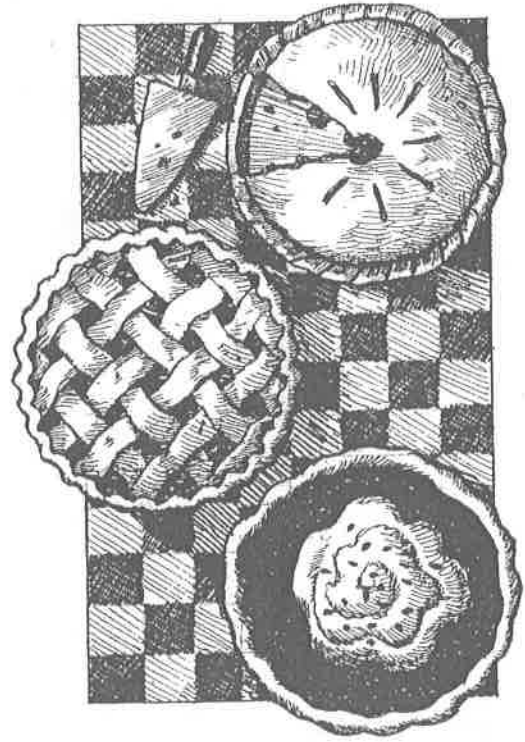
"We had better find both of them right away and bring them in for questioning," Sergeant Shurshot suggested.

"Callumwright has made his last call," Lieutenant Rootumout said.

"And, of course, he has named our suspect," Dr. Quicksolve added.

What is Dr. Quicksolve talking about?

Solution on page 88.



Pie

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Junior sat at the dining room table proudly showing Flora and Fauna how he could use his fingerprint kit to identify fingerprints that were on the glass he held. Grandma Quicksolve was mopping the kitchen floor after an evening of baking pies. "The kitchen floor is wet, and the pies are still cooling. We will wait until everyone is up in the morning and have pie together," Grandma said. The girls had gotten ready for bed, hoping to have pie before they went to sleep. They were disappointed.

"But Grandpa gets up late," Flora protested. "We can't wait," said Fauna. "We will wait," Grandma said with a tone that indicated the conversation was over. Junior fin-

ished his demonstration, and everyone went to bed.

Junior got up early the next morning. He sat at the dining room table and waited for the others. He could see across the kitchen where one of Grandma's pies had been cut. One piece was gone. Grandma would be upset.

Flora came downstairs still barefoot and in her pajamas. She sat next to Junior, who pointed to the pies, just as Fauna came into the dining room dressed like her sister.

"Someone had a piece of pie," Junior said.

"But who?" Flora challenged.

"I'll get my fingerprint kit," Junior said.

"Don't you think a smart crook would wear gloves or wipe off the fingerprints?" Flora asked.

"Especially when he..." Fauna said.

"Or she..." Flora interrupted.

"Knows you have a fingerprint kit," Fauna said.

"I guess neither of you would have left fingerprints after my demonstration," Junior said. "But I do think one of you came downstairs last night and had a piece of pie. It won't be hard for me to figure out which one of you did it."

How can Junior tell who took the piece of pie?

Solution on page 95.

blew out straight in the wind. All four faces had matching grins.

"There's Bobbi's house," Flora said as they passed a farm with four large apple trees standing in the front yard. They were loaded with bright red apples. The twins bent their heads together, whispering.

"You'll never guess how many kinds of apples they grow in their front yard!" Fauna said to Junior, shouting to be heard over the rushing wind.

"You're right about that!" Junior said.

Disappointed, Fauna said, "Take a guess!"

"Couldn't guess!" Junior said.

"There are four trees!" Flora said, encouraging Junior to pick a number. Both girls were frustrated at Junior's reluctance.

Finally, Junior said, "There are seven kinds of apples! But, of course, I could never guess!"

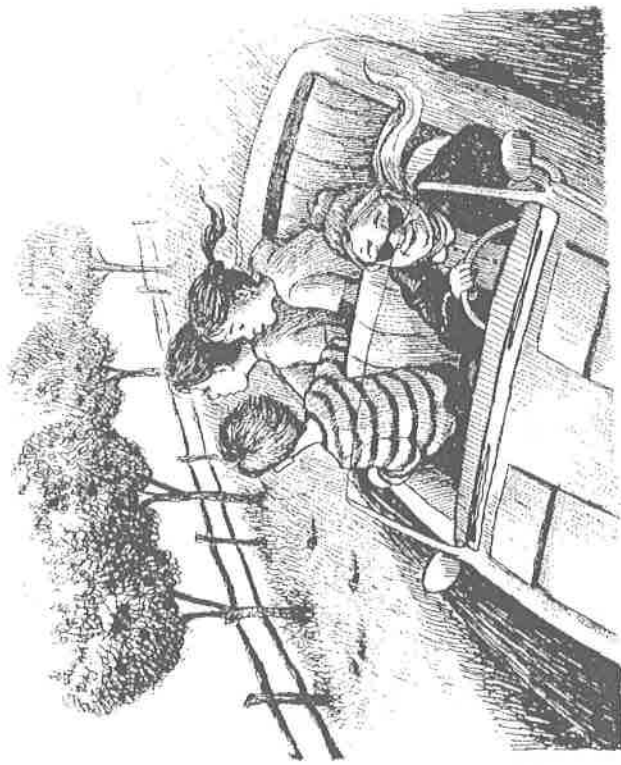
Flora and Fauna turned to each other with surprised looks. "How did you guess?" Flora asked.

"Grandpa told me," Junior confessed. "I could never guess!"

Why did Junior keep insisting he couldn't guess?

How could the answer be seven when there are four trees?

Solution on page 89.



A Ride with Grandma

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Grandma Quicksolve was a typical grandmother in the kitchen, where she loved to bake cakes and pies. When she got to the garage, it was a different story. Here she became a self-described "radical girl." When she got behind the wheel of her fire-engine red Mustang convertible, she liked to cook in a very different way. "Oops!" she said, as if she did not intend to fishtail out of the farmyard and onto the road, throwing gravel until the tires spun and smoked across the blacktop. She did not want to be a bad influence on her grandchildren. Junior rode in the front seat and Flora and Fauna rode in the back. The twins' ponytails

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Sick Trick

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Junior sat at Grandma Quicksolve's kitchen table finishing the hot dog he had cooked as a snack. He decided it was delicious with mustard and onions. He had been disappointed at first because he couldn't find any ketchup in Grandma's refrigerator. Just as he put a bite of hot dog into his mouth,

Flora came into the house supporting Fauna, who had a thick turban of bandages covering her head. Large spots of red soaked through the mass of white. Thick red drops dripped down to her nose and the corners of her mouth. One leg was similarly bandaged with a large red spot and red drops running down from the bandaged area. Fauna grimaced and whimpered with each step.

"Fauna's been hurt!" Flora said.

Junior stood up in surprise. "What happened?" he asked.

"She was riding her bike down the street just in front of the school when a speeding car hit her head-on! She has amnesia!" Flora said.

"Woof! Woof!" Fauna said suddenly.

"She thinks she's a dog!" Flora said.

Fauna stuck out her tongue and began to pant. "Ha! Junior laughed.

"She's hurt!" Flora said.

"Ha! Ha!" Junior continued laughing.

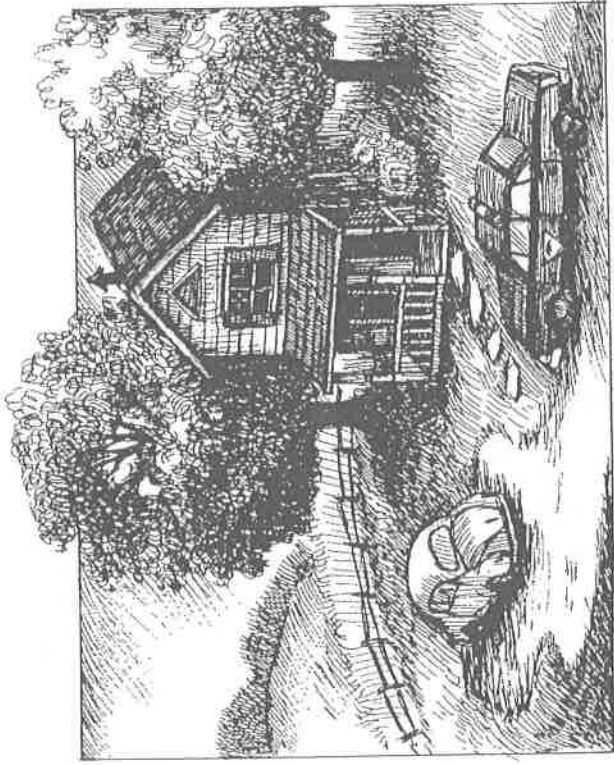
"How can you laugh?" Flora asked her cousin.

"Woof! Woof!" Fauna said faintly.

"You are both sick!" Junior said, unable to stop laughing. "I don't believe this!"

Why didn't Junior believe Fauna had been in an accident?

Solution on page 90.



Country Killing

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Dr. J.L. Quicksolve sped along in his bright yellow VW Beetle. He looked at the sun beginning to set to his right across the expanse of corn growing in the fields. Sun and corn belong together, he thought, out here in this beautiful country atmosphere—but not murder.

Sergeant Rebekah Shurshot met Dr. Quicksolve at the door of the small house nestled between the huge oak trees, a small oasis in the sea of cornfields. The front door, hanging to the floor from one hinge, was the first sign something was amiss. The second was the blanket-covered body on the floor. Dr. Quicksolve had to step around it.

Sergeant Shurshot led him through the mass of overturned furniture and broken lamps into the small dining area. Sergeant Shurshot introduced Dr. Quicksolve to Spinner Webb, the nephew of the deceased.

"My aunt had not been feeling well," Spinner said. "She had been depressed ever since her dog, Spookum, disappeared." Dr. Quicksolve noticed the curtains were drawn, as if the elderly lady had wanted to live in the misery of darkness while she mourned. "She didn't answer when I knocked," Mr. Webb continued. "I pushed on the door. It opened barely an inch, stopped by the chain lock. I shouted for her, but I got no answer. I could see inside enough to tell the house had been ransacked. I was worried, so I slammed my shoulder against the door and broke in. I came inside and looked around. I stumbled over my aunt's body in the dark. That scared me half to death!"

"There is one window open in the back," Sergeant Shurshot said. "The screen has been cut."

"The murderer must have escaped through that window," Webb said.

"You weave quite a story, Mr. Webb," Dr. Quicksolve said.

Why did Dr. Quicksolve doubt Spinner Webb's story?

Solution on page 87.

Mary Contrary

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Dr. J.L. Quicksolve stood in front of a small suburban house with a neatly trimmed lawn. He watched as the seat of the sedan in the driveway was moved forward in order to remove the body wedged between the front and back seat. It was the body of Tim Contrary—recently married, recently deceased.

Inside the house Lieutenant Rootumout was questioning Tim's new bride, Mary. When Dr. Quicksolve entered, the Lieutenant paused and summarized what he had learned so far. He explained that Mr. Contrary's body was discovered in the back seat of Mr. Contrary's car that morning by Phyllis, their mail carrier. Mary said she and her husband had had an argument the

previous night around 11 o'clock. She said Tim had left in a huff and had not returned.

"So you went to bed and just found out about your husband's death this morning when the



police came to the door?" Dr. Quicksolve asked the petite young lady who sat at the kitchen table sobbing and wringing her hands.

"No," she said, getting up to pour Dr. Quicksolve a cup of coffee. Standing, she was barely over five feet tall and could just reach the coffee cups in the cupboard. Her hands trembled as she set the cup on the table in front of Dr. Quicksolve. "I was awake most of the night listening to music and worrying about Tim," she said.

"Had he left in a huff before?" Dr. Quicksolve asked.

"Yes," she said. "He doesn't talk things out. He just drives around and settles down. He's usually back in an hour or two. We both apologize, and the spat is forgotten."

"Did you hear the car drive in?" Lieutenant Rootumout asked.

"No, the music," she said.

"I'm afraid, Mrs. Contrary..." Lieutenant Rootumout began.

"That someone killed your husband, drove his car home, and left it here with his body in the back seat," Dr. Quicksolve said, finishing Lieutenant Rootumout's sentence.

Why didn't Dr. Quicksolve suspect Mary?

Solution on page 91.



Cattle Rustlers

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Dr. J.L. Quicksolve and Junior sat in their VW Beetle just off the highway at the entrance to a cornfield. They were not exactly inconspicuous in the bright yellow car, but Dr. Quicksolve did not think that was important for this job. They certainly did not look like a police stakeout as they sat eating chili dogs and sipping root beer.

There had been a series of thefts in the area. It was actually cattle rustling. Cows had been stolen from farms while farmers had been working in distant fields. When Junior found out what his dad was going to do, he asked to come along. He put on a cowboy hat just for fun and to add a little atmosphere to the situation. Dr. Quicksolve had

gone along with his son's sense of humor and donned a Stetson himself. So there they sat—a couple of real wranglers, cowboy hats and all—sitting in a yellow Bug in a cornfield, munching chili dogs.

As Dr. Quicksolve took his last bite, he got a call over the radio. A farmer named McDonald had just called. After returning from the fields, McDonald found five cows missing from his barn. He had seen a white truck just before he reached his house. He thought it might have been the rustlers.

Just then two white trucks passed Dr. Quicksolve and Junior. Both trucks were going west. One had a sign on the door that said "Solomon Produce—Canton, Ohio." The other truck's sign read "Spartan Trucking—Sheboygan, Michigan." The trucks reached a fork in the road. The Solomon truck traveled to the left, the Spartan truck to the right.

"Well," Dr. Quicksolve said to his son. "It must be one of those two trucks. Which one shall we follow?"

"I think you know as well as I do, Dad," Junior replied.

Which truck did Junior think belonged to the crooks?

Solution on page 86.



One Foggy Night

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“City Bank was robbed, and a bulletin went out,” Sergeant Rebekah Shurshot explained to Dr. J.L. Quicksolve. “Rookie Officer Goodheart was in the area. He reported picking up a man walking away in dense fog just outside town. Officer Goodheart said he arrested the man with the money bag from the robbery. He put the suspect in the back of his police car. The officer said he reached for the switch to turn on his bright lights while turning around and took his eyes off the road for just

a second. He crashed in a ditch, and the suspect got away. Fortunately, he was in such a hurry he forgot the money bag. Officer Kautchya found a man running along the road in the fog and brought him in. Goodheart has not identified him yet. We’re waiting for Officer Goodheart to get back from the hospital. It looks like he broke his arm in the crash. They’re putting a cast on his arm now.”

“What does the suspect say about all this?” Dr. Quicksolve said.

“The suspect, Ronnie Nose, said he was out jogging and got lost in the fog,” Sergeant Shurshot replied. He lives nearby. I guess that’s why he didn’t need a car to rob the bank. He could walk home, and no one would suspect him in his own neighborhood—if they could see him at all in the fog. You can question him now.”

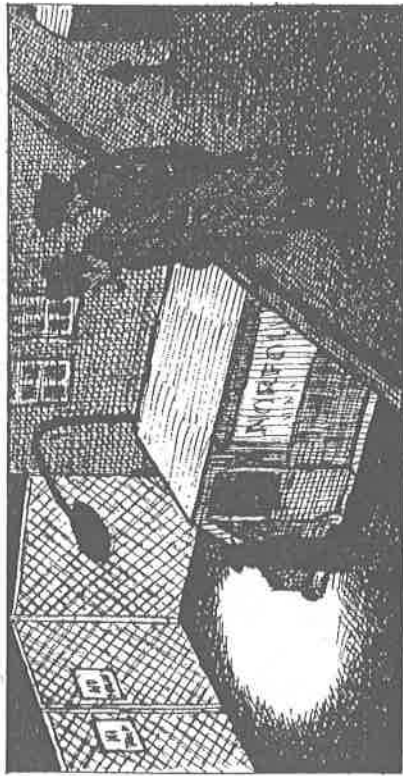
“You talked to Officer Goodheart at the hospital?” Dr. Quicksolve asked.

“Yes. I came back here when I heard about the suspect,” Sergeant Shurshot said.

“I am afraid we need to question our Rookie Officer Goodheart,” Dr. Quicksolve said.

Why did Dr. Quicksolve want to question Officer Goodheart?

Solution on page 92.



Hijack

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“There have been hijackings of weapons shipments coming into the city,” Captain Reelumin told Dr. J.L. Quicksolve. “The thieves have used disguises, false papers, and other tricks to steal weapons that have been sent into our country from the former Soviet Union. We don’t know how they know when a shipment comes in or where they take it when they get it away from us. We are setting up a stakeout team near the harbor to watch what happens to a decoy shipment of weapons coming in tonight. Almost no one involved here knows it’s not a real shipment of weapons. We hope the hijackers get it. Then we can follow them and get back what has already been taken. We’re afraid we’re dealing with clever terrorists.”

Dr. Quicksolve and Captain Reelumin stood on a rooftop overlooking a warehouse. “The navy’s

scheduled to pick up our load of weapons from this warehouse. We’ll see what happens,” Captain Reelumin told Dr. Quicksolve. “Sergeant Shurshot is at the gate posing as a warehouse guard. She’ll signal us if anything looks suspicious.”

A large white truck pulled up to the gate. The sign on the side said “Norfolk Naval Base.”

“Sergeant Shurshot is wearing a radio so we can hear her,” Captain Reelumin said as the two men watched the uniformed driver hand papers to Sergeant Shurshot.

The sergeant looked at the papers she had been given. “Here to pick up some weapons, eh?” Sergeant Shurshot hesitated and put one hand over her mouth and scratched her head with the other hand.

“What is it?” Captain Reelumin spoke into his headset. “Is there a problem, Sergeant?”

“Any problem?” they heard the driver ask Sergeant Shurshot with what was clearly a southern accent.

“No,” she said, composing herself. “No problem. I see your credentials match the sign on your truck. Very official. No problem.”

“I guess she’s figured out that’s our crook,” Dr. Quicksolve said. “Let’s follow that truck.”

What was Sergeant Shurshot’s signal?

Solution on page 88.



Miss Cherry Blossom

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Dr. J.L. Quicksolve and Junior walked around the farm wagon, which was being transformed by a group of excited young people happily chatting as they worked on the Miss Cherry Blossom float the night before the Independence Day parade. Miss Cherry Blossom herself, Mary Schino, was introduced to Dr. Quicksolve. She asked the famous detective for his autograph for her younger brother and was flattered when he said, "Yes, of course, if I may have yours."

Dr. Quicksolve was up and out bright and early the next morning. He was concerned about the information Lieutenant Rootumout had received from an informer that a local gang of thugs was planning to rob a bank during the parade. The informer could not say which bank, though. Dr. Quicksolve was scheduled to be in the parade with Junior, who would be wearing a dog costume and asking people to "take a bite out of crime." The detective knew he would rather be dealing with the potential bank robbery.

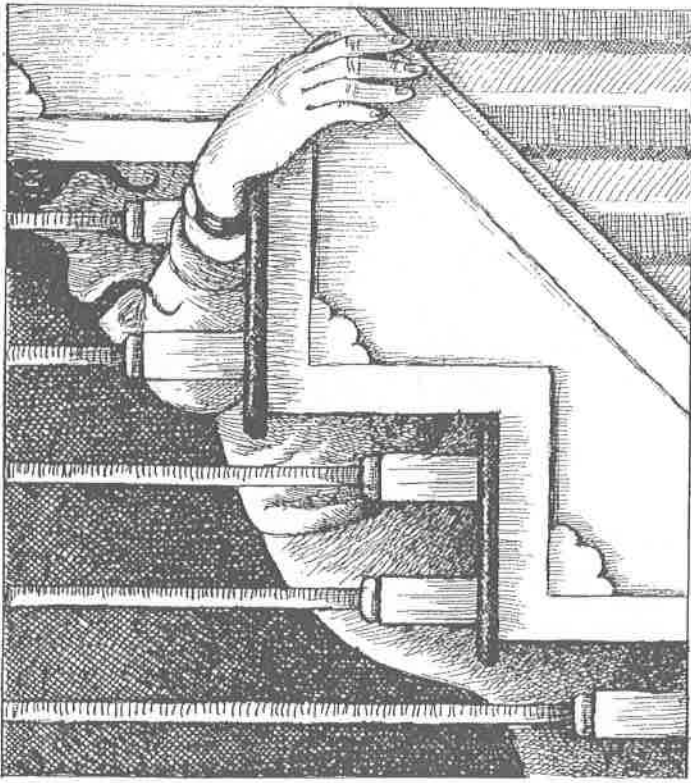
As Dr. Quicksolve walked down the row of parking spaces reserved for parade entrants, he noticed a sign saying, "reserved for Miss Cherry Blossom." The float had not arrived yet, but there was a shiny convertible parked in the spot on the street in front of the Community Bank.

Sergeant Rebekah Shurshot stood in front of the convertible as Dr. Quicksolve approached. "Something about this car doesn't seem right," she told him.

Dr. Quicksolve walked around the car and said, "Call Lieutenant Rootumout. I think we may have found the bank and the getaway car."

Why did Dr. Quicksolve suspect this was the bank that would be robbed?

Solution on page 87.



Woof! Woof! Bang! Bang!

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The body of Shirley Stonedeade lay face down on the stairs. One arm stretched up to the stair above her head. It almost looked as if she had fallen asleep on the stairs, except for the three bullet holes in her back. At the bottom of the steps lay a pit bull terrier. It had taken two bullets to stop the dog.

The police photographer was taking pictures as a tall man in a flashy suit, Barrie Scarrie, talked to Dr. J.L. Quicksolve and Sergeant Rebekah Shurshot. The long scar on the man's face seemed

to make a smile impossible. "I had an early appointment with Miss Stonedeade. She owed me money. I came to pick it up," Barrie said. "As I was just about to push the doorbell, I heard a dog bark and two shots. Then I heard a noise in the back of the house, and a car came backing out of the driveway and took off. I didn't see the driver, and I didn't recognize the car. The door of the house was unlocked, so I went in. I saw Miss Stonedeade and her dead dog. I called the police. That's all I know."

"Have you known Miss Stonedeade long?" Dr. Quicksolve asked.

"Yes, I have. I used to work here. I was her bodyguard," Barrie explained.

Dr. Quicksolve and Sergeant Shurshot stepped aside to listen to what Officer Longarm had found out. "The back door was broken open. A safe upstairs was jimmied open too. It's empty," Officer Longarm said. "It had to be a burglar. Did Mr. Scarrie give you a description of the suspect?" Officer Longarm asked Sergeant Shurshot.

"No," Sergeant Shurshot answered, "but I imagine he has a picture of the murderer in his wallet." Dr. Quicksolve chuckled at her little joke.

What did Sergeant Shurshot mean?

Solution on page 94.



B.B. Bigstuff

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"We arrested Bobby Bluntnose, the private detective, for murdering B.B. Bigstuff, the men's clothing tycoon. Then we had to let him go," Lieutenant Rootumout told Dr. J.L. Quicksolve as they sat in Dr. Quicksolve's library sipping coffee. "He had the motive. He had worked for B.B. Bigstuff as a security guard and was recently fired for making fun of short people. Remember, B.B. Bigstuff was only five-foot-one, but he sold clothing for extra-large men. He insisted on wearing large sizes, so his pants drooped and the sleeves of

his suit jackets hung over his knuckles. He was quite a sight. Bobby Bluntnose also had the opportunity. He admits he was in Bigstuff's office, firing his revolver at the time of the murder."

Dr. Quicksolve scratched the head of his retriever, Copper, as if to help the dog think. Then he said, "Give me some more details."

"Bluntnose was in B.B.'s office at eight-forty-five according to B.B.'s secretary. On the way out he told the secretary B.B. was on the phone and should not be disturbed. He also said he would be back soon."

"Bluntnose came back a few minutes later. He was in the office just a couple minutes when the secretary heard two shots. A few seconds later Bluntnose ran out of the office with a gun in his hand and told the secretary to call the police. His story was that a woman shot Bigstuff through the window, and he shot at the assailant as she ran off. Bigstuff was killed with a .22 caliber bullet, and Bluntnose had a .38 with one shot fired. So it looks as if he's telling the truth," Lieutenant Rootumout said.

"There is a way he could have done it," Dr. Quicksolve said.

How?

Solution on page 94.

Disappearing Duffel

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Junior had stayed after soccer practice to try a few extra shots on goal. He practiced dribbling at speed, angling across the goal to draw the keeper, and firing with either foot. There was no one else in the locker room when he finally came in.

Junior thought he heard the locker room door when he turned off the shower. He dried himself as he walked to his locker, and he heard the door again. Then he noticed his gym bag was gone. He wrapped his towel around his waist and ran out of the boys' locker room into the hallway. John Bigdood and Bobby Socks were drinking from the water fountain that separated the boys' and girls' locker rooms. No one else was around. Junior watched the two boys walk to the end of the hall and out the door.

The next morning Junior walked to school with Prissy Powers, the cutest girl on the cheerleading squad. He told her about his disappearing duffel bag. She suggested he ask the principal's secretary, Miss Notepad, if anyone had turned one in to the lost-and-found. They walked into the office as John Bigdood and Bobby Socks walked out. John was carrying his large football bag. Neither of them carried books.

Junior asked the secretary if anyone had turned in an athletic bag. She said, "Yes, one. It was John Bigdood's. It had his name on it. He just picked it

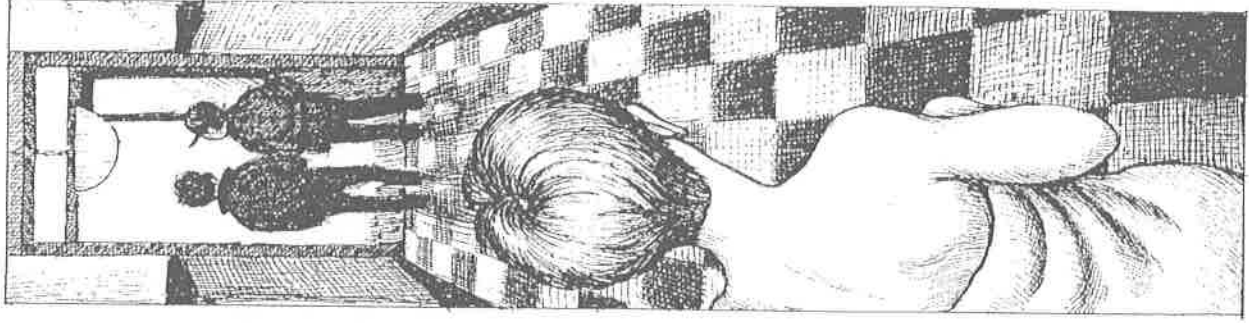
up. Someone found it in the girls' locker room this morning. No other bags were turned in yet today."

"Well," Prissy said, "maybe somebody will turn yours in later today."

"I don't think it's going to be turned in. But if you get the principal, Miss Notepad," he said to the secretary, "I think we can get my bag back."

What does Junior suspect?

Solution on page 93.



Rootumout pushed the remote again. "Watch him as he comes into the bank. You get a pretty good look at his face," Lieutenant Rootumout said. They watched the robbery unfold. The man came in, looked boldly at the camera, and went ahead and robbed the bank under its watchful eye. Lieutenant Rootumout turned off the television as the robber disappeared out the bank door with a large sack of money.

"We have arrested a suspect, Izzy Clownen," Lieutenant Rootumout said.

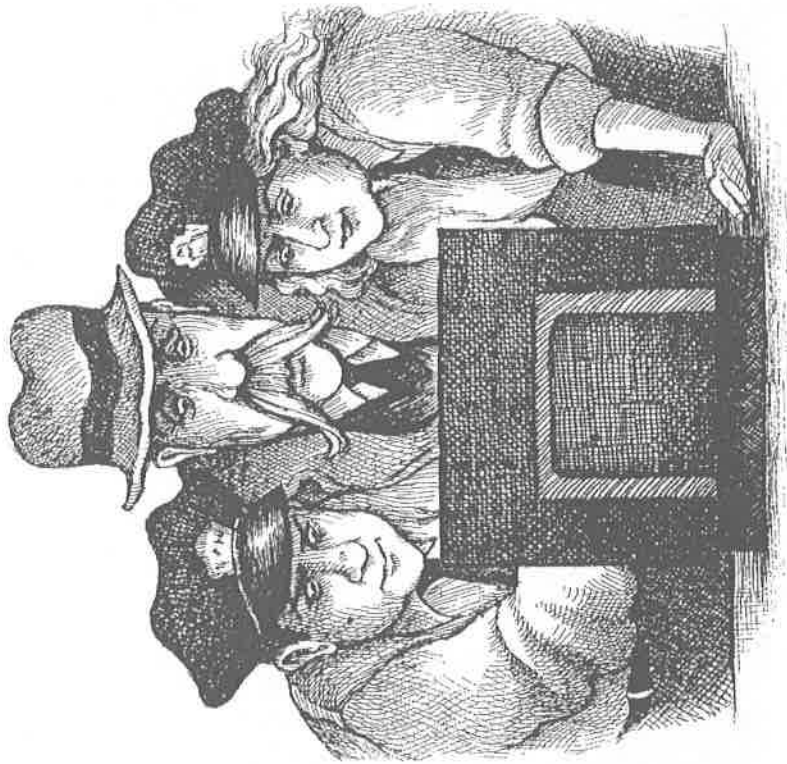
"You have a clear picture. What's the problem?" Sergeant Shurshot said.

"Well, he looks just like the robber, but he has an alibi. Several people said he was at a bar across town. It looks like he has a foolproof alibi. They said he sat there for nearly two hours drinking. They said he was loud and drunk, calling attention to himself. One guy said he was dizzy. I guess he drank quite a lot. Finally, he just stood up and walked out the door. It looks like he's in two places at once."

"Is he?" Dr. Quicksolve asked "Or is he Dizzy?"

What did Dr. Quicksolve mean?

Solution on page 90.



Izzy Dizzy?

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Dr. J.L. Quicksolve stood beside Sergeant Rebekah Shurshot and watched the television screen intently as Lieutenant Rootumout pushed the buttons on the remote control. Horizontal lines waved down and then up on the screen as the fuzzy picture came into focus and revealed a man back away from a bank teller's window and walk out of the bank backwards. Lieutenant

Lady Hope

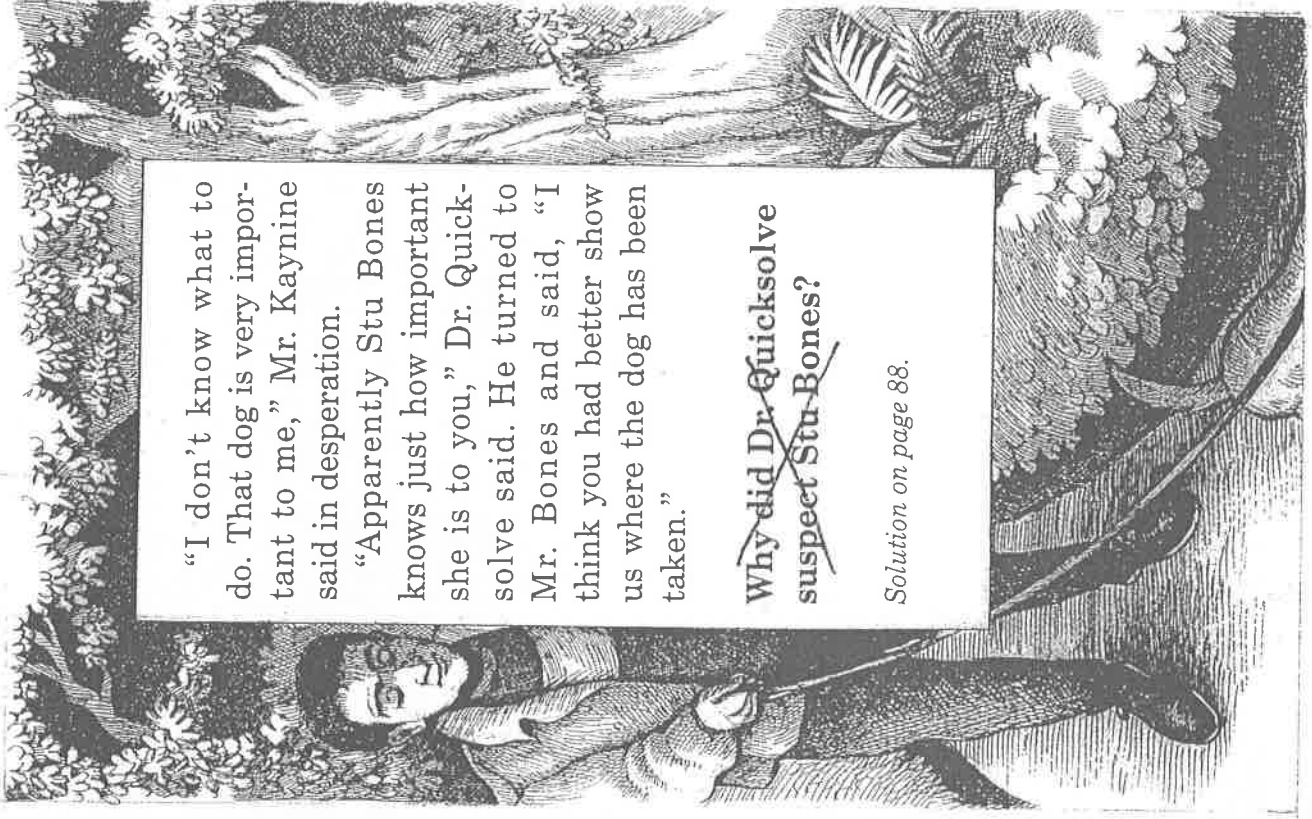
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"I was just walking the puppy in the park right before lunch. We had stopped at a bush when somebody hit me from behind. He knocked me down, grabbed the puppy, dropped the note, and ran. I didn't get much of a look at him," Stuart Bones explained. He had been hired to walk his neighbor's dog.

Mr. Kaynine's new puppy had been dognapped. He explained, "I got this puppy from a friend of mine who's been raising world champion poodles. I had another friend who raised Newfoundland. We were cross-breeding to get a dog that could swim well and look cute at the same time to be trained to do synchronized swimming. This puppy was my best hope. Because of my high hopes, I decided just this morning to name the puppy Lady Hope. I figured she would be a champion and get me going in the business. That's why she's so valuable to me."

"Read the note that was dropped beside Stuart when the dog was stolen," said Dr. Quicksolve, who had been asked to assist in the dognapping investigation, to Mr. Kaynine.

"It says, 'If you want to see your dog again, leave \$10,000 at the park bench at the west end of the park tonight at midnight. Try any tricks and you'll never see Lady again!'"



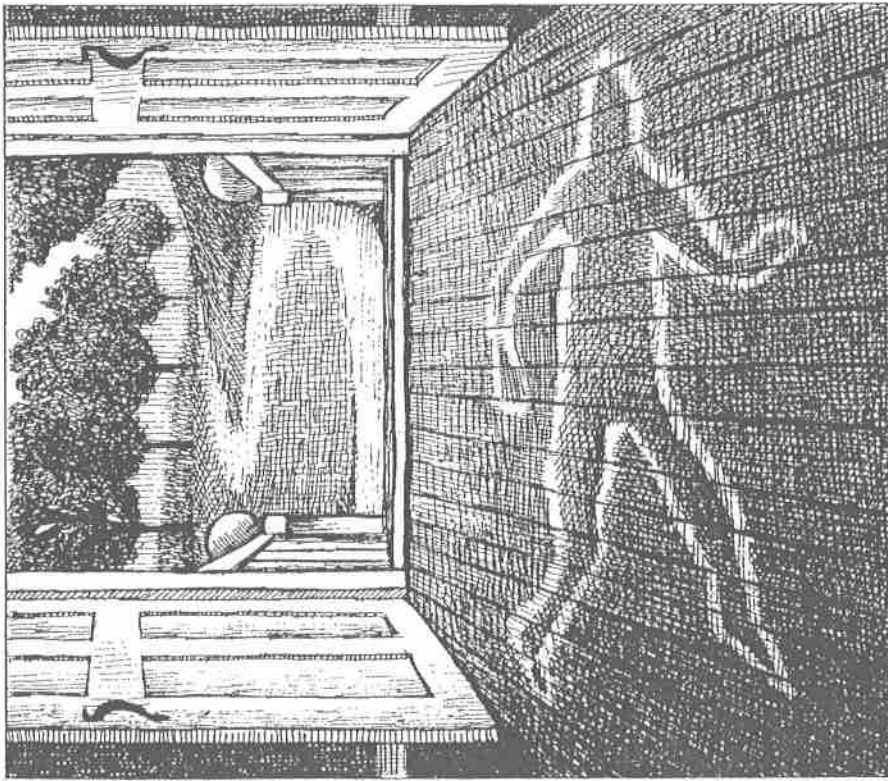
"I don't know what to do. That dog is very important to me," Mr. Kaynine said in desperation.

"Apparently Stu Bones knows just how important she is to you," Dr. Quicksolve said. He turned to Mr. Bones and said, "I think you had better show us where the dog has been taken."

~~Why did Dr. Quicksolve suspect Stu Bones?~~

Solution on page 88.

17



The Butler Didn't Do It

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"The butler's body was found right here at the front door," Sergeant Rebekah Shurshot explained to Dr. J.L. Quicksolve as she pointed to the outline of a body drawn on the hardwood floor. Outlines like that always made Dr. Quicksolve think of the puzzles he used to put together

as a boy. The missing piece now, though, was a dead body, and this was no game.

"Was anyone else in the house at the time?" asked Dr. Quicksolve.

"Yes, the maid was upstairs cleaning. She said she heard a single shot. She ran downstairs just in time to see two men run to a van and pull away. She couldn't give us much of a description of the two men," Sergeant Shurshot said.

Dr. Quicksolve looked around the house. It was in shambles. Drawers were pulled out, tables were overturned, and pictures were pulled off the walls. "Apparently they took a lot of things—valuable paintings, silverware, a large coin collection, televisions, stereo, etc. We haven't counted everything yet," the sergeant said.

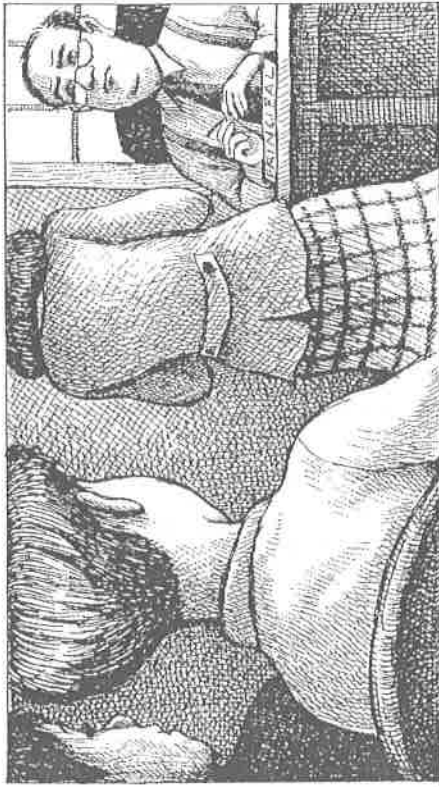
"What about the owners of the house? Where are they?" Dr. Quicksolve asked.

"They're on vacation all this week. We're trying to locate them now. They don't even know about the robbery yet."

"I see. They just happened to be on vacation. When you get in touch with them, tell them they are going to need a new maid, as well as a new butler," Dr. Quicksolve said.

Why will they need a new maid?

Solution on page 92.



Classroom Crime

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Junior sat in Principal Paddlebottom's office. Junior's friend, Shortstop, sat next to him. Bobby Socks sat across the room from them. Mrs. Spellbinder, Junior's teacher, stood talking to Mr. Paddlebottom. She told the principal that she came in to school this morning, unlocked her room, put her purse in her classroom closet, and went to the teachers' workroom. She noticed Bobby Socks was painting the wall in the hall outside her room, but she did not think she needed to lock the door. When she got back, her closet door was open, and money was gone from her purse.

"Bobby was painting over some things that should not have been written on the wall in the first place," Mr. Paddlebottom said. Then he turned to Junior and Shortstop. "You two came in

early today?"

"Yes," Junior said. "We saw Mrs. Spellbinder walking toward the teachers' workroom."

"And what else?" Mr. Paddlebottom asked.

Shortstop gulped nervously and said, "We saw Bobby Socks go into Mrs. Spellbinder's classroom. He came out a minute later and started painting again."

"Did you go into Mrs. Spellbinder's room Bobby?" Mr. Paddlebottom asked, turning to look at him.

"I was in there just a minute, like Shortstop said," Bobby replied. "I washed a little paint off my hands. I wasn't in there long enough to do anything else. Why don't you search Shortstop? He might have gone into the room when my back was turned," Bobby said.

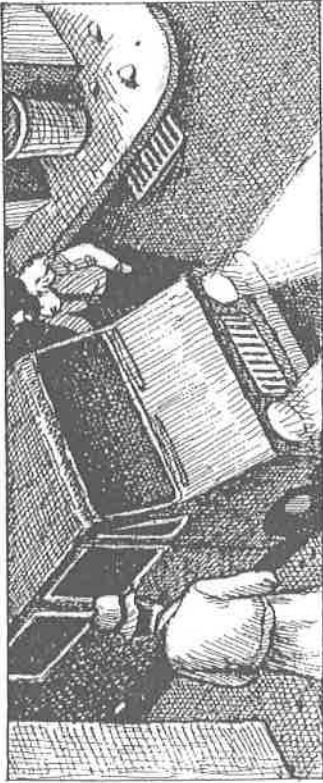
"No one else has been in your room yet?" Mr. Paddlebottom asked Mrs. Spellbinder.

"I locked it after I saw the money was missing just a few minutes ago. I don't think anyone else has come into the building yet," Mrs. Spellbinder said.

Junior spoke up. "I think we can tell easily if Bobby is telling the truth."

What did Junior mean?

Solution on page 91.



Dark Suspicion

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“Does that man have a gun in his hand?” Sergeant Rebekah Shurshot asked Dr. J.L. Quicksolve. She was looking ahead into the darkness lit by the headlights of Dr. Quicksolve’s VW Beetle. They saw a man cross the street and get into a mini-van parked on the side of the road. They were in an area known for drug deals. This looked suspicious.

“Call for backup,” Dr. Quicksolve said as he pulled to the side of the road, watching the van in his side mirror.

Sergeant Shurshot did not take her eyes off the van sitting in the darkness as she reached for the microphone below the dash and made the call.

Dr. Quicksolve placed the portable flashing red light on his roof as they stepped out of the VW. They approached the dark van from each side. Sergeant Shurshot had her hand on her holstered pistol. Dr. Quicksolve’s hand was inside his jacket.

They reached the van and asked the two men inside to step out of the vehicle. The two men got out of the van and closed the doors. They raised their hands as they began their protest. “What is this?” one asked.

“We didn’t do anything!” the other added.

“Where’s the gun?” Sergeant Shurshot demanded.

“There’s no gun!” the driver said.

“We saw someone get into the van with a gun,” Dr. Quicksolve said.

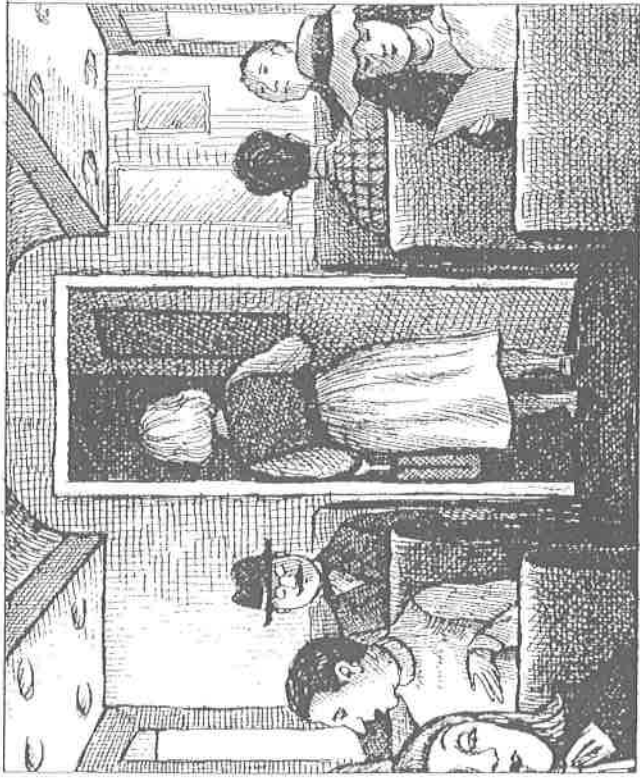
“Yeah,” the driver said. “Some guy tried to rob us. He came over with that gun and climbed into our van. But then you pulled over and stopped. He saw that red light and got scared. When you got out of the car, he slipped out the other sliding door of the van and ran off.”

“Show me,” Dr. Quicksolve said.

They walked around the van, and the man opened the sliding door. Dr. Quicksolve smiled at what happened. Sergeant Shurshot shook her head. They could hear the sirens of approaching police cars. “We’ll search the van when the backup arrives,” she said.

What happened when the driver opened the sliding door that made Dr. Quicksolve grin?

Solution on page 92.



Train Robbery

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"We had three people on the train," said Carl Crossdraw, head of security for the Glistening Rocks Diamond Corporation. "Paula Perchlip, our courier, had the satchel of diamonds handcuffed to her wrist. We had two armed guards in the passenger car with her. She got up to use the rest room. She started to go to another train car because the rest room in hers was out of order. When she left the car, a man grabbed her. She said she fought with him for several minutes before she lost her balance and fell off the train. Two women were waiting. They jumped on her

before she stopped rolling and took the satchel. Our two guards went to check on her when she didn't come back. They couldn't find her anywhere on the train, so they called us. We called the police."

Dr. J.L. Quicksolve and Captain Reelumin listened intently as Mr. Crossdraw finished his story about how nearly a million dollars worth of uncut diamonds were stolen from a train.

"Paula was found along the tracks later by state troopers," Crossdraw said. "She was bruised up a bit. She still had half of the handcuffs on her wrist. She said the women who grabbed her cut the handcuffs off with bolt cutters, grabbed the satchel, and ran off. She didn't see a getaway car or anything. Fortunately, the state police were really on the ball, and the two women were caught speeding down the highway.

"Paula, of course, is a hero for putting up such a fight. We would like to have you present an award to her for us, if you would," the security man said to Dr. Quicksolve.

"I wonder if a warrant for her arrest might be more appropriate than an award," Dr. Quicksolve said.

Why did he suspect Paula was in on the robbery?

Solution on page 86.