

The Drumstick's Story



An hour before world renowned percussionist Lex Lipsnacker was scheduled to perform at Bung Hollow Symphony Hall, he was found dead – *murdered* – in his dressing room. Sgt. Pringler of the Bung Hollow Constabulary was baffled. There was, as far as he could tell, no motive for the crime, no sign of a struggle, and, except for the drumstick Lipsnacker was clutching in his right hand, no clue. But if the drumstick did have a story to tell, there was only one person in all of policedom who could decipher it. Lieutenant Adele Dinklaker, auspiciously on loan from the Royal Australian Navy, possessed a nose that was keener than a bloodhound's. As soon as she arrived at the crime scene, she prized the drumstick out of Lipsnacker's hand and smelt it. A minute, heavy with tension, passed. Then Dinklaker calmly said, "It was Colonel Mustard ... with a candlestick ... in the library." Sgt. Pringler knew of no Colonel Mustard, and Bung Hollow didn't have a library. But he was happy to let suspicion fall elsewhere, as he shoved the candlestick he was trying to conceal farther down his trousers – a move, unluckily for him, which did not escape the good lieutenant's nose.