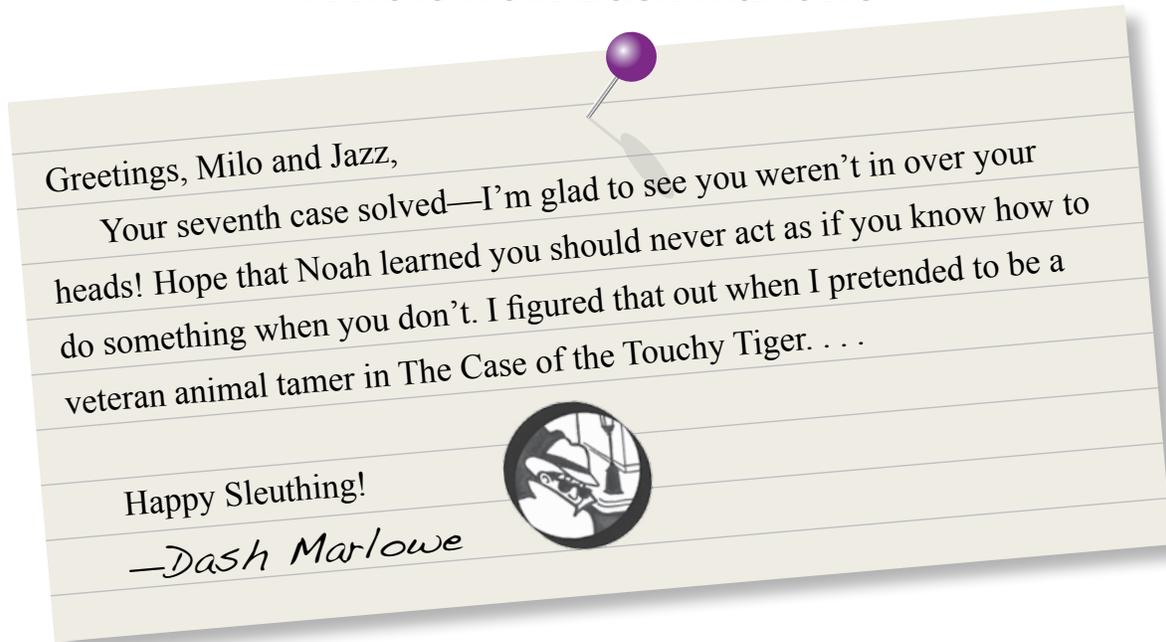




SUPER SLEUTHING PUZZLES

A Note from Dash Marlowe



Greetings, Milo and Jazz,

Your seventh case solved—I'm glad to see you weren't in over your heads! Hope that Noah learned you should never act as if you know how to do something when you don't. I figured that out when I pretended to be a veteran animal tamer in The Case of the Touchy Tiger. . . .

Happy Sleuthing!

—Dash Marlowe

Warm Up!

To solve those tough cases, detectives need to keep their brains in top condition. Tackle these brain stretchers and stay strong!

1. What can you catch but not throw?

2. What belongs to you but is mostly used by others?

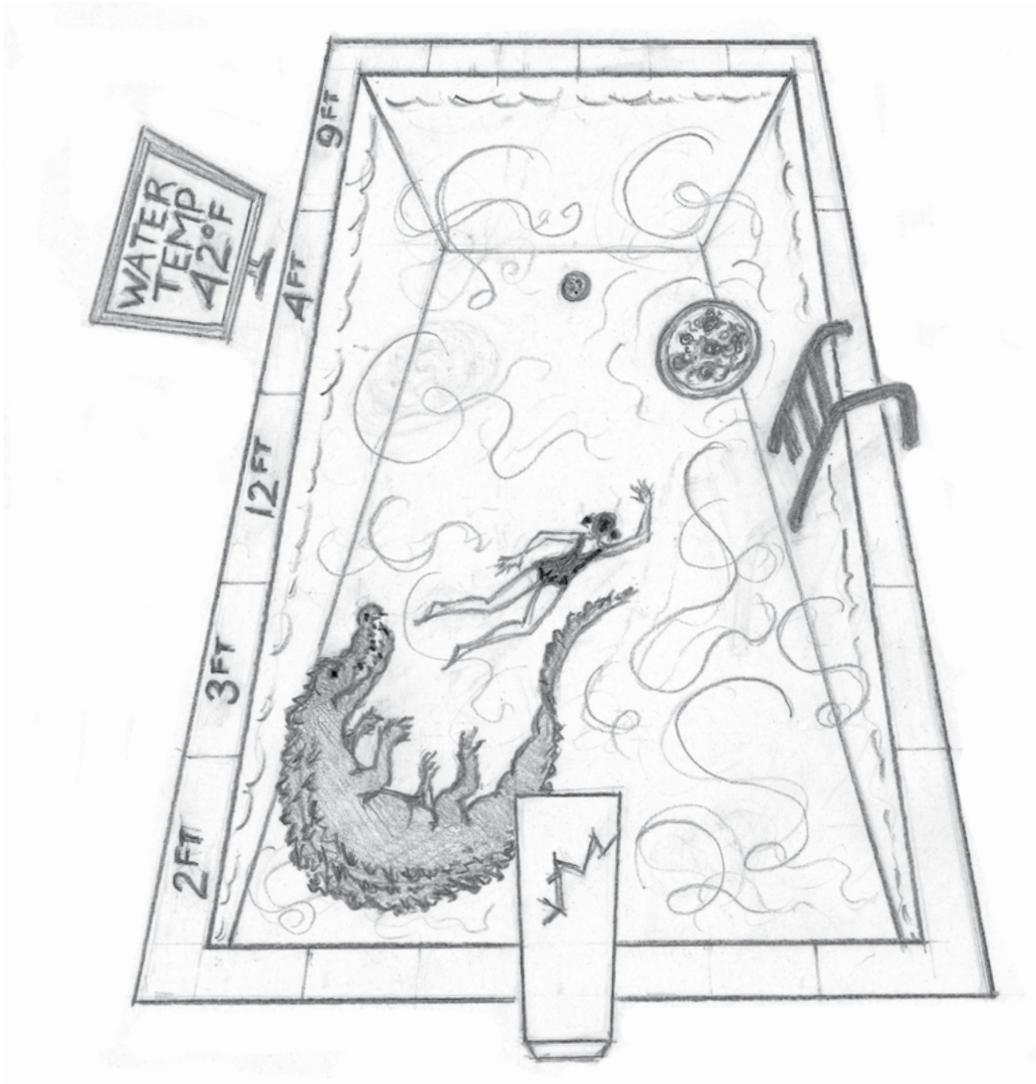
3. A silly one: What do you say when you meet a two-headed monster?

4. You've been sentenced to die by the king. But you can choose the way you'll die. So what will it be?

(Hint: The king didn't ask you how you wanted to be *killed*.)

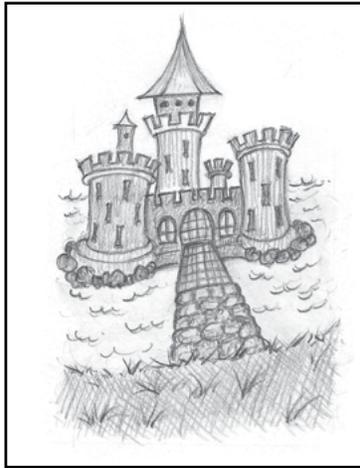
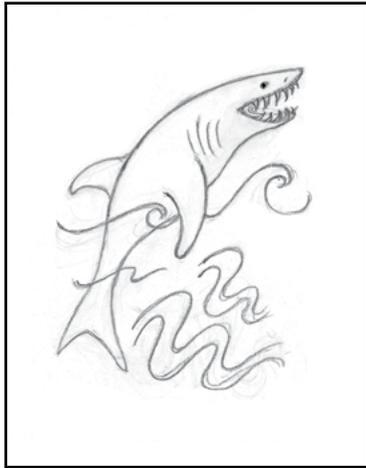
The Perilous Pool: An Observation Puzzle

A purple pool is definitely a problem. But once I came across a pool with even *more* problems! I had dropped by the home of an eccentric client. While I was there, he happened to mention that fewer and fewer of his guests were using his pool. As soon as I checked it out, I could see why! Using your observation skills, take a look and see how many different problems you can pick out. . . .



Write your answers.

Don't Go Near the Water: A Logic Puzzle



For many years Rocky, Louie, and Sal refused to go in the water, but all three got over their fears. Can you figure out what kept each guy on dry land and what changed his mind?

Read the clues and fill in the answer box where you can. Then read the clues again to fill in the rest.

- Clue 1** One guy stayed out of the water after he saw *Jaws*.
- Clue 2** Another guy was afraid his toupee would come off in the water and show his bald spot.
- Clue 3** Rocky's mom got him shark repellent for his birthday.
- Clue 4** Louie decided it would be cool to be bald.
- Clue 5** During an attempted robbery of Castle Doom, Sal fell in the moat and almost drowned.

Answer Box

	Rocky	Louie	Sal
Why he stayed dry			
What changed him			

Possibilities: An Inference Puzzle

Every detective makes lots of inferences—logical guesses. Check out these cases, and pick the inferences that sound like good possibilities. (You may choose more than one.) Explain your answers, and then I'll reveal what the real facts were!

1. I was investigating the theft of a stunning emerald ring when I spotted it on the hand of the well-known actress Trixie Astor. What did I infer?

- a. Maybe she stole it.
- b. She got it from the thief.
- c. Green is her favorite color.
- d. It could be a copy.



2. A painting of George Washington had been slashed. What did I infer?

- a. Whoever did it hated George Washington.
- b. Whoever did it was testing a new knife.
- c. Whoever did it hated the artist.
- d. Whoever did it hated the owner.

3. I was questioning a forgery suspect who seemed very nervous—moving in his chair, unable to meet my eyes. What did I infer?

- a. He's afraid I think he's guilty.
- b. He is guilty.
- c. He's just a nervous guy.
- d. A combination of all three.



We Don't Byte: A Mini-Mystery

Check out this mystery—and draw a conclusion!

Valuable equipment had been stolen from a computer store, and I was called in to investigate. The main suspect was a teenage girl, but the evidence against her was all circumstantial. She was always in the store trying out the computers. A sales clerk said he'd seen the girl lurking in the alley, where a window had been broken the night of the robbery. And the girl had fresh cuts on her arm, cuts that could have come from climbing through a shattered window—though she insisted she'd hurt herself doing yard work.

I checked out the store, but found no clues other than the broken window. Then I went to the alley, where I noticed broken glass littering the ground. I had my answer. "Aha," I said. "The girl is innocent!" How did I draw that conclusion?



Write your answer.

SUPER SLEUTHING PUZZLES

ANSWERS!

Warm Up!

1. A cold.
2. Your name.
3. “Hello. Hello.”
4. To die of old age.

The Perilous Pool: An Observation Puzzle

Answer:

1. Part of the rail into the pool was missing.
2. The water was awfully cold—42° F!
3. The depth numbers along the side of pool were out of order.
4. The diving board was at the shallow end of the pool.
5. The board was cracked, too.
6. A spinach-broccoli pizza was floating by.
7. A crocodile was paddling around as if he owned the place. (When I suggested that the owner get rid of the crocodile, he said, “Alfred?! No way—he’s the best pet I ever had. And don’t worry. He is a strict vegetarian.” So that explained the spinach-broccoli pizza. . . .)

Don't Go Near the Water: A Logic Puzzle

Answer Box

	Rocky	Louie	Sal
Why he stayed dry	<i>the movie Jaws</i>	<i>fear of losing his toupee</i>	<i>fell in a moat and almost drowned</i>
What changed him	<i>a gift of shark repellent</i>	<i>deciding it was cool to be bald</i>	<i>swimming lessons</i>

Answer:

The movie *Jaws* made Rocky afraid of the water—until his mom bought him shark repellent. Falling into the castle moat scared Sal, but he got brave after he graduated from Polliwog to Guppy in his free swim class.

Louie always felt embarrassed when his toupee came off in the water, but one day he decided to be bald and proud.

Possibilities: An Inference Puzzle

Answers:

1. a, b, and d were all reasonable possibilities, but b was closest to the facts. What really happened was that the thief was the actress's chauffeur. He'd accidentally dropped the ring in the limo. She owned so much jewelry, she assumed it was hers and put it on.
2. a, c, and d were all good inferences—and they were all true! The culprit was one angry guy.
3. This case was a great reminder to me that inferences are not facts! All the inferences in this situation were logical possibilities. But it turned out that the suspect just had to go to the bathroom!

We Don't Byte: A Mini-Mystery

Answer: If the robber had broken the window to get into the store, the glass would have been *inside*, not *outside*. I figured the sales clerk was the real robber and had smashed the window to make it look as if an outsider had broken in. I was right!