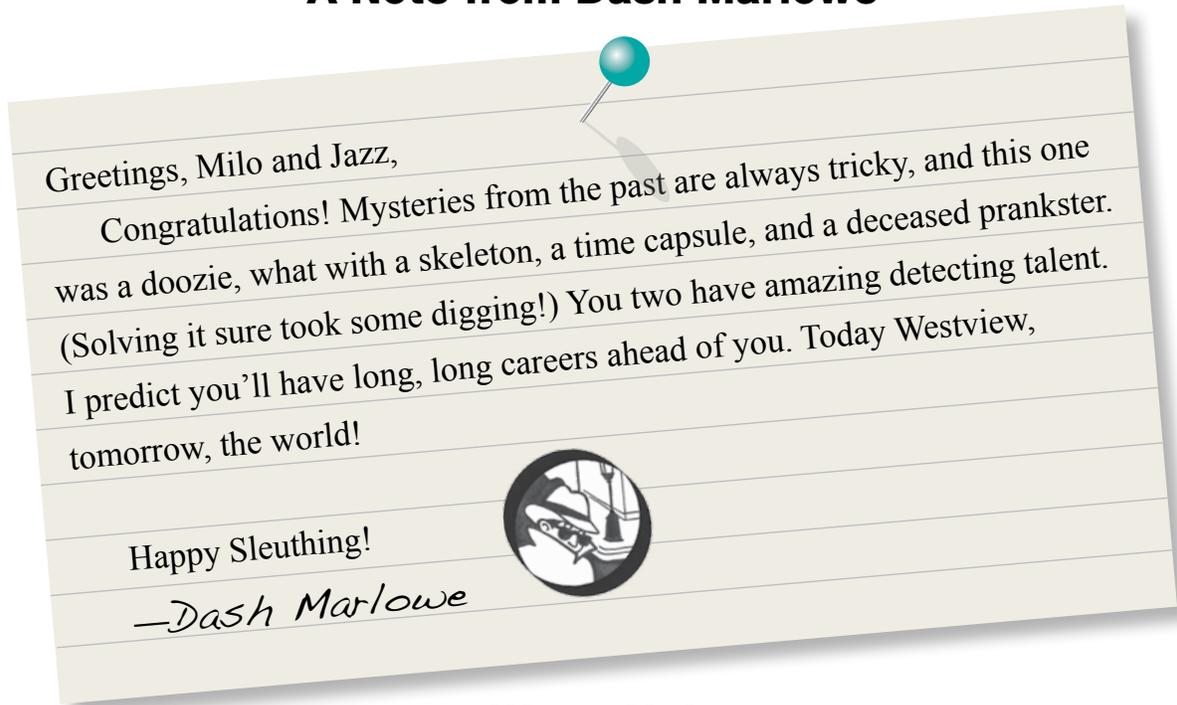




SUPER SLEUTHING PUZZLES

A Note from Dash Marlowe



Warm Up!

Here are some brain stretchers to warm you up!

1. Why did the boy bury his flashlight?

2. How can a pants pocket be empty and still have something in it?

3. Take away my first letter and I still sound the same. Take away my last letter and I still sound the same. I am a five-letter word. What am I?

(Hint: The answer is a word used in one of the other questions. . . .)

4. You are running in a marathon and you overtake the person in second place. What place are you in now?

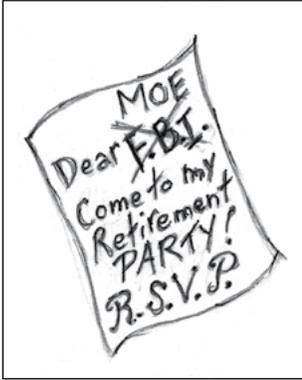
The Muddled Time Capsule: An Observation Puzzle

The town of Muddle buried a time capsule to be opened in 100 years. “It will be full of items that will show everyday life right now!” declared the mayor. But wait a minute. Five items in that capsule are way too old-fashioned to be from life “now.” Observe closely, and see if you can pick them out!



Write your answer:

That's It! A Logic Puzzle



Three ex-robbers were recalling why they decided to give up robbery and retire. What made each guy decide he was losing his edge? And what did he do next?

Look at the clues and fill in the answer box where you can. Then read the clues again to find the answer.

- Clue 1** Rocky forgot to wear his glasses and ended up stealing a red jellybean that he thought was a ruby.
- Clue 2** Louie almost got caught on his last heist because he didn't hear the burglar alarm.
- Clue 3** Sal was not the robber who had to be talked out of inviting the FBI to his big retirement party.
- Clue 4** One robber had a makeover.
- Clue 5** Louie joined the AARR (American Association of Retired Robbers).
- Clue 6** Another guy went to a bank to rob it but forgot why he came and opened an account instead.

Answer Box

	Rocky	Louie	Sal
Why he quit			
What was next			

Pay Up! A Mini-Mystery

Check out this case—and draw your own conclusion!

A client, Roderick Doss, came to me looking sick with worry. He told me why. “A man I knew long ago, Hiram Huber, showed up out of the blue insisting that I owe him \$20,000! I don’t remember any such thing, but Huber said he loaned me the money years ago when I was in debt and he was flush. He told me it was around the holidays so I was feeling especially strapped. And then”—Doss turned pale—“Huber said he had proof! He showed me a check, drawn on the Honest Bank and Trust on November 31, 2003, for \$20,000. The check was made out to me, Roderick Doss, and was marked PAID!”

At that, Doss pulled the check out of his pocket and handed it to me. I patted his shoulder and said, “Relax. You have nothing to worry about. The check is a fake.”



How did I know?

Write your conclusion.

QUACK! A Making Connections Puzzle

Farmer Zeke’s prize duck, Mabel, was ducknapped! Zeke had several suspects in mind—and plenty to say about them! Who seems like the best bet? Think, make connections to experiences you’ve had, things you’ve noticed about people, facts you know. . . . Then write down the connections you’ve made.



Farmer Zeke’s suspects:

1. Dina Duckmeir, who hated ducks.
2. Wilma Webb, who had had six pet ducks, and always said they were the “six best ducks in the world.” (“Jealous!” Zeke said.)
3. Al Dix, watchman at a car lot, who kept complimenting Mabel. (“Bet he wanted Mabel for a guard duck!”)
4. Petal Smith, an eight-year-old who asked for a pet duck for her birthday but didn’t get one. (“Brat!”)
5. Seth Zuker, a filmmaker, who wanted to sign Mabel for his new flick, *The Demon Duck*. He said, “Mabel has the most terrifying quack I’ve ever heard!” But Zeke said no. “Allow Mabel to play an evil duck? Never!”

What connections do you draw from each statement?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Answer:

The most likely duck thief is _____.

SUPER SLEUTHING PUZZLES



Warm Up!

1. The batteries had died.
2. It can have a hole in it.
3. EMPTY.
4. Second.

The Muddled Time Capsule: An Observation Puzzle

Answers:

1. Old-fashioned phone: Back in 1920, this baby would have been just the thing.
2. Knight’s helmet: Not typical of headgear in modern Muddle.
3. Old typewriter: I’ll bet you know what came along and replaced this item.
4. Three-corner hat and 5. feather pen / ink stand: The same guys who wore the hat would have used the pen—about 250 years ago!

That’s It! A Logic Puzzle

Answer Box

	Rocky	Louie	Sal
Why he quit	<i>stole a jellybean</i>	<i>didn't hear the burglar alarm</i>	<i>went to rob a bank but opened an account</i>
What was next	<i>threw a retirement party</i>	<i>joined AARR</i>	<i>had a makeover</i>

Answer:

When Rocky realized he’d stolen a jellybean instead of a ruby he threw himself a great retirement party, even if he did get talked out of inviting the FBI.

After Sal mistakenly opened a savings account instead of robbing a bank, he had a makeover and got a stunning Retired Robber tattoo.

Louie almost got caught on a heist when he didn’t hear the alarm, so he joined AARR and got a great deal on a hearing aid.

Pay Up! A Mini-Mystery

Answer:

I knew Huber was scamming Doss because there is no November 31. And I was ready to bet that no “Honest Bank”—or even a dishonest one—would accept a \$20,000 check with a date that doesn’t exist!

QUACK! A Making Connections Puzzle

Connections:

1. Someone like Dina who hates ducks would want nothing to do with them.
2. Wilma was happy with the six ducks she had. Why would she want another one?
3. A guard duck? Ridiculous.
4. Petal? Hmm.
5. Zuker wouldn’t ducknap Mabel for his film because he’d get caught! The minute Zeke found out the film was getting made, he’d know what happened to Mabel.

Answer: Yep, Petal did it. She unhooked Mabel’s cage and walked off with her. I found a very contented-looking Mabel in Petal’s toy closet, wearing a big blue bow and eating cookie crumbs. (The quacking was a giveaway.)