

The Mystery Story

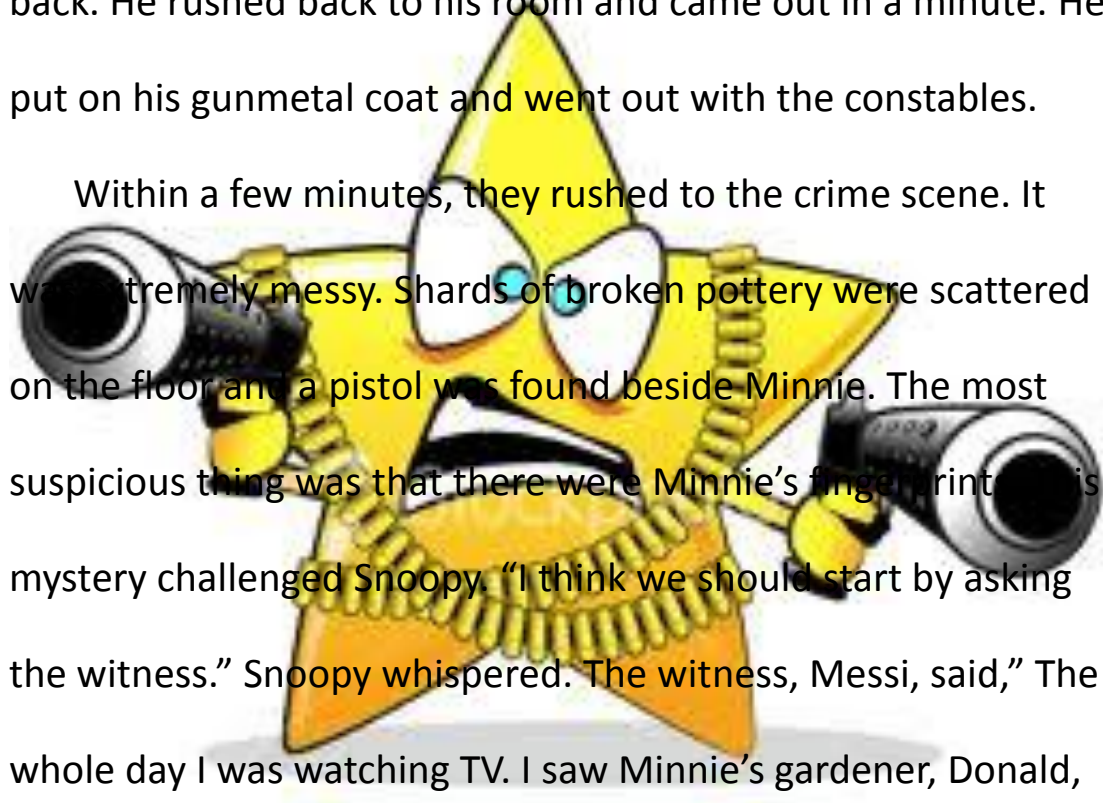
By Maximus Wong



It was early in the morning at seven o'clock, the doorbell rang. Detective Snoopy knew that it wasn't a good thing.

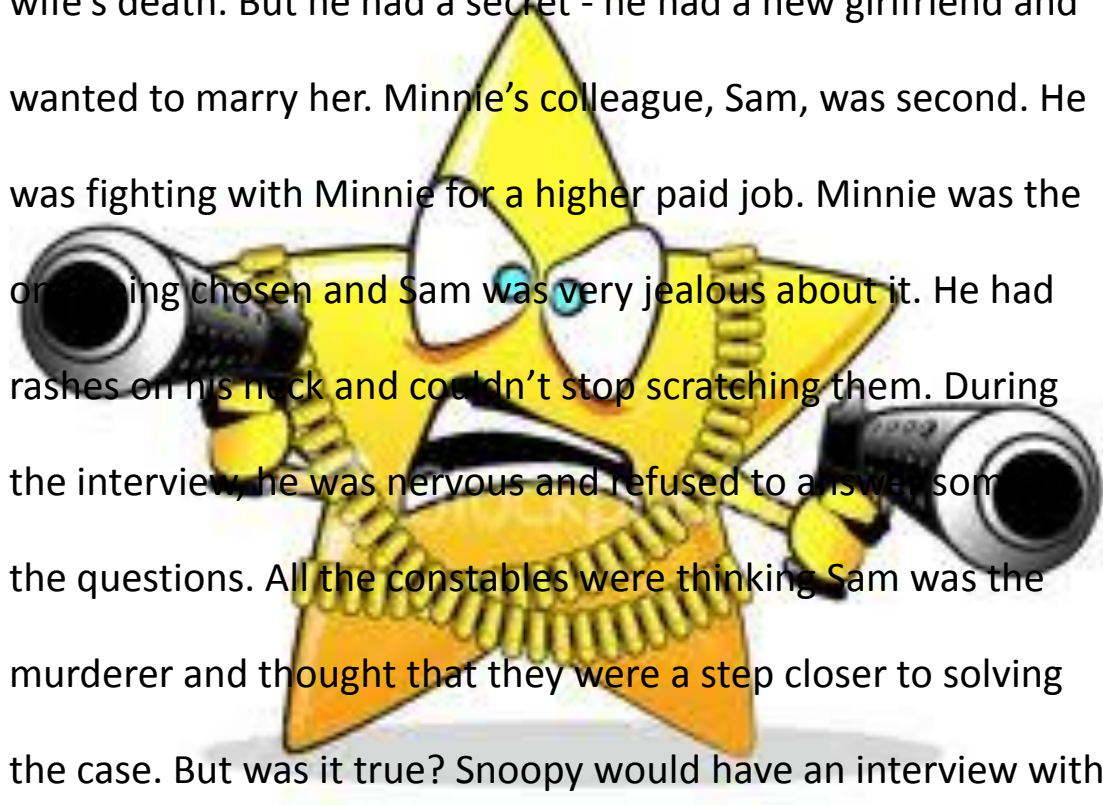
His eyes flickered open and he strolled down the stairs and opened the door. Two constables told him that Minnie was found dead on her bed. Suddenly, Snoopy's attention came back. He rushed back to his room and came out in a minute. He put on his gunmetal coat and went out with the constables.

Within a few minutes, they rushed to the crime scene. It was extremely messy. Shards of broken pottery were scattered on the floor and a pistol was found beside Minnie. The most suspicious thing was that there were Minnie's fingerprints. This mystery challenged Snoopy. "I think we should start by asking the witness." Snoopy whispered. The witness, Messi, said, "The whole day I was watching TV. I saw Minnie's gardener, Donald, cutting grass at almost three o'clock. Goofy, her neighbour, and his husband, Mickey. Uh...Ah! His colleague, Sam, came and had a meeting with her." The constables scribbled in their notebooks and thanked Messi. Snoopy and the two constables rushed into the car. Snoopy stomped on the acceleration paddle



and the car veered away rapidly. They found some information about the suspect and got an interview with each of the suspects privately. Mickey was the first interviewee. He was a bank's manager and was rich. He was not too tall and had a small mustache under his nose. He was very upset about his wife's death. But he had a secret - he had a new girlfriend and wanted to marry her. Minnie's colleague, Sam, was second. He was fighting with Minnie for a higher paid job. Minnie was the one being chosen and Sam was very jealous about it. He had rashes on his neck and couldn't stop scratching them. During the interview, he was nervous and refused to answer some of the questions. All the constables were thinking Sam was the murderer and thought that they were a step closer to solving the case. But was it true? Snoopy would have an interview with Goofy, the third suspect, tomorrow afternoon.

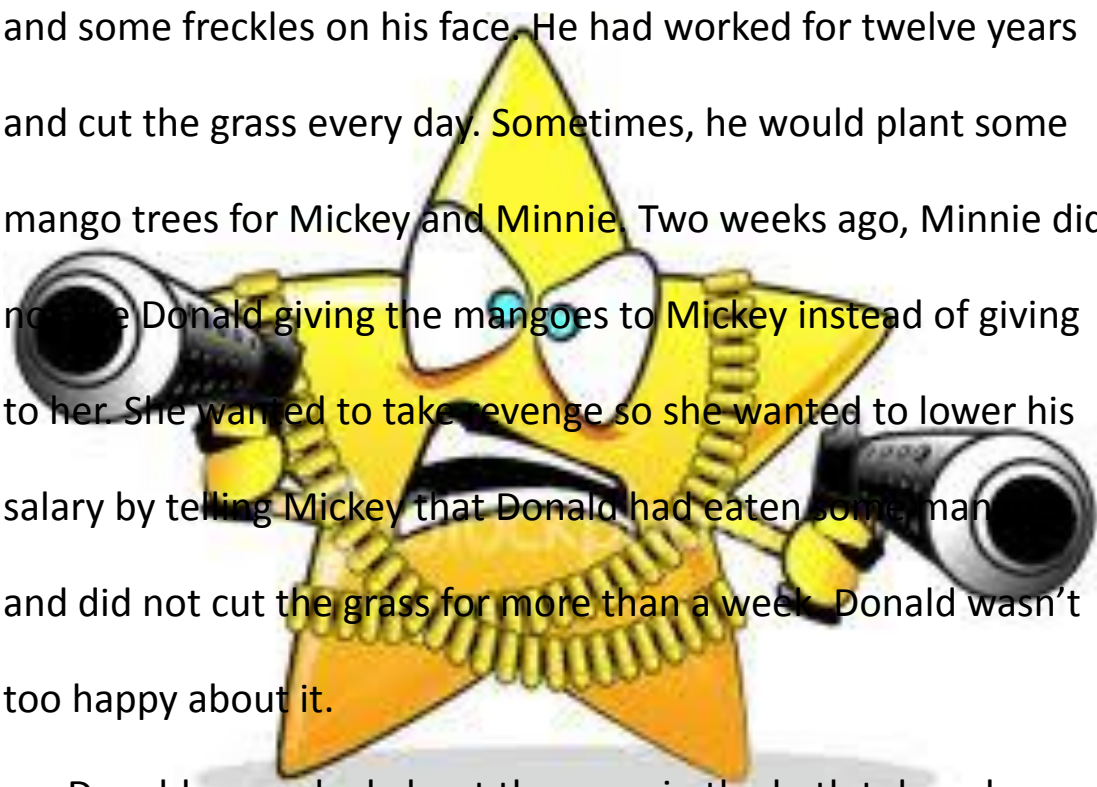
The next morning, Snoopy went back to the crime scene for some clues. He grabbed his magnifying glass and rushed into Minnie's bedroom and looked for some clues. There were some muddy grasses in the bath tub and beside the bed.



The window was opened and there was the garden right outside. "Maybe Donald is the killer," mumbled Snoopy. Snoopy called Goofy and postponed the interview until next Monday. Donald was changed to interview first.

Donald was almost sixty years old, he had some white hair and some freckles on his face. He had worked for twelve years and cut the grass every day. Sometimes, he would plant some mango trees for Mickey and Minnie. Two weeks ago, Minnie did not see Donald giving the mangoes to Mickey instead of giving to her. She wanted to take revenge so she wanted to lower his salary by telling Mickey that Donald had eaten some mango and did not cut the grass for more than a week. Donald wasn't too happy about it.

Donald was asked about the grass in the bath tub and beside the bed. He answered, "The day before, I was called into his room. I followed him into his room and asked what happened. He saw my shoes were soiled and ordered me to take off my shoes. I put my shoes into the bath tub and discussed with Mickey." Donald left the room and got out his

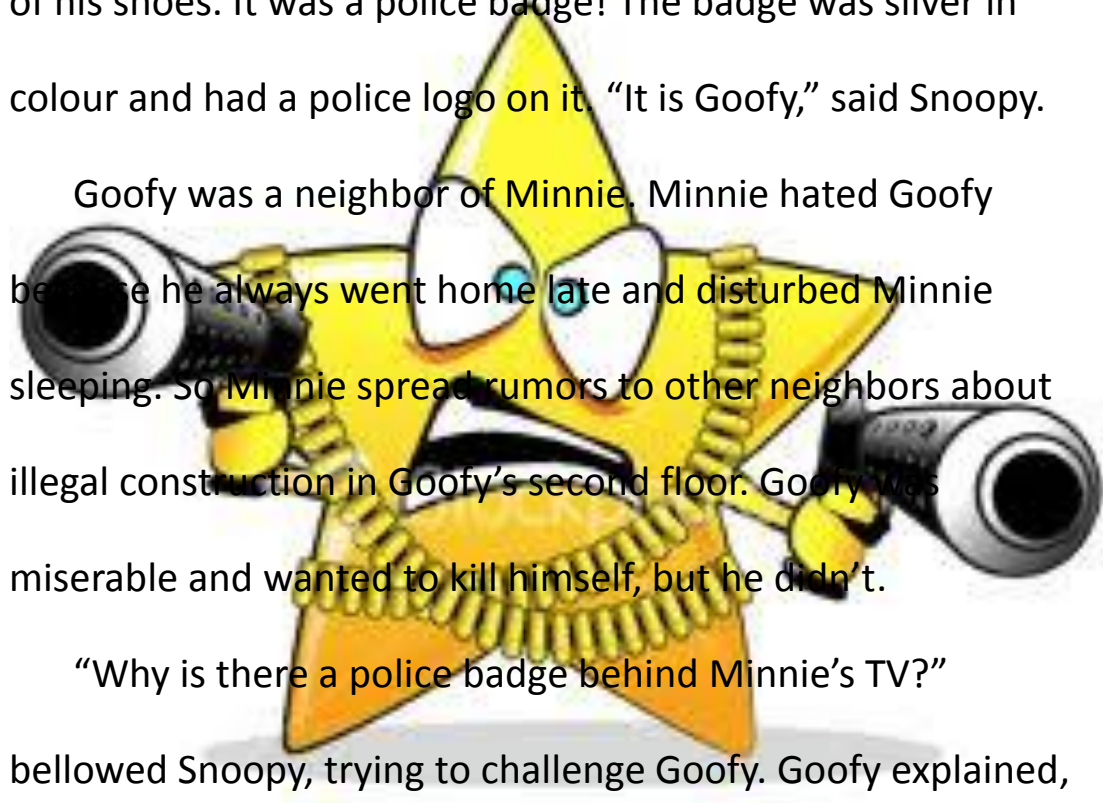


suspect list. He drew a little cross beside Donald's name. It sounded like Snoopy was a step closer to solve the mystery.

Snoopy went back to Minnie's house for more clues. He stomped into the room and stepped into a small badge. "Bang!" Snoopy slipped over and sat on the floor. He took the badge out of his shoes. It was a police badge! The badge was silver in colour and had a police logo on it. "It is Goofy," said Snoopy.

Goofy was a neighbor of Minnie. Minnie hated Goofy because he always went home late and disturbed Minnie sleeping. So Minnie spread rumors to other neighbors about illegal construction in Goofy's second floor. Goofy was miserable and wanted to kill himself, but he didn't.

"Why is there a police badge behind Minnie's TV?" bellowed Snoopy, trying to challenge Goofy. Goofy explained, "Mickey thought that it was unfair to me, so he called me into his room. He asked me how he could help. I thought it wasn't necessary so I told him that I didn't need help. I was patrolling on the street nearby, so I was wearing my uniform and my badge. When I walked past the shelf, my badge fell down. At

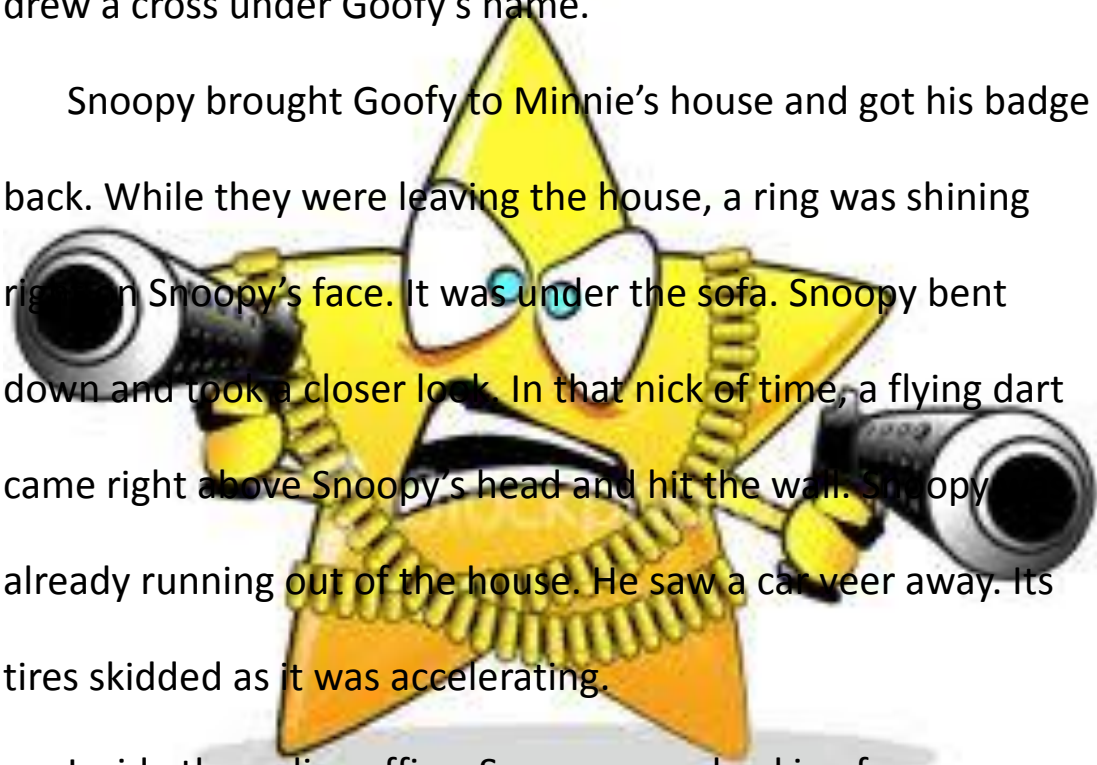


that time I didn't notice my badge was gone. The day after, I wanted to go back and get my badge. But Minnie's colleague was having a meeting with her so I decided to get the badge back the other day. I heard of the murder and didn't go back there." Snoopy thanked Goofy and took out the suspect list and drew a cross under Goofy's name.

Snoopy brought Goofy to Minnie's house and got his badge back. While they were leaving the house, a ring was shining right on Snoopy's face. It was under the sofa. Snoopy bent down and took a closer look. In that nick of time, a flying dart came right above Snoopy's head and hit the wall. Snoopy already running out of the house. He saw a car veer away. Its tires skidded as it was accelerating.

Inside the police office, Snoopy was checking for any fingerprint. All of a sudden, a motorcycle surged into the lab and started firing with a revolver. Snoopy was shot on the chest and he saw the motorcycle go away. After a minute, Snoopy stood up and took off his bulletproof jacket.

Snoopy came to the scene and found a little note dropped



by Mickey to his partner. "Mickey was the murderer? Meeting in the Peak's little room?" Snoopy spoke quietly.

Snoopy went to the Peak's little room. Mickey and his partner were there. Snoopy drew out a smoke bomb and threw into the room. There were no windows and the door was shut by Snoopy. Mickey and his friends fell into a coma. Snoopy dialed the police department and put hand-cuffs on Mickey and his partners.

"Where am I? Where is my partner?", Mickey hissed. "You are in the police office," explained Snoopy. "You killed Minnie, didn't you?" roared Snoopy. Mickey then told the truth. "I had a new girlfriend and I like her very much. I want to get permission for a divorce but Minnie disagreed, so I needed to kill her in order to marry my new girlfriend." "I don't know why you are so bad. Bring him away!" muttered Snoopy. Mickey and his partner were put in jail and Snoopy can enjoy a long, restful vacation.

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