

## Winnie the Pooh: Private-Eye

By Josiah Manna

(Winnie the Pooh, a character created by A.A Milne in “The Tales of Winnie the Pooh”)

One day Winnie the Pooh was reading after finishing his latest case, when he heard a squeaking at the door! “Detective Pooh! I beg your presence!”

“Ugh!” sighed Pooh, “I’m coming!” When he opened the door, he was greeted by an elvish looking creature. “What do you want... and what are you?”

“I am a Wilby. My name is Dubie and I am the king of the Wilbys. I need your help. My queen has been kidnapped! I have heard of your work as a detective, and was hoping you could help. I will pay 500 jars of honey.”

“500 jars!?!?” Pooh gasped. “I’m in! Let’s find your queen.”

“Wow!” Pooh exclaimed as they walked through the doorway. They had just arrived at Dubie’s castle.

“Welcome to my castle!” Dubie said.

“Nice...what do we know so far?” Pooh asked.

“Nothing,” sighed Dubie as he walked into his office, “but I don’t think our queennapper will stay quiet for long.” So they waited. After a while, an email popped up on Dubie’s computer. “I got it!” Dubie shouted. “It says here that to find the queen, press the link.”

Pooh hesitated, “Okay...do it.” When Dubie pressed the link a website popped up that said “To find the queen, follow the map,” with a map attached.

“It’s a trap!” Dubie shouted.

“I agree.” replied Pooh. “I’ll run a program that should find out who made this website.” After several hours, the program finished. “It says here that the maker is someone named Raymond Black. Do you know him?”

“Yes I do!” exclaimed Dubie. “He’s a rich, greedy guy who was accused of stealing but wasn't proven guilty. We should give Raymond a visit.”

“We should, but I have an idea that should ensure that we don’t get trapped.”

“We're here!” Dubie said. “Raymond Black’s mansion!”

“It’s huge!” Pooh gasped. They had just arrived at the mansion and were hiding in the bushes outside it.

“How are we supposed get in? Maybe the air ducts?” Dubie asked.

“Exactly!” Pooh replied, “Let’s go!” When they got into the air duct they started looking through vents for the queen.

“I can’t fi-...wait!” Dubie exclaimed. “There she is!”

“Hold on!” Pooh shouted as Dubie started opening the vent. “It could be a trap!”

“I don't care!” Dubie said. Pooh reluctantly followed. As soon as Dubie’s feet hit the floor he was running to the queen with Pooh close behind. But when they were halfway across they found themselves snatched up in a net! Suddenly, a man came in.

“Welcome to my castle! I am Raymond Black,” he said coolly. “It appears that I have the pleasure of meeting King Dubie and the great detective Pooh.”

“Let us go you crook!” Dubie screamed. “Kingnapping and queenapping is a capital crime!”

“Oh really! I’m SOOO sorry,” Raymond said sarcastically. “Maybe I’ll let you go after I collect the ransom for the queen. But I make no promise that I won’t kill you like I will the queen after.”

“Hold on!” Dubie shouted. “Kill the queen?! Ransom?! If you kill the queen I’ll...”

“Kill me? From a net? Ha! Very funny! Maybe I should kill all three of you so I can rule! And the map I gave you? It was real! I knew you would think too hard! You’re so stupid! And the queen here is fake! It’s a doll!” He walked over and kicked the “queen” to prove his point.

“Well, I wouldn’t declare a victory so soon, Raymond,” Pooh said coolly. “We’re not as stupid as you think. I sent a squadron of Dubie’s soldiers to follow the map. And I told them that if they found the queen that they should come back here, rescue us, and arrest you.” Just then, the door opened and a Wilby captain walked in with a squadron of soldiers behind him.

“And that’s what I’m here to do!”

“Thanks a million, Pooh,” Dubie said. They had just arrived at Pooh’s house. It had been a week since the ordeal. “Raymond will spend the rest of his life in jail, thanks to you. We will be forever in your debt. The honey will be here soon.” And he walked off.

Pooh walked into his house and sat down with his book when he heard a roaring at the door. Pooh groaned, “Not again!”