

I JUST...
DIDN'T REALIZE
WHAT WE WERE
DEALING WITH.

WHAT KIND
OF FIEND INSPIRES
SUCH ABJECT
TERROR IN HIS
SUBORDINATES?





I'M TELLING YA, EB...

...THIS CASE AIN'T NUTHIN' LIKE THE LOW-RENT BOZOS WE BEEN CHASIN' AFTER!

I MEAN... WE'RE TALKIN' MAJOR CRIMINAL ENTERPRISE HERE!

YEAH, UH... HANG ON A MOMENT. I NEED A PACK OF GUM!

CONSIDER THE ELEMENTS...

INTERNATIONAL INTRIGUE?

CHECK!

MYSTERIOUS MASTERMIND?

CHECK!

LEGIONS OF DANGEROUS FANATICS?

CHECK!

UH-HUH...

EVENING, FLORENCE. HOW Y'DOIN'?

DOIN' THE SAME AS ALWAYS, ALOYSIUS WHITE! FRESH AS A ROSE AND SASSY AS CINNAMON!

HERE'S Y'CHANGE. I BE SEEN' YOU... NEXT TIME YA *giggle* RUN OUTTA GUM!

I'M TELLIN' YA, THIS IS THE KINDA CASE THAT--
HEEEY... WAITAMINUTE!

DID... DID SHE ACTUALLY CALL YOU AL-?!
OOOHH, MAN! HOW DID I NOT SEE IT BEFORE?!

HA-HA-HAAA!
EBONY'S GOT HIMSELF A SWEETHEART!

WHAT I GOT... IS A PARTNER WHO SHOULD MIND HIS OWN BUSINESS!

NO CAN DO, CHUM! REMEMBER... WE'RE ACE DETECTIVES!
HA-HAAA!



ELLEN, DARLING...
I'M SORRY FOR BARGING IN
LIKE THIS BUT I SIMPLY MUST
SPEAK TO YOU! I...
OH--!

WHY...
MR. SHALES!
HOW CAN I HELP
YOU?



I DO APOLOGIZE, MISS BRIM...
BUT IS MISS DOLAN AVAILABLE?
IT'S A MATTER OF SOME
URGENCY AND I--

I'M SO SORRY...
I'M AFRAID SHE'S
NOT HERE, SIR.

SHE HAD A
COUNCIL MEETING
THIS MORNING
AND THEN WAS OFF
TO SPEAK AT A
CITIZENS' GROUP
THIS AFTERNOON.



OH,
VERY
WELL...

WOULD YOU
PLEASE ASK HER
TO CALL ME...
A-AT HER EARLIEST
CONVENIENCE?

I-I KNOW
IT CAN'T BE
EASY...



SOME WOMEN
FEEL THEY HAVE TO
PUSH
THEMSELVES EXTRA
HARD
AND IT...CAN BE
DIFFICULT
FOR THOSE WHO LOVE
THEM.

M-MY
MOTHER WAS
THE SAME
WAY...



THANK YOU,
MISS BRIM.
I...APPRECIATE
YOUR
CONCERN.

UHH...
GOOD
DAY!



LAND O'
GOSHEN,
MARGIE BRIM!
WHAT HAS
GOTTEN INTO
YOU?!



THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN. AS ALWAYS, THE SAFETY AND PROSPERITY OF **CENTRAL CITY** ARE MY PRIMARY CONCERNS.

WHICH IS WHY I'VE CALLED THIS PRESS CONFERENCE... TO ADDRESS A RECENT DEVELOPMENT THAT I FEEL THREATENS THOSE VITAL STATISTICS.



AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, **EUSTACE DOLAN**... WHO ONLY A WEEK AGO WAS SLATED FOR RETIREMENT... HAS CHOSEN TO RENEGE ON HIS EARLIER PLANS AND REMAIN ON DUTY AS ACTING POLICE COMMISSIONER. THE MAYOR HAS ACCEPTED THIS REVERSAL AND I AM BOUND TO HONOR HIS DECISION.

HOWEVER... I MUST QUESTION BOTH THE MOTIVE AND THE CAPACITY FOR A MAN OF DOLAN'S AGE TO FULLY FUNCTION IN SUCH A CRUCIAL AND DEMANDING POSITION.

IS THIS REALLY WHAT'S BEST FOR CENTRAL CITY?



COUNCILMAN PALMER!

WOULDN'T YOU AGREE THAT THE REAPPEARANCE OF **THE SPIRIT** HAS HAD SOME ROLE IN DOLAN'S DECISION?

I MEAN... THEY DO MAKE ONE HECKUVA TEAM!

REGARDLESS OF THEIR CAMARADERIE, **THE SPIRIT** IS IN FACT A ROGUE VIGILANTE! FOR FAR TOO LONG, HIS RECKLESS AND **ILLEGAL** ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TOLERATED AND, INDEED, UNOFFICIALLY "SANCTIONED" BY DOLAN'S ADMINISTRATION... A PRACTICE THAT WOULD HAVE ENDED UNDER **MY** JURISDICTION!

HIS PRESENCE IS A **STAIN** ON OUR CITY'S FINE REPUTATION!