



...COMPLETED
MISTER PUNRIDGE'S
AUTOPSY, AND LET ME
TELL YOU, OUR FRIEND
BRUCIE HERE DID NOT
GO EASILY.



SEAN, IF YOU'RE
ABOUT TO TELL US WE
HAVE TO INVESTIGATE THE
MURDER OF THIS PIECE OF
███. I AM TAKING YOU OFF
MY CHRISTMAS LIST.

YOU WERE HOPING
MISTER PUNRIDGE HERE
SUFFERED TERMINAL
REMORSE?

FAT ████
CHANCE, DETECTIVE
CHAFFEY.

SEAN?



VERY GOOD,
DETECTIVE
BLACK.

MISSED IT
AT FIRST BECAUSE
OF THE BLOATING,
BUT INDEED...

IS THAT
A LIGATURE MARK
AROUND HIS NECK?



...SOMEONE HUNG
OUR FRIEND HERE
BY HIS NECK UNTIL
HE WAS DEAD.



WHOEVER DID
IT ████ IT UP,
TOO.

███ IT
UP HOW? HE'S
DEAD.

FAILED TO
SNAP HIS NECK
ON THE PROP.

BRUCIE HERE
ASPHYXIATED. COULD'VE
TAKEN ALMOST AN HOUR
BEFORE HE DIED.



CAN YOU CONFIRM THE HAND WAS REMOVED POST-MORTEM?



IT WASN'T A PROPELLER THAT DID THAT. VERY CLEAN CUT. DEFINITELY AFTER HE'D DIED.

NO SIGN ON HIS OTHER WRIST THAT HIS HANDS HAD BEEN BOUND, BY THE WAY.



SO HE EITHER PUT THE NOOSE ON WILLINGLY OR HE WAS COMPELLED TO DO SO.

THAT TRACK FOR YOU? SOMEONE FORCED BRUCE DUNRIDGE TO HANG HIMSELF?

NOTHING ABOUT THIS TRACKS.



TOX SCREEN? STOMACH CONTENTS?

THERE WASN'T MUCH TO GO ON, DETECTIVE.

TWO-PLUS WEEKS IN THE RIVER STRIPPED HIM PRETTY DAMN CLEAN.



THAT SAID, WE DID FIND THESE IN HIS STOMACH...

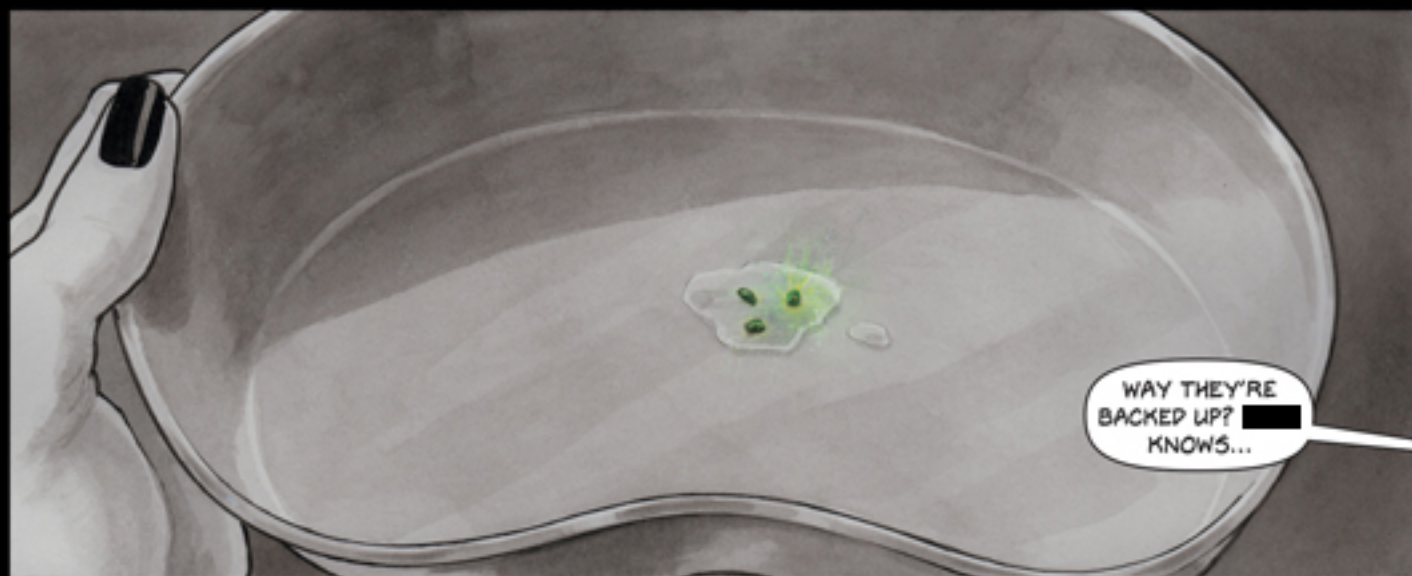


...THINK
THEY'RE STONES
OF SOME KIND...



...BUT I'LL
SEND 'EM TO
THE STATE LAB
FOR ANALYSIS,
ANYWAY.

HOW
LONG WILL
THAT TAKE?



WAY THEY'RE
BACKED UP? [REDACTED]
KNOWS...



...IT'S PROBABLY
NOTHING, THEY'LL TURN
OUT TO BE APPLE PIPS
OR SOMETHING.

OLD POPCORN
KERNELS OR--



EVERYTHING
OKAY, PARTNER?

FINE.
SLIPPED.



I'LL
MEET YOU
OUTSIDE.