

DETECTIVE MK

BOOK ONE



MARY-KATHERINE MAMMEN

Detective MK

book 1

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Becomes a detective

By: one of the biggest fans of the “**ENCYCLOPEDIA BROWN**” books, Mary-Katherine Mammen presents
“Detective MK becomes a detective”

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Dedicated to

DONALD J. SOBOL

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PREFACE

Dear Reader,

If you enjoyed this book you should read, Encyclopedia Brown, (which the book genre and style is based off) by, Donald J. Sobol, I think it is the BEST mystery chapter book in the whole world. It about ... wait, I will save that for you to find out.

Sincerely,

Mary-Katherine Mammen

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WHO SPRAY-PAINTED CALEB'S DAD'S ROCK?

Caleb's dad owned a tree with rocks around it. MK said, "You and I know that your children do not sneak out of bed at midnight and buy spray paint and spray paint rocks."

Caleb's dad chuckled.

"I saw Oakley and William Candela near my rocks." said Caleb's father.

I. The Case of the Cobra Picture

Willow Glen was a nice place to live, it had 1 school, 2 pizza places, 2 coffee places as well as many more goods and restaurants including 3 Chinese restaurants, a cupcake place, a theater and more. And yes it had tons of Willow trees. MK was going the Garden Theater because a new movie had come out called “THE COBRA.”

MK saw her friends from the street she lived on, she ran to catch up with them and yelled, “Hi you guys.”

“Hi, are you going to “The Cobra?” they asked.

“You bet,” MK hollered as they scrambled to get in line to buy tickets. MK was right behind Katie who was first to get tickets. Suddenly, Mr. and Mrs. Canna appeared and asked, “Here to see the Cobra?”

“Uuuh yaa...” Julia replied,

“Sounds like nothing but the best movie yet!” interrupted Oakley, “It just came out today.”

“It’s finally out, it took like 10 years to make,” added Brynna.

At once MK, Katie, and Maceo said “Hello Mr. and Mrs. Canna.”

“Where is Margret?” asked Caleb.

“She is at our house with Taylor, her baby sitter. We just got back from Africa where we’d been for 2 months. She was very tired and decided to watch Beauty and the Beast.” Mr. Canna, who was an artist continued, “Margret likes to paint every character she sees, so she is watching Beauty and the Beast and painting Belle.” Margret was only 4 though she painted terribly, but of course people never judged her.

“Sorry to interrupt” Addey interrupted, “but the movie starts in 5 minutes. It is 3:30 the movie starts at 3:35 Let go and get good seats before they’re taken. Are you watching The Cobra too?”

“Yes” nodded Mrs. Canna.

After the movie, MK and her friends were talking about the movie for a while. MK looked at her watch. It was 5:20.

“I wonder where Mr. and Mrs. Canna are. I did not see the inside the theater,” MK wondered.

All of a sudden Mr. Canna came up the street and said, “My daughter painted the same cobra as in the movie!” and showed them a painting.

“Cool! Wow! Awesome!” shouted MK’s friends. Many others looked interested.

“I know a 4 year old didn’t draw that,” said MK

What did she mean?

Look on the next page to find out.

THE CASE OF THE COBRA PICTURE

SOLUTION

Mr. Canna said that Margret likes to paint every character in any movie she **sees**, but Mr. Canna said she was at home watching Belle. The Cobra had just come out that day as Oakley had mentioned so how could she have watched it before. And they had been in Africa for two months so they couldn't have seen a poster of the movie. Caught by his mistake, Mr. Canna admitted that he had painted it.



II. The Case of the Spray Painted Rock

After MK had solved the case her friends begged her to start a detective business of her own, and so she did. She hung up a sign that said: *MK's detective help, 25 cents per case.*" It was not until late Monday after school that Caleb's dad came in. He was Caleb's father. "Someone spray-painted my rock" he said earnestly. He put 25 cents in the play crock-pot. "Oh dear!" said MK.

Caleb's dad owned a tree with rocks around it. MK said, "You and I know that your children do not sneak out of bed at midnight and buy spray paint and spray paint rocks."

Caleb's dad chuckled.

"I saw Oakley and William Candela near my rocks." said Caleb's father "Let's question them" suggested MK. They walked over to Oakley's house. Charlotte, MK's sister, began totted behind them. Then she ran home.

"Where's the rock?" asked MK.

"It's in my house. I've haven't shown the rock to anyone after I found it this morning." Caleb's dad replied.

"OK, we don't need it." When they got to Oakley's house they saw Oakley playing with William. MK asked, "Have you been spray painting Caleb's dad's rocks?"

“I don’t know anything about any big blue rock!” said William.

“What rock?” asked Oakley?

“Don’t worry. I know who the crook is!” said MK.

How did she know?

Look on the next page for the answer.

SOLUTION FOR THE SPRAY PAINTED ROCKS

Oakley was innocent but William was not. William had said I don't know anything about a **big blue rock**, but how could he know it was big and blue unless he spray-painted it and Caleb's dad said he had not shown it to anyone after he had found it. Caught by his mistake William confessed that he had spray-painted the rock at night to test out his new blue spray-paint.



III. The Case of the Greek Goddess

MK was sitting on her porch which was the detective agency. It had a swing and a table which held a pretend crock-pot. A brown wooden gate structured it. It was not until Dillon came and asked if she knew anything about Greek gods and goddesses. Of course anyone in 3rd grade history should know about Greek idols. So she said yes. Dillon protested that Anthony Hollister had gone to Greece and found the first Athena to be built unharmed and brought a picture of the Parthenon also unharmed so MK said that she would like to see it. They started walking over to Anthony's house. When they got there Anthony was telling about the things from Greece and said that he had found them above the ground. Then he said "The goddess Athena is only \$1,000 and the picture of the Parthenon is only \$50." Then MK shouted "Don't waste your money!"

What did she mean?

Look on the next page to find out.

THE SOLUTION TO THE CASE OF THE GREEK GODDESS

It was great that MK knew her Greek gods and goddesses because if she didn't she probably wouldn't been able to solve this case. MK heard Anthony say that he had a picture of the Parthenon *unharmmed*, but wait what about the Persians; they burned up the entire city. When he found out that his trick did not work Anthony confessed that his cousin had made the picture and sculpture for him and Anthony had hoped to trick the other children and get more money.



IV. The Case of the Stolen Ball

It was a nice warm day and since the day was a great day for a walk, MK decided to stroll down the court. While she was passing Oakley's house she heard a yell of dismay and darted to Oakley's backyard which is where the yell came from. So scarcely surprise from shock, it took her at least 30 seconds to recover. "Great" said Oakley in a frustrate tone of voice. "Catch" said Oakley flipping a quarter to MK.

"Case taken" then MK added, "oh and what is the case?"

"Oh yeah" chuckled Oakley, than he began "Well my brother Rafe and I were playing with my new soccer ball when we got hungry and went to get a snack. Then, we came out to play again and my ball was not there. We looked everywhere and still could not find it so I called for help."

MK was silent for a second then asked "Who saw the ball?"

"Well just my parents, Rafe and I." answered Oakley, "Rafe was inside with me and so that proves that Rafe is not the crook. I already have the crime boys looking for it. They said so far that they could not find a blue ball with orange stipes on it..."

"Wait, you mean that's what came out of their mouth?" interrupted MK. "Yep." Oakley replied. All of the sudden a car stopped in front of Oakley's house and the crime boys jumped out and said, "Hey Oak, found your ball, well it looks like somebody is out of business."

“Well it is not me; you’re the one out of business because you’re the crook!” MK said

“Oh yah, prove it then.” demanded the boys.

“All right, easy as saying 1... 2...3...” MK said.

How will she prove it?

Look on the next page to find out.

THE SOLUTION TO THE CASE OF THE STOLEN BALL

The crime boys said they found *Oakley's ball* but, what did Oakley say when MK asked him who saw the ball, he answered that only his family saw the ball, so how could the crime boys know it was Oakley's ball, unless they spied on Oakley and stole the ball. When MK pointed this out the crime boys admitted that when they saw Oakley and Rafe go inside the crime boys had stolen it.



V. The Case of the Missing Pokémon Cards

One Saturday morning MK was swinging on her front porch. She could still hear the neighborhood boys trading Pokémon cards outside. “Cool, it has 100% damage!” Oakley exclaimed as the boys admired Dillon’s best card.

“I’ll trade my best card for it.” pleaded Teagan.

“Where did you get that?” Rafe and Ashton asked together.

All of a sudden Maceo raced on to Oakley’s porch and yelled, “I lost my best card, and it had a ton of damage, yesterday I put my card under my porch mat and then while I was eating breakfast I heard someone step on a twig and when I went outside my card was gone.”

5 year-old Caleb who was eavesdropping said, “Once my daddy’s rock was spray painted and detective MK found out that William spray painted it.”

Oakley jumped in, “a few days ago I lost my ball and MK found out that the Crime Boys stole it.”

Teagan said, “She knew that Mr. Canna had painted the cobra picture, you should ask her to help you find it.”

“Ok, let’s go to her house and have her get my Pokémon card back.” Maceo said. They trotted to MK’s house and she said, “Hi, do you want to play?”

“We got a real case for you” the boys explained.

“I lost my best Pokémon card, oh, and here is 25 cents.” Maceo added. Maceo told her the story.

MK stood up and said, “I will help you, but when do you eat breakfast?”

“Around 9:00 AM.”

They trotted along. Suddenly MK spotted something near Maceo’s house and said, “I found a foot print!”

The boys crowded around her.

MK said, “It looks like a Surfer basketball shoe print. The boy troop clubbers wear only Surfer basketball shoes.”

“Maybe they had something to do with my stolen Pokémon card, they could have stolen it!” Maceo chimed.

“They might have, but let’s not jump to conclusions.” MK cautioned. “I am going to the boy troop club house.”

“Where is it?” Grant asked.

“Well, remember when I showed you that house with pink cats painted on it? Well take a right and it is behind Mrs. Green’s house in the tree house.” MK answered.

They walked to the tree house and approach the boys.

Oakley whispered to MK, “hey there are usually five chairs around the table but today there are only four.”

“Oh hey you guys we are just beginning the day of club.” said Max, the leader of the gang. “Roll call! Chris?”

“Here.” yelled Chris.

“Jack?”

“Here!”

“Cody?”

“Here!”

“Where’s George?” asked Rafe.

“George is out of town today and won’t be with us till Monday.”

“We are all here,” Cody explained.

“I think we got to go because Caleb’s father might be expecting Caleb,” MK explained.

“Well good bye then,” Max said.

MK and her friends climbed down the ladder and headed for home when they saw George Parker. “Hi George, I thought you were out of town,” MK said.

“What, I not going out of..., oh no I just spilled the beans,” George stuttered.

“What beans?” asked Teagan.

“Can I talk to your mother?” MK asked.

“Sure,” answered George.

MK walked over to George’s house and knocked on the door. Mrs. Parker opened the door.

MK said, “Greetings Mrs. Parker I was wondering if you guys were going out of town because Max said you were?”

“I don’t think we will out of town for a while,” said Mrs. Parker with a quizzical look, “I told Max yesterday that George would be at his club today. He left for his club around 9:00”

MK looked a bit scared.

“Is there something you would like to tell me dear?” ask Mrs. Parker.

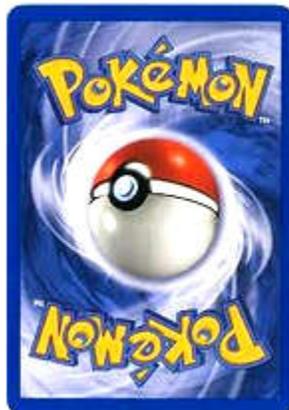
“Yes, your son was not at the club today. I think he was out...” MK said.

Out where?

Look on the next page to find out.

THE SOLUTION TO THE CASE OF THE STOLEN POKÉMON CARD

When MK found the basketball shoe footprint, Rafe said that the boy troopers wear ***basketball shoes*** but how could Max know that George was out town when Mrs. Parker said that George would be at the club. When Mrs. Parker said that George had gone outside around nine o'clock and that's when Maceo was eating breakfast and when was not at club he must have gone to steal the Pokémon card. Caught by his mistake the boy troopers confessed that they had planned the crime and returned the card. Mrs. Parker and the other parents punished the boys and said the boy troop club was to be put off for a week.



VI. The Case of the Missing Bracelet

It was a silent day on MK's porch and the detective business was as quiet as can be. All of a sudden a young preteen girl rushed in.

"Hi, I am Caren, I saw your sign and all your business cards and I knew I needed to come here."

She tossed 25 cents in the play-pot.

"I want to hire you to find my bracelet," added Caren.

"OK, tell me the facts," requested MK.

"Well," began Caren, "I was in my room this morning and all of a sudden a teenaged girl raced in and punched me in the stomach. I fell down in pain and when I finally recovered I got up and my bracelet was gone."

"Who attacked you?"

"I don't know but I saw a letter O on the back of the girl's jacket.

"I think it could be one of the Orca girls. They meet in the old Victorian house on Brace Ave."

"Let's go," suggested Caren.

MK and Caren trotted off to the house and knocked on the door.

A girl of 15 opened the door.

“Hello, who are you?” ask the girl

“Caren Roane and my Agent, MK, are you the leader of the Orca gang?” answered Caren.

“No, my sister is, come on in.”

They all went inside.

Caren look angry when she saw the girl that look like the girl who had nearly killed her. “Hey, one of you stole my bracelet this morning!”

“NO, you’re crazy; none of us went outside this morning because we all were trying to help Julie, my sister, get out because my mean brother locked her in her room and hid the key, we did all we could to get her out,” said the leader of the gang.

MK looked patient. “You wouldn’t mind if I took a look around the room your sister was trapped in?”

“I would not mind,” answered one of the Orca girls.

MK followed the Orca leader to the room. She looked though the key hole and noticed a thread through it. “Why is there a thread in the key hole and how did it get there?”

Julie replied. “What, there are tons of pieces of thread all over the house.”

MK saw Mrs. Brook, the mother of Julie, and asked “how many keys do you have for this room?”

“Only one,” answered Mrs. Brook as she walked to the kitchen.

MK realized something. “Now show me where you hid that bracelet, Orca girls!”

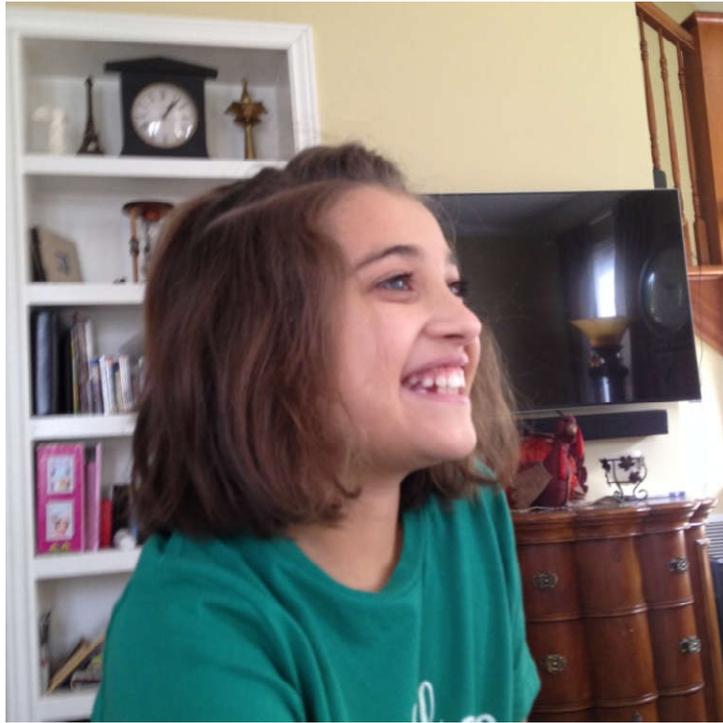
What was the Orca girls lie?

Look on the next page to find out.

THE SOLUTION TO THE CASE OF THE MISSING BRACELET

Remember when MK approached the room? The Orca girl said that “There are tons of **threads** in the house,” but wait, thread does not fall magically into tiny key holes! It falls on the ground and why would you need a thread to get out of a room unless you live in an old **Victorian** house! This is how they did it: they could lock the door and from the inside put the key on the shelf use the thread to pull the key and turn it from the outside, that way Julie could distract the family members while the others could watch the other girl tackle Caren and run with the bracelet to the house. Caught by the lie, the Orcas returned the bracelet.





About the author

Mary-Katherine Mammen lives in Willow Glen, California and enjoys writing books and poems. In her free time she likes to read books including Encyclopedia Brown by Donald Sobol and A-Z mysteries by Ron Roy, play with her brother and sister, play with her neighbors and play sports. She loves writing plays and talent show as well as acting. Her first play performed was Little Red Riding Hood.

