

The Gas Town Mysteries
"The Case of the Abducted Asphalt"

by
Digby Christian
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CAST OF CHARACTERS
(In Order of Appearance)

Stanley Park, P.I.
Chief of Police Seymour Van Dusen
Inspector Angus MacBlow
LuLu Richmond
The Fence The Baker

THE GAS TOWN MYSTERIES
 "THE CASE OF THE ABDUCTED ASPHALT"
 EPISODE 1: ALL OUR ROADS BE MISSING

THEME

- 1 ANNOUNCER: Suddenly --
- 2 FX: Knock on door
- 3 ANNOUNCER: There is a knock at the door
announcing the delivery of another Gas
Town Mystery, IN COLOR!
- 4 FX: Office street noises under.
- 5 PARK: There I was in my tiny Gas Town office
on Water Street in Vancouver -- But I
wasn't drinking water.
- 6 FX: Whistle of tea kettle
- 7 PARK: Ah, when you're gasping for a brisk
one, only 100% natural Liptons Red
Label will do.
- 8 FX: Phone ring and pick up
- 9 PARK: (affects ludicrous female voice)_
Stanley Park Investigatory and
Deductorial Enterprises.
- 10 CHIEF: (filtered) This is Police Chief Van
Dusen. I need to speak with Park.
- 11 PARK: I'm sorry, he's in a meeting.
- 12 CHIEF: Is that you, Park?
- 13 PARK: No.
- 14 CHIEF: Park!
- 15 PARK: Yes.
- 16 CHIEF: Why do you always do that?
- 17 PARK: You can never be too careful.
- 18 CHIEF: You got that right. Look I've got a
problem.
- 19 PARK: All of Canada knows that.

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20 CHIEF: No, not that problem ... a local problem.

21 PARK: How local?

22 CHIEF: Very local.

23 PARK: You seen a doctor?

24 CHIEF: A crime problem!

25 PARK: You committed a crime?!?

26 CHIEF: What? No!

27 PARK: Well, I can't help you.

28 CHIEF: Listen! All of Vancouver's roads have been stolen!

29 PARK: Impossible!

30 CHIEF: Check for yourself.

31 FX: Footsteps. Window opens. Street noises replaced by birds chirping. Window closes and street noises resume

32 PARK: I guess it was only a matter of time.

33 CHIEF: Look Park, all the world's top formula one racers are here for the first ever Vancouver Grand Prix.

34 PARK: Well, you've got a problem.

35 CHIEF: Yes, I know! And I need you to solve the crime, arrest the thief, find the roads, and put them back.

36 PARK: Why me?

37 CHIEF: Because we can't risk this getting out and starting a panic.

BEAT

38 PARK: Mum's the word, and that word will be put in the bag with the cat, and that bag kept under my hat on the other side of an iron door, and the only key to the door will be hidden behind my sealed lips.

39 CHIEF: Close enough for government work.

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40 PARK: Good. Now, when is this Grand Prix?

41 CHIEF: Tomorrow.

42 PARK: Tomorrow?!

THEME

43 ANNOUNCER: Tomorrow!?! What will Park do? Will he let the cat out of the bag? Will he find the time machine behind the portrait of his father? Will drive himself 'round the bend?! Find out tomorrow in another meandering installment of "The Case of the Abducted Asphalt" -- IN COLOR!

THE GAS TOWN MYSTERIES

"THE CASE OF THE ABDUCTED ASPHALT"

EPISODE 2: JUST WAITING ON A FRIEND

THEME

- 1 ANNOUNCER: In our last rather ridiculous episode we learned that all of Vancouver's roads had been stolen. Now, Private Detective Stanley Park investigates "The Case of the Abucted Asphalt" -- IN COLOR!
- 2 PARK: I was happy to be hired. Crime was down in the City and dough was scarce, making life hard for radio detectives ... and bakers.
- 3 FX: Birds chirruping
- 4 PARK: I stood at the bus stop for almost an hour before it dawned on me that more than the roads were missing.
- 5 FX: Birds chirruping.
- 6 PARK: I stood at the taxicab rack for almost two hours when I realized that roads weren't there just to keep buildings from rubbing against each another.
- 7 FX: Birds chirruping.
- 8 PARK: Four hours since the Chief assigned me this case and I didn't seem to be getting anywhere. I began to wonder if I would be forced at last to ride Rail Canada, with it's worry-free travel and where everything's included.
- 9 FX: Car arrives, screeches to halt.
- 10 PARK: Just then my old partner on the force, Angus MacBlow, arrived.
- 11 FX: Door opens/shuts. Muddy glug-glugging of automobile sinking into mud.
- 12 ANGUS: Stanley Park how are ye?
- 13 PARK: Uhhh, Angus ...
- 14 FX: Loud glug glugging.

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15 ANGUS: Ah, it's great to be back in the city.

16 PARK: Angus, your car?!

17 ANGUS: Me car!? Where's me car?! Wha?
Where are the roads!?!

18 PARK: They've been stolen. Hadn't you
noticed?

19 ANGUS: D'ya think I'd a driven here if I had?

20 FX: Running female footsteps.

21 LULU: Inspector MacBlow! Inspector MacBlow!

22 PARK: Uh oh. It was Lulu Richmond, CKNW's
ace traffic reporter. This could be
awkward. I hadn't seen Lulu since we'd
shared a short fling some months back.

23 LULU: Stanley.

24 PARK: Lulu. How's the fling?

25 LULU: Longer.

26 PARK: I was sorry I asked. So you know
about the roads.

27 LULU: Forget the roads! I'm here for the
real story.

28 PARK: The real story?

29 LULU: That's correct, the real story.

BEAT

30 PARK: All right, you're in. Now, the way I
see it, there's only one person in all
Vancouver a thief would turn to in
order to off-load our roads. But who
is it!?!

31 LULU: The Fence the baker!

32 ANGUS: Aye, the Fence the baker.

33 PARK: The Fence?

THEME

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34 ANNOUNCER: The Baker? Who can they mean? Tune
in tomorrow when Stanley Park takes
the wheel in "The Case of the Abducted
Asphalt" a Gas Town Mystery -- IN
COLOR!

THE GAS TOWN MYSTERIES

"THE CASE OF THE ABDUCTED ASPHALT"

EPISODE 3: PATTY CAKE, PATTY CAKE

THEME

- 1 ANNOUNCER: Stanley Park located the only person who can lead him to the missing roads? But how will he get there?! Stay tuned for today's whirly-wind installment of the Case of the Abducted Asphalt -- IN COLOR!
- 2 PARK: Without the roads, there's no way to reach the Fence the baker in time to save the Grand Prix.
- 3 LULU: Sure there is, if we fly.
- 4 PARK: Fly?
- 5 ANGUS: Look out Stanley, she's got a ...
- 6 FX: Helicopter thwup-thwup-thwup
- 7 ANGUS: Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!!!
- 8 LULU: Jump in.
- 9 PARK: That's quite a trick LuLu.
- 10 LULU: When you've been a traffic reporter as long as I have you learn a few things.
- 11 PARK: Like, always pack a helicopter.
- 12 LULU: Mmmmmmm Exactly.
- 13 FX: Condor quacking
- 14 PARK: {Coughs} Within moments we landed on the rooftop of a bakery moored in the center of the Arbitus Aquatic Aviary's Condor Pond.
- 15 FX: Helicopter engine powering down.
- 16 PARK: Angus drummed out our intentions on the rickety door.
- 17 FX: DRUM SOLO
- 18 ANGUS: Open up! Police!

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19 FENCE: Buzz off!

20 LULU: And traffic!

21 FX: Door creaks open a fraction

22 FENCE: Traffic you say? What do you want?

23 PARK: You're a baker aren't you?

24 FENCE: (sighs) I was ... but times are hard.

25 PARK: And dough is scarce.

26 FENCE: How did you know?

27 PARK: He gave me the once over.

28 FENCE: Excuse me?

29 PARK: Nothing.

30 FX: Door opens rest of the way.

31 FENCE: Enter ... if you must.

32 FX: Sound of all walking down stairs.

33 ANGUS: (inhales deeply) Ah, I love the smell of Ben's fresh baked Holsum white bread. Ye can squeeze the difference.

34 LULU: (sniffs) Eeeh ... that's asphalt!

35 PARK: Lulu was right! And it was coming from behind the empty display counter.

36 LULU: Stanley, Angus, look there, a DOOR!

37 PARK: She was right! What's behind the door, Fence?

38 FENCE: There's nothing behind the door.

39 PARK: Something told me he was lying.

40 SOMETHING: He's lying.

41 PARK: Why, I think you're right! I pushed my way past and --

42 ALL: GASPS!!

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43 PARK: Stacked almost four miles high, were roads. Two lane roads. Four lane roads. On ramps. Off ramps. Intersections. Roads as far as the eye could see.

BEAT

44 FENCE: I can explain.

THEME

45 ANNOUNCER: Can he? Tune in tomorrow for another half-baked episode of "The Case of the Abducted Asphalt" -- IN COLOR!

THE GAS TOWN MYSTERIES
"THE CASE OF THE ABDUCTED ASPHALT"
EPISODE 4: BAKED IN A PIE

THEME

- 1 ANNOUNCER: After some serious sleuthing, Stanley Park has found four and twenty black tops ... will they bake a pie?! Find out momentarily in the Case of the Abducted Asphalt, a Gas Town Mystery -- With Cream and Sugar!
- 2 PARK: The Fence the baker, you got some explaining to do!
- 3 FENCE: Yes, well, those roads are part of my son's beautifully crafted "Prairie Region" model transportation set.
- 4 ALL: Cries of disbelief.
- 5 FENCE: No, for true! One to One scale. He is a remarkable boy.
- 6 ANGUS: Don't make me use the haggis.
- 7 ALL: HUUUUUUH!
- 8 FENCE: All right, all right! They're fresh Taiwanese roads ... legal too.
- 9 ANGUS: We're gonna need some proof of that, laddie.
- 10 FENCE: There's the import Certificate of Authenticity.
- 11 ANGUS: Let's see it.
- 12 FENCE: Right this way ... careful of the mixers ... here we are.
- 13 LULU: You keep paperwork in the bakery ovens?
- 14 FENCE: Yes. There's no room anywhere else.
- 15 ANGUS: But won't paper burn if you use the ovens?
- 16 FENCE: Most certainly, so I take it out.

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17 PARK: You take the paperwork out every time you bake bread?

18 FENCE: Mmmm... well .. yes.

19 PARK: But you said you had no room anywhere else! I had him now.

20 FENCE: Err. Why, I put the paperwork where the dough used to be, of course.

21 PARK: He was slick. It all seemed so plausible.

22 FX: Oven door opens

23 FENCE: The certificate is in the back.

24 PARK: I don't see anything.

25 FENCE: Way in the back. Go on, get in. All of you. Come on, come on now, go and get it.

26 FX: Park, MacBlow, Richmond groaning, grunting to fit in the oven.

27 FENCE: Mind the burners. It's a bit cramped, I know, sorry. There you go ...

28 FX: Oven door slams shut.

29 ANGUS: What the --??

30 PARK: I didn't see that coming.

31 LULU: This brings back some hot memories, doesn't it, Stanley?

32 PARK: If you mean being trapped in a bakery oven with an ex-girlfriend and an aromatic Highlander, you're right.

33 LULU: Uhhh ...

34 PARK: I wonder whatever happened to Francine and Scotty?

35 FX: Gas burner turns on

36 LULU: Stanley!

37 ANGUS: The madman has forgotten we're in here!

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38 FENCE: (muffled) Never underestimate the
power of the sandwich!!

39 PARK: It seems we're toast.

THEME

40 ANNOUNCER: Toast? In an oven? Of all the crazy
things? Tune in tomorrow for the
blistering conclusion of "The Case of
the Abducted Asphalt" -- IN COLOR!

THE GAS TOWN MYSTERIES

"THE CASE OF THE ABDUCTED ASPHALT"

EPISODE 5: WHERE THE STREETS HAVE WRONG NAMES

THEME

- 1 ANNOUNCER: Yesterday, Stanley Park was locked n a bakery oven. Will he beat the heat?! Find out momentarily in the accelerated finale of "The Case of the Abdudcted Asphalt" -- IN COLOR!
- 2 FENCE: Fools! Hahahaha!
- 3 FX: Quiet door open, clang shut, footsteps.
- 4 FENCE: Soon all the roads of Canada will be mine, all mine. (demonic laughter)
- 5 FX: Footsteps up louder.
- 6 PARK: What's so funny, Fence?
- 7 FENCE: How did you get out of the oven?
- 8 PARK: The back door.
- 9 FENCE: The back door? (smacks forehead and continues berating self under).
- 10 ANGUS: (fading up) I can tell by the signature in apricot-cerulean Crayola crayon here, see ...
- 11 LULU: Oh, yes ...
- 12 ANGUS: ... and the atrocious use of the English language that this paperwork is --
- 13 FENCE: Stop right there! I'm wearing the very best invisible explosives. If you touch me I'll explode. This building will explode. All of Canada will explode! You'll never take me alive!
- 14 ANGUS: Righty-oh. Well, Stanley, his Taiwanese import certificates are entirely in order.
- 15 FENCE: Just like I told you!

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16 PARK: Fence, we're going to need these roads for the Grand Prix tomorrow.

17 FENCE: Impossible.

18 PARK: No, really. There's a Grand Prix tomorrow. The Chief told me.

19 FENCE: No, the roads. They're configured for Taipei. They won't fit.

20 PARK: I didn't know what to do. Change the roads or move the buildings?

21 LULU: Face it, Stanley. Buildings just don't move.

22 PARK: She was right. Look Fence, either you make the roads fit or ...

23 FX: Clink of zippo lighter open and flame burning.

24 FENCE: {Gasp}

25 PARK: ... Angus here, will set fire to your certificate and then where will you be?

26 FENCE: Saskatoon?

27 PARK: Wha-? God, no!

28 FENCE: All right, I'll do it. But I'll need a street plan to work by.

29 PARK: That's reasonable.

30 FENCE: And 120 million dollars, plus overtime.

31 PARK: Done. And here's a map.

32 FX: Sound of crowd and grand prix.

33 PARK: And while the case of the abducted asphalt would never be solved, it was more important that the roads were back ... and despite the necessary closure of schools and hospitals to pay for the baker's excellent last minute work, the people were happy. And that's the REAL story.

34 LULU: What? No, it's not.

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35 FX: Single car grows louder and passes with a honk (Doppler).

36 PARK: I waved at the Fence the baker as he passed by in his 1921 Duesenberg GP racer. Though, in retrospect, it seemed a pity that I'd given him a street map of Edmonton that night.

37 FX: Enormous screech and explosion of Fence's car hitting building.

THEME

38 ANNOUNCER: And so the checkered flag drops on The Case of the Abducted Asphalt. Tune in next week for another Gas Town Mystery, IN COLOR!