

# THE HOGSWORTH DETECTIVE AGENCY

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*It was July 12, 1953 in the booming city of Chicago. This was a historic moment later known as THE REVENGE OF THE HEDGEHOGS - when the hedgehogs stood up against their wizard leader, raiding his castle by nightfall. Unknown to the hedgehogs, the wizard knew of their plans and escaped. No one saw him again until 5 years later, when the Secret Service began getting strange reports. People would leave their house and come back looking very worried. When questioned, they couldn't remember where they'd been. One person left and never came back at all. One Secret Service agent was ordered to solve the mystery, and that agent immediately went to the HOGSWORTH DETECTIVE AGENCY. It is there that our story begins...*

Hogsworth Hedgehog woke up to the sound of his mailbox opening and closing. He got dressed, went downstairs, and read the letter inside. Quickly, he stuffed the letter in his pocket and ran to his friend's house, knocking hard on the door. After a moment, his friend, Detective Slylock Hedgehog, opened the door and Hogsworth thrust the letter at him. Slylock read it and asked Hogsworth to come inside. They took a hidden elevator down to a lair below - their detective headquarters.

"I know someone who can help," said Slylock, as he opened a drawer and pulled out a tattered restaurant advertisement. "This will help us find him." Soon they were getting in Slylock's car - headed off deeper into the woods. Eventually, they came to a restaurant called Hedgehog's Hollow.

Inside, the walls were dark wood with deer heads and bear statues. On stage was a magician performing tricks. Slylock walked to him and pulled out the letter. After just a glance, the magician stuck a hand into his own pocket and pulled out a map. Just then, a fox dressed as a chef burst from the kitchen. His eyes looked strangely hypnotized. Slylock turned and ran out the door with Hogsworth right behind him. They jumped into their car and started to drive, until Hogsworth remembered they didn't have the map. Luckily, just then the Magician ran out, jumped into their car, and slammed the door. Seconds later, their car peeled out from the parking lot.

"We need to drive to a house in the middle of the woods. There, we will find a

wizard. He will lead us to a tower, where hopefully we will find the last part of the map,” said the Magician.

They drove for hours until they came across a rickety old wooden house. As they walked through the door, they were surprised at how enormous it was inside. At the very back of the room, they noticed a dark hallway. The 3 hedgehogs bravely walked down the hall. Finally, at the very end of the hall, was the room they were looking for - an old wooden door labeled “PORTAL ROOM.” As they walked through this door, their jaws dropped. Before them stood a huge Golden Retriever. It was the size of Hogsworth’s house, covered in fur and very cute. Peeking behind the dog, the hedgehogs could just glimpse the portal on the back wall. Since the dog was on a leash, they approached the portal and prepared to walk through. Instead, they bounced backwards and fell to the floor.

“We just have to look around a bit more,” assured Hogsworth, as he started to explore the room more thoroughly. It was then that he saw something strange on the wall. Brushing away the dust, Hogsworth read it aloud.

“Unleash the beast.”

With that, Hogsworth took out his pocket knife and sliced through the dog’s leash. Jumping with joy, the dog ran over to the portal and rammed it with its head. Hogsworth tried again to walk through it, and passed through easily. He was teleported outside. A few seconds later, Slylock and the Magician came through the portal as well. Before them stood a large castle.

“How do you propose that we get in?” asked Hogsworth with a note of exhaustion in his voice.

“How about like this?” replied the Magician.

And with that, he pulled out a grappling hook, aimed it at a window, and shot. The hook smashed the window and fastened tightly onto the window ledge. After recovering

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from their momentary shock, Hogsworth and Slylock started climbing the rope. Once inside the castle, the Magician let go of the trigger and the rope pulled him up. Hogsworth turned to the Magician. “Alright. Please explain why you had a grappling

hook?”

The Magician sighed heavily, then answered, “It’s time that you know the truth. I am D.D. Hedge. I’m an agent of the Secret Service. My agency heard rumours of people disappearing, so I was sent here to investigate. The Magician thing was my cover - although I am pretty good at magic as it turns out.” Slylock and Hogsworth shrugged their shoulders. Stranger things had already happened to them that day.

The castle was spooky and maze-like. After what seemed like hours, they finally came upon a grand oak door. Inside the room was a giant, smelly, fire-breathing dragon. Everyone’s eyes grew wide.

“I have an idea,” said Hogsworth, and he started to whistle. In a few seconds, a flash of fur flew through the room. The door had fallen, and the Golden Retriever was standing happily upon it, tongue out and smiling. Hogsworth pointed to the dragon, and the dog quickly pinned it to the ground. Without delay, the hedgehogs ran to the other door and burst through it.

Inside was an ornate throne room. And sitting on the throne was the Wizard - the old leader of the hedgehogs who had been overthrown years earlier. In his time spent hiding, the Wizard learned ancient methods of hypnosis. This is why people who came across him returned acting so strangely. In fact, the agent who came looking for him and never returned was a Golden Retriever - the very same one that the hedgehogs had freed from her hypnosis in the portal room.

D.D. Hedge took out his wand, and a cage appeared above the Wizard. In return, the Wizard flicked his wrist and the cage reappeared above D.D. Hedge and Slylock. Chanting quietly, the Wizard struggled to hypnotize them both. Hogsworth retreated to survey the scene, and saw the spiral on the Wizard’s hat was spinning. He ran at the Wizard and yanked off his hat. D.D. Hedge and Slylock snapped out of their trance. Hogsworth whistled again. The Golden Retriever came charging into the room and lifted off the cage. The Wizard’s power was fading fast. Desperately, he snapped his fingers and the room filled with dozens of his goons. The Golden Retriever was able to knock out ten of them with a nudge of her head. D.D. Hedge used his wand to make a huge cage appear

above fifty of them. Slylock and Hogsworth fought hard and defeated twenty more. Still, it seemed like there were many goons remaining, and the Wizard was quickly advancing

across the room toward his hypnotic hat.

Suddenly, the air filled with an incredibly loud rumbling noise, and a plane appeared outside the window. D.D. Hedge saw the leader of the Secret Service running out. Behind him were at least a hundred soldiers. They were storming the castle, and the Wizard was forced to give up. Victory at last for the hedgehogs!

The Golden Retriever returned to her house and her grateful family. The Secret Service generously rewarded Hogsworth and Slylock for their cleverness and hard work, and D.D. Hedge got a promotion to General. All of them returned to life as they'd known it before, hoping against hope that the Wizard would not return. And for now, at least, he has not...