

EXT: Crime Scene

Caution tape surrounds a small area on a street corner. On the ground lies a lifeless body with a forensic tarp covering it

DICK TRACY in his trademark yellow over attire circles the scene taking it all in. SAM CATCHEM another ally from TRACY'S past now police captain, stands off to the side watching TRACY as if he's watching an artist create a masterpiece. With SAM is a rookie beat COP

COP

Captain. Sir? I don't mean to overstep. But do you think its wise to bring in a civilian on a major crime scene?

SAM

If there is one thing this man is not, it's a civilian.

TRACY

When was this called in Sam?

SAM

Call came about an hour ago. This is the first murder this town has had in years. None of my guys have ever seen anything like it, and frankly I could really use your opinion.

TRACY

I'll take a look.

TRACY lowers himself to the head of the body. He slowly removes the sheet. The face of the corpse is stricken grey with blood shot eyes and a distinctive manic grin stretched and tightened on its face muscles.

The rookie COP turns away in disgust. TRACY just swallows hard at the sight. He then notices a small amount of fluid build up on the corner of the mouth of the smiling corpse.

TRACY takes a small q-tip from his coat and takes a small sample off the body.

He dabs the q-tip on his tongue and immediately spits.

SAM

Well?

TRACY

Well he was poisoned. I'm not a toxicologist but I'd gamble on the poison killing him and making his face smile.

SAM

Smiling poison? (Pause) So who's capable of this? Mumbles? Maybe Pruneface?

TRACY rises

TRACY

No. No one I know would have a moniker like this. Not this biological (Pause) Sam. You don't have anyone assigned to this case, do you?

SAM

No Tracy.