



8

To better understand the Blotsplotch phenomena, the pen's owner subjected it to back-scattering spectrometry, colorimetric assay, homeostatic tolerance, stimulus response, chemical reactivity, and a thorough psychometric evaluation. These experiments and more were performed under strict quarantine measures and with innumerable fail-safes. Nevertheless, by the time authorities intervened, it was too late.

The lead detective assigned to the case was a blind man, whose superior deductive logic relied on the observations of his fellow officers. The detective listened as descriptions of the ransacked lab filled the room. "Gentleman and ladies," the detective interrupted, "behind me is a poster of Werner Heisenberg." The pronouncement stunned the room, as no one had yet mentioned the rather large poster of the rather famous physicist. "Behind the poster you will find a tunnel leading to the lost river of Pishon, a watercourse twenty-three double hours long." The incredulous investigators immediately removed the poster, revealing, to their amazement, the deduced and detruding tunnel, gusting with refrigerated air. The detective entered the darkness, but instructed his fellow offices not to follow. The gaping gloom soon enveloped him, as well as the cameraman in tow, their spelunking forms lost in the widening dark. Moments later, there was a splash. The lights went out. Then, manifesting upon the darkness, appeared that first name of the episode's end credits, glowing in stark contrast.

Only in post-production did the television studio realize that their lead actor, playing the role of a blind detective no less, habitually looked into the camera, ruining scene after scene. The show was canceled. The episode never aired. And only *then* did the studio realize that the pen *had* gotten away with it.

(Blotsplotch only wants the self-sabotage to cease.
Blotsplotch . . .
Blotsplotch only wants a contract for supply.)

