

## The Lady Sheriff

### I.

Draft, probably too much description, but important for writer, who is creating the character.

He was tall and lanky, but he stooped so badly that he seemed short. His hair was lank too, yellow and greasy and some fell over his forehead, which had deep wrinkles. His cheeks were wrinkled too, and he had big hands that hung loosely and dirt under the nails. He was wearing jeans that were too big for him and brogans with dirt in the cracks. His voice was thin and high and his teeth, of which there were only three, were brown.

"Yes Ma'am," he said. "We found him in the bushes by the creek."

"He was dead?"

"Yes ma'am."

"For how long?"

"He appeared to have been dead for some time, ma'am, because he swole up some."

II. Revised, description thinned, mixed into the dialogue. Maybe use other details later, particularly if this minor character might be a suspect and the dirty brogans become a clue.

He was tall and lanky, but he stooped so badly that he seemed short. His hair was lank too, yellow and greasy and some fell over his forehead.

"Yes Ma'am," he said. "We found him in the bushes by the creek."

"He was dead?"

He waved one big hand with dirt under the nails. "Yes ma'am."

It was a thin, high voice, and I found myself looking at the dirt under his nails.

"For how long?"

"He appeared to have been dead for some time, ma'am, because he swole up some."