

# Lurking Down the Bunny Trail

For 20 years, Benson's Big Beautiful Bunny Boutique has been the premier breeder of rabbits for springtime holidays. Owner Barney Benson built an operation that prides itself in the quality cottontails it provides both to local pet stores and to the public. Benson is renowned for the innovative techniques he uses that have revolutionized rabbit breeding.

Daily, admiring visitors to the boutique take guided tours, then select the perfect bouncing pets from his state-of-the-art rabbit hutch, complete with environmental controls and automated bunny feeder. But, all is not well because, yesterday, as Barney was opening for business, a huge letter "B" from the new sign hanging atop the hutch suddenly dislodged and fell on him, striking Barney in the head and leaving the boutique leaderless.

What at first seemed like a tragic accident was so suspicious to police that they soon declared the bunny breeder had met an untimely demise at the hands of a killer. Someone had done away with the lord of the leap by tattooing him with his own initial.

## The suspects . . .

### **Ray Betz**

In his giant bunny costume, he greets visitors to the boutique and entertains people with his juggling act.

### **Cara Ott**

Known for his bright orange hair, he owns the vegetable farm next door and suspects that Barney's bunnies have been escaping and eating his produce.

### **Bernie Benson**

He's Barney's younger brother who went to work for his sibling when his own rabbit-breeding operation hopped down the bankruptcy trail.

### **Helene Hopper**

The owner of Hopper's Perfect Pet Store, she signed a long-term contract to buy her bunnies from Barney. Now, she's sorry she did.

### **Paul Dizzy**

He's been buying up the land around Barney so that he can construct his new entertainment complex, Dizzy World. Both Barney and Cara have refused to sell their property.

### **Willa Bildit**

He runs the company that constructed the new rabbit hutch for Barney and is now being sued because it didn't live up to Barney's expectations.