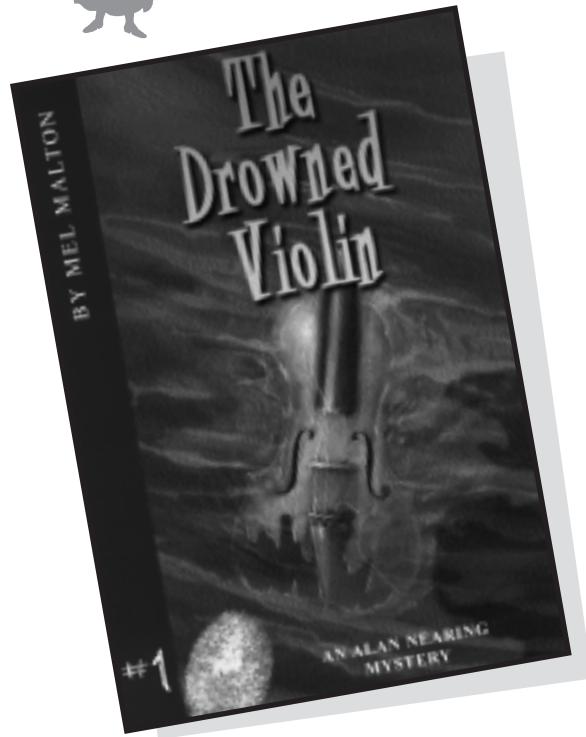




Napoleon Publishing



The Drowned Violin

An Alan Nearing Mystery #1

Mel Malton

Who stole the priceless Stradivarius and why?

There was something floating in the water ahead of the canoe. "It looks dead, whatever it is," someone said. That's where the mystery begins, and eleven-year-old Alan Nearing and his friends are determined to solve the mystery of the drowned violin on their own, without adult interference. As a reluctant violinist himself, Alan can't help but feel that fate has given him his first major case to solve.

The visit of a famous classical musician to their small town is the subject of great interest in the community, especially when he is found unconscious at night and his rare and expensive

Stradivarius is missing. Alan knows that there has to be some connection between the two violins, but what is it? Alan and his friends have all the tools they need—Ziggy's canoe, Josée's ability to impress parents and Alan's detective instincts. Mix in a gang of thieving bullies on jet-skis and an eccentric hermit, who coincidentally used to play violin in a band, and the stage is set for a fast-action summer adventure in cottage country.

This is a new series for younger readers by Mel Malton, author of the four Polly Deacon mysteries for adults under the name H. Mel Malton.

A fun mystery featuring a mixture of boy and girl protagonists.
Themes include: bullying, music lessons for kids, and summer cottaging.
First in the Alan Nearing Mystery series, with *Pioneer Poltergeist* pubbing in 2007.

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