

**INSPECTOR
SMART**



AND THE CASE OF

**THE
EMPTY TOMB!**

**CASE
FILE**

BY TIM CHESTER



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Author's Note:

Inspector Smart and Chief Inspector Brown are imaginary characters, but the people Inspector Smart interviews are real (though we don't know the names of the Roman soldiers, so we invented those). They lived 2000 years ago in the days of ancient Rome, at the time of the very first Easter. You can read about them in the Bible (see page 62).



Some people you will meet in
this book:



Inspector Smart

Born in New Jersey, USA.
Seasoned detective with
the Jerusalem Bureau
of Investigations (JBI).
Reputation for “getting
the job done”.



Chief Inspector Brown

Background: career
policeman in London,
England. Now Smart’s
immediate superior at JBI.
Loves coffee, bacon rolls
and his wife, Ethel.



Mary Magdalene

Friendless because of her work - but Jesus showed her compassion and care. She loves to tell people about what has happened to her.



Thomas

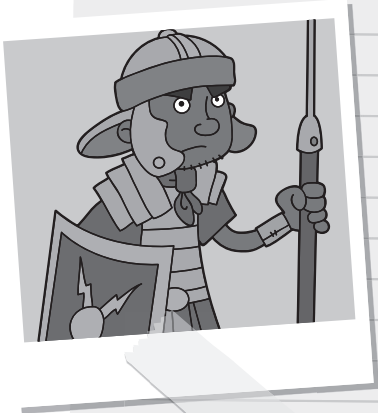
Hard-working man who left everything to follow Jesus. Straight talking; not taken in by silly stories. Likes to see proof before he'll believe anything.





Commander Felix

Born in Sicily. Career soldier; he is deliberate and careful in all he does. Prides himself on always doing his best.



Marcus

Joined the army when he was 17. Not the brightest button on a tunic, but good at what he does - guarding.

Introduction

“Ah, Inspector Smart. Come in, there’s a good chap.”

Inspector Smart sat down in front of Chief Inspector Brown’s big desk. Brown peered at him from behind a large file.

“You’ll enjoy this one. Fascinating. Not your typical case. Usually we have a dead body and have to find the killer. This time we know who the killer is... It’s the body we can’t find!”

Brown laughed, clearly thinking this was some kind of joke. Smart didn't laugh; he was intrigued. "Tell me more," he said.

"A man called Jesus. About three years ago he started healing people, walking on water, teaching people to love God, welcoming the poor. Standard stuff. Well, except for the healing people. And the walking on water. They were a bit odd.

"Anyway, three days ago the authorities had him executed. Not sure why – I can't find any mention of a crime in the paperwork.



“No matter – the thing is, his body’s gone missing. It seems it was put in a tomb and the door was sealed... But now it’s gone. I need you to find out what’s going on. Ask around. Question a few suspects. The usual sort of thing.”

He handed the file to Smart.

“Perhaps it’s a conspiracy by his followers,” Smart suggested. “But what about the empty tomb? Most likely someone stole the body. Or maybe he didn’t really die in the first place.”

Brown coughed. “I’d rather you didn’t conduct your investigation in my office.”

“Sorry,” said Smart standing up. “As you say, a bit odd.”

Can you help
Inspector Smart solve...

