

Errata

In the production of *The Scummers*, page 78 was incorrectly substituted with page 79 (the title page of part ii). The missing text follows.

bench, gripping his gavel like a club. The side of my face ached.

“ . . . yes.”

For a long time, he just looked at us, peering down at two beetles who had dared come into his city. And then he went back into his flat voice.

“I hereby sentence you to the custody of Sergeant Murdock . . .” he raised the gavel and pointed over our heads “ . . . and to remain in the custody of Sergeant Murdock until Sergeant Murdock can make proper arrangements to see that you get the hell out of my city.” It was a calm statement. He didn’t even seem angry.

And then the gavel slammed down, the cracking sound whipping around the room, a sound I would remember for a long time.

A guy came up behind us and put handcuffs on us again. He turned us and marched us toward the back of the room. Harry was gone but some other cops were there and I wondered which one of them was Murdock. As we stumbled down the aisle a figure in the very back stood up, ramrod straight, his hat tucked under his left arm. We were pulled up in front of him. I read the name tag above the left pocket of his uniform coat. Sgt. Murdock, it said.

There must be some mistake, I thought, knowing instantly that there was none. No mistake.

Sgt. Murdock was not a cop. He was in the U.S. Army. Recruiting office, it turned out.