

Puzzle #1 - The Murder

Three weeks ago, on a foggy night in Chicago, 43-year-old Evelyn Hayes walked to the water's edge at Belmont Harbor. Earlier that day she had received an unsigned note that said, *Evelyn: Meet me directly east, at the water's edge, at 11 pm to discuss X*. When Evelyn came to that spot, she was stabbed with a poisoned syringe.

Days later, the police arrested and hanged a man named Tobias Winfrey, because he had been seen skulking around the waterfront near midnight. Was he a bumpkin in the wrong place at the wrong time, or a pawn of the real murderer? If a pawn, he must have been under enormous pressure not to reveal the truth. Before Tobias died, he scratched `SPMLSLZZ SBTILY` into his cell wall. Tobias's diaries were later found full of nonsense words, and it's believed this was some kind of code.

What was Tobias's message?

Puzzle #2 - The Motive

Found in the notes of Mr. Owen Smith — the list of motives, and the list of suspects.

These are the ten people who could have committed the crime, who were connected to the victim/murder weapon/or crime scene and were without a proper alibi the night of her death:

Annie Kowalski, Myra Gacy, Jane Dean, Alicia Allitt, Peter Edwards, Mallory Torres, Ted Wood, Randy Hughes, Arthur Turning, Sam Mayhew

The possible motives of the suspects are as follows:

- A. Self-defense
- B. Mistaken identity - the wrong person was killed
- C. Theft, with a mishap murder
- D. An attempt to cover up a ghastly family secret
- E. A fit of rage with a terrible ending
- F. Jealousy, because the victim was falling in love with someone else
- G. Religious mania, believing the victim should be punished
- H. Money (wishing to inherit the victim's fortune)
- I. To get revenge on someone else through the victim's death
- J. To gain admittance into a cult

Alas, Mr. Owen's notes do not specify which motive belongs to which suspect. However, an example might be: "If Alicia Allitt killed Evelyn Hayes, based on her history and the research Mr. Owen has done, her only possible motive for killing Evelyn would be self-defense."

Some of these motives are speculative and flimsy, ill-founded and can be easily dismissed.

It is our job to choose which of these MOTIVES is the only possible motive given the information we have.

Found scattered in Mr. Owen's notes: *Remember that the murder was committed with poison*
Remember that Evelyn received a note
The Admiral had a reputation for being coldhearted and ambitious
While Mr. Peter Edwards WAS a member of a cult, it appears the cult's initiation ceremony involves copious amounts of blood
Evelyn Hayes was disliked by everyone and liked no one, with no relations
Randy Hughes, our religious fanatic, had never personally met Evelyn

Pick one of the ten motives as the true motive. Use logic and deductive reasoning. When you have chosen the correct motive, write the letter here:

Puzzle #3

With the information we have left, including these spattering of clues left in Mr. Owen's notes, we must at last unmask the murderer in our midst.

In the fifteen minutes allotted, we must work together to finally choose which of the ten suspects committed the crime. Look over past puzzles. Think carefully. Who murdered Evelyn Hayes?

Our time starts now.

The women were acquainted with Evelyn as "Mrs. Hayes" and knew her only in a distant, professional capacity. None of them worked with her in the house.

Sam Mayhew was also employed by Admiral Wood and worked with Evelyn in the same house.

Arthur Turning told sob stories to the newspapers about how deeply he and Evelyn were in love.

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