

Murder Mystery - Part 3

The police have drawn up a shortlist of those they think might have been responsible.

Adam Brown (the son):

Is known to be unhappy with his father's 2nd marriage. The neighbour says she heard them shouting at each other the week before. He was in the house all day working upstairs. Owns extensive chemical equipment and photographic equipment – we found a lot of vintage chemical and photographic equipment. He is currently the heir to the Brown money. He was the 2nd person to see the body and was the one who phoned the police. If he had been the killer, surely he would have cleaned the glass.

Jim Birch (the gardener)

Has worked for the family for a number of years, though it is believed he was about to be made unemployed as Mr Brown (snr) wanted to turn a large area of the garden into a miniature putting green and intended to look after the rest himself. He was especially angry that the orchard of cherry and apple trees was going to be cut down as they had been planted by the first Mrs. Brown. Many people in the village told us that Mr Birch has been known to drink too much and get into fights, but this does not prove he could plan a murder. Still, he had access to the house and was there yesterday.

Leslie Forbes (the neighbour)

It seems common knowledge that she disliked the Brown family. The only good thing that she had to say about them was their garden. Like the Browns, she is a keen gardener, especially interested in the history and uses of plants and their fruit.

The police files report an incident from nearly a year ago when she contacted the police claiming her dog had been killed by Mr Brown. Police investigated but found no evidence to support her claim, though it was clear the dog had eaten poison. Could the dog be a motive?

Vocab match

Match the vocabulary to the definition using the context

A vintage	1 place where you can practice golf
B heir	2 saying but not to have evidence
C miniature putting green	3 enthusiastic
D had access	4 old but still good or fashionable
E keen	5 could have got inside
F claiming	6 person who inherits the money

Modal Verbs

Having read the police shortlist, return to your notes and add any more ideas

_____ *might have* _____ / *Ken Brown could have been killed by* _____ *because ...*

Are there any other pieces of evidence or information that you would like to be better able to decide who was guilty.

The suspect interviews:

Each suspect was interviewed by the police and we have the recordings for you to listen to:

Adam Brown

1. Does Adam have a good relationship with his father?
2. What does he say about his relationship with his father's second wife?
3. What plan for his future did his father have?
4. Why does he say he has cyanide?
5. Does he speak politely to the police?

Do you think he could be a suspect?

Jim Birch

6. How does he feel about the changes to the garden?
7. Does he think he is good at his job?
8. What work had he done that day?
9. Why did he go back to the house?
10. What does he say about getting into fights?

Do you think he could be a suspect?

Read through the following, which words do you think might be missing?

Leslie Forbes

Mr Brown, dead? Drink was it? Or that dreadful woman he married? Mind you, the first wasn't much better and don't get me started (1)_____ the son. Strange, always quiet, always upstairs by the window. Although I heard him and his father having a real argument just the other day, I told one (2)_____ your men about that. I've never liked the Browns and then Mr Brown killed my dog, Winston. None of you police took it seriously, said there was no evidence, but the dog didn't poison himself did he?

Where was I yesterday? In my house, where else was I supposed to be, hmmm? I live there, a lady is allowed to stay (3)_____ her own house, isn't she? It's not illegal, is it?

Of course no one can confirm that I was, as I am sure you know, I live alone now poor Winston has gone. I should really get a new dog, but I was worried he would end (4)_____ like poor Winston.

Part 4 - The End

Police investigation of the garden shed at the Brown's reveals a small bottle which contained traces of cyanide. The police arrive at Jim Birch's house to arrest him, but he is not there. Eventually (12.30) they find him in the pub, drunk and sobbing.

Meanwhile Jennifer Brown is talking to the police at the house. She tells them that the argument between Adam and Ken was due to a change to the will Ken was planning to make. She is now v worried about where she will go. She talks about her difficult relationship with Adam.

The police search the Brown's house and along with Adam's photos of landscapes they find a photograph of a dead dog. A quick conversation with Lesley Forbes confirms the dog is Winston.

They now search Adam's room and find a diary. As they read it they are shocked to find details of his plans to poison Jennifer brown. He used Winston as a trial.

At the station, Jim Birch is sobering up and confessing to having loved the first Mrs Brown. He strongly denies having killed Mr Brown though.

The police search the town for Adam, but discover he has headed to London. They dispatch a detective to bring him back.

Adam is arrested at St Pancras station.