How to Solve a Case

Welcome to Maple Grove, a quiet village where a surprising number of people have tea at the same time as a crime. Each case in this book has a short story, a list of clues and three grids. Your job is to work out who did it.

Every suspect was alone in a different place, holding a different object. The story tells you where the crime happened and what was used. The killer is the person who was in that place with that object.

How to use the grids: when a clue tells you something is true, put a check mark in that square. When a clue says something is not true, put an X. Each row and each column can have only one check mark, so once you find one, put an X in the rest of its row and column. Then use what you know to link the grids: if Mr. Birch had the Tea Kettle, and the Tea Kettle was in the Greenhouse, then Mr. Birch was in the Greenhouse.

Every case has exactly one answer, and every one can be solved by logic alone. The full solution is on the last page.

The Old Mill Mystery

Case 1 · Medium

On the last day of the apple harvest, the owner of the Old Mill, Miss Dorothea Vane, did not come down to the village supper. She was found at the mill, past all help, with the mill's accounts book lying open beside her.

Constable Pike made a list of those who had left the supper early: Mr. Fenn, the solicitor, Mrs. Garrow, the housekeeper, Dr. Kemp and Miss Cobb, the librarian. Each was alone in a different place, and each held something different.

Somebody wanted that accounts book. Work through the clues to find out who.

The suspects: Mr. Fenn, Mrs. Garrow, Dr. Kemp and Miss Cobb.

The crime was committed in the Station Platform, with the Fireplace Poker.

The Clues

1. The Fireplace Poker belonged to either Mr. Fenn or Mrs. Garrow.
2. The person in the Garden Shed was either Mr. Fenn or Mrs. Garrow.
3. Neither Mr. Fenn nor Dr. Kemp was in the Library.
4. Miss Cobb was not in the Station Platform.
5. Neither Mrs. Garrow nor Miss Cobb had the Tea Kettle.
6. The person in the Station Platform was either Mrs. Garrow or Miss Cobb.
7. Whoever had the Bookend was in the Garden Shed.

The killer is: _____

Your Detective Grid

	Weapons				Places			
	Fireplace Poker	Croquet Mallet	Bookend	Tea Kettle	Library	Station Platform	Pantry	Garden Shed
Mr. Fenn								
Mrs. Garrow								
Dr. Kemp								
Miss Cobb								
Fireplace Poker								
Croquet Mallet								
Bookend								
Tea Kettle								

Mark a check for yes and an X for no. Only one check in each row and column of a block.

1. The Old Mill Mystery: the killer is Mrs. Garrow (Fireplace Poker, Station Platform).

Mr. Fenn: Bookend, Garden Shed
Mrs. Garrow: Fireplace Poker, Station Platform
Dr. Kemp: Tea Kettle, Pantry
Miss Cobb: Croquet Mallet, Library

Enjoyed these?

Cozy Murder Mystery Logic Puzzles

Whodunit cases to solve with clues and a detective grid, set in a quiet village.

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