

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Opening Activity

You are the Detective #3

It's a Family Matter

Name: _____ Period: _____ Row: _____

MATCH WITS WITH WORLD FAMOUS INSPECTOR CLOUSEAU:

Inspector Clouseau enjoyed an occasional breakfast with a close friend David Watson at the Wall Street Coffee Shop. What he didn't enjoy were the homicide calls that so often came right in the middle of the meal he was trying to enjoy. He was just finishing his bacon and eggs when he was given a call to go to Jackson & Son Insurance Company, located on a lonely stretch of highway. As usual, Watson tagged along.

A uniformed officer met Clouseau in the parking lot and informed him that the victim was Gary Lovett, a Jackson & Son Company employee. That's Neal Jackson and his sister, Patty Lovett. She's the victim's widow as the uniformed officer pointed out an anxious-looking duo, both in their late twenties. Neal Jackson stepped forward and informed the Inspector that he discovered the body at about 8:30 a.m. "When I pulled into the parking lot, I saw Gary's car. Gary is often here early, though he's always gone before noon. If Gary wasn't Patty's husband, Dad (George Jackson) would've fired him long ago because he is lazy and incompetent. The front door was open and as I walked in I found Gary on the floor, like that."



Inspector Clouseau examined the body in the doorway. The man's head was a bloody mess, and it took the Inspector a while to realize that the rifle now bagged as evidence had been used as a blunt instrument, its wooden stock having been slammed into his head like a baseball bat. The body was cold and rigor mortis had already set in.

"That's my husband's rifle," volunteered the widow Patty Lovett. "He kept it here at the office so it would not be around the children at home. Last night Gary and I were home when he got this phone call around 7 p.m. He said he had to go to the office because there was a problem and that I should just go to bed. I thought he might be going to see another woman because I have had some suspicions about him seeing someone for several months. This morning when I woke up he still had not come home so I went to find him. I must have arrived here just a minute after my brother did."

"I think we should probably call Dad", Neal said. That call wouldn't be necessary, for at that exact moment their father (George Jackson) was pulling into the parking lot. The burly insurance broker eased himself out of his Mercedes and wordlessly took in the scene, the body, the bagged rifle, and his two children. Patty ran up to him. "Someone murdered Gary," she moaned. "I think the police suspect us, Neal and me."

Jackson hugged his daughter, exchanged glances with his son, then turned to face Inspector Clouseau. "I killed him," he said softly and simply. "I met him here last night and shot him, right in the head. My kids had nothing to do with it."

As the uniformed officer took Jackson's statement, Inspector Clouseau smiled and stated I have heard enough and now know who killed Gary Lovett.



WHO KILLED GARY LOVETT?

WHAT CLUES POINT TO THE KILLER?
