

CRIME QUIZ #11



How's Your Crime Detection IQ?

In every crime mystery story we see or read we consciously or subconsciously play the role of Sherlock Holmes in an attempt to sift through clues and pinpoint the culprit. We consider it a victory if we are able to deduce the guilty party before the unveiling! If we fail, we at least appreciate the author's cleverness in concealing the perpetrator so skillfully.

In Detroit in the late 19th century three vacationers, Bill, Jim and John, rented a “haunted” house for the summer. Bill said he didn't believe in ghosts but that if he saw one he would certainly shoot. His companions laughed and advised him that bullets wouldn't hurt ghosts. Besides, they said they knew his gun always contained blanks.

Later that night Jim heard a gunshot while fixing a snack in the kitchen. He ran upstairs a few minutes later and found John's body in the hall lying on a bed sheet. Upon examining the bed sheet a bullet hole was found two inches from the hem.

Bill told Jim, “I saw something white go by my open door. I grabbed my gun and ran out into the hall trembling with fear. The white cloth covered figure turned and I saw that the face was completely wrapped in the sheet, the edge flapping below the knees. I was in fear and shot at the figure. I was shocked to find I had shot John in the chest. Somebody must have put real bullets in my gun.

Was John shot accidentally? EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER
