

The Right Honourable The Lord of Hepplethorpe

Letter to Lord Hepplethorpe from his accountant Mr Smith

You receive a letter from your accountant. It is a reply to an earlier letter from you where you asked him to come to Hepplethorpe Manor at his earliest convenience to do a full review of the household's finances. In his letter, he answers that he will arrive tomorrow and that he will be bringing his assistant, as well as an art historian who will do an inventory of all the art, jewellery, silver and other valuables in the house.

Mr Smith is your new accountant. You fired the last one because he wasn't able to make your money making schemes happen. Mr Smith has been trying to find money to fund the exciting mining expedition to Africa that you want to invest in, but despite adjusting your investments and raising rent on the properties you own, he hasn't been able to come up with enough funds. He says that your best chance of finding cash fast is to cut costs at Hepplethorpe Manor and maybe sell some valuable art or jewellery.

Whenever the accountant visits Hepplethorpe Manor, he stays in the pub in the village Upper Hepplethorpe.

Before breakfast is over, make sure to tell the rest of the family that

- *the new accountant Mr Smith will be coming tomorrow to go over the household's finances*
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Letter to Lord Hepplethorpe from Lord Swinepuddle

You receive a letter from Lord Swinepuddle, the son of Viscount Fopsworth. He accepts your invitation and will be coming to dinner next week.

You have been trying to get Lord Swinepuddle interested in Florence for quite some time, making sure that the two of them bump into each other at various balls and social functions in London. Viscount Fopsworth is incredibly wealthy and as the eldest son, Lord Swinepuddle stands to inherit a large estate. Marrying Florence off to him would both solve her future and help restore your wealth and social standing..

Before breakfast is over, make sure to tell the rest of the family that

- *Lord Swinepuddle, the son of Viscount Fopsworth, has accepted our invitation and will be coming to dinner next week.*
- *This is excellent news, if we play our cards right he may ask for Florence's hand then and there.*

The Right Honourable The Lady of Hepplethorpe

Letter to Lady Hepplethorpe from Mrs Cooper

You receive a letter from Mrs Cooper, accepting your invitation to luncheon today.

At the last board meeting with Committee for Orphan Welfare, you asked her to come help you make the case to Lord Hepplethorpe for giving 10 000 pounds to the society, so that you can keep the schools open.

Before breakfast is over, make sure to tell the rest of the family that

- *Mrs Cooper has accepted my invitation and will be joining us for luncheon today. Mr Jenkins, please let everyone downstairs know that we will have an extra guest.*

The Honourable Florence Hepplethorpe

Letter to Florence from Robert

You receive a note from Robert, your lover in the village. He writes that if you are certain you want him, he will gladly come to the manor to ask your father for your hand. He can get away from the farm mid-morning and will be at the manor at ten o'clock.

Before breakfast is over, ask your father

- *to meet you in the study at ten o'clock because you have something important to discuss*

The Honourable Henry Hepplethorpe

Letter to Uncle Henry from Helen

You receive a letter from your daughter Helen, who writes that she can't wait any longer - she needs an answer about the wedding. Will cousin George help her or not? She will arrive with the two o'clock train to Upper Hepplethorpe. Will he make sure that she is welcome for tea so that they can talk to cousin George together?

Before breakfast is over, make sure to tell the rest of the family that

- *My daughter is in the area and will be coming for a visit today. Shall I ask her to join us for afternoon tea?*

WHODUNNIT? - HAND OUT X 1 (print double-sided)

Mr Jenkins

Letter to Mr Jenkins from Mr Butcher

This letter to you has been mixed up with the family's post by mistake and you really shouldn't read it here, but you do so anyway. You try to read the letter without the family noticing.

The letter is a note from Mr Butcher saying that he will arrive today in the late morning to discuss next week's meat deliveries.

If someone asks you about the letter, tell them that it was just a note from Mr Butcher and that it had been placed with the family's post by mistake.

Instructions for DI Bell

Scene 9: Interviews

The suspects sit waiting for you to start the interviews. Let them play the scene for a few moments, then ask them one by one to come into another room to be interviewed. The characters will not overhear the interviews, but the players will see and hear them. They will be able to talk quietly to each other while you conduct the interviews.

Interview with Lady Hepplethorpe

- When did you last see Lord Hepplethorpe?
- What did you do after that?
- Tell me about your day - what did you and Lord Hepplethorpe do?

PC Plod enters the room and hands DI Bell a kitchen knife that was found near the body.

- Do you recognise this knife?
 - Yes: when did you last see it?
 - No: ask PC Plod to show it to the cook
- Did Lord Hepplethorpe have any enemies?
- Do you know of any reason that someone would want to harm him?

Interview with Miss Florence Hepplethorpe

- When did you last see Lord Hepplethorpe?
- What did you do after that?
- What did Lord Hepplethorpe do today? Did you see him during the day?

PC Plod enters the room and hands DI Bell a bottle of pesticide that was found near the body.

- Do you recognise this bottle?
 - Yes: when did you last see it?
 - No: ask PC Plod to show it to the gardener
- You had a young man visiting today, did you not? What did Lord Hepplethorpe think of your association with him?
- Did Lord Hepplethorpe have any enemies that you know of?
- Do you know of any reason that someone would want to harm him?

Interview with Uncle Henry

- When did you last see Lord Hepplethorpe?
- What did you do after that?
- What did you do today? Did you spend any time with Lord Hepplethorpe?

PC Plod enters the room and hands DI Bell a shotgun that was found near the body.

- Do you recognise this shotgun?
 - Yes: when did you last see it?
 - No: ask PC Plod to show it to the footman

- I understand your daughter is getting married. Was Lord Hepplethorpe going to help finance the wedding?
- Did Lord Hepplethorpe have any enemies?
- Do you know of any reason that someone would want to harm him?

Interview with Mr Jenkins

- When did you last see Lord Hepplethorpe?
- What did you do after that?
- What happened during the day? Were there any visitors?

PC Plod enters the room and hands DI Bell a candle stick that was found near the body.

- Do you recognise this candle stick?
 - Yes: when did you last see it?
 - No: ask PC Plod to show it to the housekeeper

Ask a few more questions, for example:

- How long have you worked for Lord Hepplethorpe?
- Do you know of any reason that someone would want to harm him?

Scene 10: Detective Inspector Bell reveals who did it

DI Bell gathers everyone in the drawing room. He says that this has been a most interesting crime but that he has now discovered who the murderer is.

He tells the story of what happened from the time when everyone met in the hall to when Lord Hepplethorpe died. The other players react to his story as he is telling it.

When he reveals the murderer, this becomes the truth and all players adjust their reactions accordingly.

When the identity of the murderer is revealed and the players have reacted to it, the scenario is over.