

Final Solution

Killer:

Julia Richter

Motive:

Julia Richter was motivated by a desire to protect her investigative story on corruption in the maritime industry. She knew about Erik's hidden stash of documents and wanted to ensure that his death would bring attention to her article.

Method:

Julia had access to the Red Berry Pudding, which she secretly laced with a toxin during dessert service at midnight. The yacht's layout allowed her to move around undetected, and the late hour provided the perfect opportunity for her to act without being seen.

Opportunity:

The dinner party was in full swing until dessert time when guests were focused on their sweets. Julia could easily slip into the kitchen unnoticed during this distraction and tamper with Erik's pudding. The yacht's layout allowed her to move around undetected, and the late hour provided the perfect opportunity for her to act without being seen.

Clue Alignment

Lena Jensen about Dr. Thomas Weber (supports_guilt)

Lena was overheard whispering something to Julia just before midnight, suggesting that she knew about Dr. Weber's nervousness and his involvement in the investigation.

Julia Richter about Lena Jensen (partial_truth)

Julia had a reason to be calm and collected before midnight, knowing that her actions would protect her story. Lena's calm demeanor was part of the plan.

Alternative Suspects

Hans Schmidt: He had a falling out with Erik over a recent shipbuilding project and was seen pacing outside Alicia's room that night, suggesting he might have been seeking information or hiding something.

Alicia Schmidt: She found Hans pacing outside her room the night of the murder, muttering about needing to protect something important. This could indicate that she was aware of his involvement in Erik's documents but did not know they were in his office.

Final Reveal Monologue

In the darkness of midnight on Kiel Week, it was Julia Richter who orchestrated the perfect crime. Her desire to protect her story and ensure that Erik's death would bring attention to the corruption she exposed led her to tamper with the Red Berry Pudding. The opportunity presented itself during the dinner party when all eyes were on dessert, and she seized the moment without a second thought.