Fowl Call

Genre: Mystery, Adventure

**CHAPTER 1**

[Case reading | Mayor’s office, City Hall: 11PM]

It was a cold windy day as a storm was beginning to brew after a long week of summer head. A silhouette looms behind the mayor’s desk revealing a pale body of the once beloved mayor. That night, the curtains were left open allowing the passionate rain to soak the mayor on the spot. His body was discovered by his daughter Kale who has reached out to him to return for dinner. No evidence was found in the scene of the crime.

[Scene reveals to be the police station]

Chief  
What kind of bastard would do such a thing. And here I thought this town was finally getting peaceful.   
Ma’am, do you or your son remember anything else that night?

Ms. Hop  
Not that I know of my daughter was the one who…found him. I’m sure she can provide more details, however.   
Right now, we’d like to be left alone, we’ve already have enough on our place as is chief.

Chief  
I understand madam

Ms. Hop   
Chief.

Chief  
Yes, Madam?

Ms. Hop  
I want you to find whoever did this and bring them to me at any means necessary. They have disrupted the balance of not only this town but the lives of this family. He was a peaceful man who was selfless and cared for this town for years…Stop at nothing until the monster who did this gets the punishment they deserve.

Chief  
I understand.

[Chief leaves city hall to return to the police station]

Chief  
…Unbelievable. Were already piled on with missing cases and ow the mayor’s dead. Things are getting out of hand.

**[OPTIONS:  
Need any help with the case? | Mind if I take over? | Just put this one in with the other murder cases.]**

Chief  
?!  
Oh you, I didn’t see you there. Sorry, my memory is still fuzzy what was your name again?

**[Player inserts name]**

Chief  
Ah yes, [player]. Your new here, aren’t you? You’ve come at the right time detective. I’m sure you’ve already heard of what happened in city hall… The entire station is backed up and we could you as much help as we can get.

[OPTIONS: I can take over! | You should find someone else. | Sounds like a you problem]

Chief [ If options 1 or 2]

Chief [If option 3]  
?! I will not tolerate such disrespect in my office. The force has been working hard to ensure that the townsfolk feel safe for generations to come. And I won’t allow some spoiled, asshole from the city poison this town’s safety with your attitude.

Chief [Afterwards]  
Anyway, your still new here so I can’t just trust a new detective from the academy for such a hefty case. Here take this, I need you to go to this address and look for this person. They just got off retirement but the best person for this job. I need you to track them down and make them take the case. With all the distractions we have at the station, we need a seasoned point of view to solve this case. Will you, do it?

[ Options: Sure! | I don’t want to]

Chief  
Perfect, knew I can count on you! Good luck and don’t let me down.

[ Case File received.]

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[Pans to the street sign with address in case]

It was bright, clear sky on this wonderful Saturday morning. Lush fruitful trees, colorful flowers dancing in the wind, not a worry in sight on this beautiful day.

[Player]  
This must be the place.

The player walks up to a beautiful garden with trees and flowers of many a variety. Curious they stop to smell the flowers and appreciate the scenery.

??  
Magnolias  
  
[Player]  
?!

A tall smiling bat appeared behind you. They’re wearing a flowery apron and wreak of roses.

??  
Those are magnolias, one of my prized flowers. They were a gift from an old friend.

[Player]  
They are gorgeous, I don’t think I’ve seen these types of flowers on the island.

??  
Excellent observation detective, they are native in another island not too far from here, but I do appreciate the flattery.

[Player]  
How did you???

??  
It’s a small town, dear. Its not hard to know who is who around here. Oh, mind my manners, I’m Vermont the owner of this garden.

[Player]  
I’m [Player].

Vermont  
Pleasure to meet you detective [Player]. What brings you here?

[Player]   
I’m here under order from chief to deliver this to this address.

Vermont receives the case papers

Vermont  
…  
Dear, would you like some lemonade? Walking here must have been exhausting and I could use a glass myself.

[Player]  
I’m sorry, madam but my orders were to give this to you. I should return to the station

Vermont  
I insist please come in

[Player enters room]  
[The room has a strong tropical appearance with lots of potted plants and a wood stove. Its small yet cozy. Vermont sits with you with a glass of lemonade.]

[Player]  
I appreciate the hospitality but…

Vermont  
You need help with the mayor’s murder case?

[Player]   
The chief doesn’t trust me with a case this big, so they’re requesting help from you it seems.

Vermont  
I see, I’m sorry but I can’t take the case. I’m retired and have been out of the field for years. I came to this town to finally find some peace. Please tell your Chief that I respectfully decline. This is none of my business and I don’t want anymore stress in my life.

[Player]   
Please ma’am. This isn’t just a regular case; the livelihood of the whole town is at stake.

[Ms. Hoppins appears with several bodyguards]

Ms. Hoppins  
I’m afraid the young detective is correct.

Both Vermont and Player  
?!

Ms. Hoppins  
The townsfolk are feeling restless after the assassination of my husband. And I fear things are getting worse.

[Ms. Hoppins gives more reports of missing people in town]  
  
Ms. Hoppins  
People are going Missing Vermont and the police are fearful of their own lives to do anything about it.

Vermont  
This has nothing to do with me.

Ms. Hoppins  
That may be so, but this isn’t just a regular late night bar quarrel. This is real, Vermont. If the police won’t do anything, I can only trust a true professional to handle this case. You came to this town to finally have your freedom and I respect that but please, please help us Inspector Vermont.

[ Vermont reflects on the decision and looks at Ms. Hoppins who reminds her of her ex-wife and stands up]

Vermont  
Ms. Hoppins. I humbly accept your case. Ill do whatever I get to the bottom of it.

Ms. hoppin  
Thank you…Thank you Inspector...

[Player looks on and was stopped by Vermont]

Vermont  
[Player] would you like to join me on this case? Ill need the help of familiar face if we are to get to the bottom of this.

[Player hesitates but agrees]  
[ This is the beginning of a journey of reconning]

CHAPTER 1 END

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CHAPTER 2

[Scene of the crime, player and Vermont are in the mayor’s office]

Vermont  
…I’m sorry things had to end this way, Ribbert. Was there anyone else here at the scene of the crime?

Ms. Hoppins  
My daughter Kale was the one who found him here. I’m sure she could help with that.

Kale  
…  
  
Vermont  
Hello there, I’m Inspector Vermont, I’m here to solve this case. You must be Kale, it’s a pleasure to meet you.

Kale  
…

Ms. Hoppins  
Its okay dear, they’re only here to help. Would you like to speak to the nice detectives? Or would you like to go outside?

Kale  
I’m ok with talking to them. I want to help with this case too.

Ms. Hoppins  
Thank you dear, if you ever get uncomfortable just let me know.

[ OPTIONS: Mayor Hoppins | Did you see anyone?]  
  
Kale [1]  
You mean my dad? That night, it was getting close to midnight so my mom told me to get my dad so we can all eat at the dinner table. When I got there the room was dark and the windows were open so there were puddles of water all over the floor. I figured dad must’ve fallen asleep at his desk again, so I went to close the windows and wake him up…I tried nudging him to wake him up, but he didn’t move. His body flipped to the side, and he was limp without a sign of life in his eyes. I rushed to mom and that was all I saw.

Kale [2]  
When I went to check on him, I didn’t notice anyone there at the time. All I remember was seeing him…lying there.

Vermont  
I’m so sorry to hear that.

Kale  
I have to go

[Kale leaves the room]

Ms. Hoppins  
She’s going through a lot right now, please forgive her

Vermont  
Its not a problem Ms. Hoppins. I’m sure this must’ve been a lot to take in on a regular night. [Player] and I will inspect the area for clues.

Ms. Hoppins  
Of course, I shall leave it to you both

[ms Hoppins leaves the office for the two to inspect the area]

[OPTIONS: Window | Door | Desk | Bookshelves | Floor]

[If floor is chosen]

Vermont  
What’s this? Coffee grinds? Must’ve come from the mayor’s coffee mug. (They smell them)   
These are still fresh, and I don’t see any signs of a coffee maker in here. Not sure how useful this will be but let’s hang on to this.

**[PLAYER RECEIVES NEW EVIDENCE]**

Vermont  
I think that should be everything, lets see if we can find anyone else to speak to about this incident.

[Player gets option to go outside if needed]

Vermont

Huh…No ones here. Well since were already outside lets see if we can find anything out of place. The mayor’s office is just above here so the culprit must have jumped through the window and landed here.

[Player has option to scout the area. If side walk is chosen:]

Vermont

Did you find something?  
?!  
A foot print? And it looks like it got engraved in the cement

??

Hey you there! You cant be here.

Vermont

Who are you?

Diesel  
Diesel, a contractor, I work here. And you are?

Vermont  
Im Inspector Vermont and this is my partner [Player]  
Were here to…

Diesel  
Im gonna have to stop you right there. I heard about the mayor and the whole kerfuffle but your stepping on wet cement there bud.

[Vermont scrambes to get out and wipe their claws]

Diesel  
No one reads the signs these days. Its bad enough I have to lay a fresh coat after some idiot messed up the last one.

Vermont  
You mean the footprint?

Diesel  
Yeah, see. The sidewalk needs a bit of polishin’. People have been complaining nowadays so I was hired to rework the thing.

[Player Options: Where were you | Who do you work for?]

Diesel

If asked: Who do you work for?

Listen pal, enough with the questions.   
Im just here to grab my coffee, lay out cement and go home. Don’t want any part of this mayor thing

Vermont  
I understand. Could we perhaps keep this piece here?

Diesel  
Do whatever you want, just get out of here.

[Player receives footprint and gets kicked out to the city street]

Vermont  
Well that was pleasant. I know Im new here but Ive never seen there face before.  
At least we retrieved more evidence, we couldn’t find anything else on the scene….

[Player has a chance to look through evidence]

Vermont  
All we have are a few coffee beans and a footprint.   
Given from the looks of it the culprit must have been an avian of some kind.

[Player: Lets stop at the café]

Vermont   
Your right, no sense standing here thinking.

Lets stop at the café and grab a bite.

[The player and Vermont enter the café and gets started by a loud squak]

??  
Number 94, Caramel Latter extra cream hold the sugar!

Vermont  
Wow, wasn’t what I was prepared for.

[A chatty barista is spotted behind the register]

Cyrus  
There you go Ma’am, thank you for coming to the Wild Roost, enjoy your day! Next in line!

Vermont  
Hi, Can I have a Large Green tea, no sugar please. What would you like [Player]  
[Player] will have [ Choice]

Cryus  
Sure thing, would you like this for here or togo?

Vermont  
Here please

Cyrus  
Heres your number, we’ll deliver your order to your seat when ready!

Vermont  
Thank you

[Player and Vermont sit at table with their table number erect on the table]

Vermont  
Not a fan of coming to this place, it smells weird.

[Player: Smells fine to me. | Is it the coffee | That’s weird]

Vermont  
Ive been here before since I moved.  
For some reason the coffee just reaks…Ive had coffee else where but this café is just, not for me  
Although that barista… noticed anything weird about them [Player]

[Player mentions their feet]

Vermont  
Precisely, theyre an avian with an similar footprint to the evidence we retrieved at Town Hall. We should speak to them

[Player: We should leave them alone | Invite them to the table | Just enjoy your drink]

Cyrus  
There you go, one green tea and a [Drink choice]

Vermont  
This is a stunning design, sir, did you make this?

Cyrus  
Oh thank you I did, Ive been working on my technique since I started working here \*squawk\*

Vermont  
Please, do take a seat with us. We’d love to learn more.

Cyrus hesitates

Cyrus  
I should probably get back, theres probably a few customers waiting in line.

Vermont  
It seems its just us. I insist.

Cyrus squawks then take a seat

Vermont sips theyre drink.

Vermont  
A fine brew sir. I usually make my own tea at home but this is well done. Is this a popular drink here?

Cyrus  
Thank you and yeah it is, we usually have a bunch of customers coming in for it. But our most popular drink is our expresso

Vermont  
People really love theyre coffee here

Cyrus squawk in excitement

Cyrus  
Would you blame them, its so popular even Kale stops by for her morning brew. Havent seen her in a while though, hope she’s okay. Probably meditating in the forest again.

Vermont  
You know Kale?

Cyrus

Yeah, she’s a regular here!   
We chat every now and then, she usually stops by after visiting the salon across the street.

Vermont  
You wanted her cross the street?

Cyrus  
Well yeah, it is a glass window. Usually see people pass by all the time, some even stop by to get a drink.

Vermont  
Strange that people get so excited over just some coffee.

Cyrus

Its not JUST any coffee this is an exotic imported coffee from off the island!  
Beans grow here are too sweet but folks really love it just the right blend of sweet and bitter. [ ] Coffee is one of a kind and were honestly having a hard tiem keeping our shelves stocked haha

Vermont taps at Player to look down at Cyrus’s feet and take a picture.

[Picture acquired]

Vermont  
Do you know where its from?

Cyrus

Unfortunately, I only know its imported. Though I heard a new coffee plant is being built just off the outskirts of town. Its been pretty empty so Im glad something new is happening around here.

Manager  
Cyrus, weve got customers coming in!

Cyrus  
That’s my queue. It was nice talking to you all. Enjoy your drink

[Cyrus leaves the table.]

[Player: Why did you make me take a picture of their feet?]

Vermont

While they are avian, I didn’t want to scare them off by mentioning the murder and showing evidence.   
She’s a civilian. We shouldn’t be running around causing mass panic just because were looking for a murderer. The best thing we can do is to keep the peace as best as we can.

[Player shows pictures side by side]

Vermont  
The toes on the engraving is vastly different from that young barista. The nails on the print were well trimmed too. While the hunch about the suspect being avian may be leading us in an interesting direction. Were not making much progress…  
The barista had mentioned that Kale stops by here after their spa. Kind of grasping at straws here but I think our next best bet is to check it out.

CH2 END

CH 3

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