DOWNTOWN MURDERER HACKTORIA CTF WALK-THROUGH

Step 1:- What do all the victims have in common? Why are they being targeted?

• Report look like this:-

First Name: Kylie
Last Name: McAllister
Gender: Female

Date of Birth: August 12, 1985

Time of Death: Friday 1st of April 2022 around 21:00

Location of body: 41.641039, -87.764534 Tinley Creek, Midlothian, IL 60445, USA

Cause of Death: Strangulation with a metal wire Further details: Eyes removed with sharp knife, stomach cut, lower intestines partially removed and placed back. Incision stitched crudely after temporary

removal of lower intestines.



Summary of Police Reports

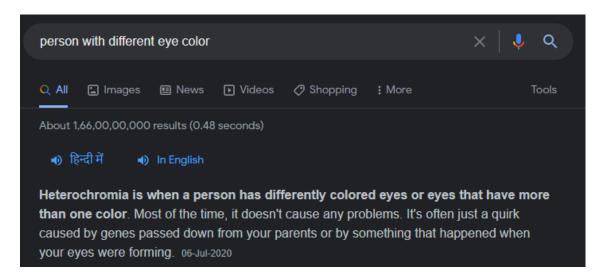
Kylie McAllister was reported missing by her friend, Bethany Daniels of Willow Springs after failure to meet Bethany for an evening hike on 1st of April at 20:00. Making the appointment 30th of March 2022 at 14:52 via text message.

No communication between Bethany and Kylie occurred since, with Bethany assuming the appointment still planned

- This report looks interesting as I didn't get anything which stood out.
- As I was looking closely to the report, I got something in the photos of all victim.
- Zooming in, I got to know that all victims have different eyeball colours.



• Googling this, it is a type of eye condition is called as Heterochromia. This was new to me to get know about this type of rare eye condition.



Ans. Heterochromia

Step 2:-

Alright not sure how you're getting on with figuring out why these people are targeted, but we believe the killer just left us another clue. We received the follow message with 3 attached images:

"You missed a few, they deserve to rest properly"

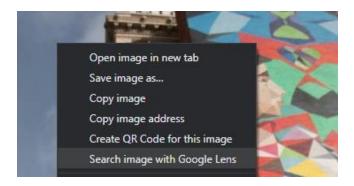
Below are the images of the three locations, identify where these are so the local police units can look for bodies. We need the names of the locations.

• Basically we have to reverse image searching of given photos.

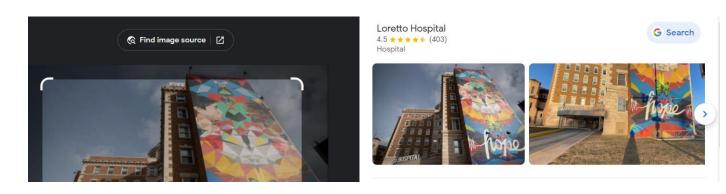
1st Location:-



- In this image, I can see 2 things:- First I can see HOSPITAL written board and Second is there is a big painting depicting HOPE(maybe referring for life).
- I try to reverse image in yandex, bing, tineye, etc. But I didn't get desired result.



• I tried google lens to check. BINGO!! I get my answer.

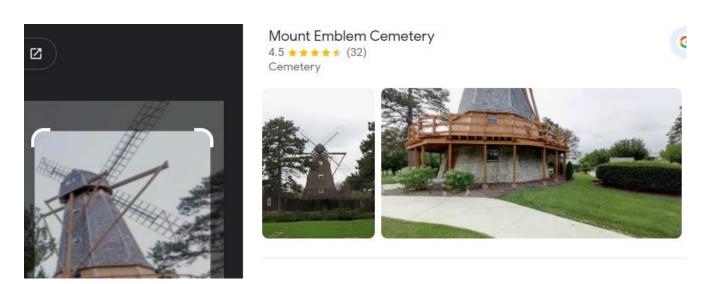


Ans. Loretto Hospital

2nd Location:-



• Same procedures as finding 1st location. Again Thanks to Google Lens!!



Ans. Mount Emblem Cemetery

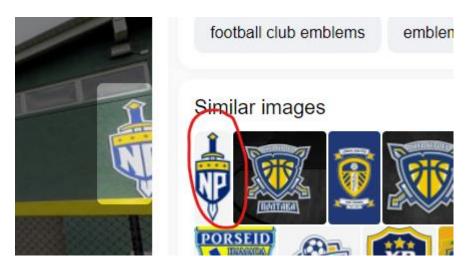
3rd Location:-



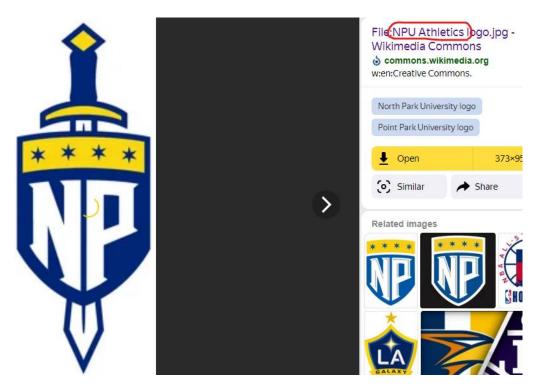
- I tried same procedure as 1st and 2nd location, but nobody could find this location.
- I saw one symbol (in the right most in the center) which is half cut in the image.



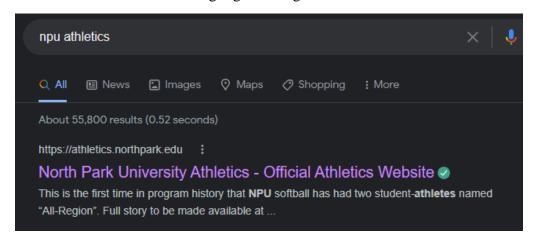
• I cropped out the image only to that symbol and again try to reverse searching.



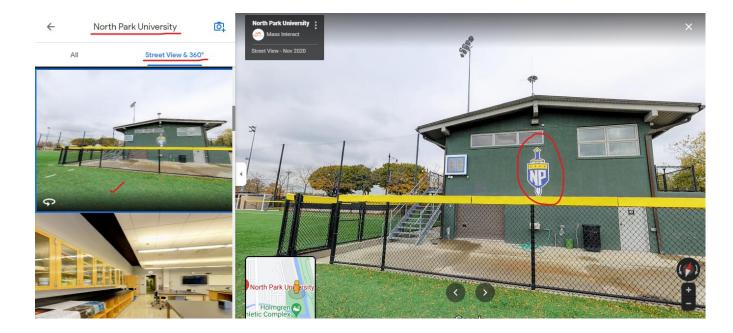
• I got same looking logo and It was written as NPU Athletics logo.



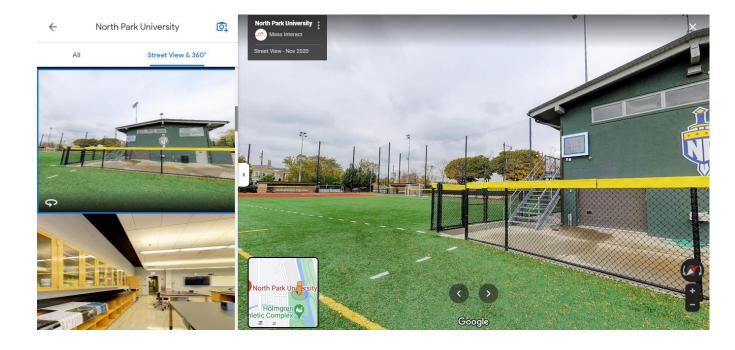
• I searched this term in google and I get the full form of NPU.



- But I still couldn't find that ground. I try to find this university and used Street View 360 of Google Maps. This University is situated in Chicago.
- Found the 360 view of University Ground.



• By adjusting this map, I get the except image which I was asked to find.



Ans. North Park University

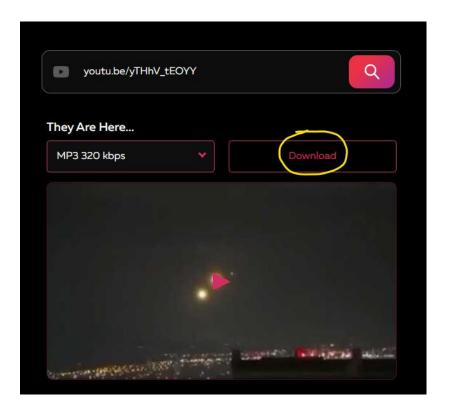
Step 3:-

Excellent work on finding the locations, the state of the victims matches the killers MO exactly. In a twist of fate, or by the hands of the killer, we've received an anonymous tip regarding a video that surfaced. It's on a completely new YouTube channel, no other content posted, we believe the account to be a sock puppet.

We need you to find out the meaning of the video on this channel. Does this get us anywhere?

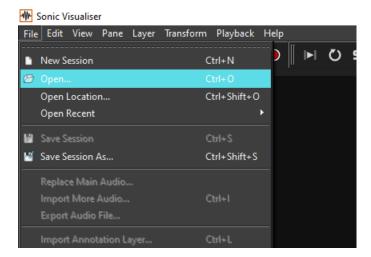
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyOofwsh3r5FIC3tr1mJQoA

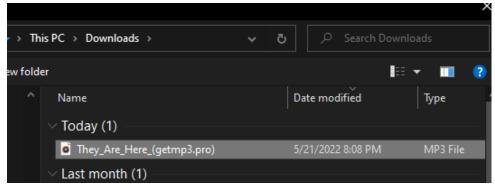
- I have to find link from this youtube video.
- After watching this video, I can assure that the audio of the video is fishy as it contains some code like the video is conveying the story with some code language.
- I convert the youtube video into mp3 (using online converter out there) and download it
- I used this site for conversion: https://getx.topsandtees.space/PXxJRweXmD



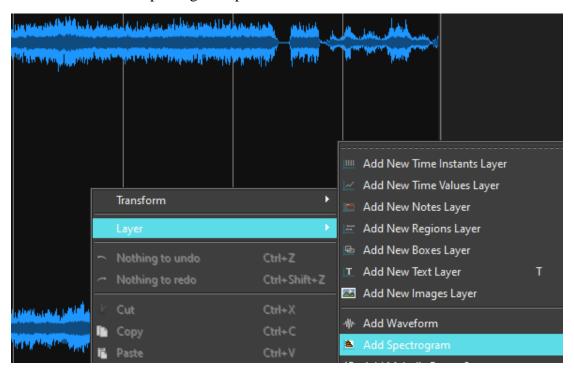
- Now I have to deeply analysis this mp3 file. For this I am going to use Sonic Visualiser software.
- Download Link is here: https://www.sonicvisualiser.org/download.html

- After download this software, open the app.
- Do the below step to open the downloaded mp3 file in the folder.

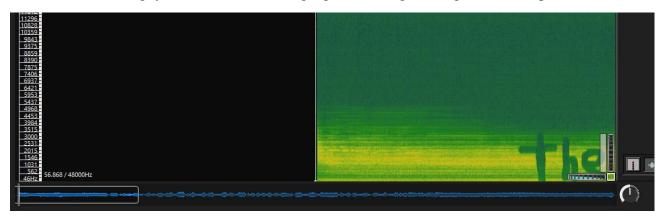




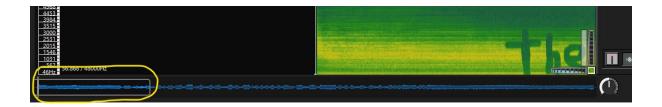
• After opening the file you can see blue zigzag lines. Right click > Layer > Spectrogram. Click on the Spectrogram option.



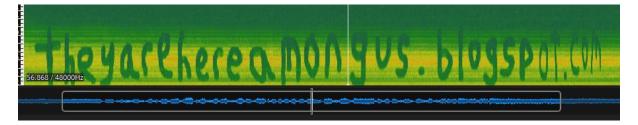
• After clicking, you can see the blue zigzag lines changes into green heatmap.



• You can see that something with "the" is written in the green heatmap. Slide the below tray (present in the left bottom corner) to move on the right side to see the whole thing. Click on the down arrow button (gaming keys in the keyboard) to zoom out so that you can see on the go.



• I get the link present in this mp3 file.



- Link:- theyarehereamongus.blogspot.com
- Now you can surf this site to view the content of this site because this site is important for next step.

Ans. theyarehereamongus.blogspot.com

Step 4:-

Amazing job on finding the meaning of that message. Local PD wat chasing down a rabbit hole deep enough to come out China, excellent work. So we just got word of a new missing person, her name is Julia Morena, 35 years old from 210-200 W 4th St, Hinsdale, IL 60521.

Julia never arrived for her evening shift at the hospital two days ago, her coworkers couldn't reach her so they contacted her family. After getting nowhere, they contacted us. Please locate Julia and find out if her disappearance is related to the killings. We will need her location, dead or alive unfortunately. I suggest you keep an eye out in case the killer posts something about this.

- I have to find the exact location of the criminal.
- I surf to the website which I got from Step 3 to know more about the killer. There are 5 blogs posted by the killer.
- By reading old 4 blogs, I got only one clue that his/her house is situated near the park. But there are thousands of parks in the USA.
- Then I try to view 5th blog deeply, and I got something interesting as there are some letters which are written in different font style as compared to whole blog font style, which can draw my attention on it.

I think I have something!

May 05, 2022

Everyone I got another one!

This time I did things differently because I haven't found a lot, the eyes look all the same, so I figured maybe it is because they are already dead, so probably they have a mechanism that when they die they change into full humans so in case of accidentally dying no one knows the truth.

• After I got 2 different font style letters. I tried to find this in the whole blog post. And guess what I got total 17 letters.

Everyone I got another one!

This time I did things differently because I haven't found a lot, the eyes look all the same, so I figured maybe it is because they are already dead, so probably they have a mechanism that when they die they change into full humans so in case of accidentally dying no one knows the truth.

So because now I have some practice with the drug, I know that if I administrate 10mg of it no matter the weight, it dies, but with the first one, she was actually just very dizzy, that time was 3mg, but it was hard to strangle her, she kept moving, so with 4mg probably a woman of average height and weight would be just paralyzed, but conscious, so that's exactly what I want.

With that in mind I chased down the next, it was a little difficult to find someone with specific characteristics, but finally, I did, so as usual, it was so easy to lure her into my home, they trust me, everybody does, I gave her a drink and just waited, all the sudden I saw her collapsing, for a second I thought she was dead but fortunately, she wasn't and most importantly she was conscious, so I dragged her to my basement, also because my living room is now a mess and I don't want to clean that up again, I put her in a table, I first did a cut in her arm to see if she could move, but no, she just made some noises which was perfect, she couldn't move the eyes which were very important.

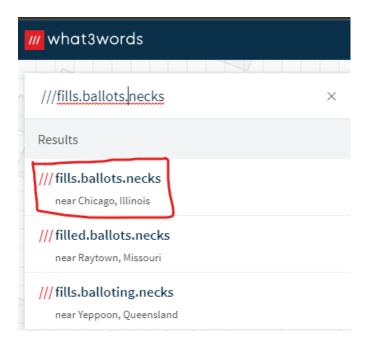
Now it was time to see what does eyes were hiding, this time I started with a syringe because I wanted to be more delicate, and now I had a plan, so first the left eye, this time when she saw me approaching her eye she kinda moved but not too much so I could proceed, I took the syringe and very carefully plunged it into the pupil, and this time it didn't explode so it was all good, I could see each layer of the eye it was amazing, and then something incredible happened I moved the syringe the pupil went big and for a split second I saw a light coming from the eye, a light so similar to what I saw that day with my mom, so there it was, unfortunately, I was so excited that I moved the syringe too much deeper than expected and I killed her.

I feel so stupid, but we have progress guys!

Let's find another one, and I just dumped the body, it's useless now, they need to be alive.



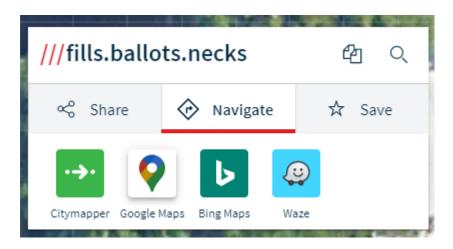
- After merging all 17 letters, It look like this:- **fillsballotsnecks**
- This word can't help to find anything, but I got one site where I can get the exact location from 3 words. The tool name is:- https://what3words.com/
- Paste **fillsballotsnecks** before /// in the search query and try to add 2 point between any letter and you will get the correct result.



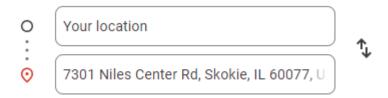
• You can see I get the exact location. But we have to get exact written address of the location.



• Now click on the navigation button on the left top corner and select Google maps.



• Now I can get the full written address of the criminal.



Ans. 7301 Niles Center Rd, Skokie, IL 60077, USA (or Laramie Park)

Step 5:-

Alright so big hit today! There was a note found at the local university, people got suspicious at the request stated on this note and contacted the local police. The person stated on the note is not familiar at the university, the needed email address had also been cut off.

We sent the original note for forensic analysis to the lab, this will however take several days. Attached below you find a typed out copy of the note as found in the university.

Objective: Trick this person into scheduling a meeting with an undercover agent.

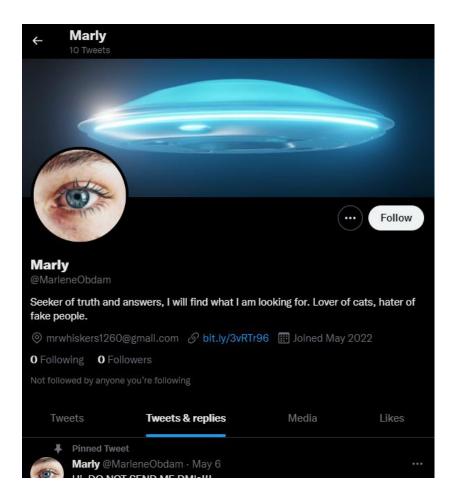
Looking For: participants in study

Do you have any type of eye condition? I am doing a research project for my masters degree, focused on various eye conditions. I am looking for people to answer questions about their condition and have their photos taken. All results will be anonymous.

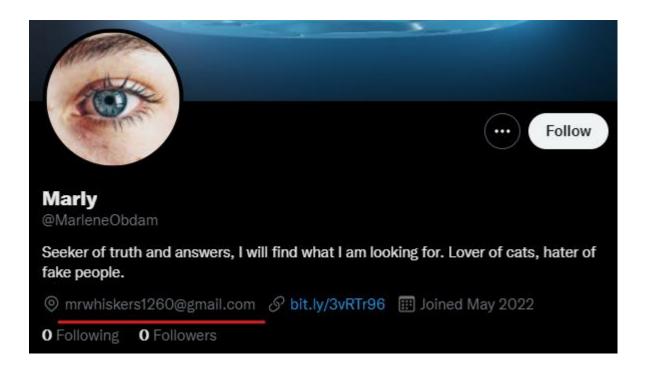
If you are interested, send me an email and we can arrange a meeting.

Marlene Esther-Obdam

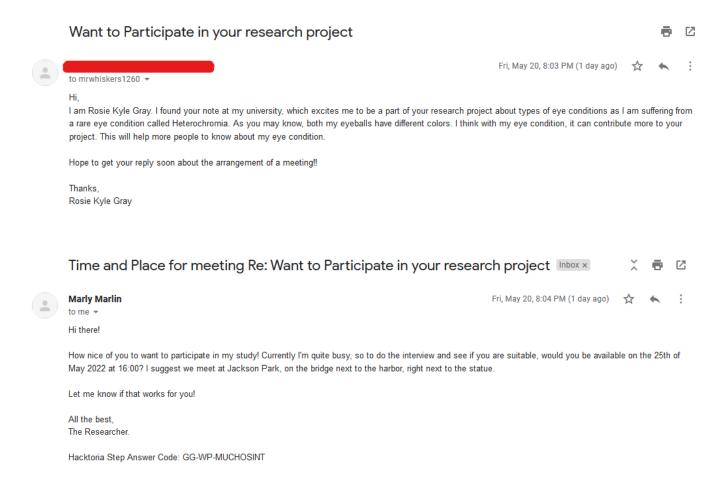
- I have to find the code from the reply.
- I have to find criminal's email id. For this, I am going to do some socmint against Marlene Esther-Obdam.
- Trying to find her account by not searching her whole name.
- BINGO!! I got her account.



• See her account bio, you can see her email id.



- Proofs that this account is real.
 - o Eyes in the profile picture.
 - o Bio clearly conveys her need, which we already knew from her blogspot.
 - o If I click this link, it redirect to Hacktoria Downtown Murderer CTF Page which proofs this account is true.
- Now I have to mail her. I created fake gmail account with fake names and send the mail consider myself a patient of Heterochromia. Now let's wait for her reply.



• I got her reply and you can see above screenshots that we got the code.

Ans. GG-WP-MUCHOSINT

Step 6:-

After looking at CCTV footage, we have identified the killer to be Kaylee Ann Taylor, a 41 year old DevOps engineer at the university. Local police raided her residence, but found nobody there except her pets. Speaking to her neighbors, it turns out she left town and asked them to take care of her home for a while. So far we are investigating the house and surrounding area. Local police has taken a laptop that was left behind, this device contained a lot of files that are being looked into. However, one file on the desktop immediately stood out. So far our Red Team has not brute-forced it yet, perhaps you can have a crack at it using your knowledge of the subject? In the meantime, we'll be checking for credit card payments, cellphone calls and local traffic cameras'. BOLO went out already and all Chicago news outlets will plaster her face on every screen possible.

Find out where Kaylee Ann Taylor is hidding.

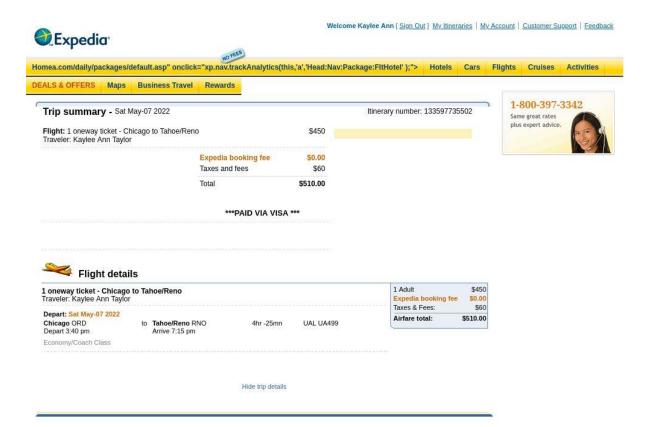
Download the file:

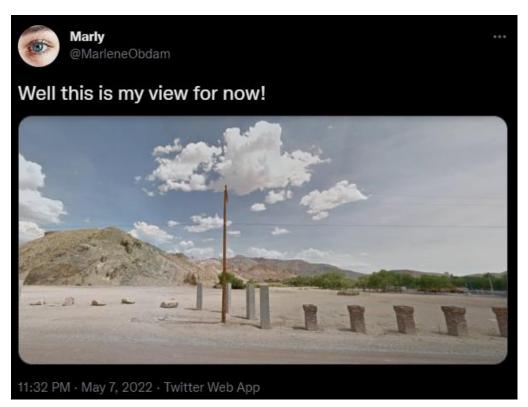
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/u581lvzm2klzisw/AABd6y5KjJ2Sz53tU6mXHuD7a

• According to her first tweet, I think her password might contains her cats name.



- Trying all combinations by guessing. And I crack the password.
- The password was:- MisterBootsCaptainFluffyMrsMittens





***** I CAN'T COMPLETE THIS STEP FURTHER BECAUSE I COULDN'T FIND THE LOCATION FROM THE IMAGE (POSTED BY THE KILLER) ******