



SQL MURDER MYSTERY: **Who Killed the CEO?**

An Investigation in Data Analytics and Logical Queries

ARINDAM DAS | Lead Data Detective

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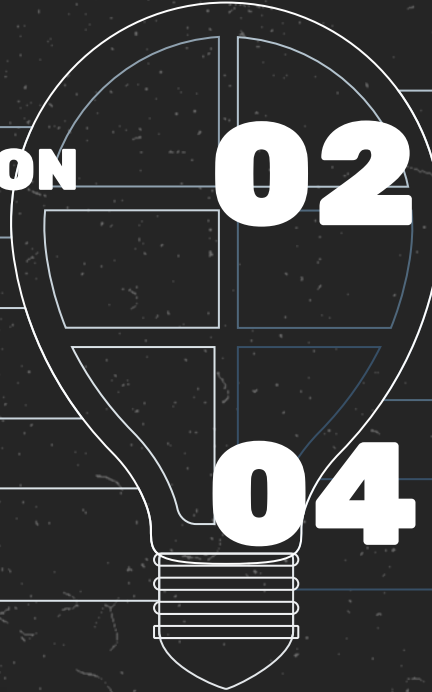
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FOLLOWING THE DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unmasking the Killer, Query by Query.

01

INTRODUCTION

Every single lie, every swipe, and every call has
been recorded. The database confesses

PRINCIPAL SIGNS OF MURDER

The crime follows the *Premeditated Digital Betrayal Pattern*.

This pattern is defined by the suspect's strategic use of the corporate system to execute and then cover up the murder, with the entire sequence recorded in the databases:

Exclusive Access: The killer exploited their system credentials to secure a private, precise window in the CEO's Office.

Recorded Deception: The suspect's own actions (filing a false alibi) were immediately contradicted by the system's objective access logs.

Corroborated Intent: Communication (a phone call) occurred during the execution phase, and physical evidence (fingerprints, log mismatch) confirmed the deliberate effort to tamper with the scene.

WHOA! LET'S DIVE INTO THE CASE IS NOW DIGITAL.

I am Arindam Das; professional
detective and I took this case.

"The question is
'who'—it's a
query?"

The Database: Digital Clue Board

alibi_id	employee_id	claimed_location	claim_time
1	1	Office	2025-10-15 20:50:00
2	4	Server Room	2025-10-15 20:50:00
3	5	Marketing Office	2025-10-15 20:50:00
4	6	Office	2025-10-15 20:50:00

Alibi

Calls

call_id	caller_id	receiver_id	call_time	duration_sec
1	4	1	2025-10-15 20:55:00	45
2	5	1	2025-10-15 19:30:00	120
3	3	7	2025-10-15 14:00:00	60
4	2	10	2025-10-15 16:30:00	30
5	4	7	2025-10-15 20:40:00	90

log_id	employee_id	room	entry_time	exit_time
1	1	Office	2025-10-15 08:00:00	2025-10-15 12:00:00
2	2	HR Office	2025-10-15 08:30:00	2025-10-15 17:00:00
3	3	Finance Office	2025-10-15 08:45:00	2025-10-15 12:30:00
4	4	Server Room	2025-10-15 08:50:00	2025-10-15 09:10:00
5	5	Marketing Office	2025-10-15 09:00:00	2025-10-15 17:30:00
6	6	Office	2025-10-15 08:30:00	2025-10-15 12:30:00
7	7	Finance Office	2025-10-15 08:00:00	2025-10-15 18:00:00
8	8	Server Room	2025-10-15 08:40:00	2025-10-15 09:05:00
9	9	Support Office	2025-10-15 08:30:00	2025-10-15 16:30:00
10	10	HR Office	2025-10-15 09:00:00	2025-10-15 17:00:00
11	4	CEO Office	2025-10-15 20:50:00	2025-10-15 21:00:00

Keycard_logs

employee_id	name	department	role
1	Alice Johnson	Engineering	Software Engineer
2	Bob Smith	HR	HR Manager
3	Clara Lee	Finance	Accountant
4	David Kumar	Engineering	DevOps Engineer
5	Eva Brown	Marketing	Marketing Lead
6	Frank Li	Engineering	QA Engineer
7	Grace Tan	Finance	CFO
8	Henry Wu	Engineering	CTO
9	Isla Patel	Support	Customer Support
10	Jack Chen	HR	Recruiter

employee
s

evidence

evidence_id	room	description	found_time
1	CEO Office	Fingerprint on desk	2025-10-15 21:05:00
2	CEO Office	Keycard swipe logs mismatch	2025-10-15 21:10:00
3	Server Room	Unusual access pattern	2025-10-15 21:15:00

02

INITIAL

INVESTIGATION

Identify the Crime Location & Time



Goal

Find where the crime happened and the approximate time



Clue Expected

Earliest evidence in the CEO Office = crime location + time window.

```
SELECT
```

```
    k.room AS crime_location,  
    MIN(k.entry_time) AS critical_entry_time,  
    MAX(k.exit_time) AS criticak_exit_time  
FROM keycard_logs k  
WHERE k.room like '%CEO%'  
      AND k.entry_time >= '2025-10-15 20:00:00'  
GROUP BY k.room;
```

crime_location	critical_entry_time	criticak_exit_time
CEO Office	2025-10-15 20:50:00	2025-10-15 21:00:00

“The little things are infinitely
the most important.

– **Sherlock
Holmes.**

Seek for the truth

**A PICTURE IS WORTH
A THOUSAND WORDS**

03

EVIDENCE

Analyze who accessed critical areas at the time



Goal

Get all employees who entered/exited the CEO Office around the crime window.



Clue Expected

Anyone entering 20:40–21:20 becomes a suspect.

```
WITH suspect_access AS (  
  SELECT  
    k.employee_id,  
    k.entry_time, k.exit_time  
  FROM keycard_logs k  
  WHERE k.room = 'CEO Office'  
        AND (  
          k.entry_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:30:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:30:00'  
          OR k.exit_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:30:00' AND '2025-10-15 20:30:00')  
        )  
  SELECT  
    e.name AS primary_suspect,  
    sa.entry_time, sa.exit_time  
  FROM employees e  
  JOIN suspect_access sa ON e.employee_id = sa.employee_id;
```

primary_suspect	entry_time	exit_time
David Kumar	2025-10-15 20:50:00	2025-10-15 21:00:00

Cross-check Alibis with logs

```
SELECT
  e.name,
  a.claimed_location,
  k.room AS actual_location,
  CASE
    WHEN a.claimed_location <> k.room THEN 'False - LIE DETECTED'
    ELSE 'Match - ALIBI Confirmed'
  END AS Alibi_status
FROM employees e
JOIN alibis a ON e.employee_id = a.employee_id
JOIN keycard_logs k ON k.employee_id = e.employee_id
WHERE k.room = 'CEO Office'
      AND k.entry_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:30:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:30:00'
      AND a.claim_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:30:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:30:00'
      AND a.claimed_location <> k.room;
```



name	claimed_location	actual_location	Alibi_status
David Kumar	Server Room	CEO Office	False - LIE DETECTED



Goal

Check which alibis don't match keycard logs.



Clue Expected

If someone claims they were somewhere but no keycard confirms it → false alibi.

Check Suspicious Phone Calls

```
SELECT
  c.call_id,
  ce.name AS caller,
  re.name AS receiver,
  c.call_time,
  c.duration_sec
FROM calls c
LEFT JOIN employees ce ON ce.employee_id = c.caller_id
LEFT JOIN employees re ON re.employee_id = c.receiver_id
WHERE c.call_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:30' AND '2025-10-15 21:30'
ORDER BY c.call_time;
```

call_id	caller	receiver	call_time	duration_sec
5	David Kumar	Grace Tan	2025-10-15 20:40:00	90
1	David Kumar	Alice Johnson	2025-10-15 20:55:00	45



Goal

Find calls made ± 30 minutes around the crime.



Clue Expected

Did the suspect talk to someone just before or after the incident?



Match Evidence With Movements

Goal

Check if evidence discovery matches presence of any employee.

Clue Expected

Who was close to the evidence time and in the crime room?

```
SELECT
    e.name,
    k.room AS actual_location,
    k.entry_time,
    a.claimed_location,
    ev.description AS evidence_found,
    ev.found_time
FROM employees e
JOIN keycard_logs k ON e.employee_id = k.employee_id
LEFT JOIN alibis a ON e.employee_id = a.employee_id
LEFT JOIN evidence ev ON ev.room = k.room
WHERE e.name = 'David Kumar'
AND k.room = 'CEO Office'
AND k.entry_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:30:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:30:00';
```

name	actual_location	entry_time	claimed_location	evidence_found	found_time
David Kumar	CEO Office	2025-10-15 20:50:00	Server Room	Keycard swipe logs mismatch	2025-10-15 21:10:00
David Kumar	CEO Office	2025-10-15 20:50:00	Server Room	Fingerprint on desk	2025-10-15 21:05:00

04 CONCLUSION

The **real killer's** mask is going to be
revealed very soon...

Combine of All Findings

Goal

Return only the killer's name in required format.

Clue Expected

Exactly one employee fits all 3 conditions.

```
SELECT
    DISTINCT CONCAT('Full Name of Killer: ', e.name) AS killer
FROM employees e
JOIN alibis a ON a.employee_id = e.employee_id
JOIN keycard_logs k ON e.employee_id = k.employee_id
LEFT JOIN evidence ev ON k.room = ev.room
WHERE k.room = 'CEO Office'
    AND a.claimed_location <> k.room
    AND k.entry_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:30:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:30:00';
```

THE FINAL KILLER

killer

Full Name of Killer: David Kumar

DAVID KUMAR

CASE SOLVED:

Explanation of Findings

The killer is David Kumar. This conclusion was reached by cross-referencing multiple company databases to establish a pattern of presence and deception.

Presence at the Scene (Keycard Logs): The investigation first filtered the 'keycard_logs' for the time of the murder (around 21:00:00). David Kumar was identified as the only person logged into the CEO Office from '20:50:00 to 21:00:00', placing him directly at the crime scene.

Alibi Contradiction (Alibis & Keycard Logs): When checking his statement in the 'alibis' table, David Kumar claimed to be in the Server Room. This was a confirmed lie, as his keycard logs contradicted this claim.

Suspicious Communication (Calls): The 'calls' table showed David Kumar made a critical call to Alice Johnson at 20:55:00, while he was still logged inside the CEO Office. This indicates communication immediately before the crime was completed.

Physical Evidence (Evidence): Final analysis confirmed physical evidence, including a Fingerprint on desk and a Keycard swipe logs mismatch, were found in the CEO Office, further connecting David Kumar to the crime and an attempted cover-up.

All data streams point consistently and exclusively to David Kumar as the culprit.



Case Summary

- David Kumar was the only employee logged in (20:50:00–21:00:00). List all the key concepts to remember
- David Kumar claimed the Server Room, which was proven false by the keycard logs. List all the key concepts to remember
- David Kumar called Alice Johnson at 20:55:00 while at the crime scene.
- A Fingerprint on desk and a Keycard swipe logs mismatch were found at the crime scene. David Kumar's log entries, false alibi, and call activity all completely contradict his statement.

THANKS!

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

iarindamdas7@gmail.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/Arindam-das-analytics>



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