



Samhain Case Interview 2

Interviewing Officer: Det. Sgt. Luke Duffy

Interviewee: Eileen Dunne

Location: Garda Headquarters, interview room 14

[Begin Transcript]

Det. Duffy: For the record, please state your full name and occupation.

Dunne: Eileen Dunne, I'm a retired nurse.

Det. Duffy: And your relationship to the deceased, Sinead Byrne?

Dunne: She was my nextdoor neighbour

Det. Duffy: Can you tell me a little bit about Sinead?

Dunne: Sinead was a lovely girl, really got on well with everyone in the village from what I could tell. That said, she kept to herself for the most part, besides church and seeing her the odd time down the shops, I don't think I knew all too much about her. A good neighbour though, never caused any trouble, was even happy to check in on my cat Pebbles when me and my husband were away.

Det. Duffy: Did you ever invite Sinead to your home, or vice versa?

Dunne: Again, the girl mostly kept to herself. I've only been in her house a handful of times, mainly when we happen to be coming home at the same time from somewhere, and she'll pull me in to help her with some sort of recipe or another. She was a keen baker from what I could tell. We talked a bit about the gossip around Kilbride, then she'd yap on about some book she was reading or some scary film she'd been watching. Not into that kind of stuff personally. Her house always smelled like incense too, made me a bit queasy if I remember rightly.

Det. Duffy: Did Sinead have many other visitors that you took notice of?

Dunne: I know Tony used to drop in to her from time to time with packages from the shop when she was feeling under the weather.

Det. Duffy: Are you referring to Tony Greene?

Dunne: That's right, Tony who owns the Little Gem on the corner. Lives only a couple doors down.

Det. Duffy: Anyone else?

Dunne: There's another fella that I've seen with her a bit too, can't remember his name now, he's not from Kilbride. Comes in from Dunmorgan I think, a handyman. Had him in to fix our boiler one time.

Det. Duffy: Did Sinead ever talk about her relationship with other people in the village? Perhaps about someone who might have cause to do her harm?

Dunne: Hmm, no I don't think so, but again, she kept to herself for the most part. There was a bit of a sadness about her, but that's to be understood I guess.

Det. Duffy: You're referring to her late husband.

Dunne: That's right, I remember that night clearly, a real hit to the village that was.

Det. Duffy: Can you tell me where you were on Halloween night?

Dunne: Of course. I remember sending my husband over to Sinead's house earlier in the day I to borrow some butter for my brambrack I was doing for the grandkids. Apparently she was her usual self, not that Cathal would take after such things. We didn't go to the bonfire festival, too old for all that to be honest. Halloweens not really our thing. We watched a bit of telly and went to bed early. Not very exciting I'm afraid.

Det. Duffy: Do you recall hearing anything from next door that night? Any disturbance?

Dunne: I hate to be of so little help, Detective, but both my husband and I don't have the greatest of hearing any more, so combine that with the noise of all the fireworks going off, we wouldn't have heard a plane crashing in our own back garden.

Det. Duffy: You claim you went to return the remainder of the borrowed butter at around 830 the following morning, November 1st, is that right?

Dunne: That's right.

Det. Duffy: Do you feel comfortable talking us through what happened then?

Dunne: Well, I noticed the door was open a bit, which was a bit strange. I called out to her from the porch and was nearly just gonna leave it when I got this horrible sinking feeling, right in my stomach. I knew then that something was very wrong so I pushed the door in and went into her hallway, still calling out. Of course I spotted her straight away, the front room bring straight ahead from the hall. There was a mess on the ground, candles, looked like something had smashed. Then I saw the blood pooled all around her head and I don't know how my legs moved at all, but I rushed back over and rang 999 straight away. Poor girl. I can hardly sleep thinking there's someone out there in Kilbride, a monster, capable of something like this. I don't know how the village is going to recover from it.

Det. Duffy: You've been of great help, and I appreciate you taking the time to talk to us again today, I know how difficult that can be. If you think of any other details that might be of help to our investigation, don't hesitate to contact me personally.

Dunne: Thank you.

[End Transcript]