



# Samhain Case Interview 5

Interviewing Officer: Det. Sgt. Luke Duffy

Interviewee: Colm Driscoll

Location: Garda Headquarters, interview room 14

[Begin Transcript]

**Det. Duffy:** Can you state your name and your occupation for the record please.

**Driscoll:** Colm Driscoll, and I guess you'd call me a handyman, but I'm a plumber by trade.

**Det. Duffy:** You're not from Kilbride are you Mr. Driscoll?

**Driscoll:** No I'm from Dunmorgan, born and raised. But I do be called out all around the county for different jobs. Hard finding tradesmen you can trust these days.

**Det. Duffy:** Can you tell me what you did on the evening of the 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Driscoll:** I can. Had been in Kilbride working all day, so I popped over to the bonfire festival about 8pm. Grabbed some mask or another on the way in that they were handing out and checked out the fireworks.

**Det. Duffy:** Do you recall seeing Mrs. Byrne there?

**Driscoll:** Oh yeh Sinead was there. Even with a silly bird mask on she's not fooling anyone. I didn't really get a chance to talk to her. She was in a bit of an argument by the looks of it with someone in a cat mask. Didn't think much of it. I try to keep out of village gossip as much as I can to be honest.

**Det. Duffy:** And what time did you leave the bonfire?

**Driscoll:** Oh, I probably only stayed for about an hour before heading down to The Nest for a few drinks.

**Det. Duffy:** And can you confirm what time you left the pub?

**Driscoll:** I think they started callin' for last orders around 11, so headed out just after that to try and find a taxi back to Dunmorgan. Not an easy task on Halloween night I promise you that.

**Det. Duffy:** Besides the aforementioned argument, did you notice anything else out of the ordinary at the bonfire festival that night?

**Driscoll:** You mean besides all the weirdos in creepy masks, and chanting, and dancing?

**Det. Duffy:** Besides all that.

**Driscoll:** Well I saw Big Jim there. Creeping around in the shadows.

**Det. Duffy:** To clarify, you're talking about James O'Sullivan?

**Driscoll:** That's right. He might have had a rabbit mask on but there's not missing that lad, he's built like a fuckin' giant.

**Det. Duffy:** Did you notice him acting in some way strange?

**Driscoll:** He doesn't have to act strange, he just is strange. He's probably half the reason they set up a community watch group in Kilbride.

**Det. Duffy:** Am I right that you and Sinead often spent some time together when you were in town?

**Driscoll:** That's right.

**Det. Duffy:** How would you describe your relationship with her?

**Driscoll:** Look, Sinead's been through a lot losing her husband and I was just...being there for her. I'm not stupid, I know how it looks a married man hanging out with a widow in the town over. People will comment about anything at the end of the day. We'd take the odd walk together, sometimes I'd drop in for tea and a chat. She made the most stunning cupcakes. We had a lot in common. But it didn't go any farther than that.

**Det. Duffy:** Did you notice Sinead acting different in the last while, out of character?

**Driscoll:** I mean she'd been spending a lot more time with her little home rituals, even tried to rope me into some kind of séance or something. Thought that was a bit disrespectful to her late husband to be honest.

**Det. Duffy:** Did you ever argue about it?

**Driscoll:** I wouldn't say argue, but yeh, I let her know I thought it was foolish, dangerous even. People would start to whisper. It frustrated me I'll admit that. Probably lost my temper once or twice. Felt like she was slipping away into some darker place.

**Det. Duffy:** Did Sinead ever mention Tony Greene to you?

**Driscoll:** Tony from the shop? I mean I know he must have fancied her. There weren't many other locals he was personally delivering packages to.

**Det. Duffy:** Would you say their relationship went beyond that of salesman and customer?

**Driscoll:** Not to my knowledge, but there were secrets that Sinead kept to herself.

**Det. Duffy:** What makes you say that?

**Driscoll:** As I said, myself and Sinead had become pretty good mates, but for all intensive purposes, I didn't *really* know her any better than anyone else. She was a mystery.

**Det. Duffy:** Well we appreciate you coming in for a talk today, and if you recall anything else strange or peculiar that Sinead may have spoken with you about in the last few weeks, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

**Driscoll:** Of course yeh.

[End Transcript]