

= Society Hill (Body of Proof) =

" Society Hill " is the sixth episode of the first season of the American medical drama Body of Proof . It was originally broadcast in the United States on ABC on April 26 , 2011 . The episode was directed by Kate Woods and written by Matthew V. Lewis .

In the episode , Megan (Dana Delany) investigates the murder of Daphne Zimmer (Mam Smith) , who is found dead in her swimming pool , which leads her to a society party after an invite from her mother Joan Hunt (Joanna Cassidy) ; and Detective Bud Morris (John Carroll Lynch) returns , interrogating Daphne 's employees , all who had several reasons to kill her .

The episode received mixed to positive reviews , and was watched by 11 @. @ 80 million viewers , according to Nielsen ratings , on the Tuesday night it aired in the United States . Christine Orlando from TV Fanatic praised guest star Neal Bledsoe and regular cast member Windell Middlebrooks , who plays Curtis Brumfield . Orlando also praised the storyline , adding that it was an " interesting twist " , one which she " didn 't see coming " .

= = Plot = =

Magazine editor Daphne Zimmer (Mam Smith) , who edits for the Society Fair magazine , is found dead in her swimming pool . Daphne is a friend of Megan 's (Dana Delany) mother , Joan Hunt (Joanna Cassidy) . At the crime scene , Megan finds evidence to suggest that there was a struggle near the pool , as well as bruising on the Daphne 's stomach , which indicates that she died several days ago instead of that morning as was originally believed . At Daphne 's workplace , Megan , Detective Bud Morris (John Carroll Lynch) , and Peter Dunlop (Nicholas Bishop) tell the employees of Daphne 's death . Bud questions Daphne ? s employees , Stephen Burnett (Neal Bledsoe) and Lauren Matthews (Nadia Dajani) , finding out that one of Daphne 's enemies is Colin Lloyd (Robert Walsh) , a wealthy man whose career Daphne ruined . Megan examines Daphne ? s body , noticing that Daphne has kidney damage . Whilst Dr. Curtis Brumfield (Windell Middlebrooks) is working on maggots found on Daphne ? s body , Dr. Ethan Gross (Geoffrey Arend) determines that hair , which was found at the crime scene , is human , and there are traces of arsenic and lead .

Megan decides that the only way to confront Colin is to accept her mother 's invitation , which she had previously declined , as Colin is attending and after questioning him , she rules him out as a suspect . Curtis confirms that the maggots that he was testing take around two days to mature , so Curtis confirms that Daphne was dead for two days before the body was found . There are also traces of aspirin in them , so either Daphne was taking aspirin or it was being given to her without her knowledge . With the assistance of Dr. Kate Murphy (Jeri Ryan) , Ethan determines that the hair is Victorian . Stephen admits to giving her aspirin , though did not realize she was getting sicker because of it , whilst Megan figures out that Daphne was electrocuted . After investigating , the police find out it was Lauren who killed Daphne , killing her after feeling angry about having to compete with interns for a journalism award . She threw Daphne in the pool in a rage when she confronted her , then throwing a space heater in the pool which electrocuted Daphne and killed her , not realizing she had dropped some of her ancestor 's hair in the pool , which she kept in a locket . Stephen is released from holding after Lauren is arrested .

= = Production = =

" Society Hill " was written by Matthew V. Lewis and directed by Kate Woods , most known for directing Looking for Alibrandi and television series such as Phoenix and its spinoff Janus . Daniel Licht who has worked on the series since its inception , returned to compose the music for the episode . Actress Nadia Dajani (best known for her role in Ned & Stacey) guest starred in the episode as Lauren Matthews . Joanna Cassidy (best known for her role in Six Feet Under) made her first appearance as Joan Hunt , Megan 's mother . Cassidy was reportedly originally meant to first appear in the third episode of the first season , " Helping Hand " . Series creator Christopher

Murphey said of Cassidy 's role as Joan , " I get this weird chill when I write scenes for the two of them , it 's a wonderful dynamic , I think Megan and her mother have a wonderful back story that we will be basically mining over the first few episode 's . You 're going to be finding out a lot about Megan " . However , even though Cassidy is a recurring cast member , she is credited as being a guest star . Regular cast member Sonja Sohn who plays Detective Samantha Baker , did not appear in this episode and recurring cast members Jeffrey Nordling and Mary Mouser were credited but also did not appear . Some scenes were set in Chestnut Hill , Philadelphia , Pennsylvania , such as the murder .

" Society Hill " , along with the eight episode 's from Body of Proof 's first season , were released on a two @-@ disc DVD set in the United States on September 20 , 2011 . The sets included brief audio commentaries from various crew and cast members for several episode 's , a preview of season 2 and a 10 @-@ minute " featurette " on the making of the show , with commentaries from the medical consultants who helped with the script , as well as a " Contaminated Evidence " blooper reel .

= = Reception = =

= = = Ratings = = =

In its original American broadcast on April 26 , 2011 , " Society Hill " was seen by 11 @.@ 8 million viewers , according to Nielsen ratings . Among viewers between ages 18 and 49 , it received a 2 @.@ 2 rating / 9 share ; a share represents the percentage of households using a television at the time the program is airing . This episode achieved higher viewers than the previous episode , " Dead Man Walking " , as well as a significant amount more than the subsequent episode " All in the Family " . Body of Proof came seventh in the ratings on Tuesday night , it was outperformed by the ABC 's Dancing with the Stars . " Society Hill " was watched by 1 @.@ 69 million viewers upon its airing on Channel 5 in the United Kingdom .

= = = Critical response = = =

" Society Hill " received mixed reviews . Christine Orlando from TV Fanatic questioned whether in real life , medical examiners " do this much investigation on case " , but then further saying , " I always assumed that detectives did the field work but if that were the case on Body of Proof then I suppose we wouldn 't have much of a show " . She praised Neal Bledsoe 's portrayal of Stephen Burkett , saying that he did a " wonderful job of playing a chronic hair puller " . She also praised the character of Curtis , stating that he was " adorable " . Of the storyline she said , " The actual murder by electrocution was an interesting twist and one I didn 't see coming . I was happy to see Bud jump in and read the murderer her rights before she said anything further . That certainly seemed like something a detective should do " . She finished in saying that she " enjoyed " the song played at the end of the episode , ' Maybe ' by Ingrid Michaelson " was both cheery and melancholy enough to fit the moment " . Michelle Carlbert from TV Equals praised the scene in which Megan pulls Colin 's hair , calling it one of her " favourite bits " , another being when it showed Ethan , Peter , Curtis and Bud going out on a " Boy ? s Night " stating it was " awesome " and that she " love (s) it when they show the team bonding like that " . She also commented on Megan and Peter 's clothes , stating that " Megan looked great in her dress " and Peter in a tux was " whoa " .