

Mauve Mysteries for 2-5!

Episode III: Mansion Murder

A One-Shot RPG with the RPG Detective v2.1 System

by Peter William Hurford

Requirements

- Game Master who is familiar with this sheet
- 2-4 people who have never played this one-shot before
- Character sheets for this specific RPG (see below)

Setting

- The time is 1890 in Toronto.

Initial Plot

- Mr. Mudgo is a multimillionaire pig iron magnet.
- The team is called to Mr. Mudgo's mansion to secure a painting. The painting is worth \$640K (\$16M in today's money). The painting is Rembrandt's *Bathsheba at Her Bath*.
- Painting is on display in a crowd prior to auction. It is verified by Mr. DeFluer, a frechman.
- The team sees the painting go into the elevator on the 11th floor with Mr. Mudgo and a security officer. When the elevator arrives at the bottom, the painting is completely gone and Mr. Mudgo has been shot dead.

Solution

- Mr. Mudgo arranged for himself to be shot by Paul and have the painting stolen.
- Mr. Mudgo is going bankrupt quickly and the painting is a forgery.
- The painting and Mr. Mudgo's life are both insured for enough money to save Mr. Mudgo's business and allow Mrs. Mudgo to continue to run it.

Indiscriminate Clue: There was a massive insurance pay out

Indiscriminate Clue: Mr. Mudgo was going bankrupt

Can be verified by business records.

Pointed Clue: Shot to Mr. Mudgo was clean and painless

- Coroner can verify this. Seems suspicious for a murderer to care so much about Mr. Mudgo's well-being.

Pointed Clue: Painting was a forgery (and the robbers knew that)

- The painting shows up not stolen, but destroyed, upon a search of the mansion (should occur ~30min in.)
- Can be verified a forgery by the Constabulary's art expert, though the art expert would mention it would be easy to miss. Could easily see a lesser expert missing this.

Pointed Clue: The method for stealing the painting involved clear and repeated access to the construction of the mansion

- Full pulley system to extract the painting out the top of the elevator

Pointed Clue: \$10K missing from Mr. Mudgo's account

- Presumably to pay off Paul and his team to complete the heist / fraud.

Red Herring: Mrs. Mudgo is having an affair with Fred Milligan

- Fred Milligan is an obnoxious American that Mrs. Mudgo is a little bit too forward with.
- Mrs. Mudgo didn't like Mr. Mudgo all that much. He was womanizing and occasionally drunk and abusive to herself and the staff.
- Mrs. Mudgo expresses that she's going to continue her life with Fred.
- Did Fred and Mrs. Mudgo arrange for the insurance money to secure a new life?

Red Herring: Rumors that Mr. Penderghast is a ruthless businessman who would stop at nothing to move his business to the top

- Did Mr. Pendeghast kill his competition?

Red Herring: Mr. Matiss obviously erred in verifying the painting

- Claims to be the best art verifier in the world.
- Mr. Matiss's spotless reputation as the best art verifier matters a lot to him.
- Did he have Mr. Mudgo killed when he found out?

Character Class: The Dectective

Perhaps you're not a Sherlock Holmes, but you can act like him if you so choose. People may just hate you. But either way, you get the crimes solved. ...Usually. Tends to do well at forensic investigation and deduction.

Character Name: _____

Notes:

Characters:

Mr. Mudgo, *dead*

Mrs. Mudgo, *wife*

Mr. Penderghast, *rival*

Mr. DeFleur, *art historian*

Paul Higgins, *security guard*

Fred Milligan, *onlooker*