

# **MAUNE MYSTERIES #9: DEATH BY VINYARD**

A one-shot mystery RPG for 2-5 in the RPG Detective v2.1 System, by Peter Hurford

## **Requirements**

- Game Master familiar with this sheet
- 2-5 people who have never played this one shot before
- Time estimate: ~2hrs

## **Setting**

- The time is 1903 in Toronto

## **Theatrical Description**

- *“The time is 1903 in Toronto. A famous wine connoisseur in Toronto is excited to attend the wedding of his son. But during his toast to the wedding couple, he collapses and is found poisoned. You don't make wine without crushing a few grapes... or making a few enemies.”*

## **Exposition**

- Wedding
- Luca Giavanna (father of groom) owns a Toronto wine company
- Found dead poisoned at the wedding

## **Further plot points**

- He intended to pour everyone at the head table a glass from the same bottle. So someone wanted the entire wedding party dead. If the poisoning was by design. There is plenty of wine left in the bottle.
  - Poison was arsenic
    - Keeps its efficacy for generations, could've been added at any time
  - The label would suggest Italian, not French.
  - This label is obviously a painting of what I believe to be a winery in Italy, but there is no other information, save for the name Angolino Wine.
  - Angolino wine doesn't exist
  - Picture is of Mr. Carmelo's estate
- Wine came from the cellar. Cellar is locked. Only Mr. Erin (butler) has the key and only Mr. Erin and Mr. Giavanna were allowed in. Julian Albert - Mr. Giavanna's supplier - was also allowed in from time to time, but only under supervision by Mr. Erin.

CORK

FOUR SETS OF FINGERMARKS

## Solution

- Mr. Carmelo killed Mr. Giavanna to get him out of the way in order to make Ontario wine and pass it off as Italian

## Characters

- Mr. Luca Giavanna, father of groom, *deceased*
- Mrs. Romina Giavanna, mother of groom, called the constabulary
- Mr. Rocco Giavanna, groom
- Mr. Enrico Carmelo, father of bride, also business partner of Mr. Giavanna
- Mrs. Etta Carmelo, mother of bride
- Mrs. Silvana Carmelo Giavanna, bride
- Mr. Henry Erin, butler, red herring character
  - Employed for over 45 years
  - Has a device which can be used to remove and replace the cork without a trace
  - Not paid very well, so had been stealing wine
- Julian Albeart, supplier (finest wine provisioner in all of Ontario... nay, all of Canada)
- Gestalt Gaston, rival wine producer
  - Mr. Giavanna accused him of producing counterfeit wine - "The Revealing of a Charlatan of the Highest Order."
  - "Dead? That's great news! Will the article still be coming out?"
  - Denied access to the wedding; escorted off the property by the butler
  - There to convince him not to publish the article
  - Trying to create wine bottled in Ontario, though had to pass it off as Italian as no one would buy it
  - created a fine wine at a fraction of the cost

## Flavor

- Poisoned by the wine? But... that is too cruel! Wine was his life! And now it is his death as well!
- It's the age and the vintage that have given this bottle its special character. Its colour... the blood of noblemen. Its bouquet... the scent of the earth. And its legs... that of the finest ballerina.