# Chapter 3: The Midnight Visitor – Robert Arthur

# Summary of the Story

A secret agent, *Ausable*, surprises everyone—not with a gun or gadgets, but with his **wit and presence of mind**. He is visited by another spy, *Max*, who comes to steal a top-secret report. Despite being unfit for the stereotypical image of a spy, Ausable uses **clever lies** to **outwit Max** and saves the situation without any violence. It turns out that Max was tricked into believing there was a balcony outside Ausable's room — a balcony that **did not exist**!



# Main Characters

#### Ausable

- A secret agent, not the typical spy
- Fat, American accent, not glamorous
- Lives in a French hotel
- Extremely clever and composed in dangerous situations

### Character Traits:

- **Intelligent**
- Z Calm under pressure
- V Persuasive and imaginative
- Witty and humorous

### ✓ Character Arc:

Ausable begins as a **disappointment** to Fowler, who expected a James Bond-like spy. But by the end, Ausable's **quick thinking** and intelligence **impress Fowler**, proving that brains matter more than looks in espionage.

## ∠ Fowler

- A young, romantic writer
- Curious about secret agents

• Gets his first real thrill by witnessing Ausable's clever plan in action

#### Character Traits:

- **V** Curious
- ✓ Naïve at first
- **V** Learns quickly

#### ✓ Character Arc:

Fowler starts off **disillusioned** with Ausable but ends up **admiring** him for his bravery and brainpower.

#### **▼** Max

- A rival secret agent
- Wants to steal the missile report
- Carries a gun but lacks cleverness
- Falls for Ausable's bluff

#### ★ Character Traits:

- X Overconfident
- X Gullible
- X Poor presence of mind

#### M Character Arc:

Max enters confidently but is **fooled and defeated** without a fight. His downfall comes from **underestimating** Ausable.

# **※** Key Events

- 1. Fowler meets Ausable and is disappointed at first.
- 2. Max breaks into Ausable's room with a gun to steal the report.
- 3. Ausable calmly invents a fake story about a balcony.
- 4. Someone knocks at the door Ausable says it's the **police**.
- 5. Max panics and jumps out the window to escape...
- 6. Twist: **There is no balcony** Max was tricked!
- 7. The person at the door was just a waiter, not the police!

#### Themes

- Intelligence wins over violence
- Power of persuasion
- Specified and drama
- Presence of mind in danger

# Important Questions (PYQ-based)

### Q1. How was Ausable different from the other secret agents?

Fe He was fat, spoke with an American accent, and lacked glamour. But he had a **sharp brain** and the ability to handle danger calmly.

### Q2. How did Ausable outsmart Max?

← He **lied about a balcony** and the **arrival of police**. Max believed him and jumped out, falling for a trap — there was **no balcony** at all.

### Q3. What was Fowler's impression of Ausable at the end?

fullially disappointed, Fowler later **admired** Ausable for his bravery and intelligence.

# Moral of the Story

"Your mind is your strongest weapon. In tense situations, being calm and clever can save lives."