

THE CASE OF THE DEAD MAN

‘The butterflies are the most beautiful thing one can imagine of’ said Jim looking outside from the glass window to the fine cold sun and then looked towards his friend who said something almost like a mutter.

‘Eh- What did you muttered?’ asked Jim.

‘You are probably wrong. The best thing is not the butterflies to imagine of. As the best thing to imagine for me is to sleep day and night and win the name in Guinness World Book of Records’ said Crick who was just thinking of closing his eyes and those tiny magicians welcoming him to their land.

‘Only sleeping is the drug which you cannot leave in your life’ pounced Jim trying to outshine Crick.

‘Again you are wrong. While I was solving the cases I am probably out of daze’ and he started laughing but was greatly disturbed by a healthy fellow who was looking inside the room carefully.

‘Any help you-’

‘If you are Crick then a great help for me’ said the fellow still in some suspicion.

‘I am and be able to occupy the sofa the next case giver and yes remember to tell your name.’

‘Really I am in your words the next case-giver and I would be pleased if you would accept my name as John Samuel from Ladford’ said the fellow who now was out of suspicion and dared to come inside.

‘Is your real name something else as John Rick Samuel?’

‘How the heck you know it?’

‘The letter which is in your hand proves it. The letter was for me on the preconception that if I would be absent from this place you would drop it in my room’ said Crick as Samuel sat with a gaping mouth.

‘But why don’t you add the Rick in your name?’ asked Jim.

‘How it would be if I would tell you Jim Sick Macpherson? I just don’t like this name inside another name’ said Samuel.

‘Okay you are exhausted and if you want some drink like water or something-’

‘Sir he is dead without an inch of bullet piercing the body or knife tearing the body’ said Samuel overpowering the voice of Jim.

‘But who the he is so?’ asked Crick.

‘My brother sir my poor brother’

‘But tell me really what happened’

‘Sir I was away from my house when the incident had happened. I got a call from my brother at 3 PM and he said that he was locking the gate of the house on the second floor as he was going out to buy the vegetables. He suddenly said that he forgot to bring his money purse and said that he was going to unlock the inner door and bring the purse and go away. So then I switched off the mobile and got into my work of completing my file.’

At about 4.30 PM I reached home and saw the dead body of my brother Collin in staircase adjacent to the locked door. I shouted so loudly that the whole two families rushed to the place of death and when I asked about it no one knew anything about the death. I had not changed the position of the dead body. I only found a small knife which was new and white completely hid under the right hand of my brother.’

‘Sir if you wish you can come along with me now’

‘Have you said anything about the knife to anyone?’

‘No sir not at all. You are the first person to listen the knife thing.’

‘But had you any rivalry with the persons around you?’

‘I was the friendliest person in my whole life.’

‘Okay thank you and you can go but was there blood coming out from any part of body?’

‘Above the neck the red color was seen’ said Samuel and departed.

After the departure of Samuel, Crick went to his deep slumber and then awoke after 15 minutes and said that the case is extremely difficult – not at all. But something is fishy in it.

‘What have you deduced from the interview?’ asked Jim.

‘It is that Collin had died with something beaten on head by someone or falling from stairs’ said Jim.

‘But what about the knife?’ asked Jim.

‘The knife is simply the diverting thing in the whole case and thus I discarded it as it was completely white and new’ said Crick clearing his throat.

‘Now how much time would it take to Ladford?’ asked Crick.

‘You are asking as if you know nothing about the distance from here to Ladford. It takes 30 minutes.’

‘Okay book seats to Ladford’ requested Crick.

They reached the station at the nick of the time and as they reached they saw the train was leaving them. Both of them rushed and seeing the two young running a few more started to run along them asking what had happened. But both of them as were wasting their energy they didn’t dare to waste their energy anymore. As they rode into the train they saw that a marathon was left behind them and then suddenly the marathon was silent and a shriek rose from the train.

Both of them turned back. The cerebellum was developed and they were out of harm's way. They saw that a person was leering and was again going to shout as the air was occupying his gaping mouth. They both took the advantage of shouting and said 'Perkins!'

At least they got their good old companion of their time to share their gossip.

The good gossip ended with a sudden brake as the train showed the outdoor way to Ladford.

'So goodbye and why have you came here Crick?' asked Perkins.

'For a ca...'

'Sorry we have to go Jim' said Crick and dragged him outside of the blue mini beds.

'Why are you dragging me out of the train and I was just telling case?' enquired Jim.

'You will understand later' said Crick and ran to a vehicle in which they both voyaged the potholed roads. But the minds were travelling different horizons which may make the potholes neglected. After a drive of 20 minutes they saw a red colored house with its window opened inside and a familiar face outside!

'So you arrived here' welcomed a sad heart and smiling mouth.

'Yeah but where is the dead body?' asked Crick.

'Follow me' and both of them then travelled about 30 steps to reach the spot and everything was fine.

At that moment Crick turned back and saw a face which hid suddenly and smiled and murmured that he was correct. Then he saw the knife which was white as snow and then heard a shout from the middle house. He then slipped downstairs excusing them and the completely hid knife under the hands of Collin.

'Why you lost another knife?' asked a female voice.

‘I just came down from the roof and there was the knife in my pocket but it vanished as I reached here. But sorry I will bring another one’ said a male voice and then Crick again murmured that he had been correct and went to their house and talked a few while.

‘What day was it vanished?’ Crick asked suddenly which terrified the family.

‘Exactly on the same day poor dear Collins was dead’ replied the male counterpart adjourning on his chair.

‘A new one?’

‘Yes sir a completely white and new one.’

‘At what time you came here down?’

‘Sir about 2 PM and again at 4.30 PM when Samuel shrieked’ said the male counterpart

‘Thank you and better if you delay your plan to buy the knife on the day after tomorrow’ said Crick and went upstairs.

On the way he did some experiment with the door and the awkwardly designed stairs and then smiled and murmured ‘No prisoners’.

Jim was accompanying Samuel inside the rooms to check the probability of a thief to go out and when Crick arrived on the spot where Jim was standing Jim proudly said that the thief can only escape through this window and then explained the procedure how one can escape from that window either locked from outside or inside. The whole situation was likely to solve the thing that the thief had killed by striking a hard metal on Collin’s head and then escaped through that translucent pathway.

Crick then smiled a little and said ‘Again you are wrong. The lock had already done its work on the gate’ and then the face which had just become extrovert came to its docile and submissive introvert.

Crick then continued ‘And there are no more holes big enough to carry a big thief. And more over what would you do now if I would say that I have completed your case?’

Both Jim and Samuel were astonished to hear this and then Crick asked Jim to accompany him to hotel and said Samuel that he would tell the result the next morning.

The next day early in the morning both Jim and Samuel met each other and greeted each other. Then Crick came and asked for a chair and some tea and all of them settled on the dining table and Crick started narrating his results.

‘So from my thinking I had realized that Perkins is successful in his ambition.’

‘Perkins!’ Both Jim and Samuel cried.

‘He is the cop of this area’ said Samuel and lamented.

Then suddenly Crick who was keeping his hand on his face laughed and said ‘Are you both insane? More over I meant that his childhood ambition to become a cop following his father’s footprints. But it is a nice idea - A cop in his cuff.’

And then the gloomy atmosphere was changed to a smiling atmosphere which was interrupted by Crick saying ‘Thrice a familiar face appeared in a single journey I mean Perkins better you shouldn’t hide behind me and rise from the thorny bushes to the plastic chairs!’

‘How the heck you were able to know whereas Jim and Samuel were sitting front of you?’ asked Perkins.

‘They were laughing and so was I but the eyes of mine were on the mirror opposite me and also I was awaiting your honorable presence here along with us.’

‘Oh! That is what I was to understand later’ said Jim remembering the train incident.

‘Very brilliant Jim! Very good and nice (thinking a moment). What can I say more?’ said Crick and again all of them laughed.

‘So can I continue?’

‘Yeah’ said a chorus.

‘So from my keen wasteful observations I have deduced that don’t take out your chains Mr. Perkins as there is no murderer.’

‘What?’

‘Yes it was a death by accident. When Collin again opened the lock of the first gate the awkward steps didn’t supported his balance and he slipped and his head struck the wall while falling and again the lower step after landing to result in oozing out of blood from head and death.’

‘But the knife?’ asked Samuel.

‘Knife was new and proportionally extremely small and this knife was of the house owner and I would be pleased if you call him and give him his knife in my presence.’

After sometime the house owner came and Crick gave him his knife and said ‘I hope you have not brought another one.’ And then the house owner departed.

‘I have deduced this when I was in Athens City but not sure how then he had died. But the steps are worth a guide. First of all when I was in the train I realized that you are the cop of this area as you had that childhood ambition when you were with Jim and me. So when Jim was going to tell case I stopped him and carried him out of the train. Then again when you were following me and peeped just from the corner I became sure that Perkins is a cop. So congratulations buddy!’

‘Then I heard a short quarrel between a male and a female voice and if I recollect correctly it was like this: Why you lost another knife?’ asked a female voice.

‘I just came down from the roof and there was the knife in my pocket but it vanished as I reached here. But sorry I will bring another one’ said a male voice.

And thus I rushed towards him to make sure that the knife is just an obstacle and asked him the time and day of losing the knife and I got sure that the knife was not a weapon. Thus when I came up I stood outside and thought of two possible ways of his death either suicide or situational death. Then the thought of suicide vanished because he called his brother before killing himself. That sounds awkward and moreover I tried to observe the places where one can kill himself in this cemented marbled area and fall like that. I became a failure and thus discarded that idea and then when I saw the steps and the door I smiled a bit realizing that this might be his reason for his death and I can show it to you also.'

The entire three listeners followed him and reached the dead place where the dead man was lying. Crick showed them how his hand slipped and then at what projection with respect to slipping his head might have struck the walls and again the marble to create this huge loss of a brother and some red colors!'

All of them were astonished at such a solution and then Perkins asked 'Why didn't you really allowed your mate to tell case?'

'Two reasons are enough. One you are a cop and you might suspect us as a suspect though it was not likely and second I didn't wanted the attraction of all the passengers to listen case and become creepy and clumsy around us and this might result in our dispatching from Ladford to some other gigantic buildings.'

Jim said 'So one more is shot and this is the hatrick. Congo super and brilliant Crick (thinking for sometime) what can I say more?'

They all burst into a hearty laugh and then the cop acquired a coin face that is a light and dark shade. Tickets were booked and at 11 AM both Crick and Jim were dozing and writing respectively.

‘Wake up Crick’ shouted Jim as he kept his lustrous yellow pen on the rough table and framed the question.

‘Only five more minutes if you want to be human and ten more minutes if you want to be a noble and fifteen more minute if you want to be a sage and not to awake me till I finish dozing if you want to be god provided in my eyes only;’ replied Crick somewhat sleepily.

‘I am not of any category so wake and tell the name of the case’ said Jim.

‘The case of ...’

Same monotonous beat the case of..... , the case of..... .’ said Jim.

THE CASE OF THE DEAD MAN and I think it sounds better then you the case of..... And the case of.....’

