

MORE KILLER PUZZLES

MURDLE

100 FIENDISHLY FOUL
MURDER MYSTERY
LOGIC PUZZLES

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G.T. KARBER



SOUVENIR
PRESS

To my mom

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HOW TO SOLVE

Welcome to *Murdle*, the official publication of the case files of the world's greatest mystery-solving mind, Deductive Logico.

Unlike other memoirs of the crime-fighting life, these murdles are not mere tales, but puzzles for you to solve. And all you need to crack these cases is a sharp pencil and an even sharper mind.

To prove it, let's review Deductive Logico's very first case, which he cracked as a junior at Deduction College. The student body president had been murdered, and Logico was certain one of three people had done it:



MAYOR HONEY

He knows where the bodies are buried, and he makes sure they always vote for him.

6'0" • LEFT-HANDED • HAZEL EYES • LIGHT BROWN HAIR



DEAN GLAUCOUS

The dean of some such-and-such department at Deduction College. What does he do? Well, he handles the money, for one . . .

5'6" • RIGHT-HANDED • LIGHT BROWN EYES • LIGHT BROWN HAIR



**CHANCELLOR
TUSCANY**

As the head of Deduction College, she has deduced exactly how much rich parents are willing to pay to get their children a degree in logic.

5'5" • LEFT-HANDED • GREEN EYES • BLOND HAIR

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Young Logico also knew that each of them was in one of these places and had one of these weapons.



THE STADIUM
OUTDOORS

The field features the absolute highest quality fake grass money can buy.



THE BOOKSTORE
INDOORS

The biggest money-maker on campus. A sign offers a 2-for-\$500 deal on textbooks.



OLD MAIN
INDOORS

The first building on campus and the least maintained. Paint is peeling off the wall!



A SHARP PENCIL
LIGHT-WEIGHT

Back then, they used actual lead. One stab and you'd die from lead poisoning.



A HEAVY BACKPACK
HEAVY-WEIGHT

Finally, a practical use for all those logic textbooks (hitting people with them).



A GRADUATION CORD
LIGHT-WEIGHT

It would be a high academic honor to be strangled by one of these.

Now, Logico knew that he could not make assumptions just from reading these descriptions! Sometimes mayors wore heavy backpacks, and sometimes teachers went to the stadium. No, the way to figure out who had what where was by studying the clues and evidence.













MURDLE: MORE KILLER PUZZLES

These were the facts he knew to be absolutely, perfectly true:

- Whoever was in the stadium was right-handed.
- The suspect with the sharp pencil resented the person at Old Main.
- The suspect with a graduation cord had beautiful hazel eyes.
- Dean Glaucous seemed to carry a lot of logic textbooks around.
- **The body was found next to peeling paint.**

And finally, he pulled out his detective's notebook and meticulously drew a grid, labeling each column and row with a picture representing each of the suspects, weapons, and locations.

The locations were listed twice—once on top, and once on the side—so that every square represented a unique potential pairing.

			SUSPECTS			LOCATIONS		
								
WEAPONS								
								
								
LOCATIONS								
								
								

This tool—the deduction grid—was a powerful technology taught at Deduction College. It could help clarify your thoughts and identify the possible conclusions you could make.

But never before had it been used to solve a murder! In Deduction College, they apply logic only to the realm of the purely ab-

stract. If all Xs are Ys and all Ys are Zs—that kind of thing. What Logico was doing here was new, exciting, and dangerous!

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Once he drew his deduction grid, he had arrived at his favorite part: the deducing! He went down the list of clues, and put each of them into his grid.













The first clue is: **Whoever was in the stadium was right-handed.**

According to Logico's notes on the suspects, only Dean Glaucous was right-handed. Therefore, Dean Glaucous was at the stadium.

Logico marked that down on his grid, as seen below. But that was













not all Logico learned from that clue.

If Dean Glaucous was at the stadium, then he wasn't at the bookstore or Old Main, and since only one suspect was at each location, neither Chancellor Tuscan nor Mayor Honey was at the stadium.

SUSPECTS			LOCATIONS		
					
WEAPONS					
					
					
LOCATIONS		✓			
					
					

Logico represented this on his grid with Xs. This illustrates a principle: When you identify somebody's location or their weapon, you can cross out every other possibility in that row and column.

Logico moved on to













SUSPECTS			LOCATIONS		
					
WEAPONS					
					
					
LOCATIONS		X	✓	X	
			X		
			X		

MURDLE: MORE KILLER PUZZLES

the next clue: **The suspect with the sharp pencil resented the person at Old Main.**

It seems like this clue is telling us about personal relationships. But Logico was only concerned with facts. And the only fact this clue told him was that the suspect with the sharp pencil and the suspect at Old Main were two separate people. Therefore, *the sharp pencil was not at Old Main.*

And so, Logico marked that down in his deduction grid, too.







SUSPECTS			LOCATIONS		
					
WEAPONS					X
					
					
LOCATIONS		X	✓	X	
			X		
			X		

Then, he moved on to the next clue: **The suspect with a graduation cord had beautiful hazel eyes.**

He ignored the part about the eyes being beautiful and focused on what he thought was important: only Mayor Honey had hazel eyes. There-

fore, Mayor Honey had the graduation cord.

And again, Logico could cross out the entire row and column! After all, if Mayor Honey had the graduation cord, then neither Chancellor Tuscany nor Dean Glaucous

SUSPECTS			LOCATIONS		
					
WEAPONS	X				X
	X				
	✓	X	X		
LOCATIONS	X	✓	X		
		X			
		X			

had it. And since each suspect had only one weapon, Mayor Honey couldn't have the heavy backpack or the sharp pencil.

Logico moved on to the next clue: **Dean Glaucous seemed to carry a lot of logic textbooks around.**

Now, what does that mean? Logic textbooks aren't one













of the weapons! But, if you read the descriptions of each weapon, you'll notice that the heavy backpack's says, "Finally, a practical use for all those logic textbooks (hitting people with them)." If Dean Glaucous was carrying a lot of logic textbooks around, he was using the backpack to do it!

You don't have to make leaps of logic in these puzzles: everything you need to know clearly appears in the descriptions. Is it possible that Dean Glaucous was carrying logic books around without a heavy backpack? Not to Deductive Logico!
































Logico marked down that Dean Glaucous had the heavy backpack, and he crossed off the other possibilities in that row and column. Once he did that, Logico smiled. If Mayor Honey had the graduation cord and Dean Glaucous had the heavy backpack, Chancellor Tuscany must have had the sharp pencil. He marked this down as well.

This next step is the key to solving all the murder mysteries that appear in this book: Chancellor Tuscany had the sharp pencil. The sharp pencil is not at Old Main. Therefore, *Chancellor Tuscany could not be at Old Main.*

Therefore, Chancellor Tuscany was at the bookstore, since it was

		SUSPECTS			LOCATIONS		
							
WEAPONS		X	X	✓			X
		X	✓	X			
		✓	X	X			
LOCATIONS		X	✓	X			
			X				
			X				

MURDLE: MORE KILLER PUZZLES

			SUSPECTS			LOCATIONS		
								
WEAPONS								
								
								
LOCATIONS								
								
								

the only remaining location. And since she had the sharp pencil, the sharp pencil must have been at the bookstore, too.








































Logico marked this on his deduction grid and crossed off the other boxes in each row and column. And from there, he deduced that Mayor Honey was at Old Main, so he marked

that down, too.

Since Mayor Honey was at Old Main with the graduation cord, the graduation cord must have been at Old Main. And since Dean Glaucous had the heavy backpack and was at the stadium, the heavy backpack was at the stadium, too.

So satisfying! Logico thought, as he looked at his completed grid. Now, he was ready for the final clue: **The body was found next to peeling paint.**

This last clue is special. It doesn't tell you who has what weapon where—it tells you about the murder itself!

			SUSPECTS			LOCATIONS		
								
WEAPONS								
								
								
LOCATIONS								
								
								

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By consulting his notes, Logico knew that this clue meant the murder had been committed in Old Main, because the description of Old Main mentions peeling paint. Therefore, since Mayor Honey was the suspect in Old Main, Mayor Honey must have committed the crime.

Confident in his deductions, Logico marched down to the chancellor's office where he confidently declared: **"It was Mayor Honey with the graduation cord at Old Main!"**

Chancellor Tuscany was impressed with his hard work, and she gave him an A-plus. Mayor Honey, however, was able to win reelection in a landslide, thanks to his populist tirades against the tyranny of logic. But that did not matter, because to Logico, it wasn't the consequences of his deductions that mattered: it was the deductive work itself.

And that is how young Logico became Deductive Logico, and how he first applied the theories of his college education to the problems of the real world. When he graduated, he moved to the city, and he began to offer his services as the only deductive detective in the business.

This book contains one hundred mysteries that Deductive Logico was able to solve using these techniques and others. There are ciphers to decode, witness statements to examine, and many other secrets to unlock. As you progress, and the mysteries become more challenging, you will find your reasoning skills being put to the test.

If you get stuck, do not despair! You can flip to the back of the book for a hint. And when you're ready to make your accusation, flip even farther back to the answers to see if you're right. With every mystery solved, a bigger story begins to emerge.

If you need more help, or want to solve more mysteries with others, then join the Detective Club at Murdle.com. Otherwise, you're on your own!

Good luck, gumshoe!

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY

🔍 — ELEMENTARY

🔍🔍 — OCCULT MEDIUM

🔍🔍🔍 — HARD BOILED

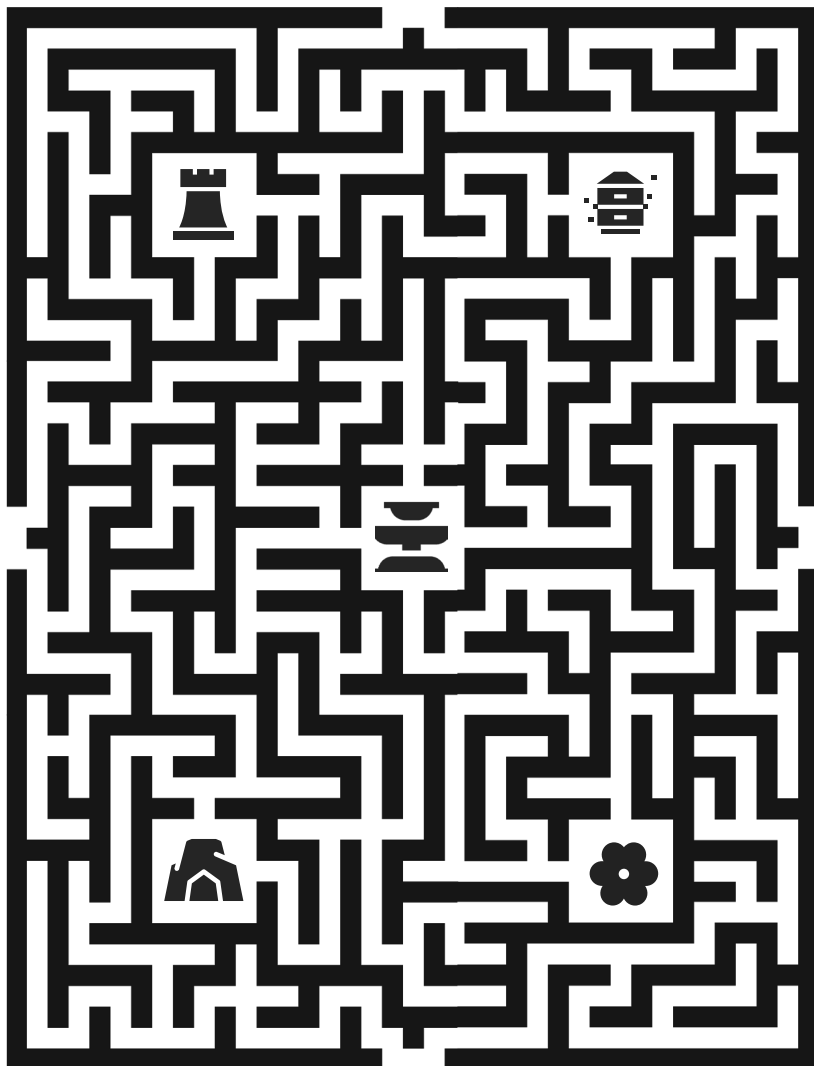
🔍🔍🔍🔍 — IMPOSSIBLE

EXHIBIT A

TO THE MAIN HOUSE

TO THE GUEST HOUSE

TO THE GREEN HOUSE



TO THE CLIFFS



MYSTERIOUS TUNNEL



APIARY



SECRET GARDEN



LOOKOUT TOWER



FOUNTAIN

A MAP OF THE VIOLET ISLAND GARDEN MAZE

ELEMENTARY

After a long night, Deductive Logico came home to an encrypted note nailed to his door. When he couldn't solve it, he asked the esoteric Inspector Irratino for help. When Irratino declared the letter was an occult incantation, Logico took it to the Detective Club. They broke it into words, and they cracked each word one at a time.

Finally, Logico was able to read the entire decoded message:

Dear Logico,

This is a single invitation to our Old Drakonian Holiday Party at my family mega-mansion in the Violet Isles.

Here, we are safe from the "night-eater" and the Red Government, but we have problems of our own, and we need your help. Please hurry!

Yours,

V

Irratino was disappointed that there was no mention of a plus-one. "I'd really love to help them discover their dark secret."

"What dark secret?" Logico said. "There's no mention of a dark secret."

"Oh, there's obviously a dark secret. There's *always* a dark secret."

Can you solve the following twenty-five elementary mysteries? If you get stuck, you can always flip to the back for a hint. And if you think they're too easy, then take the Detective Club Challenge: Discover the dark secret of the Violet Isles before Logico!

1. THE DETECTIVE CLUB KILLER 🔍

Before Logico left for the holiday party, he visited the Detective Club headquarters to tell his friends the good news. Unfortunately, they had bad news: the president (now the former president) had been killed. Whodunit?

SUSPECTS



MISS SAFFRON

Miss Saffron is technically an aristocrat, but more accurately, she's just plain rich.

5'2" • LEFT-HANDED • HAZEL EYES • BLOND HAIR



GENERAL
COFFEE

Now that Detective Club HQ has added a coffee bar, he's there every day.

6'0" • RIGHT-HANDED • BROWN EYES • BALD



GRANDMASTER
ROSE

Chess is a kind of mystery, so Grandmaster Rose fits right in at the DCHQ. (His opponent opened with 1. g4: the Grob.)

5'7" • LEFT-HANDED • BROWN EYES • BROWN HAIR

LOCATIONS



THE DETECTIVE
KIT STORAGE
ROOM
INDOORS

There is a pile of fedora pins next to a printing press for membership cards. Join today!



THE ROOFTOP
LOOKOUT
OUTDOORS

Where you can keep an eye on the entrance and the pigeons.



THE
CONSPIRACY
BOARD ROOM
INDOORS

The walls are corkboards covered with newspaper articles connected with red string.

WEAPONS



THE FIRST
MURDLE BOOK
MEDIUM-WEIGHT

A copy of the first
book: a great gift
and an even greater
weapon.



A MAGNIFYING
GLASS
MEDIUM-WEIGHT

You could use this
to find a clue or to
start a small fire. Or
both!



A RED
HERRING
MEDIUM-WEIGHT

If you hold it by the tail, you can get some real momentum behind it.

CLUES & EVIDENCE

- General Coffee was using the printing press to print his manifesto: *On Beans and Bombs*.
- Grandmaster Rose was afraid of heights, so he had never been to the roof.
- The first *Murdle* book was not in the conspiracy board room.
- Miss Saffron had a magnifying glass.
- **Something was fishy about the murder: it was committed with a fish.**

SUSPECTS

LOCATIONS



WHO?

WHAT?

WHERE?

2. THE ZEPPELIVING AND THE DEAD 🔍

Whoever said that the air was the fastest way to travel has never taken a zeppelin to Drakonia. Fortunately, Deductive Logico was able to fill the time by solving the murder of the pilot.

SUSPECTS



CAPTAIN SLATE

A real-life astronaut. The first woman to travel around the dark side of the moon, and also the first to be suspected of murdering her copilot.

5'5" • LEFT-HANDED • BROWN EYES • BROWN HAIR



**PRESIDENT
WHITE**

The duly elected president of the Royal Resistance, a party of aristocrats who want to retake power. She wears a signet ring.

5'10" • RIGHT-HANDED • GRAY EYES • WHITE HAIR



DR. CRIMSON

She believes that everyone—no matter their race or creed—deserves the right to medical care, as long as they can afford it.

5'9" • LEFT-HANDED • GREEN EYES • RED HAIR

LOCATIONS



**THE PASSENGER
CABIN**
INDOORS

No commercial plane has this much legroom, or a parachute for every passenger.



**THE CARGO
HOLD**
INDOORS

Every single piece of luggage is designer, and each is worth more than its contents.



THE COCKPIT
INDOORS

Thankfully for the passengers, there is a robotic copilot built by TekCo Futures.

WEAPONS



A STUN GUN
LIGHT-WEIGHT

Advertised as “less-than-lethal,” but anything’s lethal if you use it right.



A FIRE EXTINGUISHER
HEAVY-WEIGHT

Kill someone by hitting them over the head with this, or by starting a fire and doing nothing with it.



A CUP OF SCALDING COFFEE
MEDIUM-WEIGHT

The hottest coffee you’ll ever taste—and the last!

CLUES & EVIDENCE

- Dr. Crimson was trying to sell something to the person who brought a fire extinguisher.
- Captain Slate was not in the cargo hold.
- Brown eyes were reflected in the cup of scalding coffee.
- The robot copilot’s proximity sensors detected a nearby fire extinguisher.
- A weapon that was (apparently not) less-than-lethal was used to kill the pilot.

SUSPECTS

LOCATIONS



WEAPONS



LOCATIONS



WHO?

WHAT?

WHERE?

3. TOUCH DOWN TO MURDER 🔍

When the zeppelin landed at the People's City airport, Logico was surprised to find it much cleaner, nicer, and more beautiful than the one in his city. He looked for his chauffeur but found a dead body: a security guard had been murdered.

SUSPECTS



CAPTAIN SLATE

A real-life astronaut. The first woman to travel around the dark side of the moon, and also the first to be suspected of murdering her copilot.

5'5" • LEFT-HANDED • BROWN EYES • BROWN HAIR



**CHAUFFEUR
BRONZE**

Lady Violet's chauffeur. He's an aristocrat himself, which shows you how important Lady Violet is.

5'10" • RIGHT-HANDED • BROWN EYES • BLOND HAIR



BOSS CHARCOAL

A mob boss from the good ol' days when being a mob boss from the good ol' days meant something.

5'11" • RIGHT-HANDED • BROWN EYES • BLACK HAIR

LOCATIONS



**THE RUNWAY
OUTDOORS**

So named because it's a great place for political prisoners to run away.



**THE BAGGAGE
CLAIM
INDOORS**

Good luck getting your luggage: the bags that weren't lost were stolen.



**THE CURRENCY
EXCHANGE
INDOORS**

The exchange rate here is a rip-off. They're trading Drakonian dollars for US dollars one to one.

WEAPONS



AN EXPOSED
WIRE
LIGHT-WEIGHT

One of the last things you want to be exposed to. It's shocking!



A WATER
BOTTLE
MEDIUM-WEIGHT

Ironic, because you'll die without it, too.



AN '80S CELL
PHONE
HEAVY-WEIGHT

Heavier than some '80s cars. At this point, it's ancient technology.

CLUES & EVIDENCE

- Boss Charcoal always carried a variety of currencies, so he would never visit the exchange.
- Captain Slate was suspiciously thirsty: she kept drinking out of her water bottle.
- Due to their refined sensibilities, the aristocrat would never be around exposed wires.
- Ancient technology was found sitting on the runway.
- **The body of the security guard was found in the baggage claim.**

SUSPECTS

LOCATIONS

WHO?

WHAT?

WHERE?