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guests to reveal their dark secrets during a dinner game contest. A group of friends are asked to share one of five radios in a mansion after an argument over radio stations. Mr. Green requests Miss Scarlet as his second for a duel, but she mistakenly believes he's asking if she'll be his Second Love and becomes frightened through the preparations, also getting injured in the crossfire. In another book, chapter 6 starts with three guests discussing how Mr. Boddy had recently fixed the mansion after a fire and invited friends over to celebrate, only for the mansion to start burning down again. Miss Scarlet cuts out a wedding announcement from Mr. Boddy's newspaper featuring an old flame of hers in one story, while in another, she receives a valuable candle that supposedly burns forever from an old flame who ran off with a rattlesnake charmer and is now trying to win her back. A chapter features the guests receiving bicycles, but only Mrs. White refuses to use one, instead following them around and cleaning up after them. Another story involves Boddy's special pen that explodes if anyone other than him tries to use it, while in another, workment tell Professor Plum that the mansion is scheduled for demolition, prompting him to write it down so he can remember. In a different tale, Boddy obtains an old gargoyle statue that is said to be haunted and valuable, but strange things happen more because of superstition than actual haunting. The mansion is robbed by famous cat burglar Kitty Lyon in one story, and later by unidentified thieves who steal everyone's luggage. A character with a long name causes trouble in another book. One of Boddy's relatives, Sir Reginald Arthur Charles Edward George Richard Boddy, is mentioned in Chapter 3, with his portrait hanging on the Ball Room wall. Over-the-Top Christmas Decorations are a variant in Book #5, Chapter 6, where it's revealed that Mr. Boddy spent a million dollars on Christmas tree ornaments despite appearances suggesting otherwise. In Book #5, Chapter 1, five guests manage to jump out of the Boddy jet just before it crashes, with Colonel Mustard getting stuck in a tree partway down. The Password Is Always "Swordfish" is demonstrated in Book #6, Chapter 4, where Boddy's online banking password turns out to be his birthday date, and later in Book #11, Chapter 2, where guests must enter tailored passwords to access each room. Book #17, Chapter 10 features the clue in the crystal ball, which reveals Mr. Boddy's treasure case password is indeed "swordfish". Percussive Pickpocket occurs in Book #1, Chapter 7 when Professor Plum slaps Colonel Mustard's chest, claiming he's looking for matches, unaware that Plum had earlier stolen his film. Perplexing Pearl Production is the focus of Book #12, Chapter 2, where Boddy acquires the world's largest oyster containing a flawless pearl. Pet the Dog moments occur throughout the series, with notable examples including Colonel Mustard challenging Mr. Green to a duel in Book #1, Chapter 1, and guests throwing Mr. Green an unusually sincere birthday party in Book #1, Chapter 3. Mrs. Peacock and Professor Plum (and Boddy too) all trying to help Colonel Mustard get off his latest temper binge and keep him from challenging Mr. Green to a duel. It doesn't work (because Green keeps taunting him), but at least they tried. After an overworked Mrs. White collapses in the middle of serving a meal, all of the guests decide to make a meal for her instead. Unfortunately, their efforts nearly poison her, Mr. Boddy and Colonel Mustard — completely by accident for once — instead. Colonel Mustard is reluctant to wake up the whole mansion after accidentally being locked outside, and also shouts out a warning to Miss Scarlet after seeing an intruder in her room. Miss Scarlet insists that she isn't trying to steal Mr. Green's cufflinks for once, and supports this by voluntarily turning over her weapon to him, while Mrs. Peacock accompanies Mr. Boddy to the basement to turn on the power upon realizing he's afraid of the dark. Mrs. Peacock and Mrs. White both seem genuinely grief-stricken upon being (falsely) told that Mr. Boddy has died, and Colonel Mustard angrily threatens Mr. Green and Miss Scarlet for showing disrespect. Professor Plum surprises everyone by warning against stealing rather than taking matters into his own hands when it comes to thieves. In book #11, chapter 9, Mr. Boddy drowns in the pool, and everyone jumps in to try and rescue him, but some want compensation for their efforts. Even Mrs. White, who initially suggested letting others drown, changes her mind and joins the rescue efforts. In other books, like #10's "Pie In Your Eye," Mrs. White returns an item she had taken from Mr. Boddy before he even suspected it was missing. She also helps out when everyone else needs assistance, as seen in book #12's "Thief On Wheels." Who was up all night baking, furious at ruining their hard work, grabs a lemon pie and throws it at his face. This prompts Boddy to call an end to the contest due to their behavior. The plot allergy comes into play in book #9, chapter 9 ("Mystery in the Moonlight"), where guests identify allergies. Mrs. Peacock claims to be allergic to the full moon, while Miss Scarlet says she's allergic to mold. Mr. Green is allergic to chalk dust, Colonel Mustard to flowers, and Professor Plum to feathers, revealing his true identity as the culprit. In book #2, chapter 7 ("A Show of Talent"), Colonel Mustard performs a marksmanship act using a mirror, while Professor Plum forgets what's happening and walks into the path of a bullet. Fortunately, it gets stuck in the Wrench in his breast pocket. In book #5, chapter 10 ("Mr. Boddy's Funeral"), Mr. Boddy is stabbed in the chest, but it turns out he wasn't hurt because the Knife was stopped by his "custom-made, titanium-lined, mega-million sized" wallet. The Police Are Useless plot twist appears in book #1, chapter 13 ("Who Killed Mr. Boddy?"), where the police arrive and take away the unconscious Boddy without identifying the guest responsible. In book #6, chapter 5 ("Tall Tales"), the police do their jobs, but none of them check for a heartbeat or pulse on the supposedly dead victim. The Police Sergeant Rhett Herring questions the guests about stolen jewelry in book #7, chapter 8 ("Sound the Alarm!"), using their clues to accurately describe the pieces. In book #1, chapter 4 ("The Ghost of Mrs. Boddy"), the guests attempt to contact Boddy's late wife, Bessie Boddy, via seance. In book #6, chapter 1 ("That Gun Rings A Bell"), Mrs. Peacock tries to blackmail Mr. Green and Mrs. White with photo evidence of them robbing Mr. Boddy. The guests at Mr. Boddy's mansion are known for their mischievous antics and playful pranks. In Book #7, chapter 10, a guest tries to kill Mr. Boddy to keep him from revealing their secrets, but the attempt only results in Boddy forgetting everything due to Laser-Guided Amnesia. Meanwhile, Prank Call, a recurring theme throughout the series, is featured in Book #18, chapter 9, where one of the guests calls the mansion with a disguised voice to mess with them. The Prankster, Book #8, chapter 1, showcases a guest pranking others at dinner by placing a plastic bug in soup and a rubber hand on another guest. The other guests retaliate with salt in their coffee, a rubber snake in their bed, and itching powder in their underwear. Other notable examples include the Priceless Ming Vase, where Boddy's valuable possessions are broken due to the guests' pranks, and Punny Name, where Mr. Boddy's relatives have pun-filled names such as Aunt Annie Boddy and Cousin Noah Boddy. Additionally, the series features a variety of other pranks and games, including the Prankster, who uses a plastic bug in soup, a rubber hand on another guest, and a worm in one guest's noodles. The Priceless Ming Vase also revolves around the guests swiping Mr. Boddy's classic Bentley and taking it out for a spin despite its value. Book #12's "Sands of Time" chapter gives guests three minutes to get back on track and check in for a prize. Real Men Eat Meat: In book #14, chapter 7 ("To Top It Off"), Mr. Boddy buys pizza with meat toppings only, while Colonel Mustard refuses even veggie-topped slices due to potential contamination. He's fine with Mrs. Peacock's cheese-only pizza, though. Recycled Title: "Sound the Alarm!" is used twice, first in book #3, chapter 7, and then in book #7, chapter 8. Remember the New Guy?: Mr. Boddy's genie, who dislikes the guests, appears only in book #17, chapter 10 ("The Clue in the Crystal Ball") but is treated as a long-term resident of the mansion. Replaced with Replica: In book #11, chapter 10 ("Death by Candlelight"), the last guest uses the Knife to fake-stab another guest and then takes the insurance policy. However, it's revealed that Mr. Boddy had switched out the real Knife for a copy with a retractable blade, so the victim was unharmed. Rhino Rampage: A vicious rhino escapes from the nearby zoo and tries to attack the guests in book #5, chapter 8 ("The Guest Who Couldn't Shoot Straight"), getting stuck briefly in the outside wall of the Billiard Room. Riddle for the Ages: Did Mr. Boddy really die at the end? Right Behind Me: In book #3, chapter 10 ("The Late Mr. Boddy"), the guests brag about everything they've stolen from Mr. Boddy, only to have Plum suddenly remember that Mr. Boddy had told him he was testing his new intercom and spent the last few minutes listening in. Satchel Switcheroo: Professor Plum accidentally does this in book #2, chapter 9 ("The Wrong Briefcase"), when he finds an identical briefcase at the bank and takes it thinking it's his own. He only discovers it's actually a Briefcase Full of Money later. Book #3, chapter 1 ("A Mixed Bag") has all the guests arrive with identical-look Mr. Boddy's mansion is full of secrets. In book #7, chapter 1, the ghost of Sir Squatty-Boddy appears, scaring the guests into staying to find treasure. However, Boddy himself escapes to a nearby motel, showing he's not interested in being around ghosts. Some guests try this trick on the "Monsters of the Caribbean" ride, but it doesn't work out for them either. Mr. Green is wealthy but frugal, and one guest jokes that he still has his first dollar from selling his mother's cookies. The mansion has secret passages, including two between the Kitchen and Study, and Conservatory and Lounge. Guests discover new ones in book #15, chapter 8. These passages are often filled with trick mirrors, making it hard to attack each other. Mr. Green is implied to be a self-made man since he made his first dollar selling cookies. In another case, Professor Plum likens a violin case to how gangsters carry guns, but the violin actually contains an antique instrument that becomes the subject of the story's theft. Boddy shows his guests an old quilt once owned by his great-great-grandmother, which hides the family's most valuable possessions during World War I. In the present day, the solution reveals that the treasure is a packet of old family photos. However, there's a continuity error in book #1, chapter 10: Boddy owns different musical instruments, including a Stradivarius and solid gold trumpet. Pizza is discussed in two books (#10, chapter 2; and #14, chapter 7). In "Baby Booty," Mrs. Peacock dislikes pizza due to the finger-eating aspect, while Miss Scarlet prefers pepperoni-topped pizzas. In "To Top It Off," Mrs. Peacock has no issue with pizza, except for unusual toppings, whereas Miss Scarlet insists on vegetarian options only. In book #1, chapter 13 ("Who Killed Mr. Boddy?"), Mr. Boddy reveals his estate will be divided among the six guests since he's the last living Boddy family member. Later books feature cameos from other Boddy relatives. The "Sham Wedding" in book #9, chapter 7 (#There Went the Bride) sets up one of these, Miss Scarlet announces she's getting married, but it turns out there was never a real groom — the whole thing was just a scheme on Scarlet part to get valuable wedding gifts and then run off with them. Mr Boddy often features puzzles and games involving what might be alive, such as a talking doll that reveals secrets about his guests, including their attempts to steal it. In one instance, he sets them all up making doll clothes for their mischief. Mr Boddy himself has been known to play tricks on his guests, like when he fell in his own pyramid and had an antidote ready. Weather-related events, such as being snowed-in, have also led to attempts by some guests to cause harm. The mansion's furnace as once went out, forcing the guests to camp out in their own tents, while Mr Boddy warmed up in his private electric heater. Additionally, there have been contests where the losers were forced to repair the other kites, and even instances of cloning gone wrong, like Professor Plum accidentally creating five clones of Mrs. Peacock, making it difficult for the guests to determine which was the real one. In another story, Mr Boddy's guests shared their unusual favorite sodas with each other, discussing flavors such as mouthwash and floor wax, without any issues. Despite attempts at murder or thievery, all characters manage to survive and are always invited back. The guests' tell is a distinctive characteristic that sets them apart, making it easier to identify them in the story. Colonel Mustard is always up for a duel and has a military background, while Professor Plum struggles with memory loss. Mr. Green is greedy and hot-headed, Mrs. Peacock prim and proper, Miss Scarlet flirtatious and beautiful, and Mrs. White often cleans as she commits a crime. Some stories reveal specific tells, such as Colonel Mustard's willingness to fight at the drop of a hat or Mrs. Peacock accidentally dropping her hat on his head. In the series, each chapter's ending and the next book's beginning show Mr. Boddy being killed, then explaining how he survived. They Killed Kenny Again: The pattern of Mr. Boddy dying in every finale is established. Time Bomb: Professor Plum intended to give a time bomb to Mr. Green as a gift but forgot where it was; fortunately, others found it and also that it wasn't set. The Tooth Hurts: A guest stole Miss Scarlet's ruby-encrusted toothbrush in Book #4 but never used it for its purpose, resulting in cavities at their next check-up. This pattern continues with others losing teeth or items in various chapters. Total Eclipse of the Plot: A lunar eclipse actually took several minutes to start and end, surprising a would-be killer. Mr. Green loves ham, seen multiple times as his trademark food. Treasure Chest Cavity: One guest hid a valuable glass grape in their mouth, which popped out when they screamed, exposing them as the thief. Trick Bullet: The bullets used to kill Boddy were discovered to be ineffective against humans; instead, they pierced everything else. The identity of the killer remains unknown until the final reveal. Some guests try this trick on the "Monsters of the Caribbean" ride, but it doesn't work out for them either. Mr. Green is wealthy but frugal, and one guest jokes that he still has his first dollar from selling his mother's cookies. The mansion has secret passages, including two between the Kitchen and Study, and Conservatory and Lounge. Mrs. Peacock Bites the Bullet", guests engage in a variety of activities, including eating dessert with colored icing, which leads to unexpected consequences many of Mr. Boddy's treasures hold unique properties due to their age and rarity a painting of a vampire's coffin is said to have special powers, but its effectiveness relies on proper lighting in book #15, chapter 10 ("The Vanishing Vampire"), the final thief uses garlic for protection against the supposed vampire, only to discover it was just a ruse by Mr. Boddy's eccentric cousin the phrase "let's get cracking" is used in a literal sense when Professor Plum realizes he meant to say "not the windows" guests often participate in activities and events without cheating, showcasing their cunning and intelligence A system that detects weight and sound is tricked by replacing a diamond with a lead pipe. The thief wins because no one noticed the switch. In book #2, chapter 3 ("The Joke Contest"), each suspect makes a joke, leading to an argument over who's funniest. Mrs. White wins, but Mr. Green isn't thrilled about losing. Book #8, chapter 9 ("Time Is Running Out") features Boddy throwing a party with a cash reward for the guest who rings the doorbell at midnight. However, only one of five guests arrives on time and rings the bell correctly. In book #5, chapter 4 ("Blackout"), Mr. Boddy is scared of the dark when the mansion suffers a blackout, causing him to scream in fear. Book #17, chapter 1 ("Friday the Thirteenth") reveals that all the guests develop random phobias on Friday the Thirteenth, forcing them to confront their fears. Some victims are mistaken for dead due to awful smells. In book #7, chapter 4 ("Mr. Green's Jeans"), Mr. Green is found face-down in garbage, but he fainted from the smell. In book #18, chapter 2 ("Animal Crack-ups"), the guests try to steal Boddy's miniature animals, but all but one pass out due to their strong stench. Boddy knows his friends regularly try to kill him, but he's too afraid to not be friends with them. The Clue series is known for its clever plot twists and humorous surprises. Here are some examples of these moments: In book #8, chapter 3 ("The Guys in Disguise"), Mrs. White discovers a trunk that belonged to Boddy's Uncle N.E. Boddy, but instead of finding something valuable, it's filled with theatrical costumes used for entertainment. In book #10, chapter 6 ("The Case is All Sewed Up"), Boddy shows the guests an old quilt that once belonged to his great-great-grandmother, who hid their "most valuable possessions" inside. The solution reveals that this supposed treasure is actually just a packet of old family photos. Book #10, chapter 8 ("Pea Is For Pretender") features Miss Scarlet trying to prove she's a princess by feeling tiny peas through multiple mattresses, but Professor Plum catches her cheating and exposes her as a fake. One of the mansion's six weapons is a wrench, which is used to knock Boddy cold in book #1, chapter 13 ("Who Killed Mr. Boddy?"). In the introduction to book #15, Mr. Boddy says Mrs. Peacock "wrote the book" on etiquette, implying she knows everything about good manners. When Mr. Boddy comments that he can't tell who the guests are because of their masks in book #4, chapter 7 ("The Mystery at the Masked Ball"), Mrs. White quietly says "You Fool!" and notes the color fact to herself. Mr. Boddy occasionally hosts contests for his guests, sometimes offering valuable prizes but other times giving away gag prizes or even punishments as rewards. Examples include a tug-of-war competition in book #4, chapter 3 ("A Tug-of-War"), a game of bobbing for apples in book #10, chapter 4 ("The Halloween Costume Caper"), and many more. Boddy got upset with his friends for arguing over who was the best rider and demanding a competition to prove it. Later, he lost badly in a tennis tournament, but a guest graciously gave him some prize money to spend on private lessons. There were also a couple of attempted thefts that could be considered Zonks, such as: two guests overhearing Miss Scarlet ordering jelly beans, not literal rubies; or the priceless records that weren't worth anything. While often displaying an egocentric attitude, Miss Scarlet's actions are driven by a desire for justice despite lacking strong emotions towards Boddy's death. Her acting skills have been panned, except in "A Designated Casualty", where she gives a relatively good performance. Other notable characteristics include her babysitting job with a mischievous Afghan Hound and her time at boarding school, where she honed forgery skills. The fathers of the main characters all died young, but this detail is context-dependent. Some stories feature duels to the death, often as part of mythology gags. A fake charity, "The Chartreuse Trust", is revealed to be a scam, with each guest believing it supports different causes. Miss Scarlet and Mrs. Peacock are both known to pursue wealthy men in certain tales. Mrs. White's husband passed away, leaving fond memories that make her return a valuable pen to one of her husbands. In some stories, the killer manipulates evidence or buys off suspects to avoid detection. Despite Boddy's murder, few characters display empathy towards his death. Notably, Plum experiences a moment of remorse in "A Designated Casualty". Mrs. White is portrayed as a lethal chef, exceling only at making scones and a few select dishes that evoke strong reactions from others. Mama's Baby, Papa's Maybe: In Mrs. Peacock's tale, she shares a shocking revelation with Miss Scarlet - that Sir Hugh was likely her biological father and suspects he might have orchestrated her conception. Meaningful Name: The three deceitful institutions (Jade Collectibles, Verdant Moving, and Chartreuse Trust) all share the colour green in their names, and were founded by Mr. Green to funnel money into his own pocket. Miles Gloriosus: Mustard shares two contrasting stories of his supposed heroics during a battle in India; however, in both instances, he fakes his survival by hiding. Murder Is the Best Solution: Despite numerous attempts on Mr. Boddy's life for trivial reasons such as petty disputes or fear of lawsuits, there are exceptions where characters defy this pattern. For example, Mustard instead sends insulting letters demanding payment rather than retaliating violently. Pet the Dog: On rare occasions, guests show empathy and kindness towards each other, like Mr. Green leaving a pound note for Professor Plum to discover after seeing his financial struggles. The Quiet One: Mr. Boddy rarely speaks out before being murdered, except in the prologue of both books. Reset Button: Each story features Mr. Boddy's murder, followed by a rewind to the beginning of the weekend with new motives and plot twists. Science Hero: Professor Plum occasionally uses his analytical skills to uncover clues and solve puzzles, often relying on the dating of documents. Serial Spouse: Mrs. Peacock has been married three times and may have killed all her husbands in at least one story. Miss Scarlet is often portrayed as entitled and temperamental in many stories. Mrs. White's motives sometimes relate to embezzlement, while she is accused of being the killer. The wrong person is often wrongly accused at first, only to be cleared later with new evidence. Tropes in A Clue Mystery trilogy include: - Broken Pedestal: Scarlet experiences moments where people she trusts let her down, such as discovering Headmaster Boddy's plan to demolish Tudor Hall or her friend Plum hiding a secret. - Multiple Endings: The third book presents multiple scenarios of the current murderer and their motives, with one considered the true ending. - Offing the Offspring: In one story, it is revealed that Tanner's father ordered his murder to protect his business empire. - Psycho Psychologist: Both Peacock's therapist and the school counselor in some stories are murderers who manipulate or exploit patients for information. - Shoot Out the Clowns: Characters like Kayla and Karlee, originally minor figures, disappear from subsequent books as the subject matter becomes darker. - Sudden Sequel Death Syndrome: Rusty dies at the start of the next book, and then Dr. Brown is killed offscreen early on in another story.