Book 10: The Accomplice

Your first case starts here.

An Unlikely Arrangement

One complete murder mystery logic puzzle to print and solve.

By Edyn Bliss

1. Read How to Play and the worked example on the next two pages.

2. Open the case file. Use the clues to place every suspect on the floor plan.

3. Name the murderer, then check your answer after the STOP page.

You will need: a pencil and an eraser.

This sample is the first case from the book, exactly as it appears in print. The How to Play page mentions hints near the centre of the book: those are in the full book only.

Print at actual size (100%) on US Letter paper. On A4, choose Fit. The solution begins after the STOP page.

Explore The Whodunit Grid Mysteries at BrainBoxBooks.shop

HOW TO PLAY

Solve the crime by placing every character on the scene. Each clue narrows the possibilities until only one suspect can be alone with the victim.

1 PLACE EVERYONE

Each character occupies exactly one square. A character may stand on an empty floor square or on an object listed in the puzzle's “Can be occupied” key. Every other object is blocking and cannot be occupied.

2 ONE PER ROW & COLUMN

Like Sudoku, no two characters may share a row or column. Once someone is placed, cross out every other square in that row and column.

3 READ “BESIDE” CAREFULLY

“Beside” means directly above, below, left or right, in the same room. Diagonal squares and squares across a wall do not count.

4 CATCH THE MURDERER

The murderer is the one suspect who ends up alone with the victim in the victim’s room. Every puzzle has a unique solution.

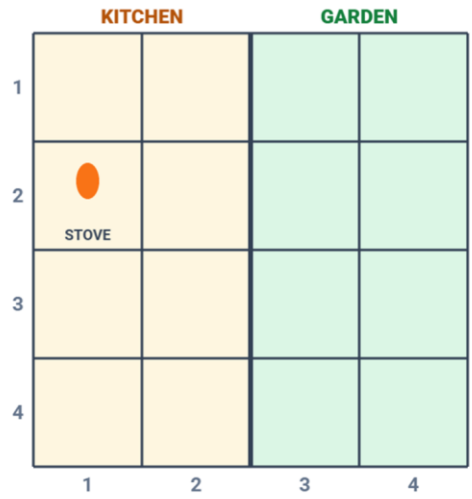
NOTE: If you get stuck there are hints for each puzzle near the centre of the book.

DETECTIVE’S TIP

Cross out impossible squares as you go. The strongest clues often become useful only after another row or column has been eliminated.

How to Solve: A Worked Example

Every case is pure logic, with no guessing. Follow this tiny 4×4 mystery one clue at a time. Place one guest in every row and column; whoever shares the victim's room is the murderer.



THE CLUES

Clue 1. Ada was in column 1.
Clue 2. Ada was in the top row.
Clue 3. Bo was beside the Stove.
Clue 4. Cy was in column 3.
Clue 5. Dex (the victim) was in row 4, column 4, in the Garden.
Clue 6. The Garden held exactly one other guest besides Dex.

FOLLOW THE DEDUCTION

1. Together, Clues 1 and 2 place Ada at row 1, column 1.

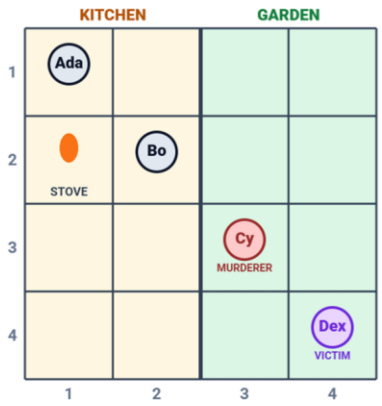
2. Clue 5 fixes Dex at row 4, column 4.

3. Clue 4 puts Cy in column 3. Columns 1, 3 and 4 are taken, so Bo must use column 2.

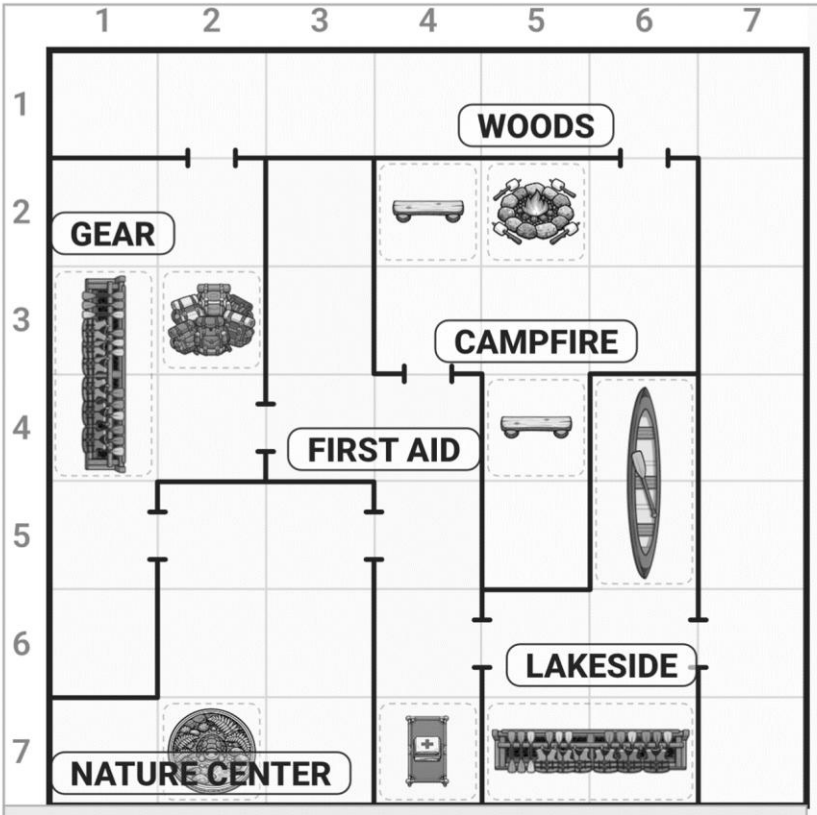
4. By Clue 3, Bo must occupy the only column-2 square beside the Stove: row 2, column 2.

5. Only row 3 remains for Cy, so Cy is at row 3, column 3.

6. By Clue 6, Cy is the only guest sharing the Garden with Dex, so



Cy shared the Garden with Dex, so Cy is the murderer.



EVIDENCE BOARD

CASE FILE

An Unlikely Arrangement



Hildagard

One lamp remained burning at Camp Pinewood, deep in the pines. Beneath it, the report named Hildagard and the scene. Restore every position, then identify Hildagard's single companion as the murderer.

OBJECT LEGEND

CAN OCCUPY	BLOCKED
LOG BENCH	TERRARIUM
CANOE	
COT	



Vivian
She swears she was sitting on a **log bench** the entire time.



Yvette
She and **Serena** shared the same room all evening.



Morris
There was a **terrarium** somewhere in his room, but he did not stand beside it.



Adam
If **Yvette** was in the **Woods**, then **Adam** was in the **Gear Shed**.



Randolph
He was in the **4th column**, beside a **log bench**.



Serena
She was in the **3rd column** and against an **outer wall** of the floor plan.



Hildagard
Two guests were in the room with her at the end. They were in it together.

THE MURDERER IS

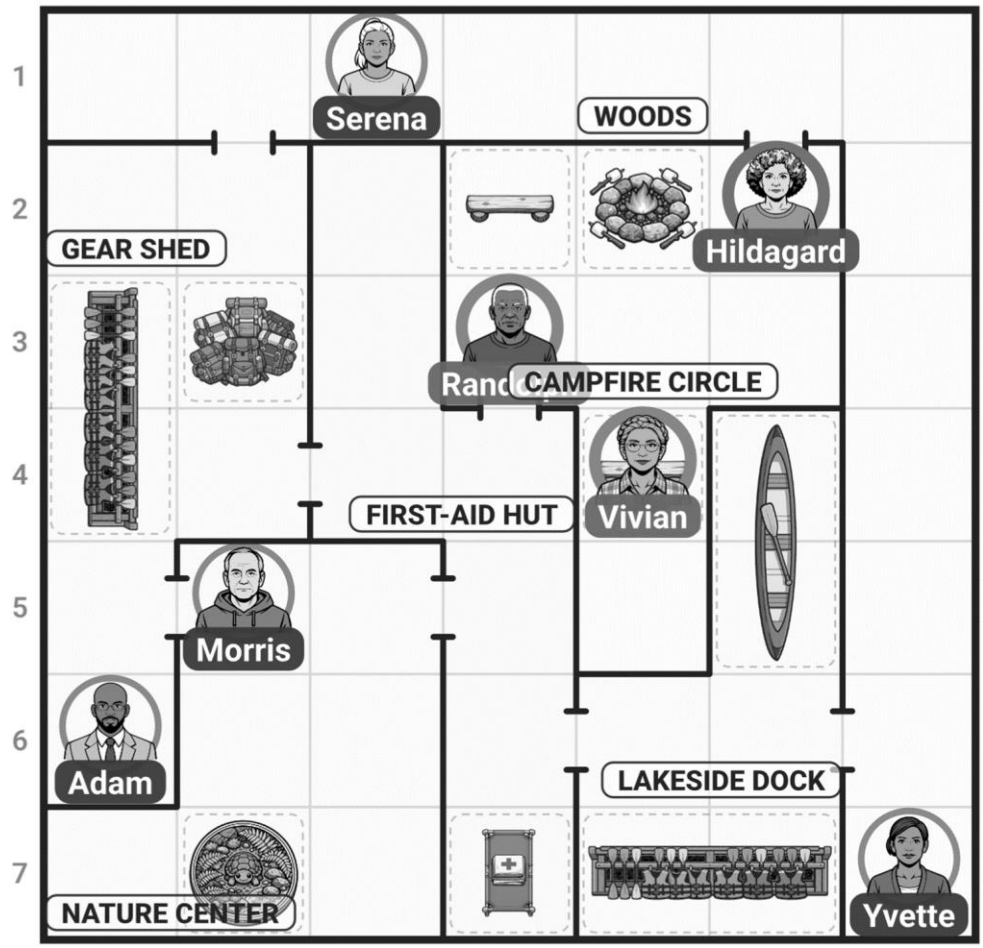
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STOP, DETECTIVE!

The solution is on the next page.

Name your murderer before you turn over. The next page shows where everyone was and who did it.

An Unlikely Arrangement 1 - SOLUTION



Vivian swears she was sitting on a **log bench** the entire time.

Yvette and **Serena** shared the same room all evening.

Morris: There was a **terrarium** somewhere in his room, but he did not stand beside it.

If **Yvette** was in the **Woods**, then **Adam** was in the **Gear Shed**.

Randolph was in the **4th column**, beside a **log bench**.

Serena was in the **3rd column** and against an **outer wall** of the floor plan.

Hildagard
Two guests were in the room with her at the end. They were in it together.

THE MURDERER IS **RANDOLPH & VIVIAN** , together with Hildagard in the Campfire Circle.

Ready for another case?

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