

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A sealed wine bottle was taken from the outdoor patio of Quartermaine's during the overnight window between 02:00 and 06:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Klaus (bartender), Tatum (dishwasher), Esme (host), Kalisa (head chef), Aleksandr (line cook), Dario (sommelier), Cassia (server), Roksana (manager). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the sealed wine bottle?

1. Roksana has only clearance to the restricted archive of the four requirements.
2. Klaus was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
3. Esme has all four requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:00 and 06:00).
4. Tatum's reservation system shows them off-site the entire window.
5. However: Klaus is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
6. Dario lacks clearance to the restricted archive – confirmed by personnel records.
7. Klaus has possession of the specific tool used and clean-room or vault clearance and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
8. Kalisa has clean-room or vault clearance and clearance to the restricted archive and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
9. Cassia clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
- 10 But: however the seal serial registry shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 02:00.
- 11 Kalisa clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
- 12 Esme was officially signed out at 23:00 via the front-desk register.

CASE 02

The sealed wills were taken from the archive stacks of Aldermarsh County Archive during the overnight window between 00:15 and 04:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Octavia (intern), Ravi (clerk), Joren (security officer), Hiroshi (volunteer), Xanthe (researcher), Zara (administrator), Stellan (records administrator), Idris (genealogist). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the sealed wills?

1. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 00:15 and 04:45, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
2. The trace at the scene (a network certificate signed by senior staff) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Ravi.
3. Zara has documented hands-on history with the item and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
4. Stellan lacks documented hands-on history with the item – security audit confirms.
5. However: Zara is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
6. Xanthe has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and documented hands-on history with the item and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
7. Idris clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
8. Zara filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. Ravi has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, documented hands-on history with the item, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:15 and 04:45).
- 10 However: Xanthe is cleared – but archive log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.

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CASE 03

A prototype assembly was taken from the paint booth of Northgate Workshop during the overnight window between 02:00 and 05:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Bram (quality inspector), Anastasia (welder), Eitan (apprentice), Zephyr (shop manager), Maeve (customer service rep), Vera (parts clerk), Dario (painter). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the prototype assembly?

1. The trace at the scene (a network certificate signed by senior staff) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Dario.
2. Zephyr clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
3. However: Zephyr is cleared – but their shop key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
4. But: however the unsecured side stairwell doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
5. Vera lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
6. Dario has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:00 and 05:00).
7. Eitan clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
8. Initial assumption pointed to Zephyr because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
9. Anastasia clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
- 10 Dario was officially signed out at 23:25 via the front-desk register.
- 11 Bram lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
- 12 Maeve lacks after-hours building access – security audit confirms.

CASE 04

A team trophy was taken from the press box of Northgate Athletic Club during the overnight window between 01:00 and 05:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Marisol (referee), Juno (head coach), Oren (equipment manager), Xiomara (athletic trainer), Jacinta (rookie player), Bram (facilities manager), Kiran (star player), Vidal (team captain). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the team trophy?

1. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Vidal.
2. Oren has only after-hours building access of the four requirements.
3. Juno had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
4. Juno has clearance to the restricted archive and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
5. Marisol lacks after-hours building access – security audit confirms.
6. Kiran clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
7. Jacinta was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
8. Initial assumption pointed to Oren because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
9. Jacinta has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and clearance to the restricted archive and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 Vidal their video call ended at 23:25 according to the system.
- 11 However: Kiran is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.

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CASE 05

A customer credit-card list was extracted from the war room of Velocity Networks during the overnight window between 00:45 and 03:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Quentin (CTO), Kenji (product manager), Hiroshi (data scientist), Pavel (contractor), Esme (DevOps lead), Yusuf (security analyst), Kalinda (senior engineer), Dimah (support lead). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who extracted the customer credit-card list?

1. Hiroshi has only a master key issued only to senior staff of the four requirements.
2. The data theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
3. Yusuf was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
4. Pavel claims to have exited the building at 22:05 – the official badge log confirms this.
5. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, administrator credentials, presence between 00:45 and 03:45, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
6. Kalinda had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
7. But: however parking-lot camera records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 2:25.
8. Kenji lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
9. Initial assumption pointed to Yusuf because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
- 10 Dimah lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
- 11 Yusuf has administrator credentials and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
- 12 Esme lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
- 13 However: Kalinda is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.

CASE 06

A medical equipment was taken from the intensive care wing of Pemberton Medical during the overnight window between 01:00 and 05:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Thora (volunteer), Tarek (head nurse), Daphne (technician), Cosima (security officer), Faye (janitor), Akhil (attending physician), Iolanthe (social worker), Isolde (administrator). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the medical equipment?

1. But: however elevator override log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 2:05.
2. However: Isolde is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
3. Four independent requirements: elevated system privileges, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:00 and 05:30, and familiarity with the security routing.
4. Tarek has elevated system privileges and familiarity with the security routing and clean-room or vault clearance – initial suspicion was high.
5. Cosima lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
6. Daphne had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
7. Tarek clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
8. However: Daphne is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
9. Thora lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
- 10 Akhil was officially signed out at 22:50 via the front-desk register.
- 11 Isolde has elevated system privileges and familiarity with the security routing – initial suspicion was high.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

Solve before peeking. Correct suspect and key reasoning steps below.

Case 01 D) Esme

- Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:00 and 06:00, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Klaus appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 F) Ravi

- Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 00:15 and 04:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Xanthe appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 B) Dario

- Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, presence between 02:00 and 05:00, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Zephyr appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 D) Vidal

- Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, after-hours building access, presence between 01:00 and 05:30, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Kiran appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 A) Pavel

- Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, administrator credentials, presence between 00:45 and 03:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Quentin appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 undefined) Akhil

- Four requirements (elevated system privileges, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:00 and 05:30, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- Daphne appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.