

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A signed playbill collection was taken from the sound booth of Pemberton Opera House during the overnight window between 01:15 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Bram (lead actor), Joren (understudy), Noor (stagehand), Daphne (stage manager), Ilya (lighting tech), Xiomara (prop master), Roksana (costume designer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the signed playbill collection?

1. But: however pedestrian-door sensor records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 2:30.
2. However: Xiomara is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
3. Daphne had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
4. Xiomara has documented hands-on history with the item and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
5. Xiomara had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
6. Joren has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and a master key issued only to senior staff and documented hands-on history with the item – initial suspicion was high.
7. Noor lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
8. However: Daphne is cleared – but their prop-room code was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
9. Daphne has a master key issued only to senior staff and documented hands-on history with the item – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 Initial assumption pointed to Bram because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.

CASE 02

A lead actor's costume was taken from the catwalk of Pemberton Opera House during the overnight window between 02:15 and 05:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Elara (lighting tech), Joaquin (stagehand), Nadia (understudy), Diallo (musical director), Fariha (box-office manager), Odell (director), Alessio (costume designer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the lead actor's costume?

1. Odell has all four requirements: elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, familiarity with the security routing, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:15 and 05:30).
2. Nadia has elevated system privileges and documented hands-on history with the item and familiarity with the security routing – initial suspicion was high.
3. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
4. Fariha was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
5. Joaquin lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
6. However: Elara is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
7. However: Fariha is cleared – but their box-office key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
8. But: however the pedestrian-door sensor shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 02:15.
9. Odell was officially signed out at 23:20 via the front-desk register.
- 10 Fariha has elevated system privileges and documented hands-on history with the item – initial suspicion was high.

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CASE 03

The hospital ID badges were taken from the medical records of Northgate Memorial during the overnight window between 00:30 and 03:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Bjorn (security officer), Amelia (janitor), Bao (social worker), Selene (head nurse), Ezra (pharmacist), Phaedra (volunteer), Dimah (technician). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the hospital ID badges?

1. Ezra has familiarity with the security routing and documented hands-on history with the item and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
2. Phaedra has only familiarity with the security routing of the four requirements.
3. Amelia filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
4. The trace at the scene (a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Bjorn.
5. Bjorn was officially signed out at 23:25 via the front-desk register.
6. Selene filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
7. Ezra was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
8. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 00:30 and 03:30, and familiarity with the security routing.
9. Bjorn has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, familiarity with the security routing, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:30 and 03:30).
- 10 However: Selene is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
- 11 Bao lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.

CASE 04

A confidential memo was taken from the document destruction room of Meridian Capital during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Esme (HR director), Bao (IT administrator), Pavel (facilities coordinator), Amari (security officer), Anastasia (legal counsel), Dario (senior engineer), Eleni (intern), Sami (records clerk). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the confidential memo?

1. Amari lacks advanced restoration training – confirmed by personnel records.
2. However: Sami is cleared – but security badge log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
3. However: Esme is cleared – but their VPN access was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
4. However: Dario is cleared – but elevator log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
5. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Pavel.
6. Dario has advanced restoration training and administrator credentials and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
7. Eleni has only administrator credentials of the four requirements.
8. Esme has advanced restoration training and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
9. Sami has administrator credentials and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 But: however the DHCP log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 01:30.

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CASE 05

A birth certificate was taken from the restricted reading room of Helix Heritage Foundation during the overnight window between 01:00 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Aleksandr (records administrator), Juno (conservation specialist), Oren (genealogist), Ilya (security officer), Florian (intern), Theo (head archivist), Wren (administrator), Hiroshi (volunteer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the birth certificate?

1. Aleksandr was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
2. The trace at the scene (a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Florian.
3. Four independent requirements: elevated system privileges, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:00 and 05:45, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
4. The theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
5. Florian was officially signed out at 23:50 via the front-desk register.
6. Hiroshi has elevated system privileges and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and clean-room or vault clearance – initial suspicion was high.
7. Oren lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
8. Hiroshi clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
9. However: Aleksandr is cleared – but their admin code was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
- 10 Wren lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
- 11 Ilya has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.

CASE 06

A Vermeer sketch was taken from the prep workshop of Saint-Clair Museum during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Emiko (docent), Darya (gift shop manager), Kiran (art restorer), Hakim (security guard), Juno (curator), Xanthe (tour guide), Ines (janitor), Arjun (exhibition designer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the Vermeer sketch?

1. Xanthe lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
2. Juno lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
3. Ines has only elevated system privileges of the four requirements.
4. Arjun has elevated system privileges and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and documented hands-on history with the item – initial suspicion was high.
5. Kiran filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
6. Kiran has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and elevated system privileges and documented hands-on history with the item – initial suspicion was high.
7. The theft involved a network certificate signed by senior staff.
8. However: Arjun is cleared – but security camera places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
9. Darya has all four requirements: elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:30 and 05:15).
- 10 But: however DHCP log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:50.
- 11 Emiko had financial pressure – appears to have motive.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 C) Roksana

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:15 and 04:30, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Joren appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 C) Odell

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 02:15 and 05:30, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Elara appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 E) Bjorn

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 00:30 and 03:30, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Amelia appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 F) Pavel

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, administrator credentials, presence between 01:30 and 05:00, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Dario appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 D) Florian

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:00 and 05:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Aleksandr appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 B) Darya

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:30 and 05:15, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Arjun appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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