



MOTIVE FOR MURDER

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Chapter 1: Strangled

Hands are around her neck, slowly pressing the life out of her body. She knows she's going to die. She wants to *scream* but can't. She can't even *breathe*. The world turns black and there's a ringing noise in her ears. The ringing doesn't stop.

Clea *woke up* with a *shock*. She was in her own bed. The clock on the bedside table said 4:26 a.m. Someone was ringing her doorbell. For a moment, she couldn't move. She felt like a swimmer who had nearly *drowned* in deep water. The dream had been so real, death so close. Finally, she *switched on* her bedside light. Her hands went up to her neck as she looked around her bedroom. Everything seemed normal, except for the ringing. Whoever was at her door was still there. Clea had a sudden *rush* of fear. People only rang doorbells or phones so early when it was an *emergency*. Something terrible has happened, she thought as she jumped out of bed. At the door, she picked up the *entry phone*.

"Hello?" she said. She felt like she was still dreaming.

"Clea, it's us," said her mother's voice. She sounded *strange*.

"Mum? Dad?" Clea asked. "What are you doing here?"

"We have to come in," her father said. "Then we'll tell you." Clea *immediately* pressed the *buzzer* and opened the door of her flat. She heard her parents come up the stairs. When they arrived, their faces were *pale*. Her mother *immediately* started to cry. Her father's eyes looked full of pain.

"It's your sister," he said. "She's dead."



At that moment, Clea's mother *collapsed*. Together, Clea and her father helped the *elderly* woman to the sofa.

"It can't be true," said Clea. It was like she'd never *woken up*. It must still be a dream, she thought.

"She was murdered," said her father. His eyes filled with tears. "Our beautiful Tessa was murdered."

! CVIČENÍ 1

Cvičení 1: Umíte vytvořit prostý minulý čas u následujících nepravidelných sloves?

1. ring _____

2. come _____

3. feel _____

4. find _____

5. know _____

6. leave _____

7. make _____

8. stand _____

That night, Tessa had had a visitor. She'd *poured* two gin and tonics. Both glasses were still full when the police *crime scene* investigators arrived forty minutes later. A neighbour had heard *screaming* at midnight and called the *emergency* number. The police found the gin and tonics, made with lemon and ice. They'd also found Tessa, *strangled* to death, lying on the sofa. Within an hour, journalists and photographers had arrived at the house. Tessa McGowan was a well-known news presenter. She read the



big news stories to thousands of television viewers throughout Scotland. Now her own *murder* was the big news.

Later that day, the police called Clea. They wanted to talk to her. She went on the bus to Pitt Street Police Station. The Glasgow streets looked grey and cold. Clea's head felt light, like a balloon. She took out her mobile phone and looked at Tessa's number. They were not only sisters; they were best friends. They talked every day and told each other everything. Now Tessa would never answer her phone again.

Cvičení 2: Pokračujte v četbě a správně doplňte výrazy uvedené v závorce!

(minutes, thank you, feeling, station, everything, officers, desk)

Clea got off the bus. (1.) _____ she did felt slow. It was like moving through *glue*. Inside the police (2.) _____, an officer showed her into a small room. It had a (3.) _____ and three chairs. After a few (4.) _____, he put his head around the door and asked her if she wanted coffee or tea.

“No (5.) _____,” she said. She hadn't eaten or drunk all day, but she wasn't (6.) _____ like it at all. A short while later, two police (7.) _____ came into the room. They both sat down.

“I'm Detective Inspector Shannon Binlow,” said the woman. Then she *switched on* a tape recorder. She said the time and the date.



"I'm sorry about your sister," she said in a *serious* voice.

Clea did not reply.

"Now, Ms McGowan," DI Binlow went on, "what can you tell us about Colin MacDougal?"

"Colin MacDougal?" Clea repeated. "What has he got to do with this?"

"We've *arrested* him for *murder*," DI Binlow said.

Clea looked at her in *shock*. Colin was a married man, but he was having an *affair* with Tessa. It had been going on for more than a year. Clea knew all about Colin. She wasn't happy about the *relationship*, but he wasn't a bad person. In fact, Clea would have liked him if things had been different. Tessa wanted him to leave his wife. He told her he would, but it was taking him a long time to do it.

"Tessa was going to break up with Colin, wasn't she?" the inspector asked.

"Yes, but..." said Tessa. It was true that her sister wanted to end the *relationship*. The day before the *murder*, Tessa had called Clea.

"I can't go on like this any more," she had said. "I'm going to break up with him tonight when I see him."

DI Binlow looked *serious*.

"That night, she told Colin it was over, and he became angry," she said. "Then he killed her."

"No, I don't *believe* it!" Clea *exclaimed*. Later that night, at around 10:30 p.m., Tessa had called her sister again. She told Clea all about Colin's visit. She hadn't broken up with him after all. Instead, he said he would leave his wife soon. Tessa said he was stressed and *upset*, but things were OK between them when he left.

"She called me," Clea told the officers. "She was still alive when Colin went home. He could get angry sometimes, but we all do!"



“He didn’t go home,” said DI Binlow. “He said he drove around in his car for another three hours. He has no alibi. He was the last person to see Tessa alive. *Witnesses* saw him going into the house at 8:30 p.m. The neighbour heard a man shouting at 10:00 p.m. Colin MacDougal has a *motive for murder*.”

“What *motive*?” Clea asked.

“Your sister wanted him to leave his wife. She *threatened* to end the *affair* if he didn’t,” Binlow replied. “This made him angry. And he has a police record for violence.” The inspector told her that Colin was *arrested* in 1985 for fighting outside a pub. One man was *hurt*. “But he must have been about eighteen years old!” said Clea. She just couldn’t *believe* that Colin was a *murderer*.

“Did he ever *hurt* your sister?” the inspector asked.

“No!” she replied. “He loved Tessa.”

“Sometimes people kill the ones they love,” DI Binlow said.

When Clea got back from the station, there was a woman standing outside the door. She was holding a big bunch of flowers. It was Valerie Findlay, who had worked with Tessa at the television studio. She was a reporter.

“I was waiting for you,” Valerie said. “Can I come in?”

Clea opened the door.

“I’m sorry, I’m not really in the *mood* for visitors,” she replied.

“It’s just so terrible!” Valerie *exclaimed*. “I can’t *believe* it’s happened!” She gave the flowers to Clea.

“Thanks,” said Clea, “but I can’t invite you in. I really need to be alone right now.”

“I understand,” said Valerie. “If you need to talk, please come and find me. Tessa was so clever, so beautiful. She was a wonderful person...”

“Sorry,” Clea *interrupted*. “I have to go.”



She went inside and shut the door, leaving Valerie on the step. As she walked up the stairs, she felt bad. The woman was only trying to help. She'd worked closely with Tessa.

"I'll call her later in the week," Clea thought.

Back inside her flat, she realized that she had many telephone messages. She listened to some of them: Martin McCray, who read the news with Tessa, a few old friends, a cousin in Edinburgh. There were even some from the *adult education college* where she worked. She taught art classes there. Some of her colleagues had called. Everyone wanted to say how sorry they were. She put down the phone and went to sit on the sofa. On the bookshelf was a photo of the two sisters. They'd gone on holiday to Florence together five years ago. The photo showed them smiling, with the *gorgeous city* in the *background*.

Cvičení 3: Čtěte dál a podtrhněte správnou variantu u označených slov!

Clea started to feel angry. Someone had (1.) taked/taken Tessa's life away. Was it Colin? The police (2.) needed/needs to make an *arrest* quickly. Tessa was a famous *news anchor*, so (3.) anyone/everyone was interested in the *murder*. It would look good for the police if they *immediately* (4.) found/finded the killer. Clea thought about the last few weeks and about (5.) all things/everything that Tessa had said about Colin.

He wasn't exactly a 'good guy', because he had a wife and a girlfriend at the same time. But Colin as a *murderer* didn't seem right. Suddenly, she *remembered* something. One week ago, the



sisters had met for coffee in a café. Tessa had been happy.

“I’ve found a big news story!” she had *exclaimed*. “I’ve got some explosive information.”

Clea asked for more *details*. Tessa said she’d have to wait and see. “Some people would kill for this information,” she said. “I can’t tell anybody yet. Not even you, Clea!”

Clea jumped up and picked up the phone. She called police headquarters and asked for DI Binlow. When the inspector answered, Clea told her about Tessa’s information. Binlow was not really interested. The police *believed* that Colin MacDougal was *guilty*. That was the end of the story.

“Can I see him?” Clea asked the detective.

“You can apply for *prison* visit papers,” Binlow said. “But it will take some time. I know it’s hard for you to *believe*, but MacDougal killed your sister. Don’t go to see him. It’ll only *upset* you. Perhaps you’d like to contact our *victim counselling* service?”

Clea thanked her and *hung up*. She wanted to hear Colin’s side of the story first. She knew that people in *prison* could get letters. They could send them too. She went to her desk and got some paper and a pen. Then she began to write.

Colin,

I can’t *believe* that you killed Tessa. Please tell me it wasn’t you. We don’t know each other, but I have a lot of *reasons* to hate you. You had an *affair* with my sister. You didn’t care about your own wife. But I think you are *innocent* of the *murder*. I need to know what really happened to Tessa. Please write to me and tell me the truth!

Clea McGowan.



That afternoon, she took the letter to the *prison*. She hoped Colin would write back soon. Then she went to Tessa's house to start packing her sister's things. Her father and mother did not want to go. Her mother had gone to the doctor's for some tablets because she couldn't sleep. When she thought of Tessa's *murder*, she *collapsed*. She couldn't go out or *switch on* the TV. The newspapers and the news always had stories about the *murder*, and Tessa's photo was everywhere. It was hard enough planning the *funeral*, so Clea said she would go to Tessa's. Her parents wanted her to pack Tessa's books and jewellery.

! CVIČENÍ 4

Cvičení 4: Přeložte následující slova a vyluštěte tajenku!

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-------|
| 1. motiv | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 2. podezřelý | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 3. pohřeb | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 4. smrt | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 5. svědek | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 6. hrozit | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 7. tajemství | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 8. aféra | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

Tajenka: _____

The house was in Pollockshields, just outside the city centre. It was a nice, quiet area that had many large houses. Professionals and families lived there. Tessa's house had three bedrooms and a beautiful garden. Inside, the police had finished their *investigation*, and it was as if Tessa had just left. In the bathroom, her face creams and



hairbrush were still there. In the bedroom, her pyjamas were lying on the bed. It seemed that Tessa would come through the door at any minute. Together the sisters would cook spaghetti. They would have some red wine and watch a movie. Everything would be normal.

Clea went to Tessa's desk and *switched on* the computer. Tessa's handbag was lying on the desk too. Clea opened it while the computer started. There was a mobile phone, some make-up, keys and an appointment book. Clea opened the appointment book and turned to the date Tessa had died. It said: 'Colin, 8:30 p.m.' At around 10:30 p.m., Colin had left. The police *believed* that he had come back again. Around midnight, there had been a huge argument. The neighbour had heard Tessa *screaming* and shouting. Clea looked back through the appointments. She saw her own name, the day they met at the café. She kept looking back. Then she saw a *strange* appointment on the 11th. Tessa had written 'M., 11:15 a.m., Starbucks, Buchanan Street.' Next to the information there was a phone number too. The only 'M' Clea could think of was Martin McCray. But why would Tessa meet her colleague at Starbucks? They were together all day anyway. Tessa and Martin went to the television station at 9:00 a.m. in the morning. They worked hard, until 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. Sometimes they would stay even later. So who was 'M'?

Clea turned to the computer. She typed in Tessa's password: George. When they were children, the family had a dog called George. Tessa had really loved him, and always used his name as a password. Clea felt *guilty* about looking at her sister's private papers and emails, but she wanted more information. The police were happy to have Colin *under arrest*, but it didn't feel right to Clea. Now she had to take on the role of detective.

*Cvičení 5: Čtěte dál a opravte chybně napsaná slova!*

She went (1. throu) _____ Tessa's emails. There were some from Martin, and some from an old (2. universitet) _____ friend named Maura, both 'M' names. Clea found Maura's number in the (3. apojntment) _____ book and called her. Maura said she hadn't had a meeting (4. witch) _____ Tessa on the 11th. She'd seen the news about the *murder* and was very (5. schoked) _____. Clea told her the *funeral* was in (6. to) _____ days' time.

After they said goodbye, she went back to the emails. Suddenly she noticed some from Bonnie MacDougal, Colin's wife. It was *strange* that she was writing to Tessa. Clea opened one of the emails. It seemed that Bonnie knew all about the *affair*. Clea was *shocked* to read that Bonnie had *threatened* to come to Tessa's house and *smash* all the windows. In another email, she wrote, "I'm watching you. I know where you live." Clea *wondered* if the police had seen the messages. She thought of calling DI Binlow again. Had the police seen the *threatening* emails? Had they talked to Bonnie?

What if she killed Tessa? she thought.

There was still the question of the mysterious 'M'. Feeling *confused* and powerless, Clea walked around the house. She picked up some photos and books. Every time she picked something up she wanted



to cry. Packing Tessa's things was too hard. It would have to wait until another day. Tessa's *funeral* hadn't even happened yet and it seemed wrong to be putting things in boxes. Just then, Clea's mobile phone rang. The number didn't look familiar. It was Martin McCray, Tessa's colleague. He started to ask how Clea was feeling, but then began to cry. Clea was *surprised*. Martin was so cool and *calm* when he read the news. He asked Clea if she wanted to meet for coffee. She said she would meet him in a few days, then she told him about 'M'.

"Did you have an appointment with Tessa on the 11th?" she asked him.

"No," Martin replied. "And I don't know who 'M' is. Tessa never said anything about it."

"Did she tell you about her secret information?"

"She told me she had a huge news story," Martin said. "She was going to *research* it and *break the story* at prime time."

"Prime time?" Clea asked.

"That's the time when most people watch TV," Martin told her. "It's about eight o'clock in the evening."

"Did she tell you what the story was about?"

"She said it was totally secret," Martin said. "She wouldn't even tell me! A big, important story is good for the career. I think she hoped to get her own *current affairs show*."

"I need to know what it was," said Clea. "She said people would kill for this information, and now she's dead. She wrote a phone number down next to the name 'M', and I think I'm going to call this person."

"You should go to the police," Martin said.

"The police won't listen to me. They think her boyfriend is *guilty*, but I don't," she said. "There's something *strange* going on here and I want to find out what it is. I want to know who 'M' is."