Entry Task

*Crime and Puzzlement*
(Book 1, p. 22)
By
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Amy LaTour’s body was found in her bedroom last night, as shown, with her pet canary strangled in its cage. Hery Willy and Joe Wonty, her boyfriends; Louis Spanker, a burglar, known to have been in the vicinity; and Celeste, her maid, were questioned by the police.

Based on the evidence found at the scene, who killed Amy?
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The Seattle canoe race for possession of the famous Seattle cup had started out as a sports even between the four summer camps in the area, but as time went on and the event was publicized, Big Money crept in, in the form of professional gamblers. As a result, after the present race the even was discontinued.

When Jeff came to visit one of his godsons at Camp Hava Goode Thyme, Jeff was asked to be a judge. He consented, but the next day, swept up by the excitement, he bet $25 on Danny Paddle, the odds-on favorite. Jeff, realizing too late that this made him guilty of a conflict of interest, disqualified himself as a judge.

Under the Seattle Cup rules, the four best canoeists took part, one from each camp. Their four paddles festooned with the insignia of each of the camps were kept in a row of closets, to which no one had access except the four participants. After they’d picked up their paddles each was to run to the beach and then, gripping his paddle, swim to his canoe, climb in and race to the finish line.
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Eli P. Harvard was found dead inside his ski lodge, which is shown. A revolver was clutched in his hand and a bullet from it had entered his head at close range, killing him instantly.

Detective Boggle, trying to decide whether Eli had committed suicide or been murdered, learned that Eli had spent the night with Sally Sweet, his girlfriend, had phoned three of his friends the next morning to tell them that she’d promised to leave the house during the morning while he went skiing. Early that afternoon all three friends, worried and unable to reach him by phone, called the police, who arrived and immediately roped off all footprints and other marks they had found in the snow.

It had snowed for an hour or so that morning, and consequently the tracks that you see were made on the day of the tragedy. The footprints other than those fenced off were made by the police themselves, who entered the lodge through the back door, which is not shown.

If you were Boggle what conclusions would you draw?
On an otherwise uneventful Thursday, police heard a shot in Ernie’s lunchroom, rushed inside, and found the following scene.

They identified the body as that of Five-Fingered Fannin, a racketeer, Ernie, who had no helper, had only one fact to tell: The murderer had leaned against the wall while firing at point blank range. The imprint of his hand is in clear view.

From these facts and an examination of the scene, can you answer the questions and tell who killed Fannin?
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Romano Rubitch was undoubtedly the most hated man in Edicott County, and his life was often threatened, even by children. Consequently, when his boat was found drifting in Dead Man’s Cove without him, there was the equivalent of dancing in the streets. The widows and orphans whose life savings he’d invested and lost, the friends he’d double crossed, the tradesmen he’d cheated were of one mind: good riddance to bad Romano. And whether he’d drowned accidentally or been knocked off by a public benefactor, or had finally repaid his debt to the community by committing suicide was immaterial to most people. But the sheriff of Endicott County had a sworn duty to investigate/

All he knew was that Romano had left his house on the morning of May 17th and had not returned for dinner, and that the next day his boat had been found exactly as you see it.

What conclusions can you draw?