

The Lighthouse Inn Murder

The First 4 Chapters Free: Read the Story and
Solve 4 Large Print Word Searches, with Solutions



M Y S T E R Y



FunWords

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How to play



Read each chapter, then solve the word search on the facing page. Every word in it comes from the chapter you have just read. Words run across from left to right, down from top to bottom, or diagonally, always reading from left to right; no word is ever written backwards. Circle each word you find and tick it off the list. Spaces in a name are left out in the grid.



Every puzzle also hides a clue. Once you have circled every word, read the letters you did not use from the top-left corner, row by row: the first ones spell a short clue about the case. The line under each word list says how many letters and words to look for; the letters after the clue are only filler.



Keep track of suspects and clues on the case-notes page, and name the killer before you read the final chapters. All solutions are at the back of the book.

A	N	M	O	P	I	F	B	E
R	Q	O	Y	T	R	X	R	Y
A	M	O	M	S	S	L	K	F
C	S	T	N	N	T	E	I	N
H	I	Y	K	Q	M	E	V	C
O	T	C	E	N	N	N	R	T
I	O	C	P	A	T	L	Z	Y
E	A	E	U	N	T	Q	M	E
E	H	R	E	D	R	O	T	P

Who's Who at the Inn

One stormy weekend in October, these people are cut off together on Gull Island.

Margaret "Maggie" Quill

Retired librarian from Portland who notices small things

Eleanor Pike

Owner of the Lighthouse Inn, famous for her blueberry scones

Tom Pike

Eleanor's son, the inn's handyman and ferry skipper

Victor Haldane

Wealthy property developer with big plans for the island

Rupert Vane

Victor's polished business manager from Boston

Dr. Celia Moss

Cheerful botanist writing a field guide to coastal plants

Lily Harper

Young guest who says she is on vacation

Sheriff Dan Brody

Fair, patient county sheriff and a friend of Maggie's

Biscuit

The inn's nosy ginger cat, fond of boots and wastebaskets

Your Case Notes

Jot down who had a reason, the means and the chance, and every clue you uncover.

Suspect	Motive	Means	Chance
Eleanor Pike			
Tom Pike			
Rupert Vane			
Dr. Celia Moss			
Lily Harper			

Clues so far

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My Puzzle Tracker

Check off a box each time you finish a puzzle.

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---



Margaret Quill, whom everyone called Maggie, stood at the rail of the little ferry and held on to her hat. The boat was called the Puffin, and it smelled of diesel, salt and coffee. Behind her, the village of Gull Harbor grew small against the dark pines of the Maine coast.

"Wind's picking up," said Tom Pike from the wheelhouse. He was a big, quiet man of thirty-four with hands like shovels, and he spoke the way he steered, with as little fuss as possible. "Radio says a real storm by Saturday night. Maybe the worst of the year. We might be cut off till Sunday."

"Then I shall be cut off with scones and a good fire," said Maggie. "I can think of worse fates."

She was seventy-two, a retired librarian from Portland, and she did not frighten easily. She did the newspaper crossword in ink every morning, she knitted every evening, and she noticed small things. In her handbag she carried her knitting, a pencil, a small notebook and the brass travel clock that had belonged to her late husband, Arthur.

Gull Island rose out of the sea ahead of them, a hump of gray granite fringed with sand and dark spruce. At its highest point stood the old lighthouse, white with a red cap, and beside it the Lighthouse Inn, a white clapboard house with a wide porch. A covered walkway, the breezeway, joined the side of the inn to the foot of the lighthouse.

"You're the first guest of the weekend," said Tom. "Four more on the late boat. A botanist, a young lady on vacation, and two men from Boston." His face closed a little, like a door. "Businessmen."

Maggie noticed the way he said it. She tucked the thought away, the way she tucked a loose end into her knitting, to be dealt with later.

Puzzle 1**Ferry to Gull Island**☐ Botanist☐ Breezeway☐ Crossword☐ Diesel☐ Granite☐ Harbor☐ Knitting☐ Lighthouse☐ Notebook☐ Puffin☐ Scones☐ Spruce☐ Travel Clock☐ Wheelhouse

Case clue: the first 19 unused letters, read row by row, spell 7 words.



Eleanor Pike met them on the dock with a basket of warm blueberry scones and flour on her cheek. She was sixty-four, small, round and quick, and she hugged Maggie as if she were family, which, after eleven Octobers, she more or less was.

Inside, nothing had changed, and that was exactly what Maggie loved. The library still had its great stone fireplace, its faded wing chairs and its shelf of puzzle books. The dining room smelled of beeswax and woodsmoke, and the kitchen still had the old gas stove that Eleanor would not part with for any money.

In the back hall, by the side door to the breezeway, stood a rubber boot tray and a tall brass umbrella stand shaped like an elephant's foot. "I wipe that tray every night at half past nine, rain or shine," said Eleanor, "or I'd have half the island walked into my hall."

A ginger cat strolled out from behind the umbrella stand and inspected Maggie's shoes. "Biscuit," said Maggie. "You've grown."

"He's grown wider," said Eleanor. "He sleeps in boots, he steals from wastebaskets, and he thinks every guest has come to see him."

Maggie's room was the first at the top of the stairs, with a little writing desk by the window. Eleanor's own rooms were downstairs, behind the kitchen, and Tom slept in the old keeper's room at the foot of the lighthouse, across the breezeway.

"Mind the seventh stair," Eleanor said as they climbed. Maggie stepped over it neatly. It had creaked since 1890, and no carpenter in Maine had ever silenced it.

"It talks," said Eleanor. "Going up, it groans low and then high. Coming down, it's high and then low. I can lie in my bed and tell you who is coming and going."

Puzzle 2**The Lighthouse Inn**

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Beeswax | ☐ Dock | ☐ Keeper |
| ☐ Biscuit | ☐ Eleanor | ☐ Seventh Stair |
| ☐ Blueberry | ☐ Elephant | ☐ Woodsmoke |
| ☐ Boot Tray | ☐ Fireplace | ☐ Writing Desk |
| ☐ Carpenter | ☐ Gas Stove | |

Case clue: the first 25 unused letters, read row by row, spell 5 words.



The late boat came in at four, bouncing hard. Maggie, watching from the porch with her knitting, sorted the four passengers at once, the way she used to sort returned books.

First came a tall man of about sixty with silver hair and a long navy overcoat. He carried a fat leather briefcase as if it held the crown jewels, and he looked up at the lighthouse the way a hungry man looks at a pie. "Victor Haldane," whispered Eleanor beside her. "Of Haldane Properties."

Behind him hurried a smooth, slim man of about forty-five in a long camel coat, juggling two suitcases and a phone. His black dress shoes shone like wet paint, and he picked his way up the dock as though the whole island were a puddle. "Rupert Vane," said Eleanor. "His business manager."

The third was a sturdy, cheerful woman with cropped gray hair, a canvas satchel and green rubber boots. She stopped halfway up the path to kneel beside a clump of weeds and say "Oh, how lovely!" to it. "Dr. Celia Moss," said Eleanor. "She's writing a field guide to coastal plants."

The last was a young woman of about twenty-seven with a dark ponytail, white canvas sneakers and a camera around her neck. She took a picture of the lighthouse, then, quite quickly, a picture of Victor Haldane's back. "Lily Harper," said Eleanor. "On vacation, she says."

Victor shook Eleanor's hand, said "We must talk, Mrs. Pike," and went inside without wiping his feet. Rupert nodded politely to Maggie. "Dreadful crossing," he said. "I won't set foot on that boat again until I must."

Lily came last and paused on the step. "Is it always this windy?"

"Only when something interesting is about to happen," said Maggie. Lily laughed, but her eyes went straight back to the door Victor had just walked through.

Puzzle 3

The Other Guests



B	F	S	O	U	R	G	U	T	E	S	T	S	O	N
R	T	H	A	S	N	E	A	K	E	R	S	E	E	C
I	L	A	T	T	E	O	B	O	A	T	L	E	O	A
E	S	N	I	S	C	K	E	S	C	D	O	O	F	M
F	T	R	C	R	U	H	N	P	D	I	A	P	I	E
C	X	E	E	H	J	H	E	U	S	L	T	C	E	L
A	E	V	W	H	A	S	P	L	T	G	S	V	L	C
S	O	E	P	R	O	P	E	R	T	I	E	S	D	O
E	S	F	W	N	A	C	R	O	S	S	I	N	G	A
C	A	R	U	B	B	E	R	B	O	O	T	S	U	T
A	A	V	E	A	D	B	B	E	T	R	A	X	I	L
M	S	U	I	T	C	A	S	E	S	A	R	E	D	R
E	C	M	M	N	D	C	U	Y	L	D	W	N	E	L
R	D	R	E	S	S	S	H	O	E	S	E	I	Z	I
A	R	L	I	E	E	P	O	N	Y	T	A	I	L	N

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ Briefcase | ☐ Field Guide | ☐ Rubber Boots |
| ☐ Camel Coat | ☐ Overcoat | ☐ Satchel |
| ☐ Camera | ☐ Ponytail | ☐ Sneakers |
| ☐ Crossing | ☐ Properties | ☐ Suitcases |
| ☐ Dress Shoes | ☐ Puddle | |

Case clue: the first 23 unused letters, read row by row, spell 6 words.



At half past four Eleanor carried tea and scones into the library, where the newcomers sat around the fire. "Tea, Mr. Haldane?"

"Not yours, thank you." Victor smiled, the kind of smile that cost him nothing. "I drink only my own tea, and only at night. Chamomile, one cup at eleven o'clock, every night for thirty years. Rupert, show them."

Rupert went upstairs and came back with a small silver tin, engraved and polished, about the size of a deck of cards. Victor opened the lid. Inside lay pale, dry flowers like tiny daisies, smelling of apples and hay. "The finest chamomile in New England," he said. "I keep it locked in my briefcase, and the briefcase stays on the desk in my room. I don't trust other people's tea."

"Locked?" said Lily lightly. "Is it so valuable?"

"Everything I own is valuable, young lady." Victor patted the pocket of his tweed jacket, which jingled. "There are two keys to that case. Mine lives on my key ring, and Rupert has the only other one. Nobody else touches my tea."

Rupert smiled thinly. "Every night at eleven I am promoted to tea butler. I fetch the tin, Mr. Haldane watches it brew, and I lock it away again. It's in my contract, under miscellaneous."

Everyone laughed except Tom, who was stacking logs by the hearth.

"You watch it brew?" said Maggie.

"Every spoonful. One spoon, level, not heaped. I stand at the cook's elbow and I watch." Victor handed the tin back to Rupert, who carried it upstairs again. They all heard the seventh stair groan under his neat black shoes.

Eleanor set down the teapot. "Thirty years," murmured Maggie. "Every single night."

"Then he is a man of habit," said Eleanor quietly. "And men of habit are very easy to predict."

Puzzle 4

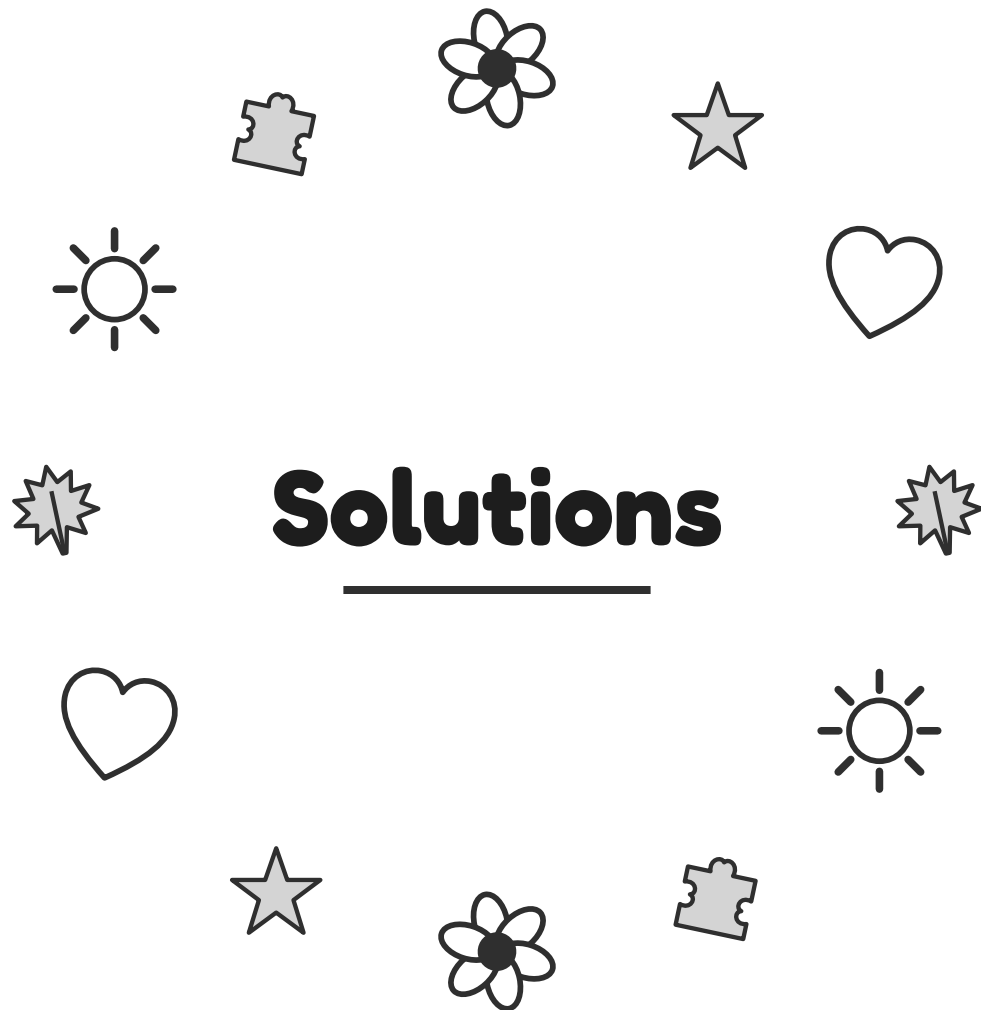
A Cup of Chamomile



O	N	B	R	I	E	F	C	A	S	E	L	C	Y	T
B	N	W	O	K	E	Y	S	T	E	A	P	O	T	O
U	C	E	P	E	N	T	T	W	E	E	D	N	H	H
T	E	H	W	C	A	S	E	U	I	T	L	T	N	A
L	B	A	A	E	O	T	G	D	N	T	T	R	S	B
E	O	P	A	M	N	E	R	A	A	R	S	A	R	I
R	E	P	H	X	O	G	Y	I	I	I	O	C	N	T
M	E	L	S	H	F	M	L	O	O	W	S	T	I	I
K	A	E	I	T	S	A	I	A	B	T	J	I	Y	E
G	E	S	K	H	C	E	T	L	N	Y	D	N	E	I
R	T	Y	I	E	T	E	A	E	E	D	Q	R	R	S
E	N	G	R	L	E	E	A	H	E	A	R	T	H	B
A	J	X	P	I	V	H	A	T	T	E	I	D	K	J
U	I	C	E	R	N	E	A	G	N	H	R	H	J	D
D	R	U	A	E	N	G	R	A	V	E	D	R	U	A

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ☐ Apples | ☐ Daisies | ☐ New England |
| ☐ Briefcase | ☐ Engraved | ☐ Silver |
| ☐ Butler | ☐ Habit | ☐ Teapot |
| ☐ Chamomile | ☐ Hearth | ☐ Tweed |
| ☐ Contract | ☐ Key Ring | |

Case clue: the first 22 unused letters, read row by row, spell 6 words.



1. Ferry to Gull Island

A B G R A N I T E I G S T O R
W H E E L H O U S E M I S O N
K N I T T I N G H A R B O R T
H C B E T W A Y W R E E B A I
I R R L R O M H N A S M L L I
N O E U A A Q Z C P R E N I E
T S E W V T T L D W N P R G T
A S Z U E F T B I S S B K H P
E W E D L N O T E B O O K T U
F O W U C R E S S R S T A H F
I R A Q L I C P E C A A W O F
I D Y E O A K R L D O N D U I
I L B T C M U U S E C I D S N
T S O E K R S C O N E S D E D
T N F H T O I E L F O T I V O

Case clue: A BIG STORM IS ON THE WAY

2. The Lighthouse Inn

T H S E V E N T H S T A I R F
E S E V E W O O D S M O K E I
B I S C U I T N T B H S T E R
P A B L W W A Y S L T G A L E
K S E D R T E Q N U A A I C P
L R E E I D Q C A E Y S K T L
N S S L T O E L Q B R S E O A
T E W E I C A R P E N T E R C
N Z A P N K E O I R E O P I E
S H X H G X T R E R K V E P E
O I O A D T G U G Y C E R O T
D I U N E B O O T T R A Y H E
Z O V T S R A N Q S L F N H V
S I R L K D K D N T H T S F U
N G K K T R E L E A N O R L T

Case clue: THE SEVENTH
STEP ALWAYS TALKS

3. The Other Guests

B F S O U R G U T E S T S O N
R T H A S N E A K E R S E E C
I L A T T E O B O A T L E O A
E S N I S C K E S C D O O F M
F T R C R U H N P D I A P I E
C X E E H J H E U S L T C E L
A E V W H A S P L T G S V L C
S O E P R O P E R T I E S D O
E S F W N A C R O S S I N G A
C A R U B B E R B O O T S U T
A A V E A D B B E T R A X I L
M S U I T C A S E S A R E D R
E C M M N D C U Y L D W N E L
R D R E S S S H O E S E I Z I
A R L I E E P O N Y T A I L N

Case clue: FOUR GUESTS ON THE LATE BOAT

4. A Cup of Chamomile

O N B R I E F C A S E L C Y T
B N W O K E Y S T E A P O T O
U C E P E N T T W E E D N H H
T E H W C A S E U I T L T N A
L B A A E O T G D N T T R S B
E O P A M N E R A A R S A R I
R E P H X O G Y I I I O C N T
M E L S H F M L O O W S T I I
K A E I T S A I A B T J I Y E
G E S K H C E T L N Y D N E I
R T Y I E T E A E E D Q R R S
E N G R L E E A H E A R T H B
A J X P I V H A T T E I D K J
U I C E R N E A G N H R H J D
D R U A E N G R A V E D R U A

Case clue: ONLY TWO KEYS OPEN THE CASE

Thank you for puzzling with us!

You have just played 4 puzzles from “The Lighthouse Inn Murder”. The full book has 36, in the same clear print and with all solutions.

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