



## Waves of Suspense

"I'm certain it was an accident, Constable Quinn," Alec told the officer from the local police. "My wife must have slipped and fallen."

"Hm. Maybe. Still, I'm sure you understand that we have to investigate all the possibilities."

"Yes, of course, Constable. I know that. Let's **get on with it.**"

Alec's eyes were red and he now looked much older than his 64 years. He had a glass of whisky in front of him, but wasn't drinking it. Alec, Jordan, Trent and Phoebe were all sitting in Alec's **study**. Constable Gregory Quinn and Inspector Malcolm Burrows from the Ventnor police station were questioning them. Maura's body had been **recovered** several hours ago. Now the police were trying to find out how – and why – she had died.

**suspense**

**to get on with it**

**study**

**to recover**



Spannung

schnell weitermachen

Arbeitszimmer

hier: bergen

"So, who was the last person who saw her alive?" asked Burrows.

"I suppose that was me," answered Alec. "I went to her room around eleven last night to, um, say goodnight. She seemed fine." Jordan looked at Alec strangely. He had heard his father and Maura arguing.

Phoebe saw the way Jordan was looking at Alec and she wondered what it meant. She would have to find out later, though, because Quinn was continuing with his questions.

**Exercise 11: The definite article.** Lesen Sie weiter und ergänzen Sie mit dem bestimmten Artikel „the“, wo nötig!

“And none of you saw her leave 1. \_\_\_\_\_ house?”  
 “No, all of us left 2. \_\_\_\_\_ home very early  
 in 3. \_\_\_\_\_ morning for 4. \_\_\_\_\_ work in  
 Yarmouth. Maura always sleeps, I mean slept late.  
 We thought she was still in 5. \_\_\_\_\_ bed,” Trent  
 answered 6. \_\_\_\_\_ question for all of them.

“And Maura was a drinker. Last night, she had a few too many.”  
 “Trent! There’s no need to tell the constables that.” Alec was angry.  
 “And you shouldn’t **speak ill of** the dead.”  
 “Calm down, Mr Bainbridge. We’ve already heard about your  
 wife’s, um, problem. And if she was, well, not quite **sober**, then  
 she really could have fallen **accidentally**.”  
 Burrows was about to continue his questioning, when the front  
 doorbell rang. A few seconds later, Zoe Allan ran into the study.  
 “Alec, I’m so sorry. I came as soon as I heard. Can I...”  
 She stopped speaking when she  
 saw the police officers.  
 “Oh, I didn’t realize the police  
 were here. I’ll come another time.”  
 “That won’t be necessary, Ms  
 Allan,” Inspector Burrows replied.  
 “Please take a seat. I understand you were also here last evening,  
 so I will have some questions for you, too.”

<b>to speak ill of sb.</b>	schlecht über jmd. reden
<b>sober</b>	nüchtern
<b>accidentally</b>	versehentlich

Zoe sat down in an armchair beneath the window that overlooked the drive. Inspector Burrows started to ask his next question. But he was interrupted again, this time by another constable coming into the room. He had a plastic **evidence** bag in his hand. Inside it was a light pink piece of paper.

“Inspector Burrows, have a look at this. We’ve just found this letter in Mrs Bainbridge’s room. I think it’s important.”

Burrows took the paper and read it quickly to himself.

“Well, this **sheds a different light on** your wife’s death, Mr Bainbridge. You didn’t tell us that she was planning to **divorce** you. And you,” Burrows was now pointing at Trent, “what exactly was going on between you and your stepmother?”

Alec and Trent both started talking at once. Burrows stood up and told them to be quiet.

<b>evidence</b>	Beweis(e)
<b>to shed a different light on</b>	in einem anderen Licht zeigen
<b>to divorce</b>	sich scheiden lassen
<b>state</b>	Zustand
<b>suicide note</b>	Abschiedsbrief (bei Selbstmord)
<b>to perspire</b>	schwitzen
<b>embarrassment</b>	Verlegenheit

“Let’s do this one at a time, gentlemen. Mr Bainbridge senior, what was the true **state** of your marriage?”

“But Inspector, what does the letter say? Is it a **suicide note**?”

“Maybe, maybe not. Now answer my question, sir!”

Alec took a deep breath. He was starting to **perspire** heavily. “Our marriage was in trouble. But we were working on it.”

“Well, it says here, ‘My marriage to Alec is over. I don’t know what to do. If I leave him, he will pay for his affair with Zoe Allan. But right now, he doesn’t have any money.’”

Zoe’s face was red with **embarrassment** when Burrows finished reading Maura’s words. Jordan was staring at her in shock. But the others were looking at Alec.



to gasp



keuchen,  
nach Luft  
schnappen

outraged

empört

to sigh

seufzen

"It seems you had a good motive for helping your wife over the cliff, sir. A divorce could have cost you everything."

"I loved my wife, Inspector. I have nothing else to say."

Alec's shoulders started shaking and a tear ran down his face.

"Fine. You can answer the rest of my questions later. I'll also need to speak with you, Ms Allan. But first, Trent Bainbridge, were you having an affair with your stepmother?"

Burrows' question made everyone in the room **gasp** in surprise.

"Certainly not! That is absurd." Trent tried to sound **outraged**. But he just looked scared. "Maura and I were close, of course. But there was nothing like that between us. I swear it."

"Well, explain this then," Inspector Burrows demanded, reading from the letter again. "The situation with Trent is impossible – and dangerous. I must tell Alec. But the news will hurt him badly."

"I have no idea why she wrote that. Maura was an alcoholic. Who knows what crazy fantasies were going through her head."

"Trent, how could you?" Jordan shouted at his brother and jumped up from his chair.

Phoebe stood up quickly and put her hand on Jordan's shoulder. Her investigator's brain was churning with thoughts. But her voice remained calm as she spoke.

"Jordan, please sit back down and let Inspector <sup>i</sup> Burrows do his job." Inspector Burrows gave everyone in the room a hard look. He decided not to read the last sentence of Maura's note out loud. It said 'Maybe I should just end it all.' That could mean that Maura Bainbridge had killed herself. He looked at his watch and **sighed**. This

Titel und Berufsbezeichnungen wie **Inspector** werden im Englischen nur groß geschrieben, wenn es sich um eine direkte Anrede handelt oder sie als Teil eines Namens verwendet werden, z. B. Inspector Burrows.



investigation was not going to be simple.

"It's late. I will have more questions for all of you tomorrow after the autopsy is finished. Maybe it will help us learn if Mrs Bainbridge's death was accidental, suicide or," he stopped for a second, "murder."

The way he said the last word made it clear that Inspector Burrows **suspected foul play**.

to suspect



vermuten

foul play

hier: ein Verbrechen

sight

Anblick; Sicht

### Exercise 12: Past tenses. Lesen Sie weiter und setzen Sie die Verben in die richtige Zeitform!

That's what Phoebe 1. think \_\_\_\_\_,

too. But she 2. not believe \_\_\_\_\_

Maura 3. kill \_\_\_\_\_ because of a possible divorce or affair. No one 4. notice \_\_\_\_\_

Phoebe's surprise at the **sight** of Maura's letter. Phoebe

5. see \_\_\_\_\_ that kind of pink paper before. It 6. look \_\_\_\_\_ exactly

like the stationery used by the writer of the anonymous tip about the smugglers!

Maybe Maura had known something and written to the Border Agency. And maybe someone had killed her to keep her from talk-



ing! And that someone was most likely a member of the Bainbridge family. It could even be Jordan!

Inspector Burrows and Constable Quinn were about to leave.

Burrows told everyone he would come back to Bainbridge Manor the next day around 11:00 a.m. He expected to find all of them waiting for him. Phoebe thought quickly. She had to find a way to speak to them alone and let them know that she was working undercover for the Border Force.

"Excuse me, I'll be right back. I need the, um, ladies room."

It was the best excuse she could think of. Phoebe left the room and tried not to look as if she were in a hurry. She caught up with the officers just as they were going out of the front door.

"Inspector, Constable, there's something important I need to tell you," Phoebe whispered.

She didn't want to take the chance that the others could **overhear** her.

"What is it, Ms Calloway?" Inspector Burrows asked.

He seemed impatient and in a hurry to be on his way. He and Quinn didn't stop but kept moving out of the door and down the front steps.

Phoebe followed them to their car.


"Inspector, can we talk somewhere else? I have information..."

"Phoebe? What are you doing here?" Jordan had come out and was standing right behind her. "I thought you..."

"Yes, Jordan, I know. I was just asking the officers if I really have to be here tomorrow. I had planned to do something else."

"But Ms Calloway, you said..."

Phoebe interrupted Inspector Burrows. "I've **changed my mind**, Inspector. Of course I'll be here."



<b>to overhear</b>	zufällig (mit)hören
<b>to change one's mind</b>	sich etw. anders überlegen
<b>suspicious</b>	verdächtig

Phoebe gave him a very meaningful look and hoped that he understood.

He did. "Well, actually, Ms Calloway, I don't have that many more questions for you. We could take care of them by phone. Here, take my card. You can call me in the morning."

**Exercise 13: Synonyms.** Welche Begriffe haben dieselbe Bedeutung wie die phrasal verbs? Ordnen Sie zu!

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> to find out     | a) to return   |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> to keep from    | b) to discover |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> to come back to | c) to do       |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> to take care of | d) to prevent  |

The Inspector wished Phoebe and Jordan a good evening. He and Constable Quinn went down the front steps and got in their police car. As soon as the car started down the drive, they began going over the facts in the case.

"Quinn, what do you think?"

"Well, Inspector, Maura Bainbridge's death looks **suspicious** to me. But what was all that with Ms Calloway?"

Inspector Burrows took out his mobile. "Oh, I think we won't have to wait long to find out. I expect Ms Calloway will call us the first chance she gets. Whatever it is she has to say, she certainly didn't want Jordan Bainbridge to hear it!"

Phoebe and Jordan watched the police car drive away. Then Jordan turned slowly towards Phoebe and looked at her curiously. She

seemed nervous and was acting strangely. That business with the police officers just didn't **add up**.

"Phoebe, is everything okay?" he asked her and tried to take her hand.

She wouldn't let him, though.

"I'm just upset, Jordan. Maura's death has shaken me. I think I need a few minutes by myself. If it's okay, I'll go up to my room."

"But Phoebe, I don't know if it's such a good idea for you to be alone right now. It's been a horrible day, for you, for all of us."

"Yes it has, Jordan. That's why I really do need to have a quiet moment or two. I won't be long. Then I'll come back downstairs. I think tonight, I could really use that brandy."



to add up

*hier:* Sinn  
machen

to rush

eilen

ajar

angelehnt