



Dead Shot

The Prince Albert **Memorial** Clock Tower bell rang the half hour just as Cai reached Tomb Street. She had decided not to take a taxi. It was only a 15-minute walk from City Hall at Donegall Square to "Buckley's", and the night air helped **steady** her nerves and clear her head. Cai was certain now that she was doing the right thing. A light rain started falling just as she was about to cross the street to the



memorial
to steady
to backfire
downpour

Gedenkstätte
beruhigen
fehlzünden
Platzregen

pub. But a loud noise made her stop. It had sounded like a motor **backfiring**, but there weren't any cars or lorries around. Then Cai heard the sound two more times. Her eyes opened wide in shock. Those were gunshots and they were coming from inside the pub! Cai was scared to death and didn't know what to do. That's when she panicked and began running back the way she had just come. Her high-heeled shoes slipped on the now wet pavement and she almost fell, but she caught her balance and started running again. The light rain quickly turned into a heavy **downpour**. Her heels clicked louder and louder. Cai's only thought was to get as far away from the pub as possible. She didn't see a tall man step out of the shadow of the Royal Mail building at the end of the street. The soles of his heavy boots squeaked on the pavement as he began to follow her. But Cai could only hear the sound of the rain, her shoes and her heartbeat as she turned the corner back onto Albert Square.

Exercise 4: Past tense verbs. Lesen Sie weiter und setzen Sie die korrekte Verbform ein!

Abigail's eyes 1. turn _____ automatically towards the dark-haired woman running around the corner. The poor girl's been caught in the rain without an umbrella, she 2. think _____. Then she 3. see _____ a man also walking in the same direction. Abigail 4. be _____ glad to be nice and dry in her old red mini. She 5. start _____ looking for a place to park the car. Oh, good. There 6. be _____ a free spot directly across the street from the pub. That was lucky! Two of Belfast's most popular nightclubs 7. be _____ in Tomb Street and parking 8. be _____ often a big problem.

Before getting out of the car, Abigail looked over at "Buckley's". That was strange. There were no lights on inside. Her eyes moved to the front door and that's when she saw the "closed" sign hanging at an angle. Abigail **caught her breath**.

The sign's position meant "I'm in trouble and need help." In all their years of working together, Brian

to catch one's
breath



den Atem
anhalten

had never used this signal. Abigail thought quickly. Should she call for a team of police officers to come immediately? Or should she first check and see if something was really wrong? After all, Brian was getting older. Maybe he had just been a bit careless.

Abigail decided to investigate the situation first. She quickly got out of the car and went across the street to the pub's entrance. First she put her face to the small window in the door and tried to look inside. But it was too dark to see anything. She listened carefully, but there were no sounds coming from the pub. Then she tried the door. It was unlocked and Abigail pushed it open. She put her head through the door and called out Brian's name. There was no answer.

Abigail then felt around on the wall next to the door for the light switch. When her fingers found it, she turned on the lights.

What she saw made her raise a hand to her mouth to stop herself

from screaming. There was a pool of blood on the floor right in front of her feet. What looked like a very dead Chinese man was lying right in the middle of it. Abigail knew immediately that there was no point checking to see if the man was still alive. There was just too much blood. But perhaps out of habit she bent down and pressed two fingers to his neck anyway. The body was still warm, but she couldn't feel a pulse. All she could do for the dead man now was try and find out who had killed him – and why.

Automatically, she reached for her phone and made three calls. The first was to police **headquarters** to report the crime and ask for **back-up**. The second one was to Inspector Shane Cooper. He wasn't working tonight, but he **was on call**. Abigail needed his help and experience. Cooper was the third member of the PSNI who knew about Buckles. He didn't answer the phone, though. She wondered where he was and then placed her third call, this one to Bowles.

headquarters
back-up
to be on call



hier: Präsidium
Verstärkung
Bereitschafts-
dienst haben

Exercise 5: True or false? Markieren Sie mit richtig ✓ oder falsch – !

1. Abigail had problems finding a parking place. 
2. Brian had often used the sign to ask for help. 
3. Abigail knew straight away that the Chinese man was dead. 
4. Abigail was surprised that Cooper didn't answer his phone. 

After Superintendent Collins had left the reception, Bowles was very busy. He moved around the Great Hall and tried to listen to the conversations between the locals and the visiting Chinese. He was hoping to hear or see something that could give the police a **clue** about the selling – and buying – of business secrets in Belfast. So far, he hadn't found out anything useful. But there was Tamsin O'Reilly again. She was still talking to the same Chinese man, but she didn't look as pretty as before. Her face was very red and she seemed angry. Her voice was getting louder. Bowles decided to get a bit closer and just managed **to catch** a few words.

"This is not the right place, Mr Wu. You will get the **goods** tomorrow. I promise."

clue

 **to catch sth.**

goods pl



Hinweis

hier: etw. verstehen

Ware(n), Beute

Bowles wondered what she meant by "goods". It sounded a little bit **suspicious**. He tried to hear more. The Chinese man, Mr Wu, was saying something about a "woman causing problems".

Unfortunately, just then Bowles' phone started ringing. It was really bad timing. Tamsin O'Reilly heard it, looked around and noticed Bowles standing nearby. She quickly started saying something about the rainy weather.

"Damned mobile phones," Bowles **cursed**.

Then he looked at the screen to see who was calling. It was Superintendent Collins.

"Bowles, I need you to stop what you're doing and come to 'Buckley's' in Tomb Street right away."

"But, Superintendent, I'm..."

She didn't let him finish his sentence.

"I don't have time to explain everything now, Bowles. I've got a dead man here on the floor. And Brian Buckley is missing. For some reason, Cooper isn't answering his phone. So would you please try and reach him? I need you both here."

"Right. I'm on my way."

But Abigail didn't hear him. She had already hung up. So many questions were going through her head. Where was Brian? What was he involved in? And most importantly, was he safe?

Brian was lucky to be alive. The stranger had shot him in the left hand during the fight for the gun. The wound didn't hurt that much, but it was still bleeding. But that was nothing compared to the Chinese stranger's wounds. Brian was pretty sure his attacker was dead. He hadn't meant to kill him, but after Brian had got his other hand on the gun, the man had attacked again. That's when Brian had pulled the trigger in **self-defence**. The bullet had gone right through the man's heart.

suspicious

to curse

self-defence



verdächtig

fluchen

hier: Notwehr

Brian had then followed his instincts. And he was still following them. He put the end of his shirt on his bleeding hand and started walking faster. He was on his way to the Lagan **Weir** Lookout. With luck, he would find Cai there waiting for him. It was their agreed back-up meeting place, just in case anything ever went wrong. And tonight, things had gone wrong, really wrong. Brian was worried that Cai was in great danger. His eyes searched for any sign of her. His brain, though, was filled with pictures of what had just happened.

Exercise 6: Correct the mistakes. Lesen Sie weiter und korrigieren Sie die sechs Fehler im folgenden Absatz!

After he had shot the chinese man, Brian has turned off the lights in the pub and run inside. She'd been just in time to saw Cai run around the corner. And he had seen anybody following her.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Brian had wanted to go after them, but then a car had come around the corner. Abigail! That thought had made him nervous. So he'd hid behind a rubbish bin next door to the pub. He hadn't wanted Abigail

to see him. He just wasn't sure if he could **trust** her. After all, the Chinese man had known that Brian was a **spy**. That meant someone with the PSNI or the Security Service had **blown his cover**. It could even be Abigail. So Brian had waited until she was inside the pub, then he'd started off after Cai. He was almost at the river now. There was still no sign of her. But he could hear something, a **faint** click, click, click coming from somewhere nearby. Brian recognized the sound of high-heeled shoes hitting the pavement. Please let it be her, he thought and began walking even faster towards the noise.

Cai was still running. But her feet were killing her and she was getting tired. She slowed down a little and took a look around her. She was near the docks on the Lagan River where the boat trips for tourists started. But at this time of night, there weren't any tourists about. Cai had run this way instinctively. It was near her back-up meeting place with Brian. But would he come? What if he couldn't come? What if he were hurt, or even worse?

Those thoughts made Cai even more afraid. She didn't feel like waiting around in the rain and the dark. Maybe she should try and call Brian? She took out her elegant mobile phone. It had been a present from her father. He hadn't been able to give it to her **in person**. Instead, he had sent it with

an expensive special delivery service from Hefei. That's where Cai had grown up and where her father still lived and worked.

Those thoughts reminded Cai of why she had started spying on her company all those months ago. But if things work out, she told herself, my father won't have to go back there. This was a happier thought and it gave Cai courage. She **punched in** Brian's number at the pub.



weir	Wehr, Stauanlage
to trust	(ver)trauen
spy	Spion
to blow sb.'s cover	jmd. enttarnen
faint	schwach
in person	persönlich
to punch in	hier: eintippen