

# Lesson 3

## "Murder in a Country House"

### *Murder in a country house*

June 22nd 1958 was Jeremy Travers' sixtieth birthday. He had dinner at his country house with his wife, Amanda, his daughter, Barbara, his business partner, Gordon, and his secretary, Claudia. Next morning when Amanda Travers went to her husband's bedroom she found him in bed...dead.



*Jeremy*



*Amanda*



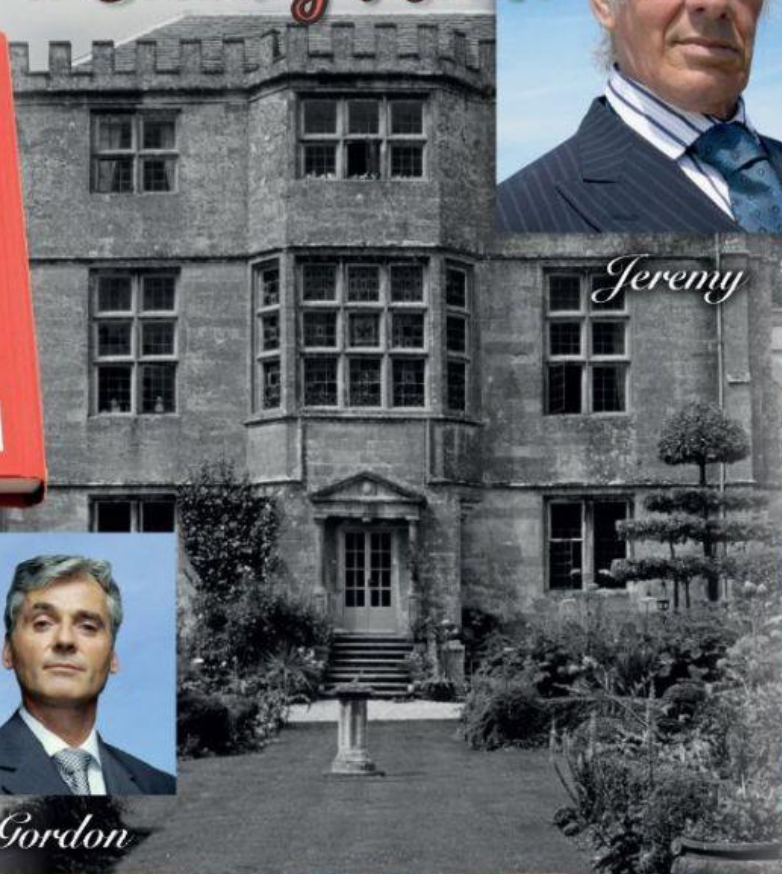
*Claudia*



*Gordon*



*Barbara*



Inspector Granger arrived at about 9.00. He <sup>1</sup>was a tall man with a big black moustache. Amanda, Barbara, Claudia, and Gordon <sup>2</sup>were in the living room. The inspector <sup>3</sup>came in.

'Mr Travers died between midnight last night and seven o'clock this morning,' he <sup>4</sup>said. 'Somebody in this room killed him.' He looked at them one by one, but nobody <sup>5</sup>spoke.

'Mrs Travers, I want to talk to you first. Come into the library with me, please.'

Amanda Travers followed the inspector into the library and they <sup>6</sup>sat down.

'What did your husband do after dinner last night?'

'When we finished dinner Jeremy said he was tired and he <sup>7</sup>went to bed.'

'Did you go to bed then?'

'No, I didn't. I went for a walk in the garden.'

'What time did you go to bed?'

'About quarter to twelve.'

'Was your husband asleep?'

'I don't know, inspector. We...we <sup>8</sup>slept in separate rooms. But I <sup>9</sup>saw that his door was closed.'

'Did you hear anything when you were in your room?'

'Yes, I <sup>10</sup>heard Jeremy's bedroom door. It opened. I <sup>11</sup>thought it was Jeremy. Then it closed again. I <sup>12</sup>read in bed for half an hour and then I went to sleep.'

'What time did you get up this morning?'

'I <sup>13</sup>got up at about 7.15. I <sup>14</sup>had breakfast and at 8.00 I <sup>15</sup>took my husband a cup of tea.'

I <sup>16</sup>found him in bed. He was...dead.'

'Tell me, Mrs Travers, did you love your husband?'

'Jeremy is...was a difficult man.'

'But did you love him, Mrs Travers?'

'No, inspector. I hated him.'