

# INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT



Subject "M. Dewey" was observed staggering to the second floor center display and collapsing at the Mount Prospect Public Library at approximately 12:25PM on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024. EMTs arrived at 12:37PM and found the subject unresponsive. The subject was transported to Enduro Health Commuters Hospital where he remains in a coma. Medical staff concluded that the subject's condition was the result of an undetermined poison. The Mount Prospect Police Department is treating the incident as an attempted homicide.

Interviews have established that the subject had an extremely consistent routine at noon every workday: watering the giant plant near the Mystery collection; going in front

of the Teen Space to scavenge for loose change; purchasing Flaming Hot Cheetos in the vending area and eating them with a yogurt acquired from the break room refrigerator while drinking his coffee; visiting the New Mystery section and ensuring that the same particular title was on prominent display, generally leafing through it first to check for signs of use; and stopping by the 3-D printer to "customize" whatever job was printing.

In light of this information, investigators have concluded that there are five possible locations where the poisoning could have happened:

1. Giant plant
2. Teen Space
3. Vending area
4. New Mystery books
5. 3-D printer

And they have also determined five possible methods of poisoning:

1. Poisoned coffee
2. Poisoned yogurt
3. Timed capsule emitting a lethal gas
4. Toxic leaf spores
5. Contact poison on page edges of book

Based on **motive**, **means** and **opportunity** there are five prime suspects in this case, all librarians supervised by Dewey:

1. Brad Bracula
2. Helena Scorpio
3. "Casey"
4. Paige Shelfinheimer
5. Ashley Cardin-Booker

Medical and police resources have moved on to more urgent matters, leaving this case unsolved. It is hoped that an independent investigation might be able to uncover the solution.

### **Can you solve the mystery??**

You'll need to determine WHERE, HOW and by WHO Dewey was poisoned!

Follow the **leads** below to search the Library's second floor for 5-character-long **codes**. You may have to look closely or solve puzzles to get those codes! Enter the codes you find in the Whodunit webpage at [www.mpppl.org/whodunit](http://www.mpppl.org/whodunit) to get **clues** that will let you eliminate possibilities. If you've investigated well, you'll be left with the right answers.

Once you think you know how it happened, come to the Fiction/AV/Teen Desk to fill out a Solution Slip. If you've solved it correctly, you'll get a prize!


# LEADS



*this might be important*

1. What's behind the glass dedicated to several Zielinskis? Don't look for a book, but search near the bookshelf with the Detective Varg titles.
2. You may get blue if you want to watch *Spirited Away* in a higher-resolution format than DVD, but don't worry - we have a place you can go for that.
3. Where a bishop and a knight/Can simulate a fight/On a square of black and white/With Harold's sign in sight
4. The P.I. Spenser's author also wrote tales of the old American frontier. Look for where his rhapsody is shelved.
5. Wait, a whole section of audiobooks you don't need a CD player for? Don't stop to play, lead the way there!
6. Hanging on our wall with art you can take home is Gary's photo of 1871's surviving building. Our catalog calls it Chicago #121, and you should take a close look.
7. Look where the books by the *Carolina Moon* author's deathly alter ego are kept.
8. Behind the self-checkout, in the place you can learn about future programs you may find a mystery.
9. While standing at an "A-lettered elevator," keep an eye out for an image of something sharp and a little edgy. Your next clue may be highlighted there.
10. Seek the shelf where you can find Charles O. telling the life story of Poirot's creator.
- 11.- 15. Surely mpppl.org can help! Maybe "Books, Movies and More" can Recommend a List or Suggestion to tip off a detective who reads Dewey's Picks carefully. (Watch out: there may be more than one code found here.)

# PERSON OF INTEREST FORM

REPORT INFORMATION			
TODAY'S DATE 9/25/24	DATE OF INCIDENT 9/24/24	TIME OF INCIDENT 12:25 PM	CASE TYPE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CRIME <input type="checkbox"/> TRAFFIC COLLISION <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> PROPERTY REPORT
CASE NUMBER 003-125557485			
PERSON OF INTEREST DETAILS			
LAST NAME Cardin-Booker		FIRST NAME Ashley	
ADDRESS 125 W Wille St		CITY Mount Prospect	STATE IL
ZIP 60056			
DATE OF BIRTH 10/10/1992	AGE 32	DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER B452-2385-8491	
DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS/BEHAVIORAL OBSERVATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Very cheerful demeanor - too cheerful under the circumstances.</li><li>-Has a seemingly infinite amount of home-baked cookies with her at all times.</li><li>-Obsessive fixation on pet gerbil.</li><li>-Aggressive tendencies when pet gerbil is involved.</li><li>-Access to dangerous chemicals due to husband's profession.</li></ul>			
INDIVIDUAL STATEMENT			
<p>Please describe your whereabouts on the date and time of the incident, and briefly state your relationship with the victim.</p> <p>"Oh my goodness, how could this have happened? Not everyone will agree, but I think he's fantastic! Of course, we don't always see eye to eye - he did deny my request for an extended personal leave when I needed to care for my pet gerbil. She has Dementia you know - sometimes completely forgets what she's doing. The other day Dolly climbed out of her cage and went into my husband's home lab - he's a chemical engineer and he works with very dangerous things. You'd think she was trying to hurt herself! I had to hold tight to her for hours and hours after that. I would do anything for her. ANYTHING. I guess whoever takes over for Dewey will probably let me stay home with her more often. By the way, would you like a cookie?"</p>			
DEPARTMENT USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE			
The cookies are genuinely delicious.			

# PERSON OF INTEREST FORM

## REPORT INFORMATION

TODAY'S DATE 9/25/24	DATE OF INCIDENT 9/24/24	TIME OF INCIDENT 12:25 PM	CASE TYPE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CRIME <input type="checkbox"/> TRAFFIC COLLISION <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> PROPERTY REPORT
CASE NUMBER 003-125557485			

## PERSON OF INTEREST DETAILS

LAST NAME Bracula	FIRST NAME Brad		
ADDRESS 5800 N Ravenswood Ave	CITY Chicago	STATE IL	ZIP 60660
DATE OF BIRTH Unknown	AGE "29"	DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER N/A	

### DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS/BEHAVIORAL OBSERVATIONS

- True age is unknown, but strives to present as youthful
- Seems to have intimate historical knowledge - offers many anecdotes from past events as if he's been there.
- Stares uncomfortably at your neck during conversation.
- Penchant for counting things and laughing inappropriately.
- Overtly friendly and charming, has a hypnotizing gaze.



## INDIVIDUAL STATEMENT


Please describe your whereabouts on the date and time of the incident, and briefly state your relationship with the victim.

"Ghastly what happened to Dewey. One, hahaha, moment he was up and the next, down. Fortunately no blood was spilled. Not that I would have been bothered by it. And Dewey really does have very lovely blood, no cap. It would have been a terrible waste, for reals. Dewey has special assignments for me whenever we work together - last time he asked me to inventory the pages of our books - "to make sure none were missing," he said. He made me count the pages out loud. I do not know why he found that so amusing, but it took months of work! At least with him out of commission I know I will have an easier time during my shifts. Common Brad W."


## DEPARTMENT USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE

Background check indicates subject worked his way through library school in the mid-1990s with a night job as a pharmacist's assistant for several years, giving him direct knowledge of dangerous dosages of over-the-counter substances.


# PERSON OF INTEREST FORM

REPORT INFORMATION			
TODAY'S DATE 9/25/24	DATE OF INCIDENT 9/24/24	TIME OF INCIDENT 12:25 PM	CASE TYPE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CRIME <input type="checkbox"/> TRAFFIC COLLISION <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> PROPERTY REPORT
CASE NUMBER 003-125557485			
PERSON OF INTEREST DETAILS			
LAST NAME Casey?		FIRST NAME Unknown, AKA "Kay See"	
ADDRESS Unavailable		CITY	STATE    ZIP
DATE OF BIRTH Unknown	AGE ??	DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER not on file	
DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS/BEHAVIORAL OBSERVATIONS <p>-Unclear history within the library - no one remembers how they were hired or if there was a job opening at the time. Just appeared in the office following COVID lockdown.</p> <p>-Suspicious lack of identifying information - no records beyond existing status as library staff.</p> <p>-Casey may be first name or last name. May also be initials.</p>			
INDIVIDUAL STATEMENT			
Please describe your whereabouts on the date and time of the incident, and briefly state your relationship with the victim. <i>Subject interview notes lost</i>			
DEPARTMENT USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE			
Comments from staff interviews: "Real quiet, keeps to themselves." "Nice enough I guess, but I get worried about all those plants in their workspace. I looked them up and they're stuff like 'hemlock' and 'deathwort' and 'forever pollen'. I don't think they're safe." "Yeah, good folks, real hard worker at...something." "Dewey swore he never hired them. He emailed HR and they wouldn't tell him anything. He was pretty miffed." "I heard that one of maintenance guys got sick from cleaning around those plants." "KC never disagrees with any of my ideas." "Everyone knows Dewey has it out of them. He parks in their parking space every day, just out of spite. And it's a worse spot!"			

# PERSON OF INTEREST FORM

REPORT INFORMATION			
TODAY'S DATE 9/25/24	DATE OF INCIDENT 9/24/24	TIME OF INCIDENT 12:25 PM	CASE TYPE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CRIME <input type="checkbox"/> TRAFFIC COLLISION <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> PROPERTY REPORT
CASE NUMBER 003-125557485			
PERSON OF INTEREST DETAILS			
LAST NAME Scorpio		FIRST NAME Helena	
ADDRESS 123 N. Westwood Ave		CITY Mount Prospect	STATE IL    ZIP 60056
DATE OF BIRTH 4/20/1964	AGE 60	DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER S542-5015-6522	
DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS/BEHAVIORAL OBSERVATIONS  -Extremely arrogant/bordering narcissistic/ often self-aggrandizing. -Does not react to intimidation tactics or stressful situations. -Indifference toward authority. -Lacks empathy and shows a disinterest in anything other than personal advancement.			
INDIVIDUAL STATEMENT			
<small>Please describe your whereabouts on the date and time of the incident, and briefly state your relationship with the victim.</small>  "What a shame. They didn't even get the job done right. Clearly the dosage wasn't accurate - why bother doing anything if you're going to fail? Of course, back in my day, you'd get executed for less. The job was done or you didn't come home. Clearly I'm still here, which is why it made no sense that Dewey was hired for the position in the first place. I was clearly the superior choice, yes? I imagine that promotion will finally be mine now. This is plainly the work of a clumsy amateur, but one wonders if they realize the service they've done me."			
DEPARTMENT USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE			
Background check reveals a long period unaccounted for during the 1980s and 1990s when the subject traveled heavily throughout various locations worldwide with no visible means of support. Travel locations often correspond with the mysterious deaths of prominent political figures by poisoning. Career in libraries commences in 2004.			

# PERSON OF INTEREST FORM

REPORT INFORMATION			
TODAY'S DATE 9/25/24	DATE OF INCIDENT 9/24/24	TIME OF INCIDENT 12:25 PM	CASE TYPE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CRIME <input type="checkbox"/> TRAFFIC COLLISION <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> PROPERTY REPORT
CASE NUMBER 003-125557485			
PERSON OF INTEREST DETAILS			
LAST NAME Shelfinheimer		FIRST NAME Paige	
ADDRESS 187 E Ville Dr		CITY Des Plaines	STATE IL    ZIP 60016
DATE OF BIRTH 5/22/1997	AGE 27	DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER S142-5582-6421	
DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS/BEHAVIORAL OBSERVATIONS -Obsessed with murder-themed podcasts and nonfiction books. -"Snake mom" to nest of venomous cobras. -Standoffish and egocentric. -Overtly interested in the case but unconcerned about Dewey's well-being - asked many probing questions regarding the investigation.			
INDIVIDUAL STATEMENT			
Please describe your whereabouts on the date and time of the incident, and briefly state your relationship with the victim.			
<p>"I was working in the back when it happened. Dewey was about to come by the New Mystery area to check on his stupid novel he made the Library buy - he likes to visit it daily. This one's a real head-scratcher, right? So different from my fave podcast, <u>Murder at the Museum</u> - the head curator is killed by one of his staff but they're all so obvious and dumb about their motives. Pretty sure nobody here would snuff Dewey. Me? Okay, he stole my yogurt out of the break room fridge every day. EVERY. DAY. Who even does that?!? But no normal person would ever get homicidal over something like that. Hey, I'll let you know when I solve this for you."</p>			
DEPARTMENT USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE			
Scrutiny of recent browser search history found "how dispose leftover cobra venom no forensics"			