



## Welcome to Hidden Games Crime Scene – Case No. 2 – The Midnight Crown

Dear Private Detectives,

On the next pages you will find the texts for the audio files of the case. Please only read the corresponding texts when they appear or become relevant in the game.

There are two calls from Jason Mahoney: the first one is directly at the beginning of the game. Please read the text before you do anything else. After 50 minutes, Detective Mahoney would call you a second time. Please set a timer and read the relevant text after 50 minutes.

Please read the finale only at the very end, when you have solved the case and successfully answered the four mission questions.

We wish you much fun and success in your investigations.

Many greetings

Your Hidden Games Team

### The audio files:

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|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <a href="#">First call from Jason Mahoney</a>  | 2. <a href="#">Great Falls Today in 150 seconds</a> |
| 3. <a href="#">Press conference</a>               | 4. <a href="#">Voicemail</a>                        |
| 5. <a href="#">Second call from Jason Mahoney</a> | 6. <a href="#">Interrogation of Frank Rippon</a>    |
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## First call from Jason Mahoney

| Voice         | Text                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Jason Mahoney | <p>Hello, this is Inspector Jason Mahoney from the New Haven police department. Please put me on speaker so that everyone can listen in.</p> <p>Hello everybody. You might remember me. I am a policeman at the local department, and right now I'm investigating a tricky case that was handed over to us by Great Falls. It's all about a stolen crown, of inestimable value. Since you did such a great job helping us out with the last investigation and I'm just not making any headway, I thought I might contact you about this case too.</p> <p>We've already done some work at New Haven police of course; I'm sending you an envelope with all the information I have that might be relevant to the case. You can use it as the basis for your investigation. One more thing - please make sure you leave this phone turned on and keep the ringer turned on as well. I'll call you back after I leave my office. Good luck.</p> |

## Great Falls Today in 150 seconds

| Voice      | Text                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| Newsreader | Hello, ladies and gentlemen, today is Friday, February 21st, and this is Great Falls Today.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|            | <i>Short news jingle - Theft</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Newsreader | February 21st: Last evening, the famous Midnight Crown was stolen from the Museum of Art and Culture during the museum night event. The crown was on exhibit for a several-week engagement, and was located in the back of the museum. Since there was a reading going on that evening in the museum foyer with famous author “Sandra Swarin,” guests’ attention was directed towards that area. So far, according to eyewitnesses who viewed the crown, the police have determined that it must have been stolen between 1 and 3 AM. So far, the police have not found any other clues on the free-standing glass display case where the crown was located. A piece of pyrite was left behind in place of the crown, and it was quickly noted that this was not real gold. The pyrite is known as fool’s gold, for its ability to trick the unlucky finder. The meaning of this pyrite is yet unclear. |
| Newsreader | The crown was supposed to be leaving the museum the next day by normal channels. As a family heirloom of the Havemayer family, it was supposed to have been worn at the wedding between the family's youngest daughter Helena and her future, significantly less-wealthy husband Victor Garfield. Celebrity watchers report that the wedding has been canceled on short notice due to the incident. The police are investigating.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|            | <i>Short news jingle - Lottery</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Newsreader | The lottery jackpot is now at a record high of 36.5 million USD before Wednesday's weekly drawing.<br>The winning numbers are: 2 4 5 8 11 19. The super number is 1.<br>As always, this information is subject to correction.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|            | <i>Short news jingle – Weather</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Newsreader | Low pressure system “Erica” is slowly moving over Great Falls and the surrounding counties, bringing heavy rain and storms to the area. Temperatures will once again be falling significantly to between 37 and 46 F. Erica will be moving out of the area in mid-week, and sunny days will be returning. |
|            | <i>Credits – News jingle starts at the end</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Newsreader | This has been “Great Falls Today.” Have a great day, everyone!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

## Press conference

| Voice         | Text                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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|               | <i>Press conference – multiple voices can be heard, some speaking at the same time. Everything sounds slightly chaotic</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Female voice  | How could this have happened? I guess the security guard was asleep.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Female voice  | This is really embarrassing for a museum like this one.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Female voice  | How valuable was it anyway? And what about the wedding?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Men's voice   | They are never finding that crown again. The thieves are probably long gone.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Men's voice   | This is a case for a real professional. The crown is lost.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|               | <i>Start of press conference</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Female voice  | Mr. Jason Mahoney from the New Haven police force, who is heading up the case, will now take your questions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Jason Mahoney | Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much that so many of you have joined us today. As you all know, yesterday evening the Midnight Crown was stolen from the Museum of Art and Culture in Great Falls during the museum night event. Based on our initial findings, it appears the perpetrators removed the crown from the rear exhibition hall, where it was located in a freestanding glass display case. According to witness statements, we currently believe that the theft took place between 1 and 3 AM. It is not possible to narrow down the time any more than that at the moment, since we do not have access to surveillance footage for the Museum of Art and Culture. We request that all visitors who were in the museum during the time in question that evening and who may have any relevant information contact our police department. |
| Jason Mahoney | I am now available to take questions from the audience.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Jason Mahoney | Yes, the woman all the way in the back please.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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| Female voice   | Why don't you have any surveillance footage?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Jason Mahoney  | According to the security company responsible for surveillance, there was a technical defect on that evening causing most of the recordings to be lost. We are currently attempting to restore at least some of the material. However, it is unclear whether we will be successful. |
| Jason Mahoney  | The woman in the fourth row, second from the right please.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Female voice   | Do you believe the technical defect was a coincidence, or that it may have had something to do with the theft?                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Jason Mahoney  | We are not making any speculations. We do not currently know whether the technical defect and the theft are related. However, we are still investigating the issue. (1) The man here in the front with the grey hair and the blazer please.                                         |
| Cecil Schubert | Yes, um, hello, my name is Cecil Schubert. Some of you here might know me. I am a supporter of the arts and an art collector. As a representative of the "Great Falls Collectors' Society," I was wondering whether the police have any information on where the crown is now.      |
| Jason Mahoney  | No, Mr. Schubert, as I said we don't know anything yet about the crown's whereabouts.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Cecil Schubert | But ... Um ... Aaah ... Do you think it's still close by here in the area?                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Jason Mahoney  | Unfortunately, we cannot make any statements at this time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Jason Mahoney  | Yes, Ms. Lamb from the Great Falls Tribune please.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Leona Lamb     | The crown was supposed to be worn tomorrow evening during Helena Havemeyer and Victor Garfield's wedding. Sources say the wedding has been canceled due to the incident. Do you have any more information?                                                                          |
| Jason Mahoney  | Yes, the crown was owned by the Havemeyer family and was supposed to be worn by Helena Havemeyer, as the family tradition has been for many years. The wedding has been canceled. However, this is not relevant to the case at this time.                                           |

# HIDDEN GAMES

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| Jason Mahoney | Thank you all for coming today. Please excuse this brief press conference, but right now we need all the resources we can muster to investigate the disappearance of the Midnight Crown. We ask for your understanding. Good day, everyone. |
| Female voice  | Thank you very much for taking part in the press conference. Please make sure you don't leave anything behind in the hall.                                                                                                                  |

## Voicemail

| Voice           | Text                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Automated voice | You have one new message.<br>First message. Received: Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2020                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Edgar           | Hey bro. This is Edgar. Want to go to the bar later? I just have to go turn in my lottery ticket real quick. I have a good feeling about this one. It's gonna be a winner. Same numbers as always. After all, those are the only numbers I can remember!! I use 1 for the super number. You know I only have 1 favorite brother! It's you. So ... Call me. Later. |

## Second call from Jason Mahoney

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| Jason Mahoney | <p>Yes? Hello? It's Jason Mahoney again. Please put me on speaker again so that everyone can listen in.</p> <p>Listen, we don't have a lot of time. Please listen carefully. I am out on the beat right now, and I need your help. It looks like Frank Rippon is on the lam. We're trying to find him right now so that we can interrogate him. Witnesses saw him get into a bus at the Napierville station. We checked his credit card data, and we know what tickets he bought. Unfortunately, we don't know where he went with them.</p> <p>Maybe you've checked out our internal schedule planning tool on the police server. I'm sure you've seen the page already. If not, you can find the URL in my letter to you. The tool is active now. Please use the password "Tracking" and dial in. OK? The password is "Tracking." After you've logged in, you can check out the most important information there. Use the tool to tell me where Frank Rippon is hiding, then I'll go right there and try to detain him. So, what are you waiting for?</p> |
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## Interrogation of Frank Rippon

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| Jason Mahoney | <p>Log of the interrogation of Mr. Frank Rippon. Inspector Jason Mahoney and Mr. Frank Rippon are present.</p> <p>Mr. Rippon, you are suspected of stealing the Midnight Crown from the Museum of Art and Culture.</p>                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Frank Rippon  | <p>It's not true! I didn't steal the crown!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Jason Mahoney | <p>Mr. Rippon, we found a map on the hotel computer in your room showing the way from your hotel to the museum. We also found an order overview there from an online shop for a glass cutter. You also tried to escape when we apprehended you at Northgate station. Admit it! You're just making things harder on yourself!</p>                                                                 |
| Frank Rippon  | <p>I didn't steal the crown!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Jason Mahoney | <p>Mr. Rippon, I've had enough of you! Talk, dammit! If you confess now, I promise that I will do everything in my power to get your sentence reduced. But you have to say something, Mr. Rippon!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Frank Rippon  | <p>Okay, I admit that I WANTED to steal it. I went to the Museum of Art and Culture during the museum night event, and I was planning to steal the crown, but when I got there it was already gone! It was just gone! I got out of there right away and went straight to Great Falls. Someone must have gotten there first. I swear it – I didn't steal the crown!!! You have to believe me!</p> |
| Jason Mahoney | <p>Am I understanding you correctly? You wanted to steal the crown, but when you got to the museum somebody else had already stolen it?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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| Frank Rippon  | Yes, that's it! I swear! Please – You have to believe me!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Jason Mahoney | When did you go to the Museum of Art and Culture?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Frank Rippon  | It must have been around 1:20 AM. Yeah, that's around when I left the hotel.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Jason Mahoney | Can anyone confirm that?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Frank Rippon  | I have no idea whether anyone can confirm that! I didn't talk to anyone ... Wait... Yes, there was someone. On the way to the Museum of Art and Culture, I met this one journalist in the rear courtyard. I just read an article recently, there was a big photo of him printed in it. And what was his name? Wait a second ... Wait a second ... I've almost got it ... Ohlsen. Yeah, that was it! John Ohlsen! |
| Jason Mahoney | OK. Alright, let's say I believe you, and you really did want to steal the crown, but someone got there before you did. Did you want to steal the crown for yourself, or were you working for someone else?                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Frank Rippon  | Not for me, what would I do with a crown like that? I was supposed to steal it for a client. And before you ask me his name, I don't know him. I don't know anything about him. He was going to tell me who he was when I told him I had stolen the crown, once I had gone into hiding and didn't have the police on my heels. I never met him. We only communicated via WhatsApp.                               |
| Jason Mahoney | You communicated with him via WhatsApp? On your cell phone?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Frank Rippon  | Yes, I did. He always had a different number, and he sent them to me in all kinds of different ways. Like I said, we agreed I would contact him, give him a secret code, and we would agree to a handoff location once I had stolen the Midnight Crown. But I didn't steal it! The crown really was gone already when I got to the museum.                                                                       |

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| Jason Mahoney | That's very interesting, isn't it? What was the last number you used to communicate with the client? Can you even be certain he's a man?                                                                                                                |
| Frank Rippon  | Hmm, good question. Somehow, I just assumed it was a guy. But no, I can't be certain of it. Hang on, I wrote down his number. It's: +1 212-346-9583                                                                                                     |
| Jason Mahoney | Mr. Rippon, you're making me tear it out of you. What was the secret code word you were going to give the client for the handover location on ... What was it? WhatsApp?                                                                                |
| Frank Rippon  | The code word was Safecracker ... Yeah, I usually communicated with him via WhatsApp. But I could send him a text too if I needed. But I really don't know anything else. Like I said, I couldn't steal the crown, so I never contacted him afterwards. |
| Jason Mahoney | Interesting. I'll be giving this information directly to our team of special investigators. At the moment we have no further questions for you.                                                                                                         |
|               | <i>Information to private investigators</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Jason Mahoney | Well, since I'm sending you the interrogation: Dear private investigators, I sent you an envelope in the mail with some additional information we have collected. Did you get it already? Please make sure you take a look at the envelope.             |

## Interrogation of John Ohlsen

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| Jason Mahoney | <p>Log of the interrogation of Mr. John Ohlsen. Inspector Jason Mahoney and Mr. John Ohlsen are present.</p> <p>Mr. Ohlsen, you work as a journalist at the Great Falls Tribune. You were working in that capacity on the night of February 20th during the museum night event. Is that right?</p>                                              |
| John Ohlsen   | Yes, that's right.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Jason Mahoney | Please explain what you did that evening.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| John Ohlsen   | I started at the Museum of Art and Culture at 11:30 PM. I talked to Dunn, the Museum Director, for around 10 minutes, then took some pictures of the exhibits. Around 1 AM, I left for the Upstate New York Museum of Fine Arts.                                                                                                                |
| Jason Mahoney | Did you meet anyone on your way to the Upstate New York Museum of Fine Arts?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| John Ohlsen   | Well, the city was full of people. Actually, though, I took a couple of side streets - I live close by, so I'm familiar with the area. I didn't meet anyone. Although ... Yes, there was one man who met me halfway. He looked me over like he knew me, but we didn't speak. Then I just continued to the Upstate New York Museum of Fine Arts. |
| Jason Mahoney | What time did you reach the Upstate New York Museum?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| John Ohlsen   | Well, it was around 1:25 I'd say.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Jason Mahoney | And what did you do in the Upstate New York Museum of Fine Arts?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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| John Ohlsen   | Well, I did my job. My colleague Leona Lamb had asked me an hour earlier to take some pictures at the Upstate New York Museum, and she gave me her camera. I talked to Alice Fuller, the museum director – not a very nice woman, let me tell you – for a minute in the museum. Then I left around 2 AM to head home. |
| Jason Mahoney | Thank you very much Mr. Ohlsen, at the moment we have no further questions for you.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## Finale

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| Jason Mahoney | <p>Jason Mahoney, hello! Glad I caught you. I received your documents with your findings for the case. I have to say, looks like you've done some great work once again. You definitely did not disappoint, and we have been able to catch Leona Lamb.</p> <p>But right from the beginning:</p> <p>At first, we weren't sure when the Midnight Crown was stolen from the museum. According to eye witnesses, it disappeared between 1 and 3 AM. Thank God you requested the surveillance footage from Orwell &amp; Truman and found out it must have been stolen between 1:26 and 1:33.</p> <p>First off, of course there are some suspicious individuals who would have had a motive.</p> <p>A vendetta by Alice Fuller? A way for Edgar Dunn to solve his money problems?</p> <p>Of course, Frank Rippon looked particularly suspicious, since he was staying at the Montlake hotel and did some suspicious research on the computer there. After the museum night event Frank Rippon disappeared, and went on the lam. With your help, we were able to pinpoint his location in Great Falls at Northgate station and interrogate him; I sent you the file already.</p> |
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In the interrogation, he admitted that he was planning to steal the crown on behalf of an anonymous client, but that someone had beaten him to it and had already stolen the crown by the time he got to the museum. Then, he just turned tail and ran off – from fear that he could become a suspect and that the police might start investigating his other criminal activities.

With your help, we also found out who he was working for – namely, for Cecil Schubert, the Great Falls art patron! He is an art collector, and wanted the crown for his private collection, so he hired Frank Rippon to steal it for him. We lured Mr. Schubert to the agreed meeting point and arrested him there. Did you know that we found a whole load of stolen artworks in a hidden room behind a door in a bookcase at his estate in Great Falls. One of them was *The Scream*, by Edvard Munch! Although art patron Schubert encouraged Rippon to do the deed, Rippon was only PLANNING to steal the crown. He was not the actual thief, but you did great work in your investigations, and helped us catch Mr. Schubert and Mr. Rippon at the same time - two more criminals!

But let's get back to the case at hand. Of course, right away you determined there were several people who could be eliminated as suspects:

Dylan Dunn didn't really have a motive. Alice Fuller was talking to John Ohlsen in the Upstate New York Museum of Fine Arts at the time of the crime. And Edgar Dunn didn't have any more debts to pay off, since he'd already won the lottery at the time of the theft.

Leona Lamb also seemed to have an alibi at first, since her camera was being used to take photographs at the Upstate New York Museum of Fine Arts at the time of the crime. However, you did some great detective work, and determined from the interrogation with John Ohlsen that Leona Lamb gave him her camera during the museum night, asking him to take pictures for the Upstate New York Museum of Fine Arts. That means she didn't have an alibi for the time at which the crime was committed.

But what was her motive? You did some great work on this point too.

You figured out that Leona Lamb was one of the people chatting in the Couple Up chat room on the library computer. And the documents I sent you later in the envelope cleared up everything else, I think. It's a chat room for lesbians – Delilah Dandelion and Charley are both women. We've also found out Leona Lamb's middle name – it's Charlotte.

She was writing to her lover in the chat room, saying that she was about to make the biggest mistake of her life, and that she had made an important discovery. She was talking about the unpublished report from the newspaper archives that Ms. Lamb had found while working there a few days earlier, as you learned from the e-mail exchange between her and her colleague John Ohlsen. This report, which was never published, covered a criminal helping others to create fake identities and printing different fake IDs. Leona Lamb recognized none other than Victor Garfield on the photos. The article made her incensed, so she contacted her lover Delilah Dandelion who of course later turned out to be Helena Havemeyer.

Ms. Lamb wanted to stop Ms. Havemeyer from marrying a swindler who was only after her money. She had to warn her. But Helena, who certainly didn't want her family to know she was attracted to women, never responded, and wanted to end her affair with Leona Lamb. The wedding drew closer, and Leona Lamb didn't know what else to do.

She had to find a way to warn Helena about her future husband and prevent the wedding. She spontaneously made a plan to steal the Midnight Crown. Thanks to her journalist ID badge, she was able to enter the museum before the start of the museum night event, and examine the room carefully. She discovered that the crown was not well-secured, and that the aging museum was not equipped to handle such valuable special exhibitions.

While all of the visitors were listening to Sandra Swarin's reading, Ms. Lamb used the opportunity to steal the crown and put a piece of pyrite in its place. The piece of pyrite, also known as fool's gold, was supposed to tell Helena that Victor Garfield was not what he appeared - a fraudster. She also told Delilah Dandelion "All that glitters is not gold" in their chat, to tell Helena that she was behind the message.

Well, what can I say? Leona Lamb confessed.

Stealing the crown was just a means to an end for her, and she sent it back to the Museum Director's house just a few days later, anonymously. His neighbor accepted the package and forgot to tell him. That means the famous Midnight Crown has been in a UPS box since February 26th, 2020 in a storage room belonging to the neighbor of Dylan Dunn.

As you know, Helena Havemeyer and Victor Garfield's wedding was cancelled. Of course, it wasn't because of the stolen crown like everyone assumed – it was because Helena Havemeyer understood Leona Lamb's clue. The wedding has not been rescheduled. Helena has broken up with her fiancée and thanked Leona Lamb personally. Unfortunately, I can't tell you what happened to the two of them – it's their private affair, after all.

Leona Lamb's punishment is still being decided. I think that the court won't be all too harsh on her – but she did still commit a crime. To conclude, I want to thank all of you once again for your outstanding work. I have to say, without you, we definitely wouldn't have gotten this far.

If we need help with another case over the next few months, I hope it's OK for us to call on you once again.

That was Hidden Games Crime Scene, Case 2, The Midnight Crown.

Go to [www.hidden.games](http://www.hidden.games) to learn about new cases and escape room adventures in Germany.

The Hidden Games team hopes you have a great time with this murder mystery game!

Have you really enjoyed solving this case? Then we would be delighted if you could rate us on Amazon and follow us on Instagram ([@hiddengames\\_international](https://www.instagram.com/hiddengames_international))!

Do you have suggestions for improvement or any other concerns? Email us anytime at [support@hidden.games](mailto:support@hidden.games) and we will get right back to you.