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Screenplay

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Jonathan Lynn

Story by John Landis

and

Jonathan Lynn

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missing p. 22

FADE IN:

EXT. A HOUSE ON A HILL - NIGHT MUSIC:

We are looking up at a house. It stands some distance away, on a hill. From the moment WE SEE it we know that it is a house of terror -- imposing, Gothic, gloomy, menacing. Perhaps it is reminiscent of the house in <u>Psycho</u>, perhaps -- though not a castle -- it has the deserted soulless empty quality of Kane's house when seen first through its gates.

The MUSIC WE HEAR is Thriller music, urgent strings, suggesting panic, suggesting unspoken evil. Bernard Hermann sort-of-music.

And the weather is overcast. There is a watery moon struggling to break through racing clouds. But a thunderstorm is on the way.

Superimpose: MAIN TITLES

A car turns off a highway onto a country lane leading towards the house. The car would not be the cat's whiskers even in the year in which this story takes place.

END TITLES - SUPERIMPOSE "1954"

CAMERA CRANES DOWN and MOVES WITH the car AS it approaches the gates of the house. They are closed. A man gets out of the car. He is a BUTLER. He is dressed like a butler. He has the manner of a butler. Even when opening gates all alone he does so with the demeanour of a butler. His name is WADSWORTH. Having opened the gates, he sits back in his car, and motors slowly up the private drive.

EXT. THE FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

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As THE BUTLER's car draws to a halt, there is a distant RUMBLE of THUNDER. Lights can be seen through some of the ground floor windows. A savage looking German Shepherd snarls and bares his teeth at the arriving car. Another German Shepherd is crapping on top of the front steps. Both dogs are chained up.

WADSWORTH gets out of the car, locks it methodically, and mounts the steps to the front door. One of the dogs leaps at him, trying to attack him. He throws a chunk of raw meat at the dogs. They fall upon it hungrily, and retreat to the side of the steps. WADSWORTH is relieved.

REVISED 3/26/85

2.

CONTINUED:

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He steps back, eyes them - satisfied - produces a key from his overcoat pocket, turns, steps in the dog shit.

INT. THE HALL - NIGHT

Methodically, WADSWORTH opens the front door. It creaks. He comes in sniffs, makes a face, scrapes his shoe, shuts the door, hangs up his coat on the coat stand. He wears a black jacket, white tie, stiff collar and pinstripe trousers. He walks across the marble floor, his footsteps echoing on the cold, grey stone. He stops at the open Dining Room door and looks in. The table is beautifully and meticulously laid for dinner for seven.

INT. THE LIBRARY - NIGHT

YVETTE is the French Maid. She is young, beautiful, with a great figure which is tightly encased in a maid's uniform -- black dress, little white apron and cap, sheer black stockings and dainty black shoes. But the skirt is shorter than normal, and very tight over her bottom -and her black dress is very low cut. Her ample bosom is pushed right up and half out of the top of the dress. She is an outrageous young lady, with an improbable French accent which cannot be reproduced on the page. She has been polishing a glass, and dancing to the latest pop music on the radio. She bends forward to replace the glass on the tray, her breasts falling beautifully forward. WADSWORTH watches.

> WADSWORTH Is everything ready?

Oui, Monsieur.

WADSWORTH You have your instructions.

WADSWORTH leaves the library, YVETTE sniffs and makes a face. WADSWORTH crosses the hall to the kitchen. YVETTE looks at the bottom of her shoes, puzzled. We HEAR a METALLIC SCRAPING SOUND.

INT. THE KITCHEN - NIGHT

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WADSWORTH comes in. The COOK, a plump but inscrutable Chinese lady, is methodically sharpening * a large shiny carving knife on a steel. In the background is film of SENATOR JOSEPH MCCARTHY of Wisconsin on a 1950's black and white TV set, performing characteristically at a hearing on the House Committee of Un-American Activities. (Actual film).

3.

WADSWORTH Everything all right, Mrs. Ho?

She stands up, face to face with him.

MRS. HO

Dinner will be ready at nine-thirty.

And she settles down and watches the TV as WADSWORTH leaves.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

A MAN's hand grasps hold of the bell-pull. Pulls.

INT. BELL TURRET - NIGHT

The bell jerks and clangs.

INT. THE HALL - NIGHT

WADSWORTH is crossing the Hall. The bell stops clanging. He looks at his watch and nods. Everything in order. He opens the door. WE SEE a smartly turned out MAN. He is eyeing the dogs.

WADSWORTH

Good evening.

He steps aside. But the MAN does not come in. The MAN's car is parked in the drive. The dogs are back beside their kennel, eating.

> MAN Good evening. I don't know if...

He falters. WADSWORTH comes to the rescue.

WADSWORTH

Yes indeed sir, you are expected, Colonel.

The word 'Colonel' seems to reassure the MAN a little. He steps in, and WADSWORTH closes the front door. (CONTINUED) CONTINUED (2):

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WADSWORTH (continuing) May I take your coat? It is Colonel Mustard, isn't it?

He holds out his hand.

COLONEL MUSTARD (for it is he!) No, that's not my name. I'm Colonel...

WADSWORTH holds up his right hand, sharply. COLONEL MUSTARD flinches. He reminds us a little of Colonel Hall in "Sergeant Bilko".

> • WADSWORTH Forgive me but tonight you may well feel obliged to my employer. for the use of a pseudonym.

COLONEL MUSTARD didn't quite get all that. WADSWORTH turns and hangs up COLONEL MUSTARD'S coat on hook. The COLONEL eyes him suspiciously, and sniffs the air, and then looks at his own feet.

COLONEL MUSTARD

Who are you?

WADSWORTH I am Wadsworth, sir. The Butler.

And he leads the way across the Hall. COLONEL MUSTARD enters with reluctance and suspicion, looking up and around the high cold Gothic hall, lit by a flickering chandelier and shafts of moonlight stealing through the stained glass windows.

INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

YVETTE is pouring champagne at the drinks table, as WADSWORTH and COLONEL MUSTARD enter. YVETTE and the COLONEL look at each other with particular interest. WADSWORTH notices.

> WADSWORTH Yvette, would you attend to the Colonel and give him anything he requires. (a beat) Within reason, that is.

> > (CONTINUED)

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There is a RING at the DOORBELL again ... WADSWORTH leaves, shutting the door behind him softly. The door, like all the walls, is covered in bookshelves. COLONEL MUSTARD turns to speak to WADSWORTH just as the door has closed. He can't even see where the door was.

> COLONEL MUSTARD Wadsworth...(realizes) Where'd he go?

10. EXT. FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

MRS. WHITE is standing there. She is a pale, tragic but beautiful looking woman in her thirties. Dark har and eyes, white skin, dressed in black. WADSWORTH opens the door.

> WADSWORTH Do come in, Madam, you are expected.

She reminds us of a woman from a Charles Adams cartoon. She is holding a letter.

> MRS. WHITE Do you know who I am?

WADSWORTH Only that you are to be known as... Mrs. White.

MRS. WHITE It said so in the letter. But why?

She steps inside. He helps her off with her coat. He hangs it up. She sniffs, wrinkling her nose in distaste. Then she checks her feet.

11. INT. THE LIBRARY

COLONEL MUSTARD is still looking for the door handle. YVETTE is handing a drink to COLONEL MUSTARD. Suddenly the door opens, and flattens him against the wall. WADSWORTH enters, followed by MRS. WHITE.

> WADSWORTH Ah. May I introduce you -- Mrs. White, this is Yvette, the maid --(MRS. WHITE AND YVETTE flinch on seeing each other) I see you know each other.

> > (CONTINUED)

MRS. WHITE and YVETTE eye each other -- then their eyes turn, in fear, to WADSWORTH. COLONEL MUSTARD appears.

WADSWORTH Are you all right, Colonel?

12 EXT. THE COUNTRY LANE - NIGHT

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A rumble of THUNDER. A stunningly attractive woman, whom we shall call MISS SCARLET, is bending over the open hood of her automobile. She is staring at the engine in despair. She gets into the car, and turns the starter again. The engine is dead.

In the distance she sees headlights coming toward her. She tries to attract the attention of the passing car.

13

INT. PROFESSOR PLUM'S CAR - NIGHT

PROFESSOR PLUM is driving along.

He is listening to SENATOR JOSEPH MCCARTHY coming live from a hearing of The House Committee on Un-American Activities. (Actual recording.) He sees MISS SCARLET, and eyes her carefully as he drives past. Deciding that she's rather a dish, he slows down, stops and reverses back to her.

> PROFESSOR PLUM What's the trouble?

> > MISS SCARLET

My car.

PROFESSOR PLUM Want a lift?

She hesitates.

PROFESSOR PLUM (continuing; leering) It's perfectly safe.

MISS SCARLET Yes, please. I'm late for a dinner date.

She gets in.

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PROFESSOR PLUM Me too. Where are you going?

MISS SCARLET You know this part of the world?

PROFESSOR PLUM Nope.

MISS SCARLET Me neither. (she gets a letter out of her purse. I'm going to Hill House ... off Route Forty-One.

PROFESSOR PLUM catches sight of the letter heading.

PROFESSOR PLUM Wait a minute. Let me look at that.

(he takes it from her and and looks at it) That's where I'm going. I got a letter like this.

They look at each other with a mixture of interest and suspicion. Heavy drops of rain start to fall on the windshield. He starts the windshield wipers, and drives on.

INT. THE LIBRARY - NIGHT

WADSWORTH is introducing MRS. PEACOCK to MRS. WHITE and COLONEL MUSTARD. MRS. PEACOCK is a wealthy woman, with jewels and a fur stole with fox tails and claws dangling from it. She has considerable vanity

> WADSWORTH And this is Mrs. Peacock.

COLONEL MUSTARD How do you do?

MRS. WHITE

Hello.

WADSWORTH

Yvette, would you please go and check that dinner will be ready just as soon as all the guests have arrived?

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YVETTE goes. WADSWORTH too. MRS. PEACOCK watches her go, with slight incredulity. YVETTE has apparently been poured into her tight little dress.

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Then MRS. PEACOCK sniffs and surreptitiously checks her feet, then looks at the others' feet.

15 EXT. THE HOUSE - NIGHT

Two more cars are parked in the driveway. MRS. PEACOCK's and the car belonging to the dapper young man, tall, slim, bespectacled and exquisitely turned out, who waits by the front door.

WADSWORTH opens it.

MR. GREEN Is this the right address to meet Mr. Boddy?

WADSWORTH nods and stands aside to admit him.

WADSWORTH You must be Mr. Green.

MR. GREEN nods anxiously. One of the two dogs is straining at the leash.

WADSWORTH (continuing; firmly) Sit!

MR. GREEN immediately sits, on a chair just inside the front door. WADSWORTH turns and sees him.

WADSWORTH (continuing) No, not you, sir.

16 INT. PROFESSOR PLUM'S CAR - NIGHT

PROFESSOR PLUM is driving. MISS SCARLET is map reading.

MISS SCARLET It should be just along here.

17 EXT. THE GATES - NIGHT

From the P.O.V. of the house and gates, WE SEE the car turn off the road towards the house. The car stops.

(CONTINUED)

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PROFESSOR PLUM and MISS SCARLET'S P.O.V., WE SEE the Gothic mansion. It is magnificent, imposing, and scary. There is a tremendous flash of forked lightning, then a CRACK of THUNDER.

> MISS SCARLET Why has the car stopped?

PROFESSOR PLUM It's frightened.

Another tremendous THUNDERCLAP and flash -- it is as if the Gods are angry with Hilltop House. PROFESSOR PLUM re-starts the engine, and as the car moves forward through the gates the heavens open. A cloudburst. Rain beats down on the car and the gravel drive. Palm trees bending, nearly flattened by the gale-force winds.

18 INT. THE LIBRARY - NIGHT

COLONEL MUSTARD, MRS. WHITE, AND MRS. PEACOCK are standing around with their glasses of champagne.

YVETTE offers one to MR. GREEN who takes it. They are all aware of the tremendous storm outside. Their eyes turn apprehensively towards the mighty leaded windows, which rattle as the rain drums against them.

19 EXT. THE HOUSE - NIGHT

PROFESSOR PLUM and MISS SCARLET are hurrying out of their car, and up to the front door, amid the torrential downpour. They RING the DOORBELL, and look about. In only the few steps from the car they are soaking wet. He is protecting her from the rain, his hand around her and his coat over her head.

PROFESSOR PLUM (hushed) What a God-forsaken place.

They look around, under the cover of the front porch. WADSWORTH opens the door. He is surprised.

WADSWORTH Professor Plum and Miss Scarlet? I didn't realize you were acquainted.

19

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MISS SCARLET We weren't.

INT. THE LIBRARY - NIGHT

COLONEL MUSTARD, MRS. WHITE, MRS. PEACOCK, and MR. GREEN are standing around nervously, not talking to each other, looking up and around at the great bookcases filled with leather-bound volumes. WADSWORTH enters with PROFESSOR PLUM and MISS SCARLET.

WADSWORTH

May I present ... Professor Plum, and Miss Scarlet.

They nod. He takes a silver salver from YVETTE and offers the two glasses to MISS SCARLET and PROFESSOR PLUM.

MR. GREEN takes one. They all sip thier champagne. The log fire crackles and spits.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Of course, since you have each been addressed by a pseudonym, you will have realized that <u>nobody</u> here is being addressed by their real name.

They all glance nervously at each other, with renewed suspicion. Suddenly there is a terrifying CRASH! Everyone jumps. MR. GREEN's champagne shoots out of his glass and all over himself and MRS. PEACOCK.

CUT TO:

21 INT. THE HALL

It is the GONG, being forcefully struck by THE COOK.

22 INT. THE LIBRARY/HALL/DINING ROOM

WADSWORTH

Ah, dinner,

MR. GREEN is mopping up MRS. PEACOCK.

(CONTINUED)

MR. GREEN I'm sorry, I'm a little accident prone.

And he leads everyone out of the Library and across the Hall. As they come into the Hall, THE COOK vanishes into the Kitchen. WADSWORTH leads on into the Dining Room.

23 INT. DINING ROOM

They all crowd in through the door and hesitate as they see the beautiful long mahogany table, set as if for a college feast -- silver cutlery, Wedgewood china, candles and crystal decanters and goblets of varying sizes for various wines. A vision of Elegance.

> WADSWORTH (V.O.) You will find your names beside your places. Please be seated.

They all sit at the table. Three on each side. There is one empty place, at the head of the table.

COLONEL MUSTARD Is this place for you?

WADSWORTH Indeed no, sir. I am merely a humble butler.

COLONEL MUSTARD Hmm! So what exactly do you do?

WADSWORTH

I buttle, sir.

COLONEL MUSTARD Which means what?

WADSWORTH The butler is head of the Kitchen and dining room. I keep everything... tidy, that's all.

COLONEL MUSTARD

I see.

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MRS. PEACOCK

(sitting)
Well, what's all this about,
Butler? This dinner party.

WADSWORTH (smoothly) "Ours not to reason why Ours but to do and die... "

PROFESSOR PLUM looks up anxiously.

"Die"?

MUSIC! But WADSWORTH is smiling reassuringly.

WADSWORTH Merely quoting, sir, from Alfred Lord Tennyson.

COLONEL MUSTARD I prefer Kipling myself. "The female of the species is more deadly than the male."

The LADIES all stare at him coldly. He picks up a plate of hors d'oeuvres and offers it to MISS SCARLET.

COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) Do you like Kipling, Miss Scarlet?

MISS SCARLET Sure, I'll eat anything.

YVETTE has been going round the table, with soup bowls.

YVETTE Shark's fin soup, Madame?

MRS. PEACOCK gets some, then MISS SCARLET, then MRS. WHITE, then PROFESSOR PLUM, and COLONEL MUSTARD. COLONEL MUSTARD indicates the elegant Chippendale upright armchair at the head of the table.

> COLONEL MUSTARD So is this for our host?

WADSWORTH

No sir -- for the seventh guest.

Mr. Boddy.

All the GUESTS look at each other, somewhat surprised.

MRS. WHITE I thought Mr. Boddy was our host.

THE OTHERS

So did I!

MRS. WHITE So who is our host, Wadsworth?

WADSWORTH ignores the question. But he is pouring the wine -- perhaps he did not hear it.

PROFESSOR PLUM Well, I'm going to start, while it's still hot.

He picks up his spoon, then sees that not everyone has been served.

MRS. PEACOCK Shouldn't we wait for the other guest?

YVETTE I will keep something warm for him.

MISS SCARLET (acidly) What did you have in mind, dear?

PROFESSOR PLUM sees that everyone has been served. He starts eating. So do the others. The slurping sounds of soup being eaten, as delicately as possible, as everyone is aware that they are all watching -- and listening -- to each other. BIG CLOSE-UPS or TWO SHOTS of each of the SIX GUESTS in turn.

YVETTE goes out to the Kitchen, followed by WADSWORTH.

Well...

After eating in silence for a while, MRS. PEACOCK speaks nervously.

MRS. PEACOCK

(CONTINUED)

All heads turn towards her. She loses her nerve momentarily, then continues, speaking rather too quickly with a slight air of hysteria.

MRS. PEACOCK (continuing)

Somebody's got to break the ice, so it might as well be me. I mean, I'm used to being a hostess, it's part of my husband's work, and it's <u>always</u> difficult when a group of new friends meet together for the first time to get acquainted, so I'm perfectly prepared to start the ball rolling, I mean, I have absolutely no idea what we're doing here or what I'm doing here or what this place is about but I'm determined to enjoy myself and very intrigued and ohmy, this soup is <u>delicious</u>, isn't it?

There is a pause. They all still looking at her.

MRS. WHITE You say you are used to being a hostess as part of your husband's work?

MRS. PEACOCK Yes. It's an integral part of

your life when you're the wife of a...

(she stops herself) But then, I forgot, we are not supposed to say who we <u>really</u> are, are we, though Heavens to Betsy I don't know why.

COLONEL MUSTARD Don't you?

There is another silence. MR. GREEN is staring at MRS. PEACOCK.

MR. GREEN (quietly) I know who you are.

MRS. PEACOCK looks at him, surprised.

(CONTINUED)

23

23 CONTINUED (4):

MISS SCARLET (mischievously) Aren't you gonna tell us?

MR. GREEN shrugs. It's not up to him to say, but MRS. PEACOCK can't leave it alone.

MRS. PEACOCK How do you know who I am?

MR. GREEN I work in Washington too.

PROFESSOR PLUM

Washington? (he looks at MRS. PEACOCK) So you're a politician's wife?

MRS. PEACOCK realizes she has to brazen it out.

MRS. PEACOCK

Yes, I am.

They all stare at her, waiting for more information.

COLONEL MUSTARD Come on then -- who's your husband?

The door opens suddenly. They all jump a little. WADSWORTH comes in. He indicates to YVETTE to come in ' and collect up the soup bowls. She does so in a tense silence, and departs with WADSWORTH, who closes the door behind them. Meanwhile, the conversation has * continued.

> MRS. PEACOCK And what does your husband do?

> > MRS. WHITE

Nothing.

MRS. PEACOCK can't work out what MRS. WHITE means.

MRS. PEACOCK Nothing at all?

MRS. WHITE Well, he just lies around on his back all day.

MISS SCARLET (dryly) Sounds like hard work to me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED (5):

23

They all look at MISS SCARLET. Suddenly a panel shoots up behind them. They all jump. MR. GREEN spills food or wine over MISS SCARLET.

MR. GREEN

I'm sorry, I'm a little accident prone.

WE SEE it is a hatch into the Kitchen. YVETTE is placing the main course in the hatch.

YVETTE

Excuse moi.

In the b.g., indistinctly, WE SEE COOK dishing up food. WADSWORTH comes into the Dining Room, and starts placing the main course in front of each guest. It is Chinese food -- a couple of bland looking main dishes with rice, noodles and so forth. MRS. PEACOCK tastes it.

MRS. PEACOCK Mmm. Delicious (she glances admiringly through the serving hatch) This is one of my favorite recipes.

WADSWORTH edges in front of the pass-through, so that MRS. PEACOCK cannot see the COOK.

WADSWORTH I know, Madam.

She looks at him with further curiosity. WADSWORTH starts to pour the wine, topping up one or two glasses.

MRS. PEACOCK So what do you do in Washington D.C., Mr. Green?

MR. GREEN smiles and shakes his head. MRS. PEACOCK persists.

MRS. PEACOCK (continuing) Come on, what do you do? How are we to get acquainted if we don't say anything about ourselves?

MR. GREEN smiles a wintry smile.

MISS SCARLET Perhaps he doesn't want to get acquainted with you.

MRS. PEACOCK Well, I don't know I'm sure. If I wasn't trying to keep the conversation going we'd all be sitting here in an embarrassed silence.

PROFESSOR PLUM (curious) Are you frightened of silence, Mrs. Peacock?

MRS. PEACOCK (frightened) No -- why?

PROFESSOR PLUM It just seems to me that you are. You seem to suffer from what we call pressure of speech.

MISS SCARLET picks this up at once.

MISS SCARLET We? Who's "we"?

PROFESSOR PLUM hesitates.

MISS SCARLET (continuing) Are you a shrink?

PROFESSOR PLUM Er... I do know a little about psychological medicine, yes.

MRS. WHITE You're a doctor?

PROFESSOR PLUM (evasively) I am, but I don't practice.

MISS SCARLETT But practice makes perfect. (suggestively:) I think most men need a little practice. Don't you, Mrs. Peacock?

MRS. PEACOCK doesn't know what she's talking about.

23

MRS. WHITE So what do you do, Professor?

PROFESSOR PLUM I work for UNO. The united Nations Organization.

COLONEL MUSTARD is not impressed.

COLONEL MUSTARD Another politician? Jesus.

PROFESSOR PLUM No. I work for a branch of UNO. W.H.O. The World Health Organization.

MRS. PEACOCK What's your area of special concern?

PROFESSOR PLUM Family planning.

MISS SCARLET So, if we ever want to find out about you know what, we could go to UNO Who?

MR. GREEN smiles a little. They eat in silence.

PROFESSOR PLUM So what about you, Colonel Mustard? Are you a real Colonel?

COLONEL MUSTARD (diginified) I am, sir.

And COLONEL MUSTARD continues eating.

MISS SCARLET You're not going to mention the coincidence that you also live in Washington, D.C.

They all look at her, then at him. COLONEL MUSTARD stops eating, a forkful of food half-way to his mouth.

COLONEL MUSTARD How did you know that? Have we met before, Ma'am?

MISS SCARLET I've certainly seen you before though you may not have noticed me, I daresay.

.

She smiles at him. MR. GREEN is no fool. He has made a quick deduction.

MR. GREEN Miss Scarlet, does that mean you live there, too?

(CONTINUED)

18A.

23 CONTINUED (8):

She smiles at him.

MISS SCARLET

MRS. PEACOCK Does anyone here not live in Washington, D.C.?

PROFESSOR PLUM

I don't.

Sure do.

MR. GREEN is thinking.

MR. GREEN

Yes, but you work for UNO. A government job. And the rest of us all live in a government town. Anyone here not earn their living from the government one way or another?

They all look at each other.

COLONEL MUSTARD stands up.

COLONEL MUSTARD Wadsworth -- where is our host, and why have we been brought here?

WADSWORTH smiles enigmatically. And the DOORBELL RINGS.

24 INT. THE HALL

WADSWORTH walks down the Hall to the front door. TENSE MUSIC. He opens the door, and standing there is an unprepossessing MAN. One might almost describe him as ugly if one were feeling charitable. Certainly his features are ordinary enough, but there is about him an air of malevolence, bitterness -- perhaps even evil! He also bites his nails and picks his teeth, nose, and other orifices. He carries a small locked suitcase. As the door opens there is a tremendous flash of lightning and a CRASH OF THUNDER.

WADSWORTH seems pleased to see him, in an odd sort of way.

WADSWORTH Ah, Mr. Boddy. You are eagerly awaited.

MR. BODDY I find that hard to believe. This is not your place, I take it?

WADSWORTH No sir. It is on loan.

He steps aside to allow MR. BODDY to enter. He does. MR. BODDY looks WADSWORTH up and down, with a sneer on his already unpleasant features.

> MR. BODDY And what are you supposed to be?

WADSWORTH is closing the front door. The wind is howling.

WADSWORTH I'm supposed to be polite. Though when talking to you, I find that the task is almost beyond me.

They are talking loudly enough to be heard in the Dining Room.

25 INT. THE DINING ROOM

All SIX GUESTS are listening to the conversation in the Hall. So is YVETTE.

26 INT. KITCHEN

THE COOK is listening too.

27 INT. THE HALL

WADSWORTH is hanging up MR. BODDY's hat, coat and umbrella.

MR. BODDY Just one thing -- "Wadsworth". Remember I know who you really are. And don't you forget it.

WADSWORTH turns to face him.

WADSWORTH Shall I take your bag?

27

MR. BODDY No -- I'll leave it here, till I need it.

WADSWORTH As you wish -- it contains evidence, I presume.

MR. BODDY Surprises, my friend! That's what it contains -- surprises!

He puts it under the coat rack. As he does so, WADSWORTH turns back to the front door and locks it with a deadlock key.

MR. BODDY (continuing) May I see that key?

WADSWORTH Over my dead body, sir.

MR. BODDY gives a little smile. Wadsworth sets off * across the Hall to the Dining Room. MR. BODDY follows.

WADSWORTH (continuing) Have you just arrived from Washington, sir?

MR. BODDY Yes, it's a long haul.

WADSWORTH (looking up and around) Indeed it is a long hall. But then it's a very large house.

MR. BODDY (unpleasantly) You think you're quite a fellow, don't you?

INT. DINING ROOM

28

All the GUESTS are eating in silence. WADSWORTH enters, followed by MR. BODDY. Everyone turns to look at MR. BODDY as he enters. He stops dead, slightly frightened, when he sees them all. They look at him with curiosity. It should be clear to us that he recognizes them but none of them recognizes him.

21. *

MR. GREEN (eventually) I got a similar letter...

MISS SCARLET (to PROFESSOR PLUM) So did we, didn't we?

MR. BODDY I also received a letter.

Meanwhile, YVETTE has been placing the main course in front of MR. BODDY. He waves it away.

> MR. BODDY (continuing) No thanks, Yvette, I'm not hungry.

MR. GREEN flashes a look at them both. Again he is quick on the uptake.

MR. GREEN How did you know her name?

MR. BODDY smiles at YVETTE, and slides his hand up her skirt. She edges away, disgusted.

MR. BODDY We know each other, don't we dear?

She nods, almost imperceptibly.

WADSWORTH Forgive my curiosity, Mr. Boddy, but did your letter say the same thing?

> MR. BODDY (brusque)

NO.

WADSWORTH

I see. Can I interest any of you in fruit or dessert?

No one is interested. They shake their heads. Much of the main course has been left uneaten.

(CONTINUED)

WADSWORTH

(continuing) In that case, May I suggest that we adjourn to the Study for coffee and brandy, at which point I believe our unknown host will reveal his intentions.

They all rise. The MEN stand aside to let the LADIES out first.

COLONEL MUSTARD

Ladies first..

WADSWORTH signals to YVETTE to start clearing the table.

29A INT. THE HALL

COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET are conversing as they cross the hall.

COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) If he's in the study, why didn't he join us for dinner?

MISS SCARLET Well, I'm certainly looking forward to meeting him.

29B INT. THE STUDY

We see the Study. It is empty. The GUESTS, led by WADSWORTH cross the Hall from the Dining Room, and enter the Study. They stop and look around.

MR. GREEN (surprised) There's no one here.

MISS SCARLET Mind if I smoke?

She offers cigarettes aroung. PROFESSOR PLUM takes one, and lights them both up.

WADSWORTH Please help yourselves to coffee and brandy, and be seated.

And he crosses to the desk, past a blazing log fire. On the desk there is a plain brown envelope simply addressed: "TO WADSWORTH. PLEASE OPEN AFTER DINNER." He picks it up. They settle on chairs and sofas around the room.

(CONTINUED)

It is a comfortable room, oak paneled, chintz covered upholstered chairs and sofa forming a contrast with the heavy leather furniture in the Library and the elegance of the Dining Room. Unlike the other rooms, which have wooden parquet flooring, the Study has Persian rugs over a soft wall-to-wall carpet.

Sitting in a silence as they all watch him, WADSWORTH picks up a fancy letter opener and opens the brown Manilla envelope. He withdraws a short letter. He glances at it, then looks around, replacing the envelope on the desk.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Ladies and gentlemen, I am instructed to explain to you what you all have in common with each other. Unless. (he glances a MR. BODDY) ... unless you would care to do the honors, Mr. Boddy.

MR. BODDY Why me? Do they know who I am?

WADSWORTH I don't think so. You have never identified yourself to them, I believe.

MRS. WHITE (stands up) Why? Who <u>are</u> you?

MR. BODDY addresses all the GUESTS. He stands up.

MR. BODDY We have all been dragged here for nothing. Its a hoax. I suggest we all leave.

WADSWORTH I'm sorry, sir, but you cannot leave this house.

MR. BODDY

Barta da Carlo de Car

He goes out of the house.

No?

30 INT. THE HALL

MR. BODDY is hurrying towards the front door. WADSWORTH appears. (CONTINUED)

30

WADSWORTH You <u>can't</u> leave!

MR. BODDY (snarling) Who's going to stop me?

WADSWORTH There is no way out.

MR. BODDY tries to open the front door. It is locked. As he does so, all the GUESTS crush into the doorway to watch.

MR. BODDY This is an outrage. How dare you hold us prisoner!

The OTHERS all speak at once.

(COLONEL MUSTARD:	Hear, hear.
(MISS SCARLET:	What is this?
(MRS. PEACOCK:	I'm getting very frightened.
(MRGREEN:	He's right!
(MRS. WHITE:	Let us out.
(PROFESSOR PLUM:	You've no right to do this.

WADSWORTH quiets them down.

WADSWORTH Ladies and gentlemen -- please (he gets some silence) Please return to the Study and all will be explained. You too, Mr. Boddy.

They turn. Reluctantly, MR. BODDY follows. From a P.O.V. over MR. BODDY's shoulder, we can see that he has seen the Conservatory.

He hurries towards it.

WADSWORTH (from the Study)

Other way.

But MR. BODDY takes no notice. So WADSWORTH hurries out into the Hall and hastens down the Hall in pursuit of MR. BODDY.

31 thru OMITTED 33

34

INT. THE CONSERVATORY - NIGHT

Huge green creeping vegetation covers the room. There are many potential lurking places in here. The rain is beating down loudly on the glass roof.

(CONTINUED)

.....

MR. BODDY is running into the room which, like all conservatories, is mostly made of glass.

He jumps onto a ledge at the far end, and picks up a flower pot preparatory to breaking the glass. WADSWORTH almost runs into the Conservatory.

> WADSWORTH You can't get out that way.

MR. BODDY Why not? It's just glass.

WADSWORTH

Look.

A vicious snarling Doberman Pinscher leaps up at the side of the Conservatory

MR. BODDY turns back from the window.

35

INT. THE STUDY

Everyone is sitting. YVETTE, who is waiting there, sees that they have refills of coffee, and starts to hand brandies around. Brandies are silently accepted by COLONEL MUSTARD, PROFESSOR PLUM, and MISS SCARLET. WADSWORTH stands in front of the crackling log fire, and consults the contents of the envelope which he opened in SCENE 29.

WADSWORTH

Ladies and gentlemen, you all have one thing in common. You are all being blackmailed.

They all glance nervously at each other.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) For some considerable time all of you have been paying what you can afford -- and, in some cases, more than you can afford -- to someone who threatens to expose you. And none of you know who's blackmailing you, do you?

MRS. PEACOCK (unconvincingly) I've never heard anything so ridiculous, nobody could blackmail me, my life's an open book. I've never done anything wrong.

They all look at her.

WADSWORTH Anybody else wish to deny it?

No one replies. They are watchful, and waiting.

WADSWROTH

(continuing) Very well. As everyone here is in the same boat, there is no harm in my revealing some details. And my instructions are to do so.

He looks through some typewritten papers that were in the brown envelope. He nods to YVETTE to leave the room. They watch her go. The door closes behind her.

> MRS. WHITE Don't you think that you might spare us this humiliation?

WADSWORTH

I'm sorry. Professor Plum -you were once a Professor of Psychiatry specializing in helping paranoid and homicidal lunatics suffering from delusions of grandeur.

PROFESSOR PLUM Yes, but now I work at the United Nations.

WADSWORTH

(CONTINUED)

So your work has not changed. But you don't practice medicine at the UN. His license to practice has been lifted. Correct?

MISS SCARLET is very interested in this revelation.

MISS SCARLET Why? What did he do?

35 CONTINUED (2):

WADSWORTH You know what doctors aren't allowed to do with their lady patients?

MISS SCARLET

Yes?

WADSWORTH

Well -- he did.

MISS SCARLET looks at him with a smile, MRS. PEACOCK with disgust.

> MRS. PEACOCK How disgusting!

WADSWORTH turns to MRS. PEACOCK.

WADSWORTH

Are you making moral judgements, Mrs. Peacock? How then do you justify taking bribes in return for delivering your husband Senator Peacock's vote to certain lobbyists?

MRS. PEACOCK My husband's a paid consultant. There's nothing wrong with that.

WADSWORTH Not if it's publicly declared. But if the payment is delivered by slipping used greenbacks in plain envelopes under the door of the men's room, how would you describe that transaction?

MISS SCARLET I'd say it stank!

MRS. PEACOCK (scathing) How would you know, you've never been in that mens room.

PROFESSOR PLUM So it's true.

MRS. PEACOCK No, it's a vicious lie.

35 CONTINUED (3):

s• .

COLONEL MUSTARD is listening with pleasure.

WADSWORTH (smoothly) I'm sure we are all glad to hear that. But you've been paying blackmail for over a year now, to keep this story out of the papers.

MRS. WHITE I'm willing to believe you. I'm also being blackmailed for something I didn't do.

MR. GREEN

Me too.

COLONEL MUSTARD

And me.

MISS SCARLET (cheerfully) But not me!

WADSWORTH is surprised.

WADSWORTH You're not being blackmailed?

MISS SCARLET Oh I'm being blackmailed all right. But I did what I'm being blackmailed for.

They all look at her, stunned by this open admission of guilt.

PROFESSOR PLUM What did you do?

MISS SCARLET Well, to be perfectly frank, I run a "specialized" hotel -- and a telephone service which provides gentlemen with the company of a young lady for a short while.

PROFESSOR PLUM takes out a notepad and pencil. He is interested.

PROFESSOR PLUM Oh yeah? What's the phone number?

35 CONTINUED (4):

MRS. PEACOCK is appalled.

Men!!

MRS. PEACOCK

She stares at PROFESSOR PLUM, disgust written all over her face. But MR. GREEN is thinking.

MR. GREEN So how did you know that Colonel Mustard works in Washington? Is he one of your clients?

COLONEL MUSTARD Certainly not!

He stands and walks over to the window.

MR. GREEN I was asking Miss Scarlet.

COLONEL MUSTARD turns on MISS SCARLET. The dialogue is going very fast.

COLONEL MUSTARD Tell them it's not true.

MISS SCARLET (obediently) It's not true.

PROFESSOR PLUM Is that true?

MISS SCARLET No, that's not true.

MR. GREEN (triumphantly) Aha! So it <u>is</u> true.

WADSWORTH A double negative!

COLONEL MUSTARD (horrified) A double negative? You mean you have -- photographs?

MISS SCARLET nods.

WADSWORTH That sounds like a confession to me. In fact, the double negative has led to proof positive. (to COLONEL MUSTARD) I'm afraid you gave yourself away, sir.

35

COLONEL MUSTARD Are you trying to make me look stupid in front of the other guests?

WADSWORTH

(smoothly) You don't need any help from me, sir.

PROFESSOR PLUM But seriously ... I don't see what's so terrible about Colonel Mustard visiting a house of illfame. <u>Most</u> soldiers do, don't they?

PROFESSOR PLUM puts his hand on her knee. She removes it. Reluctantly, he moves away. WADSWORTH refers to his notes, the ones which came out of the brown envelope, which are still in his hand.

WADSWORTH

But he holds a sensitive security post in the Pentagon. And Colonel, you drive a very expensive car for someone who lives on a Colonel's pay.

COLONEL MUSTARD

I don't. I came into money. During the war. When I lost my parents.

WADSWORTH

You lost them? Did you report the loss to the police?

COLONEL MUSTARD No, dying is perfectly legal.

WADSWORTH

Sometimes, yes. Mrs. White, you have been paying our friend the blackmailer every since your husband died ... shall we say ... mysterious circumstances.

MISS SCARLET laughs. MRS. WHITE turns to her.

MRS. WHITE What's so funny?

MISS SCARLET I see! That's why he's lying on his back! In his coffin!

MRS. WHITE I didn't kill him. COLONEL MUSTARD

Then why are you paying the blackmailer?

MRS. WHITE I don't want a scandal. We'd had a fight. He was crazy. He hated me. He had threatened to kill me in public.

MISS SCARLET Why would he want to kill you in public?

WADSWORTH

I think she meant that he had threatened, in public, to kill her.

MISS SCARLET And was that his final word on the matter?

MRS. WHITE Being killed is pretty final, wouldn't you say?

WADSWORTH And yet he was the one who died. Not you, Mrs. White, not you.

MRS. WHITE remains silent. And impassive. MISS SCARLET is curious.

MISS SCARLET What did he do for a living?

(CONTINUED)

32A.

35

.33.

35 CONTINUED:

MRS. WHITE He was a scientist. Nuclear physics.

MISS SCARLET What was he like?

MRS. WHITE He was always a stupidly optimistic man. I'm afraid it came as a great shock to him when he died. He was found dead at home. His head had been cut off. So had his . you know.

She can't say it, but she gestures vaguely in the direction of her groin. The MEN look at her in horror, and their hands go instinctively to cover their balls.

MRS. WHITE (continuing) I'd been out all evening, at the movies.

MISS SCARLET (irreverently) What was showing?

MRS. WHITE "From Here to Eternity"

MR. BODDY (with approval) How very appropriate.

MISS SCARLET Do you miss him?

MRS. WHITE It's a matter of life after death. He's dead -- now I have a life.

WADSWORTH But he was your <u>second</u> husband. Your first also disappeared.

33A.

35 CONTINUED:

MRS. WHITE That was his job - he was an illusionist.

WADSWORTH But he never reappeared.

MRS. WHITE He wasn't a very good illusionist.

MRS. GREEN coughs discreetly. Everyone looks at him He stands up, licks his lips nervously. He is trying to find the courage to speak openly.

MR. GREEN

Um ... I have something to say. I'm not going to wait for Wadsworth here to unmask me. I work for the State Department, and I am a homosexual.

MRS. PEACOCK tut-tuts.

MR. GREEN (continuing) I feel no personal shame or guilt about this, but I have to keep it quiet or I would lose my job on security grounds.

There is silence for a moment.

PROFESSOR PLUM Well -- that just leaves Mr. Boddy.

All eyes turn to MR. BODDY. He says nothing.

MISS SCARLET What's your little secret?

WADSWORTH His secret? Oh, I thought you'd all realized. He's the one who's blackmailing you all.

There is a flash of lightning and a CLAP OF THUNDER. This information comes as a bombshell to all of them. COLONEL MUSTARD stands up again.

COLONEL MUSTARD

You bastard!

Put 'em up.

He moves menacingly towards MR. BODDY. MR. BODDY stands up too. WADSWORTH intervenes between them.

> WADSWORTH Colonel -- please! Don't do anything rough.

COLONEL MUSTARD

He puts his fists up, for an old-fashioned fight. BODDY responds by stamping abruptly on COLONEL MUSTARD's foot and, as COLONEL MUSTARD bends forward in pain to clutch his foot, MR. BODDY neatly pokes him in the eyes with two fingers simultaneously (like a Three Stooges routine). As COLONEL MUSTARD yells and collapses, MR. BODDY throws himself upon him and continues to beat him up. MR. GREEN and PROFESSOR PLUM rush to COLONEL MUSTARD's rescue, hauling MR. BODDY up off the struggling COLONEL. MR. BODDY is struggling and fighting them off too -- he is very strong. MRS. WHITE, MISS SCARLET and MRS. PEACOCK are watching. As MR. BODDY is hauled to his feet MRS. WHITE steps calmly forward and knees him in the balls. As MR. BODDY collapses in a heap the other WOMEN clap and cheer, then run to start kicking him. WADSWORTH shouts above the brawl.

> WADSWORTH Wait! Wait! The police are coming!

The fight stops abruptly.

ALL The police? / You must be crazy! How can we tell the police? / I'd be ruined! / It'd be the end of my career! / Let's get out of here! (and so forth, all together) 35 CONTINUED (8):

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-21**0**

They have surrounded WADSWORTH, vehemently remonstrating with him.

WADSWORTH LISTEN! Blackmail depends on secrecy. You have all admitted how he's been able to blackmail you. All you have to do is tell the police, then he will be convicted, and your trouble will be over.

The GUESTS are all horrified.

35 CONTINUED (9):

MR. BODDY (gasping, on the floor) You see, Wadsworth, it's not so easy. They'll never tell the police.

WADSWORTH Then I shall. I have evidence in my possession... and this conversation is being tape recorded.

36 INT. BILLARD ROOM

YVETTE is standing beside an old-fashioned reel-to-reel tape recorder, monitoring the recording of the conversation taking place in the Study. The tape recorder is placed in a cupboard, the doors of which are open.

They are all speaking more or less together.

MR. GREEN (V.O.) Point of order, Sir. Tape recordings aren't admissible evidence.

(COLONEL MUSTARD: I'll deny everything. (MRS. WHITE: I've admitted nothing. (MRS. PEACOCK: Nor have I.

37 INT. THE STUDY/WADSWORTH

makes himself heard above the hub-bub.

WADSWORTH Ladies and gentlemen -- the police have already been invited. They will be here in forty-five minutes. Tell them the truth and Mr. Boddy will be behind bars.

They all stare at him in panic. Then MR. BODDY walks to the door.

WADSWORTH (continuing) Where are you going this time?

(CONTINUED)

35.

CONTINUED:

37

MR. BODDY I think I can help them make up their minds. May I just get my little bag from the Hall?

WADSWORTH is puzzled. And worried.

38 INT. THE HALL

MR. BODDY emerges from the Study and crosses the Hall. He picks his case up and returns to the Study. HIGH SHOT.

39 INT. THE STUDY

MR. BODDY re-enters, leaving the door open. He places his attache case on the desk, turns to face his victims.

MR. BODDY Can anybody guess what's in here?

They look at each other, nonplussed.

Oh, yes.

MRS. WHITE The evidence against us, no doubt.

MR. BODDY smiles, shakes his head and opens the case. In the case are six giftwrapped parcels. He hands one to each of his SIX GUESTS.

> MISS SCARLET We didn't know we were meeting you tonight. Did you know you were meeting us?

> > MR. BODDY

MRS. WHITE What were you told precisely?

MR. BODDY Merely that you were all meeting to discuss our little... financial arrangements. And that if I did not appear, Wadsworth would be informing the police about it all. Naturally I could hardly resist putting in an appearance.

They are all staring at the smug, complacent, loathsome figure of MR. BODDY.

(CONTINUED)

36.

39 CONTINUED:

MR. BODDY (continuing) Open them.

They look at the presents in their hands. MR. BODDY pours himself a brandy from the decanter, sniffs the bouquet, and sips it.

MISS SCARLET shrugs.

MISS SCARLET Why not? I enjoy getting presents from strange men.

She carefully removes the ribbon, the wrapping paper and comes to -- a cardboard box. Slowly she lifts the lid. Puzzled, she lifts out a heavy brass candlestick. She looks at MR. BODDY.

> MISS SCARLET (continuing) A candlestick? What's this for?

MR. BODDY looks around the group.

MR. BODDY Nobody else going to open up? Go on, pretend it's Christmas.

MRS. WHITE opens her present, and finds a rope. Then COLONEL MUSTARD, who gets a wrench. MR. GREEN gets a lead pipe. MRS. PEACOCK gets a dagger, and PROFESSOR PLUM opens his present. It contains a revolver.

They look at their gifts at first in confusion and, as the revolver appears, in horror.

MR. BODDY (continuing) In your hands you each have a lethal weapon. If you denounce me to the police, you will also be exposed and humiliated... I'll see to that in court.

CONTINUED (2):

39

He is walking around the room, coming face to face with each of them in turn as he speaks.

MR. BODDY (continuing) But, if one of you kills Wadsworth now, no one but the seven of us will ever know.

WADSWORTH reacts, appalled, as the others eye him speculatively, weapons at the ready.

MR. BODDY (continuing) He has the key to the front door, which he told me would only be opened over his dead body.

MR. BODDY is now face to face with WADSWORTH.

MR. BODDY (continuing) I suggest we take him up on that offer.

He crosses to the door of the Study, and turns to face them all.

MR. BODDY (continuing) The only way to avoid finding yourselves on the front pages is for one of you to kill Wadsworth. Now!

And, standing right beside the door to the Study, he switches off the lights.

The room, and the SCREEN, are plunged into BLACKNESS. Thuds. Gasps. Screams. A gun-shot. A sound of shattering glass or china. Scuffles. Groans. The lights are switched on - and MR. BODDY LIES on the floor. Prone. Face down.

Everyone else is standing where they were standing when the lights went out. CAMERA has HIGH POV, directly above the centre of the room, looking down.

They all stare at MR. BODDY, then rush towards him.

MRS. WHITE Is he alive? 38. *

39 CONTINUED (3):

-40

PROFESSOR PLUM Stand back -- give him air -let me see!

They move back. PROFESSOR PLUM gives him a hasty examination. Then he looks up.

PROFESSOR PLUM (continuing) He's dead.

There is stunned silence.

MRS. WHITE Who had the gun?

PROFESSOR PLUM stands up, surprised.

PROFESSOR PLUM

I did.

The gun is now on the floor, nearby.

MRS. PEACOCK (hysterically) So you shot him!

PROFESSOR PLUM I didn't!!

MRS. PEACOCK Well, you had the gun. If you didn't, who did?

PROFESSOR PLUM Nobody! Look, there's no gunshot wound.

PROFESSOR PLUM turns MR. BODDY over. They all look at his front. He's right -- there's no bullet wound.

PROFESSOR PLUM (continuing) Somebody tried to grab the gun in the dark. And the gun went off.

(he looks around) Look, the bullet broke that vase on the mantel.

COLONEL MUSTARD crosses over to have a look.

(CONTINUED)

39.

COLONEL MUSTARD He's right. And there's a bullet lodged in the panelling. Here! See?

They all cross to have a look at it.

MR. GREEN So how did he die?

They all stare accusingly at PROFESSOR PLUM.

PROFESSOR PLUM (angrily) I don't know. I'm not a forensic expert.

MRS. WHITE comments in her soft-spoken way:

MRS. WHITE But one of us must have killed him.

This quiet observation produces a fearful silence. They all look at each other nervously, aware that a murderer is present amongst them.

> MR. GREEN I didn't do it!!!

MRS. PEACOCK I need a drink.

She puts down the dagger and picks up the brandy goblet that MR. BODDY placed on the table near the door just before the lights went out. She raises it to her lips, and sips a little.

> PROFESSOR PLUM Maybe he was poisoned!

MRS. PEACOCK screams, and drops the glass. She continues screaming, hysterically. After some moments of continued screaming, MR. GREEN slaps her face.

This stops her, abruptly.

They all look at him. More violence! Is he the murderer?

MR. GREEN (defensively) I had to stop her screaming.

CONTINUED (5):

COLONEL MUSTARD Was the brandy poisoned?

They all - except for MRS. PEACOCK who is half-sitting half-lying on the sofa - hurry over to look at the brandy goblet. But it lies broken on the floor.

MISS SCARLET Looks like we'll never know.

MR. GREEN Unless she dies too.

They all hurry over to the sofa and stare at MRS. PEACOCK. She seems all right.

From another room comes a <u>TERRIBLE SCREAMING SCOUND</u>. * They all freeze, and stare at each other in terror. Then, at once, MR. GREEN starts screaming too.

MR. GREEN

Aaaaaaagh!

COLONEL MUSTARD STOP SCREAMING, SIR!

The screaming from the other room is still continuing too. COLONEL MUSTARD grabs MR. GREEN by his lapels, then slaps his face.

> COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) WHY ARE YOU SCREAMING?

MR. GREEN BECAUSE I'M FRIGHTENED:

COLONEL MUSTARD

WHAT OF?

MR. GREEN SCREAMING. THERE'S SOMEBODY SCREAMING NEXT DOOR!

And indeed somebody is still screaming next door. They all rush out together and into the Hall.

INT. HALL

40

The GROUP rushes into the Hall. The screaming seems to be coming from the Billiard Room. It is still continuing. COLONEL MUSTARD tries the handle. The door is locked. He KNOCKS on the DOOR. He rattles the handle, then POUNDS on the DOOR again.

> COLONEL MUSTARD Open the door!

PROFESSOR PLUM It must be the murderer.

MR. GREEN Why would he scream?

MRS. WHITE He must have a victim in there. Oh my God, <u>Yvette?</u>!

MR. GREEN Oh my God!!

They bang on the door again. The SCREAMING stops.

MISS SCARLET Hello-oh! Yoo-hoo! Open the door.

At this moment YVETTE opens the door.

They rush in.

41 INT. BILLIARD ROOM

There is silence, apart from a faint rhythmic CLICKING SOUND.

WADSWORTH You're alive!

YVETTE No thanks to you.

She is furious.

WADSWORTH What do you mean?

YVETTE You lock me up with a murderer.

41 CONTINUED:

MRS. WHITE So the murderer is in this room.

YVETTE

Yes!!

MR. GREEN

Where?

He looks desperately at PROFESSOR PLUM who is standing next to him.

We're all looking at him.

They all look around desperately.

YVETTE

(continuing) Or her. It's what Mrs. White said in the Study: One of you is the killer.

PROFESSOR PLUM How do you know she said that?

She indicates the tape recorder, the reels still turning, a small piece of tape catching on a reel makes the CLICKING SOUND.

YVETTE

I was listening.

MRS. WHITE But why were you screaming in here, all by yourself?

YVETTE Because <u>I'm frightened</u>! Me too. I also drank the Cognac. Mon Dieu. (she starts to weep) I can't stay in here by myself.

MISS SCARLET Then come back to the Study with us.

YVETTE With a murderer!

COLONEL MUSTARD There's safety in numbers, my dear.

She nods. WADSWORTH switches off the tape recorder.

41

42 INT. STUDY

And they return to the Study. MR. BODDY is still lying there on the floor. MRS. PEACOCK sits on the sofa again. They stare at the scene.

> MR. GREEN Is there no indication of how he died?

> > PROFESSOR PLUM

No.

ANGLE ON WADSWORTH

WADSWORTH

This is terrible. This is absolutely terrible. This is not what I'd intended. OH MY GOD!

He crosses to a chair and sits. MRS. WHITE realizes the full impact of his remarks.

MRS. WHITE Not what you intended?

Then they all stare at him. WADSWORTH mops his brow.

MISS SCARLET So you're not the Butler?

WADSWORTH I'm not the butler. But I am a butler. In fact, I was his butler.

And WADSWORTH points to the body of MR. BODDY.

PROFESSOR PLUM So if he told you to invite us all to his house, why did he arrive late?

WADSWORTH confesses:

WADSWORTH I invited you. In fact, I wrote the letters. It was all my idea. (MORE)

CONTINUED:

42

Now WADSWORTH is building himself up into an emotional state, a panic attack. MRS. WHITE crosses to WADSWORTH.

MRS. WHITE

Wait a minute! I don't understand. Why did you invite us all here to meet your late employer? Were you assisting him to blackmail us?

WADSWORTH Certainly not!

MRS. WHITE (firmly) I think you'd better explain.

WADSWORTH Please sit down. Everyone.

They all take a seat. Unfortunately there are only seven possible places to sit. MR. GREEN gets to two or three of them a moment too late. Finally, as there is nowhere for him to sit, he perches on the edge of a table. He settles himself comfortably to listen.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Right. When I ...

MR. GREEN'S table collapses. And with it go the lamp, bottle of liquor and glasses that were on it. MR. GREEN, very embarrassed, picks himself up.

> MR. GREEN I'm sorry, I'm a little accident prone.

COLONEL MUSTARD (not hearing) He's a little what?

MISS SCARLET He's a little jerk!

MISS SCARLET lights up another of her ever-present cigarettes.

42

WADSWORTH

When I said that I was Mr. Boddy's butler, this was both true and misleading. I was once his butler, but it was not his untimely death this evening which brought my employment with him to an end. Oh, no!

COLONEL MUSTARD When <u>did</u> it come to an end?

WADSWORTH

When my wife decided to... end her life. She too was being blackmailed by this odious man who now lies dead before us. He hated my wife for the same reason that he hated all of you. He believed that you were all thoroughly un-American. For some reason he felt it was inappropriate for a Senator to have a corrupt wife, for a doctor to screw his patients, for a wife to emasculate her husband, and so forth.

He is speaking wihtout irony. WADSWORTH is a very sincere fellow who always tries to understand.

MR. GREEN

But this is ridiculous. If he was such a patriotic American, why didn't he report us to the relevant authorities?

WADSWORTH

He decided to turn his information to good use and make a little money out of it. What could be more American than that? Mr.Boddy was truly an apostle of free enterprise. He became a rich man...

(darkly)

But money is the fruit of all evil.

PROFESSOR PLUM

And what was your role in all this?

WADSWORTH

I was a victim, too. At least my wife was.

WADSWORTH, now tearful, wipes his eye with the back of his hand. MRS. WHITE offers him her handkerchief.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Well, we all make mistakes. But Mr. Boddy threatened to give my wife's name to the House Un-American Activities Committee unless she named them. She refused -- and so he blackmailed her. We had no money -- and the price of his silence was that we worked for him for nothing. We were slaves. Well, to make a long story short...

COLONEL MUSTARD (to MRS. PEACOCK) Too late.

WADSWORTH The suicide of my wife preyed on my mind and created a sense of injustice in me, and I resolved to put Mr. Boddy behind bars. It seemed to me that the best way to do it -- and to free all of you from the same burden of blackmail -- was to get us all face to face, confront Mr. Boddy with his crimes, extract a confession and then turn him over to the police.

PROFESSOR PLUM stands, and looks at the OTHERS, relieved that he understands what has been going on.

PROFESSOR PLUM So! Everything is explained.

MRS. PEACOCK nods vigorously. MISS SCARLET shakes her head.

MISS SCARLET Nothing's explained. We don't know who did it.

WADSWORTH The point is, we must find out within the next forty minutes -before the police arrive.

42, CONTINUED (4):

-29

MRS. PEACOCK leaps to her feet.

MRS. PEACOCK The police? Coming here? Oh my God! The scandal. I'm a Senator's wife. I'll be ruined.

MR. GREEN But... how can we possibly find out which of you did it?

They all stare at him.

PROFESSOR PLUM What do you mean -- which of you did it?

MR. GREEN Well, <u>I</u> didn't do it!

WADSWORTH One of us did. We all had the opportunity. We all had a motive.

MISS SCARLET We'll all go to the chair.

They all gaze at each other in further horror. Then PROFESSOR PLUM gets an idea.

PROFESSOR PLUM Maybe it wasn't one of us!

COLONEL MUSTARD Who else could it have been?

PROFESSOR PLUM Who else is in the house?

WADSWORTH/YVETTE (together) Only the cook.

ALL GUESTS THE COOK!

And as a GROUP, en masse, they rush out of the Study.

43 INT. THE HALL

EVERYBODY rushes across the Hall to the Kitchen.

INT. THE KITCHEN

44

It is a large old-fashioned Kitchen, with a range, an oven, an old porcelain sink. Flagstones. And no COOK. The room is empty. The GUESTS, and YVETTE, rush in. They stop. They look around.

MR. GREEN

She's not here.

And beside him, a cupboard door groans and opens. The COOK falls face first out of the cupboard. Dead. She has a knife in her back. The dagger.

MISS SCARLET screams.

MISS SCARLET Aaaaaaaaargh!!

The COOK is in MR. GREEN's arms. He just stands aghast, near to tears, holding her up.

MR. GREEN I didn't do it!!

They all stare at him.

MR. GREEN (continuing) Well, <u>help</u> me, somebody.

MRS. WHITE, COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET hurry forward, and help MR. GREEN lower the body of the COOK to the floor. MRS. WHITE reaches for the knife.

> COLONEL MUSTARD Don't touch it!

MRS. WHITE stops just in time.

COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) It's evidence.

WADSWORTH Not for us. We have to find out who did this -- and we can't take fingerprints.

50.

CONTINUED (2):

44

COLONEL MUSTARD stands up and stares grimly at WADSWORTH.

COLONEL MUSTARD I think you'd better explain yourself, Wadsworth.

WADSWORTH Me? Why me?

MR. GREEN Who would want to kill the Cook?

MISS SCARLET The dinner wasn't that bad.

COLONEL MUSTARD eyes her menacingly. He is not amused.

WADSWORTH (gravely) I'm afraid she has reaped the fruits of her evil and received her just desserts.

MISS SCARLET If this was dessert, I'm glad I said no.

COLONEL MUSTARD can contain himself no longer. He turns on MISS SCARLET.

COLONEL MUSTARD How can you make jokes at a time like this?

MISS SCARLET (tough) It's my defense mechanism.

COLONEL MUSTARD Some defense! If I were the killer I'd kill you next.

MRS. WHITE and MRS. GREEN both stare at him and: then slowly back away, terrified.

> COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) I said "if." "If." That's all. (more)

50Å.

CONTINUED:

44

COLONEL MUSTARD (cont'd) After all, there's only one admitted killer here, and that's not me. It's her.

MRS. WHITE I admitted nothing.

COLONEL MUSTARD You paid the blackmail. How many husbands have you had?

MRS. WHITE Mine or other women's?

COLONEL MUSTARD

MRS. WHITE Five.

COLONEL MUSTARD

MRS. WHITE Yes, just the five. Husbands should be like Kleenex - strong, soft, and disposable.

COLONEL MUSTARD So you don't believe in marriage?

MRS. WHITE I certainly do. Perhaps it's because I was educated in a convent, but I'm in the habit.

COLONEL MUSTARD You lure men to their death like a spider with flies.

MRS. WHITE You're right. Flies are where men are most vulnerable.

51.

CONTINUED (3)

COLONEL MUSTARD (cont'd) (very uncomfortable) Well, if it wasn't you, who was it? Who had the dagger? It was you, wasn't it, Mrs. Peacock?

They all turn to look at her, standing in the doorway, next to PROFESSOR PLUM, her eyes averted from the dead body. She is suddenly frightened. She licks her lips anxiously.

> MRS. PEACOCK Yes. But I put it down.

PROFESSOR PLUM Where?

MRS. PEACOCK In the Study.

PROFESSOR PLUM

When?

MRS. PEACOCK I don't know. Before I fainted, after I fainted, who knows? But any of you could have picked it up.

A pause.

WADSWORTH

Look -- I suggest that we move the Cook's body into the Study.

COLONEL MUSTARD

Why?

WADSWORTH (irritated)

I like to keep the Kitchen tidy!

COLONEL MUSTARD

Got it!

WADSWORTH steps forward to the body. PROFESSOR PLUM, COLONEL MUSTARD and MR. GREEN help. The COOK was a big hefty lady, but somehow they lift her up and cart her out of the Kitchen, PROFESSOR PLUM and WADSWORTH taking an arm each, COLONEL MUSTARD and MR. GREEN taking a leg each.

45 INT. THE STUDY

PROFESSOR PLUM, COLONEL MUSTARD, MR. GREEN and WADSWORTH stagger into the Study. We see a WIDE or HIGH VIEW of the room. It is empty. The same HIGH POV.

Where MR. BODDY's corpse was, there is nothing. PROFESSOR PLUM realizes it first.

PROFESSOR PLUM

Look!

What???

COLONEL MUSTARD, MR. GREEN and WADSWORTH react in fear.

ALL THREE

PROFESSOR PLUM

The body's gone.

PROFESSOR PLUM has already let go of the COOK's right arm.

Now, aghast, WADSWORTH lets go of the COOK's left arm. The COOK's top end immediately drops and her head hits the floor with a terrible thud. None of the lifters notice this. They are staring, frightened, at the place where MR. BODDY previously lay. MRS. PEACOCK tries to enter, but she can't get into the room because the FOUR MEN and the COOK's corpse are more or less blocking the doorway.

> MRS. PEACOCK What are you all staring at?

> > MR. GREEN

Nothing.

MRS. PEACOCK Well - who's there?

COLONEL MUSTARD

Nobody.

MRS. PEACOCK What do you mean?

WADSWORTH (panic-stricken) Nobody. No body. That's what we mean. Mr. Boddy's body. It's gone.

53.

CONTINUED:

45

Meanwhile MISS SCARLET, MRS. WHITE and YVETTE are crowding into the doorway.

MRS. WHITE Maybe he wasn't dead.

PROFESSOR PLUM

MRS. WHITE

We should have made sure.

MRS. PEACOCK How? By cutting his head off, I suppose?

MRS. WHITE turns on MRS. PEACOCK.

He was!

MRS. WHITE (angrily) That wasn't called for.

MISS SCARLET Well, where is he?

WADSWORTH We'd better look for him.

MR. GREEN and COLONEL MUSTARD let go of her legs, and both feet thud to the floor. Tentatively, perhaps with EERIE MUSIC, they all search the Study -- opening cupboards, under sofas, under the desk. But there's no sign of the body. Finally, they all stop and stare at each other, completely bemused.

> MR. GREEN He couldn't have been dead.

PROFESSOR PLUM is utterly mystified.

PROFESSOR PLUM He was! At least, I thought he was. But... what difference does it make now?

MISS SCARLET

(dryly) It makes quite a difference to him. (to MRS. WHITE) Maybe there is life after death.

MRS. WHITE Life after death is as unlikely as sex after marriage.

WADSWORTH Well, we've got to find out. The police will be here in

(CONTINUED)

(MORE)

45 CONTINUED (2):

WADSWORTH (CONT'D) (looks at his watch) ... Thirty-five minutes, and we have another corpse on our hands.

MR. GREEN has an inspiration.

MR. GREEN Maybe he killed the Cook.

MRS. PEACOCK/MISS SCARLET

Yes.

How?

A silence. They can't work it out.

MRS. PEACOCK

(legs slightly crossed) Well, if you'll excuse me, I have to... er... to... er... is there a ladies' room in the hall?

WADSWORTH

VVETTE Oui oui, madame.

MRS. PEACOCK No, I just want to powder my nose.

MRS. PEACOCK hurries out. Meanwhile MISS SCARLET has picked up the envelope that WADSWORTH had opened earlier, and produced some photographic negatives. She's intrigued.

> MISS SCARLET What's this, Wadsworth?

WADSWORTH steps forward to reclaim them.

WADSWORTH I'm afraid those are the negatives to which Colonel Mustard earlier referred.

COLONEL MUSTARD

My God!

He also steps in.

54.

45 CONTINUED (3):

MISS SCARLET Were you planning to blackmail him, Wadsworth?

WADSWORTH is appalled at the idea.

WADSWORTH Certainly not. I had obtained them for the Colonel and I was going to give them back when Mr. Boddy was unmasked.

MISS SCARLET looks at the negatives.

MISS SCARLET

Hmm. Very pretty. (she scrutinizes them) Would you like to see these, Yvette, they might shock you.

YVETTE (primly) No, thank you. I am a lady.

MISS SCARLET And how do you know what sort of pictures they are, if you're such a lady?

PROFESSOR PLUM What sort of pictures are they?

COLONEL MUSTARD steps in to MISS SCARLET.

COLONEL MUSTARD How dare you, Madam. Give them to me at once!!

MISS SCARLET No -- I think there's something in them that concerns me too.

They struggle over the negatives.

PROFESSOR PLUM

Let me see.

He grabs them. MRS. WHITE, MISS SCARLET and MR. GREEN look over his shoulder.

MRS. WHITE Nobody can get into that position. 55.

45 CONTINUED (4):

PROFESSOR PLUM Sure they can, I'll show you.

He swings her around and down onto the sofa and is about to climb on top of her.

MRS. WHITE

Get off me!!

PROFESSOR PLUM Just demonstrating.

46 INT. THE HALL

Meanwhile, MRS. PEACOCK has found the door of the Bathroom under the stairs. She tugs at it. It won't open. She tugs again, the door opens -- and the body of MR. BODDY falls out. She screams. Blood is dripping from his head. He falls against her. She screams and screams.

47 INT. THE STUDY

All the OTHERS hear the screaming.

WADSWORTH It's Mrs. Peacock!

He rushes out into the Hall. The OTHERS follow, WADSWORTH grabbing the negatives from MISS SCARLET as he goes, and dumping them on the table.

48 INT. THE HALL

MRS. PEACOCK is fighting off MR. BODDY, who is falling all over her. The OTHERS run towards her. There is blood all over her face.

> PROFESSOR PLUM It's Mr. Boddy.

MR. GREEN He's attacking her.

WADSWORTH and MR. GREEN pull him off her. And they realize that he now has visible injuries. His head has been bashed. Blood is everywhere.

> MRS. WHITE No, he's not. He's dead.

CONTINUED:

48

They lay him down.

WADSWORTH Mr. Boddy? Dead? AGAIN?

MRS. PEACOCK (faintly) Oh my God!

WADSWORTH and PROFESSOR PLUM see her.

WADSWORTH She's going to faint!

PROFESSOR PLUM Catch her.

WADSWORTH I'll catch you. Fall into my arms. 57.

(CONTINUED)

Standing behind her, WADSWORTH holds out his arms to catch her. She faints straight through them and ends up on the floor in a heap.

> WADSWORTH (continuing) Sorry.

MR. GREEN looks at his bloodied hands. So do all the OTHERS.

ANGLE ON MRS. WHITE

MRS. WHITE You've got blood on your hands.

MR. GREEN I didn't do it!!!

WADSWORTH He's got new injuries. He's certainly dead now. Why would anyone want to

kill him twice?

He goes into the toilet, to look for clues.

MISS SCARLET It seems so ... unnecessary.

COLONEL MUSTARD (reasonably) It's what we call overkill.

PROFESSOR PLUM

It's what we call psychotic.

48

49

MR. GREEN (insisting) Unless he wasn't dead before.

PROFESSOR PLUM What's the difference?

WADSWORTH That's what we're trying to find out! We are trying to find out who killed him, and where, and with what!!

PROFESSOR PLUM There's no need to shout!

WADSWORTH

(continuing) All right. I am! I'm shouting! I'm shouting! I'm shouting!

He stops shouting and, purple in the face, glares at them defiantly. And the heavy brass candlestick wobbles and topples off the top of the door frame of the loo and hits him on the head. It is bloodstained. He reels. He jolts to the floor.

EXT. THE ROAD

The rain is still pelting down. RUMBLING THUNDER. Racing clouds. A car is driving down the twisting road near the gates. It is going fast.

CLOSE-UP - THE MOTORIST

at the wheel, tense, worried.

EXT. ROAD - ANGLE - CAR

going too fast! It races round a bend, and a cat leaps out into the beam of the headlights. The MOTORIST swerves to avoid it. the CAR SKIDS. 58.

INT. THE STUDY

PROFESSOR PLUM, COLONEL MUSTARD, and MR. GREEN are lugging MR. BODDY into the Study. They put him down in the doorway, because their path is blocked by the COOK's body. COLONEL MUSTARD takes command.

> COLONEL MUSTARD All right, I'm in command now. Move the Cook.

MRS. WHITE, MISS SCARLET and YVETTE clamber over the body and start to drag the COOK along the floor on her back. The dagger is still sticking out of her back.

> COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) Put the corpses on the sofa.

The MEN hesitate, too dazed to do anything. COLONEL MUSTARD prompts them, indicating the COOK.

COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) Ladies first.

The MEN put down MR. BODDY's body, and help the LADIES lift the COOK up onto the sofa. PROFESSOR PLUM is mesmerized by YVETTE's breasts as she bends forward.

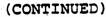
> WADSWORTH Careful. Don't get blood on the sofa. Look, Professor!

PROFESSOR PLUM I'm looking, I'm looking!

YVETTE How do we do this? The dagger will go further into her back.

COLONEL MUSTARD Tip her forward, over the arm.

They do so.



50 CONTINUED:

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COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) Now Mr. Boddy.

They haul him up onto the sofa, next to the COOK. Panting, they stand back.

COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) Now -- who had access to the candlestick?

MISS SCARLET All of us.

MRS. WHITE You were given it.

MISS SCARLET Yes, but I dropped it when the lights went out. Anyone could have picked it up. You -- him --

WADSWORTH Look -- there are still all these weapons -- the rope, the wrench, the lead pipe, the gun -- let's put them in this cupboard and lock it. There's a homicidal maniac about.

ALL Yes. / Good idea. / Great. / Lock 'em up.

WADSWORTH, helped by the OTHERS, puts the remaining weapons into the cupboard, and locks the door. He puts the key in his pocket.

> MR. GREEN What are you doing with the key?

WADSWORTH Putting it in my pocket.

MR. GREEN

Why?

WADSWORTH To keep it safe, obviously.

50 CONTINUED (2):

MRS. PEACOCK But that means you can open it whenever you want.

WADSWORTH It also means that you can't.

MRS. PEACOCK But what if you're the murderer?

WADSWORTH (simply) I'm not.

COLONEL MUSTARD (persisting) But what if you are?

WADSWORTH It has to be put <u>somewhere</u>! And if I've got it, I know I'm safe.

MRS. PEACOCK (emphatically) But we don't know we are.

MR. GREEN So where do we leave it?

YVETTE In the lock?

WADSWORTH (scathing) Brilliant! (he thinks) I've an idea -- we'll throw it away.

He rushes out of the Study. The OTHERS follow.

51 INT. THE HALL

Led by WADSWORTH, they all rush to the front door. WADSWORTH throws open the door, pulls back his arm rapidly -- preparatory to throwing the key into the night -- and realizes that he is standing face to face with the MOTORIST.

51 CONTINUED:

The MOTORIST thinks that WADSWORTH is about to punch him, and he half ducks and puts up his hands to defend himself and to stave off the attack. WADSWORTH's throwing arm freezes.

> WADSWORTH Oh. Sorry. Sorry. Um... can we help?

MOTORIST'S POV

He sees that eight people are packed into the front door, staring at him with various expressions of fear, suspicion, and hysteria.

BACK TO SCENE

MOTORIST

I'm sorry... I didn't mean to disturb the whole household... but my car broke down out here and I was wondering if I could use your phone?

WADSWORTH Just a moment, please.

MOTORIST'S POV - ALL EIGHT PEOPLE

turn in amongst themselves for a hasty whispered conference. -- Occasional words float out of the huddle: "He wants to use the phone"... "I say 'no'"... "What's he doing round here?"... "How can we say no?"... "All right? Yes. Yes. Agree."

WADSWORTH turns, and tries to look as dignified and normal as possible.

WADSWORTH Very well, sir. Would you like to come in?

The MOTORIST steps in. ALL EIGHT PEOPLE just stare at him.

MOTORIST Well... where is it?

WADSWORTH What? The body?

51 CONTINUED (2):

He inadvertently let the question slip out. The OTHERS react.

MOTORIST The phone. What body?

WADSWORTH There's no body. Nobody. There's nobody in the Study.

He points to the Study door. The MOTORIST starts walking towards it. Simultaneously.EVERYONE realizes that that is where the BODIES are.

ALL

N00000011

WADSWORTH No, no, that's been disconnected, but I think there's one in the Lounge.

Thank you.

WADSWORTH

MOTORIST

Walk this way.

He sets off, doing his usual dignified Butler walk. The MOTORIST, realizing that all eyes are on him, follows WADSWORTH in an exact imiation of WADSWORTH's idiosyncratic walk.

52 INT. THE LOUNGE

WADSWORTH indicates the phone to the MOTORIST.

WADSWORTH

When you've made your call, perhaps you would be good enough to wait here?

MOTORIST

Certainly.

WADSWORTH retreats to the door, opens it, goes out, and shuts the door. The MOTORIST is now alone in the Lounge.

62.

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53

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INT. THE HALL - CLOSEUP - WADSWORTH

as he shuts the door. He jumps. COLONEL MUSTARD is right behind him.

WADSWORTH'S POV - COLONEL MUSTARD

miming locking the Lounge door.

BACK TO SCENE

WADSWORTH nods, and turns the key.

54 INT. THE LOUNGE

The MOTORIST is about to dial when he sees and HEARS a KEY BEING TURNED in the mortice lock. He realizes that he is locked in. He is very anxious.

55 INT. THE HALL

WADSWORTH leaves the key in the lock. He turns to face the SIX GUESTS and YVETTE, who are all staring at him.

> COLONEL MUSTARD Now -- where's that key?

WADSWORTH nods towards the door.

WADSWORTH Still in the lock.

PROFESSOR PLUM Not that key. The key to the cupboard. With the weapons.

WADSWORTH You still wish me to throw it away?

ALL

WADSWORTH

Very well.

Yes.

He walks to the front door. One of the GUESTS opens it for him. He takes the key from his pocket.

56 EXT. FRONT DOOR

This time there is no one waiting outside. He hurls the key far up and away, and it lands in a distant shrubbery, never to be seen again. The front door shuts.

63.

WADSWORTH What now? We've got... (he looks at his watch) ... twenty-five minutes left till the police get here.

COLONEL MUSTARD I need a drink.

There is a general chorus of "Me, too" from the GUESTS. COLONEL MUSTARD leads off to the Library. ALL follow. As they pass the Study door, the COLONEL stops and looks in. MR. BODDY and the COOK are still lying dead on the sofa.

> COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) Just checking.

MRS. PEACOCK Everything all right?

COLONEL MUSTARD Yes. Two corpses. Everything's fine.

WADSWORTH, bringing up the rear, speaks to himself incredulously.

WADSWORTH Two corpses. Everything's <u>fine</u>?

But COLONEL MUSTARD is leading them all into the Library.

58 INT. THE LIBRARY

Everyone stands around nervously. COLONEL MUSTARD pours himself a stiff drink, and tries to take charge.

COLONEL MUSTARD Anyone else want a whiskey?

MISS SCARLET, MR. GREEN, and PROFESSOR PLUM all step forward to help themselves.

COLONEL MUSTARD (continuing) Right. Pay attention everyone. Wadsworth, am I right in thinking that there is nobody else in this house.

- R 🗩

PROFESSOR PLUM If we throw him out he may get even more suspicious.

COLONEL MUSTARD If I were him I'd be suspicious already.

MRS. PEACOCK Look, that guy <u>doesn't</u> <u>matter</u>! Let him stay locked up for another half an hour. Who cares? The police will be here by then, and there are TWO DEAD BODIES IN THE STUDY.

ALL

Sshh!!!

MR. GREEN (intense whisper) Well, what do you suggest??

The COLONEL pulls himself together and takes a swig of his drink. Either the alcohol or the panic seems to have caused his brain to seize up.

COLONEL MUSTARD There seems to be confusion about whether or not we are the only people in this house.

WADSWORTH is getting angry now.

WADSWORTH I told you there isn't.

COLONEL MUSTARD (irritated again) You mean there isn't any confusion or there isn't anybody else?

WADSWORTH (confused) Either. Or both.

COLONEL MUSTARD Then give me a clear answer.

WADSWORTH Certainly! (MORE)

WADSWORTH (cont'd) (a beat) What was the question?

COLONEL MUSTARD Is there anyone else in the house?

ALL

NO!

COLONEL MUSTARD is still unsure, and he eyes WADSWORTH with a steely eye.

COLONEL MUSTARD

(darkly)

That's what he says! But does he know? I suggest we handle this in a proper military fashion. Split up and search the house.

This suggestion causes a feeling of mild panic in the GROUP.

> MRS. PEACOCK Split up?

Yes.

COLONEL MUSTARD

(he looks at his watch) ... we haven't much time, so let's split up into pairs.

PROFESSOR PLUM

Pairs?

COLONEL MUSTARD

Yes.

PROFESSOR PLUM looks around at the OTHERS. Clearly he has deep misgivings.

> PROFESSOR PLUM Wait a minute! Suppose that one of us is the murderer. If we split up into pairs, whichever one of us is left alone with the killer might be killed!

> > (CONTINUED)

67.

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COLONEL MUSTARD (triumphantly) Then we would have discovered who the murderer was.

MRS. PEACOCK Yes, but the other half of the pair would be <u>dead</u>!

COLONEL MUSTARD is quite philosophical about this. He shrugs.

> COLONEL MUSTARD This is war. Casualties are inevitable. You can't make an omelette without breaking eggs. Every cook will tell you that.

MRS. PEACOCK Yes, but look what happened to the Cook!

There is a pause, while they all consider what happened to the COOK.

MR. GREEN Are you willing to take that chance?

COLONEL MUSTARD What choice have we?

He waits, expecting a chorus of agreement. After several moments, they all mutter -- 'none;' 'course not, ' not awfully convincing.

> YVETTE Bon D'accord. But it's dark upstairs and I'm frightened of the dark -- will anyone go with me?

> > PROFESSOR PLUM/COLONEL MUSTARD/ MR. GREEN/WADSWORTH

I will.

They all look at each other sheepishly.

WADSWORTH I suggest we draw lots for partners.

(CONTINUED)

58

480

CONTINUED (5):

He goes over to the fireplace and from the mantlepiece he takes a box of matches (or some long tapers). He leaves the Library, gesturing to the OTHERS to follow him.

59 INT. HALL

58

WADSWORTH, followed by ALL THE OTHERS, crosses the Hall to the Kitchen.

60 INT. THE KITCHEN

WADSWORTH comes into the Kitchen, crosses to a drawer, and produces a sharp carving knife. He turns abruptly, knife in hand. THE OTHERS gasp, step back, WADSWORTH is unaware of this. He sets about cutting the matches into eight different lengths. Then, carefully, his back the THE OTHERS, he places the matches in his hand so that no one can tell their lengths. He turns to face them.

WADSWORTH

Ready? The shortest with the second shortest. Agreed? And let's say the two shortest search the cellar, and so on up.

They nod and, one by one, accompanied by TENSE MUSIC, they pick out the matchsticks. Then they compare lengths. And the result? WADSWORTH is paired with MRS. WHITE, YVETTE with MR. GREEN, COLONEL MUSTARD with MISS SCARLET, and PROFESSOR PLUM with MRS. PEACOCK.

> PROFESSOR PLUM Its you and me, honey.

MRS. PEACOCK (appalled) Yuck! (then) Why don't we all search the house together?

(CONTINUED)

WADSWORTH glances at his watch.

WADSWORTH We haven't the time. Let's go.

61 INT. THE HALL

ALL RIGHT GUESTS come out of the Kitchen and into the Hall. WE SEE them divide up into their pairs. PROFESSOR PLUM and MRS. PEACOCK separate from the other six and head towards a doorway that opens up Cellar stairs. WADSWORTH, MRS. WHITE, YVETTE and MR. GREEN all go up the main stairs. COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET remain in the Hall.

> COLONEL MUSTARD Well... we know what's in the Study. We've just come from the Library. And the Stranger is locked in the Lounge. So...?

MISS SCARLET Let's look at the Billiard Room again.

They cross the Hall, and carefully open the door to the Billiard Room.

62 INT. BILLIARD ROOM

COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET come in and nervously search it -- under the table, in the cupboards, behind the full-length drapes at the window... nobody else is there.

63 INT. THE SECOND FLOOR LANDING

WADSWORTH and MRS. WHITE are peering anxiously into a couple of dark bedrooms, slightly unwilling to go in.

WADSWORTH Are you going in there?

MRS. WHITE

Yes. Are you?

WADSWORTH

Yes.

80

63

64

They don't move. They stare at each other suspiciously.

WADSWORTH (continuing; decisively) Right!

MRS. WHITE

(equally decisively)

Right!

They don't move. WADSWORTH feels he should explain himself.

WADSWORTH I...er...I can't see a light switch.

MRS. WHITE Neither can I. But there must be switches by the beds.

WADSWORTH Shall I come in with you?

MRS. WHITE (emphatically) No! I mean... no, thank you.

He goes into the first Bedroom. She goes into the second. The landing is empty for a moment. CAMERA STAYS there. Then both their heads reappear around the doorways, checking on each other.

INT. ATTIC STAIRCASE

The rain is still pouring. The wind is howling. MR. GREEN and YVETTE pause at the foot of the staircase.

MR. GREEN Do you want to go in front of me?

YVETTE

No.

MR. GREEN (reassuringly) I'm sure there's no one up there.

YVETTE Then you go in front.

MR. GREEN hesitates.

Okay.

But MR. GREEN doesn't move.

.65

INT. THE CELLAR STAIRS

PROFESSOR PLUM and MRS. PEACOCK are standing at the top of the cold flagstone steps. Cold brick walls.

MR. GREEN

PROFESSOR PLUM Well... ladies first.

She looks at the long steep staircase that falls away before her.

MRS. PEACOCK Er... no, you can go first.

PROFESSOR PLUM (very polite) No, no, I insist.

MRS. PEACOCK No, no, I insist.

PROFESSOR PLUM What are you frightened of, a fate worse than death?

MRS. PEACOCK No. Just death. Isn't that enough?

66 INT. HALL

COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET tentatively push open two big double doors at the far end of the Hall. They open into a huge dark cavernous space. (It is actually the Ballroom.)

COLONEL MUSTARD What room's this?

MISS SCARLET

Search me.

COLONEL MUSTARD (eagerly)

Okay.

(CONTINUED)

7:2.

è.

64**0**

He starts to run his hands over her body.

MISS SCARLET (scathingly) I didn't mean that literally, get your mitts off me!

He obeys hastily.

67 INT. ATTIC STAIRCASE

YVETTE and MR. GREEN have not moved. They are squeezed in, side by side, at the bottom of the narrow staircase.

GO ON. I'll be right behind you.

MR. GREEN That's why I'm nervous.

YVETTE Then let's go together.

MR. GREEN nods. Side by side they walk up the narrow staircase. There isn't room for them both! They look ridiculous, squeezed together.

68 INT. CELLAR STAIRS

Side by side PROFESSOR PLUM and MRS. PEACOCK are walking down the dark cellar stairs. It's not easy.

69 INT. THE HALL

Side by side, COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET try to get into the big dark room through the one open double door. It's not possible. They bang into each other. They separate. They go again -- they bang together again!

70 INT. FIRST BEDROOM

WADSWORTH is groping round in the first bedroom, trying to find a lamp.

WADSWORTH (terrified) If there's anyone in here -just look out! 73.

71 INT. SECOND BEDROOM

....

MRS. WHITE is doing the same thing in her room.

MRS. WHITE Are you hiding? I'm coming?

71A INT. FIRST BEDROOM

WADSWORTH looks under the bed, fearfully.

72 INT. THE CELLAR

PROFESSOR PLUM and MRS. PEACOCK have reached the bottom of the steps. Various dark rooms open out in front of them. Eyeing each other with the greatest suspicion, they back away and into separate rooms.

73 INT. FIRST BEDROOM

WADSWORTH finds a bedside lamp. CLOSE UP of WADSWORTH's hand switching it on.

74 INT. SECOND BEDROOM

MRS. WHITE, in the second Bedroom now sees a little because of the light spilling through an interconnecting door from the first Bedroom to the second. She sees the huge shadow of a person beside her.

MRS. WHITE . Who are you? Who is it? Who are you?

No reply. She sees a light switch, backs toward it, switches it on.

She looks round. She is in a children's nursery full of toys -- dolls, big bears, rocking horses, trains, etc. She has been talking to a big doll.

75 INT. BALLROOM

COLONEL MUSTARD or MISS SCARLET switch on a light. They see a huge Ballroom stretching before them, a piano at the end.

> COLONEL MUSTARD (pleased) Nobody here.

He hasn't even looked.

MISS SCARLET (nervously) Unless... in those cupboards or behind those curtains.

COLONEL MUSTARD's nerve fails him.

COLONEL MUSTARD You look, I'll search the Kitchen.

(CONTINUED)

74.

He goes. The long curtains move. She stares. They move again. MISS SCARLET goes slowly and fearfully towards the curtains. Sharply she pulls them back. Nobody there... just a broken pane of glass.

76 EXT. THE COUNTRY LANE

The MOTORIST's car stands just off the side of a road. Then we see that a POLICE patrol car is driving slowly down the road towards it.

77 INT. POLICE CAR

There is a COP alone in the patrol car. He sees the MOTORIST's abandoned car. He eyes it suspiciously. He pulls up some way past the MOTORIST's car.

77A INT. THE HALL

A gloved hand -- male or female, we can't tell -- removes the key from the lock in the Lounge door.

78 INT. THE STUDY

We see the desk in the Study. On it lies the envelope from which WADSWORTH has earlier withdrawn the letter which he reads to all the GUESTS.

The GLOVED HAND pulls the envelope from the desk. It pulls out NEGATIVES and PHOTOGRAPHS, one of MR. BODDY, another of THE COOK, another of MR. GREEN. Then one of the MOTORIST, the MOTORIST, in Army uniform, at the wheel of a Jeep.

NEW ANGLE

The photographs of COLONEL MUSTARD and YVETTE which were earlier left on the table, are being examined. We also see some letters and other papers. Then they are stuffed back into the envelope, which is thrown on to the blazing log fire. It burns up.

CAMERA MOVES WITH the GLOVED HAND, ACROSS TO the cupboard. They key is inserted into the lock, the door opens, and the weapons are revealed.

EXT. ROAD

79

The COP walks slowly, curiously, up towards the MOTORIST's car, and wanders around it.

75.

The MOTORIST is on the telephone.

MOTORIST

I'm a little nervous. I'm in this big house, and I've been locked into the Lounge... and the funny thing is, there's a whole group of people here having some sort of party and one of them is my old boss from...

Then, held in a gloved hand that could be male or female, the wrench comes INTO SHOT and hits the MOTORIST on the head. He falls. The PHONE drops. The wrench is dropped.

81 INT. THE BALLROOM

MISS SCARLET is leaving the BALLROOM. She comes out into the Hall. She calls nervously.

MISS SCARLET Colonel Mustard? Colonel Mustard?

COLONEL MUSTARD comes out of the Kitchen, and meets her.

COLONEL MUSTARD There's no one in the Kitchen.

MISS SCARLET Shall we try the Conservatory?

He nods. They go into it.

82 INT. CONSERVATORY

This is an eerie looking room, in the dark. Big trees and plants make weird shapes and shadows. But within a few moments COLONEL MUSTARD finds the light switch. And looks around.

COLONEL MUSTARD

Look!

He points. We see that a panel in the wall is slightly ajar. They cross to it. There are steps down into it. Into pitch darkness.

> MISS SCARLET Looks like a secret passage.

They look at each other nervously.

-20

MISS SCARLET (continuing) Shall we see where it leads?

There is a flashlight on a nearby shelf or table. COLONEL MUSTARD grabs it.

They look at each other, and then COLONEL MUSTARD steps in.

COLONEL MUSTARD What the hell! I'll go first. I've had a good life.

She follows him in.

83 AND OMITTED 84

86

85 INT. THE SECRET PASSAGE

TENSE MUSIC as they wind their way along a dark stone narrow passage. The COLONEL trips on something. He stumbles. It makes a big echoing noise.

COLONEL MUSTARD

God dammit!

His voice is amplified by the echoing tunnel.

INT. THE LOUNGE

The gloved hand switches off the light. Now there's only a little moonlight coming through a crack in the shutters.

MISS SCARLET and COLONEL MUSTARD emerge into the room.

COLONEL MUSTARD Why is it dark in here?

MISS SCARLET Because there's no light.

Suddenly she trips, or is pushed. She stumbles forward. He is pushed. He drops the flashlight. It goes out. Her foot catches the face of the dead MOTORIST. She falls over his body.

COLONEL MUSTARD What's that? What happened?

MISS SCARLET Did you push me?

COLONEL MUSTARD No. Did you push me?

MISS SCARLET No. I fell over.

COLONEL MUSTARD Did you hurt yourself?

MISS SCARLET No. I landed on something soft.

We can see what she's landed on. She feels around. Her hands finds the MOTORIST's head. She is shocked.

> MISS SCARLET (continuing) It's a body. (she realizes) Somebody else is in here!

The flashlight is switched on. It moves across the room.

MISS SCARLET (continuing). Who is it?

COLONEL MUSTARD swings around, swinging out his arm. His hand hits the flashlight held by the GLOVED HAND. Impact! The flashlight flies through the air. It lands on the floor. A shoe kicks it. It slides across the floor. It goes out.

> COLONEL MUSTARD The murderer's in here!

> MISS SCARLET I'm in here with a murderer!

COLONEL MUSTARD crashes over the body and falls on MISS SCARLET. She gasps.

88 INT. THE ATTIC

MR. GREEN and YVETTE are in the attic, picking their way among old junk, chests, grandfather clocks, suitcases, trunks, old family portraits and, above all, cobwebs and dust. They too have found a light switch and can now see what they are doing. From below comes the sudden SOUND of MISS SCARLET SCREAMING. 177 i .

77A.

88 CONTINUED:

MISS SCARLET (0.S.) Help! Help! Help!

YVETTE and MR. GREEN run towards the stairs.

88A THE LOUNGE

COLONEL MUSTARD is still lying on MISS SCARLET. She's trying to get away. He's trying to calm her down.

MISS SCARLET Leave me alone!

COLONEL MUSTARD It's me. Colonel Mustard.

MISS SCARLET So it's <u>you</u>!

COLONEL MUSTARD Of course it's me!

89 INT. SECOND FLOOR LANDING, AND HALL

WADSWORTH and MRS. WHITE emerge from their respective Bedrooms, hearing the screaming. Then, as YVETTE and MR. GREEN hurtle down the Attic stairs, they all run down the main stairs into the Hall. We MOVE WITH them. As they reach the main Hall, MRS. PEACOCK and PROFESSOR PLUM shoot out of the Cellar and collide with them. CRASH:

Meanwhile, from the Lounge we hear MISS SCARLET SCREAMING. The dialogue, as always, goes at tremendous speed.

> MISS SCARLET (0.S.) Aaaaaaaaaghhghghghgh!

> > MRS. WHITE

Who is it?

MR. GREEN Where's it coming from?

WADSWORTH The Lounge!

They all rush to the door of the Lounge. MR. GREEN tries to open it.

77B.

PROFESSOR PLUM The door's locked!

MR. GREEN I KNOW!

PROFESSOR PLUM Well, UNLOCK IT!

MR. GREEN The KEY'S GONE!

PROFESSOR PLUM Never mind about the key, unlock the door!

MR. GREEN is leaping up and down with rage and frustration.

MR. GREEN I CAN'T UNLOCK THE DOOR WITHOUT THE KEY!! (he bangs on the door) LET US IN! LET US IN!!

90 INT. THE LOUNGE

MISS SCARLET and COLONEL MUSTARD are banging on the door.

MISS SCARLET/COLONEL MUSTARD LET US OUT! LET US OUT!

90A INT. THE HALL

WADSWORTH has been unable to open the door.

WADSWORTH It's no good. (to the door) Stand back!!

He walks firmly back from the door. He is at his most macho.

WADSWORTH (continuing) There's no alternative. I'll have to break it down.

MISS SCARLET/COLONEL MUSTARD (O.S.) MURDER! HELP! MURDER!

MRS. PEACOCK loses her temper. She shouts at the door.

MRS. PEACOCK Will you <u>shut up</u>! We're doing our best.

YVETTE comes running out of the Study. The revolver is in her hand. She trips over WADSWORTH, whom she does not see writhing on the floor. The GUN GOES OFF as she falls. It shoots the gilt rope that holds up the chandelier above the Hall. The chandelier comes loose,* hanging on by a thread. Meanwhile, when the gun went * off, everyone else dived for cover behind furniture, or flat on the floor. YVETTE picks herself up, and runs to the locked Lounge door. She FIRES the GUN at the lock. The lock is shot away.

There is a pause. Complete silence. Then COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET open the door. They look shattered. EVERYONE ELSE picks themselves up.

> COLONEL MUSTARD Why were you shooting that thing at us?

> > YVETTE

To get you out.

COLONEL MUSTARD (appalled) You might have killed us. I can't take any more scares.

The Chandelier comes crashing down behind him. The shock frightens them all out of their wits.

MISS SCARLET (quietly)

Look.

She stands aside. They all peer in through the door and see the dead MOTORIST. Then they look at MISS SCARLET and COLONEL MUSTARD.

COLONEL MUSTARD

Aah!

(clutches his arm, then realizes) I've been shot! They're shooting at us! THEY'RE SHOOTING AT US!!

90E INT. THE HALL

The chandelier is hanging lopsided. CLOSER: We see it is hanging by a thread which is unwinding.

YVETTE picks herself up and runs to the locked Lounge door. The chandelier thread is unwinding faster. She FIRES THE GUN at the lock, once, then once again.

90F INT. THE LOUNGE

COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET flatten themselves against the wall, and dive for cover (respectively).

90G INT. THE HALL

The lock has been shot away. Pause.

YVETTE Come out. The door is open.

Complete silence. Then COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET open the door. They look shattered. EVERYONE ELSE picks themselves up. The chandelier rope is unwinding even faster!

> COLONEL MUSTARD Why were you shooting that thing at us?

YVETTE

To get you out.

The chandelier rope is unwinding at even greater speed. From a HIGH POV, beside the unwinding rope, looking down through the chandelier, we see that it is directly above COLONEL MUSTARD.

> COLONEL MUSTARD You might have killed us. I can't take any more scares.

77E.

90G CONTINUED:

He takes a step away, towards a chair or sofa. He is facing CAMERA. As he takes that step, the chandelier comes crashing down behind him. The shock almost gives him - and them - a heart attack!

MISS SCARLET (quickly)

She stands aside, and switches on the light in the lounge.

90H INT. THE LOUNGE

Look.

They all peer in through the door and see the DEAD MOTORIST, who lies in the foreground.

901 INT. THE HALL

MRS. WHITE He needed that hole in the head like a hole in the head.

MRS. PEACOCK Which of you did it?

COLONEL MUSTARD (outraged) We found him, together.

MISS SCARLET There's a secret passage from the Conservatory. See?

91 INT. THE LOUNGE

They all crowd into the Lounge and gape at the secret passage.

MISS SCARLET

It comes from the Conservatory.

MISS SCARLET, overwhelmed by her ordeal, sinks exhausted on to a sofa.

COLONEL MUSTARD Thank God you were able to get us out, Yvette.

They all look at YVETTE. She still has the gun in her hand. They all suddenly stare at the gun.

PROFESSOR PLUM Is that the same gun?

MRS. PEACOCK From the cupboard?

PROFESSOR PLUM But it was locked.

They all look at her!

YVETTE No. It was unlocked.

They are all amazed.

(CONTINUED)

77F.

.....

UNLOCKED?

ALL

YVETTE But yes, see for yourself.

92 INT. THE STUDY

Sure enough, the cupboard door is open. And the key is in the lock. They all rush in -- and, stopping abruptly, stare at it. Then MRS. PEACOCK turns accusingly on YVETTE.

MRS. PEACOCK How did you know it was unlocked? How did you know you could get at the gun?

YVETTE (defensive) I didn't. I think: I break it open - but it was open already.

MRS. PEACOCK (to the OTHERS) A likely story!!

And at this critical juncture the FRONT DOOR BELL RINGS. DING... DONG...

They all stand still, frozen in terror, not knowing whether to go to the front door or not.

MISS SCARLET Maybe they'll go away.

They wait. And hope. DING... DONG...

MISS SCARLET Maybe they'll go away.

They wait. And hope. DING... DONG...

> MR. GREEN I'm going to open it.

ALL

Why?

MR. GREEN I've nothing to hide. I didn't do it!!

He rushes out of the study. They all follow.

93 INT. THE HALL

They rush from the Study to the Hall, towards the front door.

94 INT./EXT. FRONT DOOR/HALL

Yes?

The COP is waiting outside the front door. Suddenly it is opened by MR. GREEN, with the seven OTHERS crowding the doorway beside and behind him.

COP

Good evening, sir.

MR. GREEN slams the front door in his face. A momentary pause, then MR. GREEN flings the door open again.

MR. GREEN

The COP appears slightly puzzled by this behavior, but after a moment he continues where he left off.

COP

I found an abandoned car near the gates of this house. Did the driver come here for help, by any chance?

They all try to smooth away his suspicions.

(CONTINUED)

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ALL (together, but not in unison) No, no, no, no, no, no...

But MR. GREEN feels he must tell the truth.

MR. GREEN Well, actually, yes.

ALL

NO!!

The COP eyes the group.

COP There seems to be some disagreement.

ALL No, no, no, no...

MR. GREEN

Yes.

The COP is not satisfied, apparently.

COP Can I come in and use the phone?

WADSWORTH is struggling to regain his usual composure.

WADSWORTH <u>Of course</u>, you may, sir, you may use the one in the... (he was about to indicate the Lounge) ... er... no, you can use the one in the Stu... No! Um. Would you be kind enough to wait in the... er... the Library.

COP

Sure.

He comes in. As he steps into the Hall, he notices YVETTE. He stops and eyes her suspiciously.

COP (continuing) Don't I know you from somewhere?

She gives a Gallic shrug.

COP

You all seem very anxious about something.

WADSWORTH Its because that chandelier fell down. It could have killed us.

MISS SCARLET hurries to the Lounge and PROFESSOR PLUM to the Study. They shut both doors fast (and therefore too loudly) as he walks by. SLAM! SLAM! One after the other! The COP notices. WADSWORTH shows the COP into the Library.

WADSWORTH

Please - help yourself to a drink, if you like.

The COP picks up the cognac.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Not the cognac -- just in case.

COP

In case of what?

But WADSWORTH has shut the door, also with a bang. And locked it. But this time he is in a big hurry, andleaves the key in the lock. He hurries back along the Hall, to where the SIX GUESTS and YVETTE are still standing, panic-stricken.

WADSWORTH

What now?

MR. GREEN We should've told him.

We see, and they see, the door handle being jiggled up and down.

MRS. PEACOCK It's all very well to say that now...

MR. GREEN (indignantly) I said it then!

(CONTINUED.)

94

94

ALL Oh, shut up!!

And they all look pretty threatening. So MR. GREEN shuts up.

95 INT. THE LIBRARY

The COP is trying to open the locked door. Puzzled, he leaves it and crosses to the telephone. He is about to lift the receiver when it RINGS. Very loud. He jumps.

Then he answers it.

(CONTINUED)

COP Hello? ... Yes? ... Okay, okay.

96 INT. THE HALL

WADSWORTH and the GROUP have frozen.

COLONEL MUSTARD Was that the phone?

WADSWORTH (his eyes widen) Maybe the Cop answered it.

They turn towards the Library door.

97 INT. THE LIBRARY

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The COP is on the phone.

COP And who shall I say is calling? (he listens, then replies sarcastically) Oh, yes? And I'm Harry Truman. (there is a torment of angry abuse shouted down the line) Okay, okay, sir, I'll try, sir. I apologize, but I'm locked in a room here...

He goes to the door, and jiggles the handle. Then he calls out through the door.

COP

(continuing) Let me outa here. You've no right to shut me in. I'll book you for false arrest, wrongful imprisonment, obstructing an officer in the course of his duty and murder!

There is a momentary pause. Then the key is jiggled, and unlocked. He sees, and opens the door. WADSWORTH, YVETTE, COLONEL MUSTARD, MR. GREEN, MISS SCARLET, MRS. WHITE, MRS. PEACOCK and PROFESSOR PLUM are all standing there. WADSWORTH speaks with as much innocence as he can muster.

97

WADSWORTH What do you mean, murder?

The COP grins.

COP

I just said that to make you open the door. But what's going on here? Why did you lock me in? And why are you receiving phone calls from J. Edgar Hoover?

WADSWORTH was about to answer one of the first questions, but this last inquiry floors him.

WADSWORTH

What?

COP J. Edgar Hoover's on the line.

WADSWORTH

J. Edgar Hoover?

COP

That's right. The Head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

ALL

The Federal Bureau of Investigation?

COLONEL MUSTARD Why is J. Edgar Hoover on your phone?

WADSWORTH

I don't know!! But he's on everybody else's; why shouldn't he be on mine?

He goes into the Library. He is about to shut the door, when he hesitates and prudently removes the key from the lock. He shuts the door.

98 INT. THE HALL

The COP is left standing in the Hall with the OTHERS.

COP

What's going on here?

MISS SCARLET We're having a party. 83.

98

COP

Mind if I look around?

They all stare at him with desperation in their eyes. Except for MISS SCARLET.

> MISS SCARLET Sure. You show him around, Mr. Green.

MR. GREEN (squeaking, hysterically frightened) Me????

MISS SCARLET Yes. Why don't you show him the Dining Room - or the Kitchen - or the Ballroom.

> MR. GREEN (still squeaking)

Fine.

(he pulls himself together, and lowers his voice two octaves) Fine! Come with me, officer, I'll show you the Dining Room - or the Kitchen or the Ballroom.

And he leads him away, the COP going somewhat reluctantly, his eyes lingering on the Study and Lounge doors. As the COP and MR. GREEN disappear into the Dining Room, MISS SCARLET turns to the OTHERS.

> MISS SCARLET (softly) Okay. Listen.

99 INT. DINING ROOM

The COP and MR. GREEN come into the Dining Room.

MR. GREEN This is the Dining Room.

COP (heavy sarcasm) No kidding. What's going on in those two rooms?

MR. GREEN's voice is still high-pitched in terror.

(CONTINUED)

84.

MR. GREEN What two rooms?

100 INT. THE STUDY

MISS SCARLET is talking to MRS. WHITE and COLONEL MUSTARD in front of the bodies of THE COOK and MR. BODDY on the sofa.

> MISS SCARLET Make it look convincing.

And she grabs a bottle of brandy from the sideboard.

101 INT. THE HALL

MISS SCARLET and PROFESSOR PLUM whizz across the Hall and into the Lounge just as MR. GREEN and the COP emerge from the Dining Room. The COP points at the Study and Lounge doors.

> COP Those two rooms.

MR. GREEN (a trifle hysterically) Oh, <u>those</u> two rooms!

COP

Yes.

He walks purposefully towards the Study. MR. GREEN hurries after him, grabs his arm, and stops him.

MR. GREEN Officer, I don't think you should go in there.

The COP stops walking and stares at him.

COP (suspiciously) Why not?

MR. GREEN

Um...
(wildly)
Well, because... because... oh,
it's all too shocking.

(CONTINUED)

85.

The COP brushes MR. GREEN aside, goes to the Study and opens the door.

102 INT. THE STUDY

The lights are off. The PHONOGRAPH is PLAYING, softly. "I Ain't Got No Body," an old 78 rpm record.

The COP switches the light. On the sofa MRS. WHITE is sitting on the knee of the dead MR. BODDY. She is kissing him on the mouth. He appears, from the COP'S POV to be embracing her - but we can see that his arms and hands are being manipulated by MRS. WHITE-like a big puppet. The COP sees this, and his eyes turn to another couple: the COOK is standing up in a corner, her arms around COLONEL MUSTARD, and he appears to be kissing her. The COOK's hands are moving through his hair.

NEW ANGLE

In the corner, we see that COOK's hands are behind her back, and MRS. PEACOCK is concealed behind COOK - and it is MRS, PEACOCK's hands which are caressing COLONEL MUSTARD.

The COP turns to MR. GREEN, who is watching open-mouthed.

COP It's not all that shocking. Folks are just having a good time.

He leaves the room, followed by MR. GREEN. MRS. PEACOCK comes out from behind the dead COOK. She is looking demented.

MRS. PEACOCK

Oh, my God!!

MRS. WHITE stops kissing MR. BODDY.

MRS. PEACOCK How could you kiss that... thing?

MRS. WHITE (shrugs) It's like kissing my first husband.

MRS. PEACOCK (nastily) Before or after you cut his head off?

103 INT. THE LOUNGE

MISS SCARLET is pouring brandy into the mouth of the dead MOTORIST.

104 INT. THE HALL

The COP and MR. GREEN cross the Hall and open the Lounge Door.

105 INT. THE LOUNGE

MISS SCARLET and PROFESSOR PLUM are in an embrace. The MOTORIST is now lying back in a chair, his head injury not visible from the front. A half empty bottle of brandy has his fingers curled round it.

The COP enters. MISS SCARLET and PROFESSOR PLUM separate. The COP eyes them. MR. GREEN is still open-mouthed.

COP

Excuse me.

He sees the MOTORIST and crosses over to him. He sees the bottle. He bends down and sniffs his breath.

> COP (continuing) He's drunk. Dead drunk.

MISS SCARLET (nodding) Dead right.

The COP shakes the MOTORIST. The bottle slips to the floor. The MOTORIST, not surprisingly, doesn't wake up when shaken. The COP bends down towards his ear.

COP

I hope you're not going to drive home?

PROFESSOR PLUM He won't be driving home, officer, I promise you that.

COP

(looking up) Someone will give him a lift?

MISS SCARLET Yes, we'll get a car for him a long black car. 87.

PROFESSOR PLUM (hastily) A limousine.

The COP nods. MR. GREEN is still open-mouthed.

106 INT. THE LIBRARY

WADSWORTH is on the phone.

WADSWORTH

Goodbye.

He replaces the receiver, and, remembering his situation, hurries out into the Hall.

106A INT. THE MALL

WADSWORTH sees the COP and MR. GREEN coming out of the Lounge.

WADSWORTH

Officer...

COP

You're too late. I've seen everything.

WADSWORTH is shattered by this statement. As always, the dialogue maintains a considerable pace - therein lies the humor.

WADSWORTH

You <u>have</u>? (in despair) I can explain everything.

COP You don't need to.

(dazed)

WADSWORTH

I don't?

COP

Don't worry. There's nothing illegal about any of this.

WADSWORTH

Are you sure?

COP No. This is America.

WADSWORTH

I see.

COP

It's a free country, didn't you know?

WADSWORTH I didn't know it was that free?

Slight pause.

COP

May I use the phone now?

WADSWORTH

Certainly.

Delighted, he shows the COP into the Library. The COP goes in, and WADSWORTH locks the door. Again he leaves the key in the lock.

107 INT. THE LIBRARY

The COP again notices the door being locked. He turns to the telephone.

108 INT. THE HALL

All the GROUP come out of the Study and Lounge.

MR. GREEN Why did you lock him in there again?

WADSWORTH We didn't finish searching the house.

PROFESSOR PLUM (he looks at his watch) But we're running out of time. Only fifteen minutes till the police come.

MR. GREEN The police came already.

ALL

SHUT UP!

YVETTE takes MR. GREEN by the hand.

YVETTE

Come on.

And they hurry up the main stairs. WADSWORTH and MRS. WHITE follow. We MOVE WITH them, TO a HIGH AND VERY WIDE SHOT as they all come up the stairs, and simultaneously MRS. PEACOCK and PROFESSOR PLUM return to the Cellar stairs.

On the second floor landing WADSWORTH goes back into the First Bedroom, MRS. WHITE into the second Bedroom. We MOVE WITH YVETTE and MR. GREEN UP TO the stairs INTO the Attic where they separate and go into different rooms of which there are many. We WATCH MR. GREEN peering nervously behind doors, into cupboards, into trunks.

109 INT. KITCHEN

COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET enter the Kitchen. COLONEL MUSTARD eyes a different cupboard door. He moves steadily toward it, opens it -- and a fold-up ironing board drops out and hits him on the head. He reels. Then he looks around. His eye is caught by the cupboard out of which the COOK fell.

He opens the door. It looks like a big broom cupboard. Then, with an eerie creak, the back wall of the cupboard moves -- and opens. Another secret passage!

COLONEL MUSTARD

Look.

MISS SCARLET I don't <u>believe</u> it. Where does this one go?

COLONEL MUSTARD Let's find out.

110 INT. SECRET PASSAGE

COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET move along the tunnel.

111 OMITTED

112 INTO SECRET PASSAGE

COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET see a crack of light at the end of the tunnel. They push at the wall -- it opens -- to their amazement.

113 INT. THE STUDY

.

... They have arrived in the Study. They look at each other, astonished.

COLONEL MUSTARD Let's try the Ballroom again.

They leave the Study through the door into the Hall.

114 INT. THE HALL

They cross the Hall -- and we -- HEAR a NOISE. An unfamiliar noise. Perhaps just a creaking sound.

COLONEL MUSTARD stops abruptly.

COLONEL MUSTARD (hissing) What was that?

MISS SCARLET (frightened) I don't know (silence) Nothing.

115 INT. A WALL (SOMEWHERE IN THE HOUSE)

WE SEE, in BIG CLOSEUP, A MAINS ELECTRICITY SWITCH.

We don't know where it is -- unless we have been very observant and seen it in the background of one of the scenes so far.

(NOTE: It will have been seen, perhaps slightly out of focus, earlier in the film.)

It is a big red lever. It is labelled: 'POWER.' The same GLOVED HAND - which could be male or female comes INTO SHOT. It grabs the lever, and pulls. The light goes out.

116 EXT. THE HOUSE

Seen FROM the driveway, all the lights in the house snap out.

117 OMITTED

118 INT. FIRST CELLAR ROOM

PROFESSOR PLUM hears a SOUND. Is it a rat - or a man? We see in the dim light, a huge rack of wine bottles. A NOISE comes from behind it.

> PROFESSOR PLUM (terrified) Is anyone there?

119

INT. SECOND CELLAR ROOM

MRS. PEACOCK can just see a large round shape. WE CAN SEE it is a huge old-fashioned central heating boiler. It makes occasional quiet GURGLES and HISSES. She stops, terrified.

> MRS. PEACOCK Don't you touch me!

120 INT. THE BALLROOM

The room is dark, but some light is coming in through the Hall. COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET walk around on a polished wooden floor. They walk slowly, feeling for obstructions.

MISS SCARLET sees a large looming shape in front of her. She's frightened. In fact, it is the shape of the raised lid of a baby grand piano.

> MISS SCARLET Who's that? Is anyone there?

121 INT. SECOND BEDROOM

The window has been left slightly open. On this floor the windows haven't been shuttered. Some moonlight lights the room a little. The WINDOWS RATTLE and the curtains move in the draft.

MRS. WHITE Is anyone there?

122 INT. FIRST BEDROOM

WADSWORTH blunders into the dressing room in the dark.

WADSWORTH Is anyone there?

It is well lit by moonlight. He turns, sees himself in a full-length mirror, and thinks it's somebody else.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Aaaaagh!

He steps back and falls over the dressing table stool, against the dressing table -- which collapses under his weight with a tremendous CRASH!

123 INT. SECOND BEDROOM

MRS. WHITE turns and screams in terror.

124 AND OMITTED 125

126 INT. THE LOUNGE

The COP is on the phone. He hears the screams, and looks around nervously. He is still holding the phone.

COP

Hello... hello...

127 INT. ATTIC

MR. GREEN and YVETTE run into each other at the top of the Attic stairs. They collide, and hang on to each other in terror.

MR. GREEN Leave me alone.

YVETTE Get away from me.

And together they tumble down the stairs. MR. GREEN falls in a heap.

128 INT. STAIRS AND HALL

YVETTE is hurrying down the main stairs. She can just see enough and she has the bannisters to guide her.

VERY TENSE MUSIC.

She reaches the Hall, and crosses silently to the Billiard Room door.

129 INT. BILLIARD ROOM

She opens the door and comes in.

YVETTE Hello? ... hello? ... Are you here?

We HEAR A WHISPERED VOICE O.S.

WHISPERING VOICE

Yes.

YVETTE What's going on?

WHISPERING VOICE Come in. Shut the door.

She comes in and shuts the door.

WHISPERING VOICE (continuing) Did the Cop recognize your face?

YVETTE comes towards CAMERA, speaking. She is moving into a BIG HEAD-AND-SHOULDERS CLOSE-UP.

YVETTE (no French accent) He must have. And not just my face. He knows every inch of my body. Like you. And like...

The rope is thrown around her neck. She is horrified. Her eyes widen.

> YVETTE (continuing) It's you!!

And the rope is jerked, closing her windpipe.

CUT TO:

130 INT. THE LIBRARY

The COP is talking desperately on the phone.

COP (on phone) There's something funny going on here. I don't know what it is... No, I'm not on duty, but I have a feeling that I'm in danger... You know that big ugly house on top of --

And INTO SHOT, behind the COP's head, COMES THE LEAD PIPE. The same GLOVED HAND is holding it. It hits him on the head with a thud. The COP falls to the floor.

131 THRU OMITTED 134 DING... DONG...

135 INT. THE HOUSE - ALL ROOMS

BIG CLOSE-UPS of all the GUESTS and WADSWORTH, as the BELL goes. Again, the background to each CLOSE-UP should be unclear, so that we don't know where each of them is.

136 INT. THE HALL

From INSIDE the Hall, the FRONT DOOR opens. The YOUNG WOMAN from Western Union stands there, looking towards US, smiling. Then she SINGS:

YOUNG WOMAN (singing) I... AM... YOUR SINGING TELEGRAM...

CRACK!

A GUNSHOT!

The YOUNG WOMAN falls dead.

The FRONT DOOR SLAMS shut.

137 INT. ATTIC

MR. GREEN HEARS the GUNSHOT from below. He turns appalled, stumbles towards a door, opens it -- and runs into a cupboard! THUD!

138 INT. DINING ROOM

. •

COLONEL MUSTARD hears, and -- after a moment's shock ---- Runs towards the Hall. He bumps into the dining table -- knocks it forward, and plates and glasses CRASH to the floor. He has hurt himself.

COLONEL MUSTARD

Ouch!!

Concerned mobilitie

139 INT. BALLROOM

MISS SCARLET hears all the noise, and looks towards the door.

140 INT. SECOND BEDROOM

MRS. WHITE, trying to find the door in the dark, bangs into a large box.

A huge Jack-in-a-box springs out immediately in front of her. She almost has heart failure. Then, screaming wildly:

MRS. WHITE

Help! Help!

141 INT. FIRST BEDROOM

WADSWORTH is blundering around. He hears MRS. WHITE SHOUTING for help (o.s.). He calls out.

WADSWORTH Coming! Coming! I'm just trying to find the door.

He finds a door. He calls out again.

WADSWORTH (continuing) Found it.

His hand turns a handle. He moves quickly forward. He bumps into another obstruction. His hand finds another handle.

> WADSWORTH (continuing; to himself) Another door?

MRS. WHITE is still shouting for rescue.

(CONTINUED)

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141 CONTINUED:

WADSWORTH (continuing) Coming!

He jerks the handle and goes through the next door. Immediately he hits a wall.

WADSWORTH (continuing) What's this, a cupboard.

He finds another handle.

WADSWORTH (continuing) <u>Another</u> handle?

He turns it. Water cascades over him!

WADSWORTH (continuing; shouting) Oh Jesus Christ! I'm in the SHOWER!

He stumbles out, through the Bathroom door, finds the Bedroom, and -- now with the help of moonlight in the Main Hall...

142

INT. MAIN LANDING - STAIRS AND HALL

... WADSWORTH hurries dripping down the stairs, and into the KITCHEN. Just inside the door he finds the Electricity Mains lever. He switches it back -- and the lights come on all over the house. And the PHONOGRAPH * starts up again, in the study, very slowly at first, gradually coming up to speed.

WE MOVE WITH WADSWORTH back into the Hall. And gradually the SIX GUESTS congregate there with him -- MR. GREEN coming down the stairs, MRS. PEACOCK and PROFESSOR PLUM emerging from the Cellar, COLONEL MUSTARD from the wreckage of the Dining Room and MISS SCARLET from the Ballroom.

Slowly they wander around checking the rooms --

142A

INT. BILLIARD ROOM (Shooting towards the door)

They come to the Billiard Room -- and see YVETTE lying strangled, the noose around her neck, across the billiard table. Dazed, they turn --

CONTINUED

142B INT. LIBRARY

(Shooting towards door)

. . and see the corpse of the COP.

MR. GREEN Two murders!

They all look at each other.

PROFESSOR PLUM Neither of them shot. I thought I heard a gun.

MRS. WHITE/MRS. PEACOCK So did I.

MISS SCARLET The front door slammed.

COLONEL MUSTARD Oh god. The murderer must have run out.

WADSWORTH (urgently) Let's see.

142C

EXT. FRONT DOOR (Shooting towards house)

WADSWORTH throws it open -- and at their feet is the body of the YOUNG WOMAN. The bullet's point of entry is seen clearly on her forehead.

> WADSWORTH (continuing) Three murders!

MR. GREEN Six, altogether.

WADSWORTH (seriously; after a pause) This is getting serious.

They gape. He turns and SLAMS the FRONT DOOR shut.

142D INT. HALL

He crosses to the door of the Lounge. He looks at the floor, then turns to the OTHERS.

(CONTINUED)

98A.

142D (CONTINUED)

WADSWORTH (continuing) No gun. Yvette dropped it here. Remember? Now it's gone.

They all look at each other with deep suspicion.

WADSWORTH (continuing; quietly) Very well. I know who did it.

ALL YOU DO?

(CONTINUED)

142D CONTINUED (2):

He nods.

WADSWORTH And furthermore, I'm going to tell you all how it was all done.

They react.

WADSWORTH (continuing) Follow me.

He leads them all into the LIBRARY

(NOTE)

The scenes that follow may initially seem somewhat longwinded, verbal and therefore slow. The speed of these scenes cannot be judged by the usual criteria. WADSWORTH's explanation of what has happened so far will be played at an absolutely TREMENDOUS speed, whenever hyphenated; the words spoken so fast that they may be completely unintelligible. His actions will illustrate the words and thus make them comprehensible to the audience, but they will also happen at tremendous speed.

The result will be something like an under-cranked, speeded up section -- except that it will not be under-cranked and will be done by the acting of WADSWORTH. It will be a comic tour-de-force.

143. INT. THE LIBRARY.

They all come into the Library.

WADSWORTH

In order to help you understand what happened I shall need to take you through the events of the evening, step by step. At the start of the evening Yvette was here, by herself

(he positions himself where we first saw YVETTE) waiting to offer you all a glass of champagne. (he runs to the door and out, saying:) I was in the Hall. (he shuts the door and

immediately re-opens it) I know because I was there. Then I hurried across to the Kitchen. (he runs to the Kitchen)

144. INT. LOBBY OUTSIDE KITCHEN (BALLROOM DOORS P.O.V.)

WADSWORTH runs to the Kitchen. The SIX GUESTS follow him, also running, to keep up.

145. INT. KITCHEN. (shooting towards DINING ROOM)

WADSWORTH enters the Kitchen, followed by the OTHERS. He stops dead. Perhaps they bump into him.

> WADSWORTH And-the-Cook-was-in-here-alive, sharpeningthe-knives, preparing-dinner. Then..!

WADSWORTH turns and runs out of the Kitchen. The OTHERS follow.

146. INT. HALL. (PANNING from library to front door)

WADSWORTH races across the Hall, the OTHERS in hot pursuit, flings open the front door, and rings the doorbell.

WADSWORTH ... the doorbell rang. It was you.

He points to COLONEL MUSTARD.

Yes.

COLONEL MUSTARD

WADSWORTH, at <u>incredible</u> speed, mimes and re-enacts COLONEL MUSTARD's arrival, reproducing what he and the COLONEL did, as he says:

WADSWORTH

I-asked-you-for-your-coat, I-recognisedyou-as-Colonel-Mustard-and-prevented-youfrom-telling-me-your-real-name-as-I-didn'twant-any-of-you-to-be-addressed-by-anyname-other-than-your-pseudonym-and-Iintroduced-myself-to-you-as-the-Butler. I-lead-you-across-the-Hall-to-the-Library....

Having mimed the introduction, the taking of the coat, he runs back to the Library, the OTHERS breathlessly behind him.

147. INT. THE LIBRARY. (shooting towards window)

WADSWORTH rushes in, and grabs the bottle of champagne.

WADSWORTH And-Yvette-met-you-and-smiled-(he smiles, YVETTE-like) and-poured-you-a-drink, (he sloshes champagne into a glass) and...

He rushes out.

145. INT. THE HALL. (shooting towards FRONT DOOR)

He arrives back at the front door, having almost collided with the GROUP as he comes out of the LIBRARY. WADSWORTH

> ...the-doorbell-rang-again-and-it-was-Mrs-White-looking-pale-and-tragic-and-I-told-her-she-was-expected-and-took-hercoat-and-hung-it-up-and...

He's on his way back to the Library. The OTHERS can hardly keep up with him.

149. INT. THE LIBRARY. (shooting towards DOORS)

WADSWORTH is whizzing back into the Library. The GROUP follows to the doorway.

-and-I-introduced-Mrs-White-to-Colonel-Mustard-

WADSWORTH

(he mimes himself, MRS WHITE and COLONEL MUSTARD simultaneously, shaking hands with himself in all directions) and-I-noticed-that-Mrs-White-and-Yvette-

flinched!!

WADSWORTH Then-we-heard-a-rumble-of-thunder-anda-crash-of-lightning-(he imitates thunder and lightning at phenomenal speed) and-to-cut-a-long-story-short-one-by-oneyou-all-arrived. -Mrs-Peacock-shook-handswith-Yvette-and-Colonel-Mustard-and-Mr-Greenwas-offered-champagne-by-Yvette-and-Professor-Plum-and-Miss-Scarlett-arrived-together-andwere-all-introduced-and-then-

He rushes out into the Hall.

Then what?

150. INT. THE HALL. (shooting towards GONG from CENTRE of HALL, PANNING past STAIRS to DINING ROOM) WADSWORTH skids to a halt at the gong.

WADSWORTH

-the-gong-was-struck-(he strikes the gong, everybody else jumps) -by-the-Cook-and-we-went-into-the-Dining-Room.

And he's gone.

151. INT. THE DINING ROOM. (shooting towards KITCHEN)

WADSWORTH is moving around the dining table, sitting down, standing up, at truly phenomenal speed, as he describes.

WADSWORTH

And-Mrs-Peacock-sat-here-and-Colonel-Mustardwas-here-and-Mr-Green-(he sits and stands) and-Professor-Plum-(sits and stands) and-Miss-Scarlett-and-Mrs-White-and-thischair-was-vacant-and100C

COLONEL MUSTARD

A 19 10 10

Get on with it.

MRS WHITE Yes, get on with it!

WADSWORTH

(reasonably) I'm telling it as fast as I can. Anywaywe-all-revealed-that-we'd-received-lettersyou'd-had-a-letter-and-you'd-had-a-letterand-you'd-

ALL SIX GET ON WITH IT:

WADSWORTH The point is - blackmail!

MR GREEN But this all came out in the Study after dinner!

WADSWORTH You're right!!!

With one accord, they all turn and race out of the Dining Room.

152. INT. THE HALL. (low angle, shooting down HALL towards BALLROOM At lightning speed, they cross the Hall.

153 INT. THE STUDY (shooting in ALL DIRECTIONS)

They are all crowded into the Study. The corpses of MR BODDY and the COOK are still where they were left after the COP saw them. WADSWORTH sits in each chair in turn as he says:

WADSWORTH

Mr.-Green-sat-here-and-Mrs.-Peacockhere-and-Miss-Scarlet-here-and-Professor-Plum-here-and-Colonel-Mustard-and-Mrs.-White-and-

ALL GET ON WITH IT!

WADSWORTH I'M GETTING THERE, I'M GETTING THERE!

Mr.-Boddy-came-to-get-his-surprisepackages-from-the-Hall-

154 INT. HALL

By now WADSWORTH is in the Hall, miming collecting the packages. (low angle shot from STEPS outside STUDY)

155 INT. STUDY (shooting in ALL DIRECTIONS)

WADSWORTH -and-you-opened-your-presents.

By now he is travelling almost at the speed of sound.

WADSWORTH Miss-Scarlet-got-a-candlestick-and-Mrs-White-got-a-rope-and-Colonel-Mustardgot-a-wrench-and-Mr.-Green-got-a-leadpipe-and-Mrs._eacock-got-a-dagger-and-Professor Plum-got-a-gun-. Then-Mr.-Boddy-switched-out-the-lights-

He switches out the lights. They all scream. The lights are switched on. WADSWORTH lies prone on the floor.

ALL

GOOD GOD!

They stare at WADSWORTH, aghast! Suddenly, WADSWORTH sits up. He talks at normal speed.

WADSWORTH That's right. Mr. Boddy lay here, apparently dead.

155 INT. THE STUDY

PROFESSOR PLUM He was dead. I examined him.

WADSWORTH jumps up.

.

WADSWORTH Then why was Mr. Boddy bashed on the head with the candlestick a few minutes later, if he was dead already?

FRCPESSOR PLUM How should I know?

They all look at him accusingly.

MRS. PEACOCK So you made a mistake.

PROFESSOR PLUM

I did not!

WADSWORTH Why not admit it?

MISS SCARLET

Doctors, like the Pope, never admit a professional mistake or a sexual indiscretion.

WADSWORTH

If you didn't make a mistake, you were lying -- which looks very bad for you.

PROFESSOR PLUM stares at the ring of accusing faces. He shrugs.

> PROFESSOR PLUM Okay, I made a mistake.

WADSWORTH Right. But if so, why was Mr. Boddy <u>pretending</u> to be dead? -it could only be because he realized that his scheme had misfired and that the gunshot was intended to kill him -- not me. Look.

He pulls MR. BODDY's head forward, and points to his ear. There is a slight graze on it. (This should have been visible to the highly observant viewer sometime earlier in the film.)

WADSWORTH

(continuing) The bullet grazed his ear. Clearly his best hope of escaping death was to pretend to be dead already.

PROFESSOR PLUM So whoever grabbed the gun from me in the dark was trying to kill him.

156 CONTINUED (2):

WADSWORTH But remember what happened next?

WADSWORTH up to full speed.

WADSWORTH (continuing) Mrs.-Peacock-took-a-drink...

He takes a drink like MRS. PEACOCK.

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WADSWORTH
(continuing)
you-said-maybe-it's-poisoned,-
she-screams-
```

He screams.

WADSWORTH (continuing) -and-drops-the-glass-

He drops the glass.

WADSWORTH (continuing) -we-took-her-to-the-sofa-

He takes MRS. PEACOCK to the sofa.

WADSWORTH (continuing) she's-still-screaming,-Mr.-Green-slaps-her-face-

He slaps MRS. PEACOCK's face.

WADSWORTH (continuing) -then-we-heard-more-screamingfrom-the-Library-Yvette-and-Mr.-Green-screamed-and-Colonel-Mustard -slapped-him-

He slaps MR. GREEN's face.

WADSWORTH (continuing) -and-we-rushed-out-

He is gone.

157 INT. HALL

WADSWORTH arrives at the BILLIARD ROOM doorway by the OTHERS.

WADSWORTH

(demonstrating) -and-she-screamed-and-we-triedthe-handle-and-it-was-lockedand-we-knocked-and-she-screamedand-we-rattled-and-pounded. Then --(imitating COLONEL MUSTARD) "They-won't-open-the-door"-and-(imitating MISS SCARLET) "Hello-oh, yoo-hoo"- and-Yvetteopened-the-door-and-we-rushed-in-

The door is open.

158

INT. BILLIARD ROOM

They are all standing in the doorway. WADSWORTH turns to them. Back to normal speed, he intones with significance.

WADWWORTH But one of us wasn't here!

ALL

No?

WADSWORTH

No, Maybe one of us was murdering the Cook! Who wasn't here, with us?

They all look around. None of them can remeber. (But the observant viewer might be able to if he/she thinks back to the relevant moment -who wasn't on camera?)

> MR. GREEN Do you know?

WADSWORTH I do. While we stood here . . .

158A

INT. HALL (Shooting towards FRONT DOOR from BILLIARD ROOM door)

WADSWORTH (continuing) . . trying to stop Yvette from panicking, one of us could have stayed in the Study . . . 158B INT. STUDY

WADSWORTH (continuing) . picked up the knife .

158C INT. HALL (shooting as in 158A)

WADSWORTH (continuing) . . ran down the Hall . . .

INT. KITCHEN (shooting towards DINING ROOM)

159

WADSWORTH (continuing) . . . and stabbed the Cook.

He enters the Kitchen. They follow.

MRS. PEACOCK How could he risk It? We might have seen him coming back.

WADSWORTH Not if they used this secret passage.

He pushes it, and all except COLONEL MUSTARD and MISS SCARLET gasp in amazament.

WADSWORTH (continuing) -- and the murderer ran back down the secret passage to the Study.

159A. INT. LOBBY OUTSIDE KITCHEN (shooting towards KITCHEN, panning towards FRONT DOOR)

> MRS. WHITE Is that where it comes out?

WADSWORTH Yes. Look!

160 INT. THE STUDY

WADSWORTH enters, followed by the OTHERS. He shows them the Study entrance to the secret passage.

COLONEL MUSTARD How did you know?

They all stare at WADSWORTH.

CONTINUED

104

160 (CONTINUED)

WADSWORTH This house belongs to a friend of mine. I've known all along.

MR. GREEN So you could be the murderer!

WADSWORTH laughs.

WADSWORTH

Don't be ridiculous. If I was the murderer, why would I reveal to you how I did it?

No one has an answer for this. So they nod.

MR. GREEN Well . . . who else knew about this secret passage?

COLONEL MUSTARD We found it. Miss Scarlet and me.

MISS SCARLET You found it. You could have known about it all along.

COLONEL MUSTARD But I didn't!!

MRS. PEACOCK Why should we believe you?

He has no answer to that. But WADSWORTH has.

WADSWORTH Because he was definitely with us all in the Billiard Room doorway while Yvette was screaming. Don't you remember?

She nods.

MISS SCARLET

That's true. He was next to me.

They all fall silent, staring at each other with mutual suspicion.

MRS. PEACOCK But what I don't understand is, why was the Cook murdered? She had nothing to do with Mr. Boddy.

WADSWORTH

Of course she did! I gathered you all here together because you were all implicated in Mr. Boddy's dastardly blackmail. Did none of you deduce that the others were involved too?

MRS. WHITE What others?

WADSWORTH The Cook? And Yvette?

They are all amazed.

ALL

No.

WADSWORTH

That's how he got all his information. Before he could blackmail anyone, Mr. Boddy had to find out their guilty secret. The Cook and Yvette were his accomplices.

COLONEL MUSTARD

I see! So whoever knew that the Cook was involved, killed her.

WADSWORTH

Yes. I know -- because I was Mr. Boddy's butler -- that the Cook had worked for one of you.

ALL

Who?

WADSWORTH

(turns to see MRS. WHITE) You recognized Yvette, didn't you? Don't deny it.

MRS. WHITE What do you mean, don't deny it. I'm not denying anything.

WADSWORTH (triumphant) That's <u>another</u> denial!

(CONTINUED)

LUU. ·

MRS. WHITE

All right! It's true I knew Yvette -my husband had an affair with her. But I didn't care, I wasn't jealous.

WADSWORTH crosses to MISS SCARLET.

(CONTINUED)

106A

WADSWORTH And you knew Yvette too, didn't you?

MISS SCARLET Yes. She worked for me.

MRS. PEACOCK'S eyes open wide.

:

WADSWORTH And you also knew her, sir?

He looks at COLONEL MUSTARD. COLONEL MUSTARD swallow, nervously.

COLONEL MUSTARD What are you suggesting?

WADSWORTH

(accusingly) We have already established that you were one of Miss Scarlet's clients. That was why you were so desperate to get those negatives. Photographs of you and Yvette in flagrante delicto, remember?

COLONEL MUSTARD Mr. Boddy threatened to send the pictures to my dear old mother. The shock would have killed her.

MRS. WHITE That would have been quite an achievement since she's dead already.

COLONEL MUSTARD looks very shifty.

MRS. WHITE (points at COLONEL MUSTARD) So <u>he</u> had the motive.

WADSWORTH

You <u>all</u> had a motive. (he is back to top speed) So-the-Cook-was-dead,-we-luggedher-back-to-the-Study-and-Mrs.-Peacock-was-screaming-

WADSWORTH is arriving at the toilet. He screams and throws open the door of the toilet.

WADSWORTH (continuing) Mr.-Boddy-dead-toilet-candlestick.

COLONEL MUSTARD But when and where was Mr.Boddy killed?

WADSWORTH

Don't you see? Look. We came back to the Study with Yvette-and-Mr.-Boddy- on-the-floor-

(he throws Mr. Green to the floor) -playing-dead-but-one-of-us-knowshe's-still-alive. (he hauls Mr. Green up)

I-explained-that-I-was-Mr.-Boddy's-Butler-and-I'd-invited-you-here-andwe-realized-there-was-only-one-otherperson-in-the-house-(he points to the kitchen)

ALL

The Cook!

They all rush out of the Study. WADSWORTH leaps into the secret passage.

- 161 AND OMITTED
- 162

163 INT. THE KITCHEN

They all arrive in the Kitchen, stop dead. Then plucking up his courage MR. GREEN flings open the cupboard door and WADSWORTH, enacting the Cook's death falls out into his arms?

MR. GREEN

Aaaaagh!

WADSWORTH

By now she was dead. We laid her down with our backs to the cupboard. <u>One-of-us</u> slipped-through-the-same-secret-passage-

MRS. PEACOCK

Again?

WADSWORTH Of course! Back-to-the-Study.

164 INT. THE STUDY

WADSWORTH rushes into the Study, and over to the secret panel. As ever, he mimes this sequence as he describes it. They watch from the kitchen doorway.

WADSWORTH The murderer is in the secret passage. Meanwhile, Mr.-Boddy-had-been-on-the-floor.

He throws MR. GREEN on the floor again.

WADSWORTH (continuing) He-jumped-up-...

He picks him up again, and then discards him by throwing him down again.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) The-murderer-came-out-of-thesecret-panel- ...

He does it.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) -picked-up-the-candlestick- ···

He mimes it. The he pushes MR. GREEN out into the Hall. 164A. INT. HALL (Shooting toward STUDY and LIBRARY doors)

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Mr. Boddy followed-us-out-of-the-studyinto-the-hall,-looking-for-an-escapeand-the-murderer-crept-upand-killed-him.

He hits MR. GREEN on the head and knocks him down again. MR. GREEN leaps up, breaking away from him.

MR. GREEN Will you <u>STOP IT</u>!

164B INT. LOBBY OUTSIDE KITCHEN (shooting towards BATHROOM)

> WADSWORTH Then-the-murderer-dragged-himinto-the-toilet.

WADSWORTH illustrates this by throwing a gibbering MR. GREEN into the BATHROOM.

WADSWORTH

and-then-nonchalantly-rejoined-usbeside-the-Cook's-body-in-thekitchen. It-took-less-than-halfa-minute.

COLCNEL MUSTARD So who wasn't with us the whole time in the kitchen?

WADSWORTH Whoever it was is the murderer!!

He races past them - EXITS frame. A moment later, they rush after him.

166 INT. THE STUDY (shooting towards WEAPONS CUPBOARD and DOORWAYS)

WADSWORTH enters frame from the right, in front of the cupboard.

WADSWORTH -and-we-put-the-weapons-in-the-cupboardlocked-it-ran-to-the-front-door-

They see him coming and all hurry out ahead of him.

167 INT. THE HALL

(Pan with group from STUDY door to FRONT door) ... and back into the Hall, to the front door.

WADSWORTH ... to-throw-away-the-key-

He flings open the front door.

167A. EXT. FRONT DOOR (Shooting towards house)

WADSWORTH (continuing)

... The motorist!! I-didn't- throwthe-key-away. I-put-it-in-my-pocket. And-somebody,-must-have-taken-thekey-out-of-my-pocket! And-substitutedanother!

PROFESSOR PLUM We were all in a huddle. Any of us could've done that.

WADSWORTH

Precisely!

He slams the door shut.

THE COURSE

-4

167 B INT. THE HALL

MR. GREEN

Wait a minute! Colonel Mustard has a top secret Pentagon job, Mrs. White's husband was a nuclear physicist and Yvette is a link between them.

PROFESSOR PLUM What is your top secret job, Colonel?

WADSWORTH I can tell you. He is working on the secret of the next fusion bomb.

COLONEL MUSTARD (staggered) How did you know that?

WADSWORTH Can you keep a secret?

COLONEL MUSTARD

WADSWORTH So can I!

MRS. WHITE speaks, with mounting excitement.

MRS. WHITE I begin to see how it was done.

MRS. PEACOCK Was it a plot between them, Wadsworth, or did Colonel Mustard do it alone?

COLONEL MUSTARD reacts.

Yes.

WADSWORTH We shall see. Let's look at the other murders.

PROFESSOR PLUM Yes, it was bad luck for the Motorist that he arrived at that moment.

WADSWORTH It wasn't luck. I invited him.

$167 \in CONTINUED$ (2):

ALL

You did??

WADSWORTH

Of course. It's obvious. Everyone here tonight was either Mr. Boddy's victim or accomplice. Everyone who has died gave him vital information about one of you. I got them here, so that they'd give evidence against him and force him to confess.

MISS SCARLET So who knew the guy who came to make the telephone call?

WADSWORTH waits a moment. Then COLONEL MUSTARD speaks again.

COLONEL MUSTARD He was my driver during the war.

WADSWORTH And what was he holding over you? (a beat) Or do I have to tell them?

COLONEL MUSTARD He knew I was a war profiteer. I stole essential Air Force radio spare parts and sold them on the black market. <u>That's where I made all my money.</u> (emotionally) But that doesn't make me a murderer.

(CONTINUED)

MRS. PEACOCK A lot of our airmen died because their radios didn't work. Was the Policeman working for Mr. Boddy, too?

MISS SCARLET

(quietly) The cop was from Washington. He was in my pay. I bribed him once a week, so that I could carry on business. Mr. Boddy found out

somehow.

MRS. PEACOCK (appalled) My God!

١.

MR. GREEN (in mounting horror) And the Singing Telegram girl?

They all look at each other, waiting for someone to confess.

167C EXT. FRONT DOOR

PROFESSOR PLUM opens the door and looks down sadly at the dead SINGING TELEGRAM GIRL.

PROFESSOR PLUM She was my patient once. I had an affair with her. That's why I lost my license. Mr. Boddy found that out too.

Sad pause.

WADSWORTH

Let's put her in the Study with the others.

The THREE MEN pick her up.

167D INT. HALL

The MEN carry her in. MRS. PEACOCK shuts the fron door again.

WADSWORTH (continuing) Get on with it.

They run with her body to the Study and hurl her through the doorway.

167E. INT. STUDY (Low angle at at doorway, shooting towards Hall)

The SINGING TELEGRAM flies through the air above the camera.

NEW ANGLE:

The SINGING TELEGRAM lands on the sofa, shooting towards fireplace or wall opposite fireplace.

167F INT. HALL

WADSWORTH

(continuing) So. Now you all know why they died. Whoever killed Mr. Boddy also wanted his accomplices dead.

PROFESSOR PLUM

But how did the murderer know about them all? I mean, I admit I guessed that this young singer had informed on me to Mr. Boddy -but I didn't know about any of you till this evening. I mean, I'd never even met Mr. Boddy.

ALL

That's right/ Nor had I. Yes, how did he know? Etc.

167F CONTINUED

WADSWORTH

I'll get to that. First, the murderer had to get the weapons. Easy...he'd stolen the key from my pocket, and we all followed Colonel Mustard's suggestion that we split up and search the house.

MRS. PEACOCK That's right, it was <u>Colonel</u> <u>Mustard's</u> suggestion...

PROFESSOR PLUM And after we split up there were four more murders.

COLONEL MUSTARD makes no reply. He just stares at them, maintaining a dignified silence.

WADSWORTH And whose suggestion was it to lock the Motorist in the Lounge?

MR. GREEN (remembering) Colonel Mustard, wasn't it?

WADSWORTH

(grimly) Indeed! So then we drew lots, we split up -- and <u>one</u> of us got away from his or her partner -- and hurried to the Study.

He goes back to the Study, exiting frame.

170

INT. THE STUDY (shooting towards DESK, FIREPLACE, and WEAPONS CUPBOARD) He enters frame and crosses to the desk.

WADSWORTH

Here, on the desk, was the envelope from Mr. Boddy. It contained photographs and letters -- the evidence of Mr. Boddy's network of informants.

MRS. WHITE Where's the envelope now?

WADSWORTH

Gone. Destroyed. Perhaps in the fire -- the only possible place.

He goes to the fire and picks out a burnt up envelope. Bits of photographs crumble as he examines it. They are unrecognizable.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Then,-having-found-out-thewhole-story-the-murdereropened-the-cupboard-with-thekey-, took-out-the-wrench.

MISS SCARLET runs excitably to the Lounge. The OTHERS follow to the doorway, and we PAN and see her through the doorway.

MISS SCARLET

The Colonel Mustard found the secret passage from the Conservatory to the Loung -- where we found the Motorist dead!

170A INT. HALL (PANNING from STUDY DOOR to FRONT DOOR to LOUNGE DOOR)

WADSWORTH

We-couldn't-get-in. So-Yvette-got-thegun-from-the-open-cupboard-shot-the-dooropen. Bang! And-then-the-front-doorbell-rang-again.

The FRONT DOOR BELL RINGS. They all look at each other, aghast.

COLONEL MUSTARD How did you do that?

WADSWORTH

I didn't!

MISS SCARLET I don't believe this! I just don't believe this is happening!

MRS. PEACOCK (hysterically) Whoever it is, they've got to go away or they'll be killed.

And she runs out of the Study.

171 INT./EXT. FRONT DOOR

MRS. PEACOCK has rushed to the front door. She flings it open. An earnest looking ELDERLY MAN is standing there. He has pamphlets in his hand.

> ELDERLY MAN Good evening. Have you ever given any thought to the Kingdom of Heaven?

> > MRS. PEACOCK

What?

The OTHERS are ALL WATCHING, mesmerized.

ELDERLY Repent. The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

MISS SCARLET You ain't just whistlin' Dixie.

ELDERLY MAN Armageddon is almost upon us.

PROFESSOR PLUM I've got news for you -- it's here already.

MRS. PEACOCK (screaming) Go away!

ELDERLY MAN But your souls are in danger!

MRS. PEACOCK (completely bananas) Our lives are in danger. GET LOST!!

171 CONTINUED:

And she SLAMS the DOOR in the ELDERLY MAN's face. Then turns, panting, leaning against the door, emotionally wrung out.

> WADSWORTH The-Cop-arrived-next.- We-lockedhim-in-the-Library . . .

171A INT. STUDY (shooting towards CUPBOARD)

WADSWORTH enters FRAME RIGHT.

WADSWORTH (continuing) . . . we-forgot-the-cupboardwith-the-weapons-was-now-unlocked.

He has demonstrated all of this at truly phenomenal speed.

171B. INT. HALL - (camera is INSIDE CELLAR DOOR)

WADSWORTH (continuing) . . We-split-up-again .

He runs to the top of the Cellar stairs. And THERE is the MAIN ELECTRICITY SWITCH.

WADSWORTH (continuing) . . . and-the-murderer-switchedoff-the-electricity!

He switches it off. They all SCREAM! He switches it back on again.

CUT OFF POINT FOR ALL ENDINGS.

(A) 171C INT. HALL (shooting in ALL directions)

WADSWORTH demonstrates and mimes the whole of the next speech as he describes what happened.

WADSWORTH (continuing) In-the-dark-the-murderer-ran-fromhere-across-the-hall-to-the-Study,gets-the-rope-and-the-lead-pipe. He-ran-to-the-Billiard-Room-strangled Yvette-

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(MORE)
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(CONTINUED)

117.

(A) 118.

CONTINUED (2):

(A) 171C

WADSWORTH (CONT'D) (he half throttles MRS. WHITE, as MR. GREEN ducks for cover) -Ran-to-the-Library- ...

MR. GREEN DUCKS out of the way again.

WADSWORTH (continuing) -and-hits-the-Cop-with-the-leadpipe. (hits COLONEL MUSTARD on the head) Then-coming-out-of-the-Libraryhe-saw-automobile-lights-coming-upthe-drive. It-was-the-Singing-Telegram. The-murderer-picked-upthe-gun-where-Yvette-left-it-herebeside-the-Lounge-door-opened-thefront-door-recognized-the-singinggirl-from-her-photograph-and-shother!! Then-ra n-back-to-the-Cellar!

A pause, as this last remark sinks slowly in.

ALL

The Cellar??

WADSWORTH

Yes.

MRS. PEACOCK But Colonel Mustard wasn't in the Cellar.

WADSWORTH No -- but you were!

A dramatic pause.

MRS. PEACOCK Me? What's it got to do with me?

COLONEL MUSTARD The finger of suspicion points at you.

MRS. PEACOCK Its rude to point. (A) 171C CONTINUED:

WADSWORTH

You murdered them all. You were the person who was missing when the Cook and Mr. Boddy were murdered! And the Cook used to be your Cook -- don't you remember your fatal mistake? -- you told us all at dinner that we were eating one of your favorite recipes.

(MORE)

(A) 119.

(A) 171C CONTINUED

WADSWORTH (cont'd) And monkies' brains though popular in Cantonese cuisine, are not often to be found in Washington, D.C.

MR. GREEN Is that what we ate?

He looks as though he's going to throw up.

4

MISS SCARLET Are there any brains to be found in Washington, D.C.?

MRS. PEACOCK Why would I have murdered all the others?

WADSWORTH Obviously -- in case Mr. Boddy had told them about you too.

PROFESSOR PLUM So it was all nothing to do with the disappearing muclear physicist and Colonel Mustard's work on the new fusion bomb.

WADSWORTH No -- Communism was just a red herring. Mrs. Peacock did it all.

MRS. PEACOCK There's no proof.

WADSWORTH Very well. The gun is missing. Gentlemen, turn out your pockets. -- ladies, empty your purses. Whoever has the gun is the murderer.

MRS. PEACOCK suddenly produces the gun from her purse.

MRS. PEACOCK Very well. What do you propose to do about it?

The OTHERS back away from her nervously into a corner. All except WADSWORTH.

WADSWORTH

Nothing.

(A) 171C CONTINUED

MRS. PEACOCK

Nothing?

~ •

WADSWORTH

(blandly) Nothing at all. I don't approve

of murder, but it seems to me that you have performed a public service, ridding the world of an appalling blackmailer and his disgusting informers.

MR. GREEN

(looking at his watch) But the police will be here any minute now -- then what happens?

WADSWORTH

Why should the police come? Nobody's called them.

EVERYONE is astonished.

MRS. PEACOCK

You mean...?

WADSWORTH

(smiles)

That's right. Now, I suggest we stack all the bodies in the Cellar, lock it, leave quietly one at a time and forget that any of this ever happened.

He moves towards the study door. MRS. PEACOCK steps forward, gesturing menacingly with the gun.

MRS. PEACOCK Good idea. But I'll leave first, if you don't mind.

WADSWORTH Be my guest. I think we all owe you a vote of thanks.

MRS. PEACOCK slowly and carefully, gun trained on them, walks backwards to the front door.

WADSWORTH starts SINGING.

(A) 171 CONTINUED (5):

WADSWORTH FOR SHE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW, FOR SHE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW...

And slowly the OTHERS join in.

ALL FOR SHE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW --AND SO SAY ALL OF US, AND SO SAY ALL OF US, AND SO SAY ALL OF US, FOR SHE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW...

And MRS. PEACOCK is out of the front door.

172 OMITTED

173 INT. THE HALL

COLONEL MUSTARD, PROFESSOR PLUM, MRS. WHITE, MISS SCARLET, and MR. GREEN are staring in amazement at WADSWORTH.

> MR. GREEN I told you I didn't do it.

COLONEL MUSTARD But what if the authorities find out what happened...?

WADSWORTH The FBI will take care of that.

COLONEL MUSTARD

You mean...

WADSWORTH

My phone call from Mr. Hoover. I work for him, of course. How else could I have known all about you all?

COLONEL MUSTARD But... there's <u>one</u> thing I still

don't understand.

(A) 173 CONTINUED:

MRS. WHITE One thing?

COLONEL MUSTARD Who was Mrs. Peacock taking bribes from?

WADSWORTH

A foreign power. Her husband, the Senator, has influence over defense contracts.

PROFESSOR PLUM Is there going to be a cover-up?

WADSWORTH Isn't that in the public interest? What would be gained by exposure?

PROFESSOR PLUM But does the FBI make a habit of cleaning up after multiple murder?

WADSWORTH Yes -- why do you you think it's run by a man called Hoover?

(A) 174 EXT. THE DRIVEWAY

MRS. PEACOCK comes out of the front door, backing away with the gun. Suddenly the ELDERLY EVANGELIST appears behind her, from behind the porch.

ELDERLY EVANGELIST Mrs. Peacock?

- 175 OMITTED
- 176 OMITTED EXT. DRIVEWAY

ELDERLY EVANGELIST Why are you holding a gun?

MRS. PEACOCK is embarrassed to be caught red-handed with the gun.

(A) **176** CONTINUED:

MRS. PEACOCK

Oh!

(affecting surprise)
So I am. Well, it's dangerous
out here, it's so isolated.

ELDERLY EVANGALIST Is that thing registered?

MRS. PEACOCK I don't know, it's not mine.

ELDERLY EVANGALIST You don't need that weapon.

MRS. PEACOCK No. I guess I don't.

She puts it down on the stone balustrade and walks to her car. CAMERA MOVES WITH her. She opens her car door. We have PANNED to exclude the EVANGELIST from the shot. ELDERLY EVANGALIST (0.S.)

Oh, Mrs. Peacock.

She turns, intrigued.

MRS. PEACOCK How did you know my name?

ELDERLY EVANGALIST The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

And he FIRES THE REVOLVER at her. BANG! Surprised, she collapses OUT OF FRAME, dead. The ELDERLY EVANGALIST twirls the gun around his finger like a cowboy hero. Bright searchlights light up the drive. From out of the surroundings comes SEVERAL COPS and FBI AGENTS, guns in hand.

> ELDERLY EVANGALIST (continuing; calling) Wadsworth. All clear.

WADSWORTH and the OTHERS rush out into the porch.

ELDERLY EVANGALIST (continuing) I got her. She who lives by the gun shall die by the gun.

(A) 176 CONTINUED (2):

WADSWORTH (to the OTHERS) You see. Like the Mounties, we always get our man.

MR. GREEN Mrs. Peacock was a <u>man</u>??

ALL OH SHUT UP!!

BLACKOUT.

END CREDITS:

FADE OUT.



You have just completed reading Version A of CLUE.

However, this film has four separate last reels, each explaining the events of the film with a different solution.

The script is identical in all versions until one speech from the bottom of page 117. There now follows three others endings, with pages numbered B, C, and D, respectfully.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) In-the-dark-the-murderer-ranfrom-here-across-the-hall-tothe-Study,-gets-the-rope-and-the-lead-pipe. He-ran-to the-Billiard-Room-strangled-Yvette-

(MORE)

(B) <u>17</u>1

INT. HALL (CONTINUED)

WADSWORTH

I'm sorry, I don't want to frighten you.

MR. GREEN YOU'RE A BIT LATE FOR THAT!

WADSWORTH And then there were three more murders!

ALL So who did it?

WADSWORTH Let's consider each murder one by one.

He turns to PROFESSOR PLUM.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Professor Plum, you <u>knew</u> that Mr. Boddy was alive. Even psychiatrists can tell the difference between patients who are alive or dead. You fired the gun at him in the dark and missed. So you <u>pretended</u> he was dead. That's how you were able to kill him later, unobserved.

MISS SCARLET

That's right -- he was the missing person in the Kitchen, after we found the Cook dead.

MR. GREEN

But he was with us in the Billiard Room when we found Yvette screaming. If that's when the Cook was killed, how did he do it?

PROFESSOR PLUM

I didn't.

MRS. PEACOCK You don't expect us to believe that, do you?

WADSWORTH turns to face her.

(B) 171 CONTINUED:

WADSWORTH

INT. DINING ROOM (shooting towards KITCHEN END)

I expect you to believe it -you killed the Cook. She used to be your Cook -- and she informed on you to Mr. Boddy. She made a fatal error. Don't you remember?

He runs to the Dining Room. They follow.

(B)

172

WADSWORTH Sitting here, at dinner. She told us all that she was eating one of her favorite recipes. (significantly) And monkies' brins, though popular in Cantonese cuisine, are not often

to be found in Washington, D.C.

MR. GREEN Is that what we ate?

He looks as though he is going to throw up.

MRS. WHITE Are there any brains to be found in Washington, D.C.?

WADSWORTH exits from the Dining Room at high speed, dragging COLONEL MUSTARD.

(B) 173 EXT. FRONT DOOR (shooting IN through FRONT DOOR)

WADSWORTH

... When-you-saw-the-Motorist-atthe-front-door-you-took-the-key-tothe-weapons-cupboard-out-of-my-pocket-...

(B) 173A INT. LIBRARY (shooting away from fireplace)

WADSWORTH

...-Then-you-suggested-that-we-all split-up-... (shooting towards cupboard)

(B) 173B INT. STUDY (shooting towards cupboard)

WADSWORTH

(continuing)
... you-separated-from-Miss-Scarlet,crossed-the-Hall,-opened-the-cupboardtook-the-wrench-ran-to-the-conservatory...
(MORE)

(B)

173C INT. LOUNGE (PANNING from fireplace to telephone table)

> WADSWORTH (continuing) ...entered-the-Lounge-through-thesecret-passage-killed-the-Motoristwith-a-blow-on-the-head.

(B) 173D. INT. HALL

> MRS. WHITE This is incredible.

Picking up WADSWORTH as he races from one to then next. The OTHERS simply remain, dumbfounded, in the Hall.

> WADSWORTH Not so incredible as what happened next. When we all split up agin I went upstairs with you. Yes, you Mrs. White. (he pulls her all around with with as he shows what she did) And-while-I-was-in-the-Master-Bedroomyou-hurried-downstairs-and-turnedoff-the-electricity-...

174 INT. STUDY (shooting towards cupboard)

WADSWORTH (continuing) ...got-the-rope-from-the-opencupboard-...

(B)

174A

(B)

INT. HALL (shooting through BILLIARD ROOM doors)

WADSWORTH

(continuing) ... and-throttled-Yvette. You were jealous that your husband was shtupping That's why you killed him, too. Yvette.

MRS. WHITE

(triumphantly) I did it, I killed Yvette. Yes. I hated her.

WADSWORTH

(seizing MISS SCARLET) And-while-you-were-in-the-Billiard-Room-Miss Scarlet-seized-the-opportunity-andunder-cover-of-darkness-crossed-overto the Library and hit the Cop whom she'd been bribing on the head with the lead pipe.

(B) 174A CONTINUED:

WADSWORTH has acted out the whole of the previous speech at virtually the speed of sound -- if not light! Only the actions are intelligible -- only a few of the words can be understood, names and weapons mainly. They gaze at him, dumbfounded.

> WADSWORTH (continuing) True or false?

MISS SCARLET (with admiration) True. Who are you, Perry Mason?

PROFESSOR PLUM So it must have been Mr. Green who shot the Singing Telegram.

MR. GREEN I didn't do it!!

COLONEL MUSTARD You're the only one left.

MR. GREEN But I didn't do it! The gun is missing -- whoever has the gun shot the girl.

WADSWORTH suddenly produces the gun from his pocket.

WADSWORTH

I shot her.

They all back away into a corner, frightened.

ALL

You??

WADSWORTH smiles.

MR. GREEN

So it was you. I was going to expose you.

WADSWORTH I know. So I choose to expose myself.

COLONEL MUSTARD Please, there are ladies present!!

WADSWORTH You thought Mr. Boddy was dead. But why? None of you even met him till tonight.

MR. GREEN You're Mr. Boddy!!

WADSWORTH nods, with an evil smile. They all gasp, in horror! PROFESSOR PLUM is puzzled. He indicates the first body in the Study.

(B) 121

$(B)_{174A}$ CONTINUED (2):

PROFESSOR PLUM So who did I kill?

WADSWORTH

My butler.

PROFESSOR PLUM (furious with himself) Oh... shucks!

WADSWORTH

He was expendable. Like all of you. I'm grateful to you all for disposing of my network of spies and informers. You all saved me the trouble. Now there is no evidence against me.

COLONEL MUSTARD sits.

COLONEL MUSTARD So that's why you told me about the secret passage.

MRS. WHITE

And... this was all nothing to do with my disappearing nuclear physicist husband and Colonel Mustard's work with the new top secret fusion bomb.

WADSWORTH

No -- Communism was just a red herring.

MR. GREEN looks at his watch.

MR. GREEN

The police will be here any minute. You'll never get away with this, any of you.

WADSWORTH smiles.

WADSWORTH

Why should the police come? Nobody's called them.

MRS. PEACOCK realizes that it was WADSWORTH who claimed that he had sent for the police.

MRS. PEACOCK You mean... oh my God, of course! (B)

(B) 174A CONTINUED

. . :

WADSWORTH

(to MR. GREEN) So why shouldn't we get away with it? We'll stack all the bodies in the Cellar, lock it, leave quietly one at a time and forget that any of this ever happened.

MR. GREEN (desperately) And then you'll carry on blackmailing us all?

WADSWORTH Of course. Why not?

MR. GREEN

I'll tell you why not.

He produces a gun, and FIRES it as he simultaneously dives to the floor. WADSWORTH FIRES at him and misses -- but MR. GREEN has hit WADSWORTH and WADSWORTH keels over, dead. MR. GREEN stands up.

MRS. WHITE Are you a cop?

MR. GREEN No, I'm a plant.

MISS SCARLET A plant? I thought that men like you were usually called a fruit.

MR. GREEN (grimly) Very funnv. (he flashes a badge) FBI. That phone call from J. Edgar Hoover was for me. I told

you I didn't do it!!

There is a burst of GUNFIRE at the front door. The ELDERLY EVANELIST bursts in, plus MANY COPS. The COPS rush in, and arrest all except MR. GREEN.

(B) 174A CONTINUED (4):

ELDERLY EVANGELIST

Who done it?

ALL

The COPS wave their guns wildly and indecisively from one suspect to another, not knowing who to aim at.

MR. GREEN

They all did! -(proudly) But if you want to know who killed Mr. Boddy... (he indicates WADSWORTH) I did -- in the Hall, with the revolver. Okay Chief? Take 'em away. I'm going to go home and sleep with my wife.

BLACKOUT.

END CREDITS:

FADE OUT.

THE END

And now, the third ending, which continues on after one speech from the bottom of page 117 of the main script.

The third ending is numbered with C pages.

(__) 117

() 171 INT. HALL (shooting in ALL DIRECTIONS)

WADSWORTH (continuing) In-the-dark-the-murderer-ranfrom-here-across-the-hall-tothe-Study,-gets-the-rope-and-the-lead-pipe. He-ran-to the-Billiard-Room-strangled-Yvette-

(MORE)

THE THIRD ENDING

(C) 171 INT. HALL

WADSWORTH demonstrates and mimes the whole of the next speech as he describes what happened.

WADSWORTH

In-the-dark-the-murderer-runsfrom-here-across-the-Hall-tothe-Study,-gets-the-rope-andthe-lead-pipe. He-ran-to-the-Billiard-Room - and-strangled-Yvetteran-across-to-the-Library-and-hitthe-Cop-with-the-lead-pipe-Then-coming-out-of-the-Library-he-saw-automobilelights-coming-up-the-drive-It-was-the-Singing-Telegram. The-murderer-picked-up-thegun-where-Yvette-left-it-herebeside-the-Lounge-door-openedthe-front-door-recognized-thesinging-girl-from-her-photographand-shot-her!! Then-ran-backto-the-Cellar!

A pause, as this last remark sinks slowly in.

ALL

THE Cellar??

WADSWORTH

Yes.

MRS. PEACOCK But Colonel Mustard wasn't in the Cellar.

WADSWORTH No -- but you were!

MRS. PEACOCK Me? What's it got to do with me?

WADSWORTH You did it! You and Professor Plum together. You were in league with each other.

The OTHERS gasp, astounded. WADSWORTH explains to them.

WADSWORTH

(continuing) Think back! Mrs. Peacock was missing when the Cook and Mr. Boddy were murdered! And the Cook used to be your cook -don't you remember your fatal mistake?

He runs to the Dining Room. They follow.

172

WADSWORTH sits in MRS. PEACOCK's chair.

INT. DINING ROOM - (shooting in ALL DIRECTIONS)

WADSWORTH Sitting here, you told us all at dinner that we were eating one of your favorite recipes. (significantly) But monkies' brains, though popular in Cantonese cuisine, are not often to be found in Washington, D.C.

MR. GREEN (appalled) Is that what we ate?

He looks as though he is going to throw up.

MISS SCARLET Are there any brains to be found in Washington, D.C.?

MRS. PEACOCK is trembling with anxiety.

MRS. PEACOCK She was my cook. I don't deny it. That doesn't prove I murdered anyone.

PROFESSOR PLUM And what's it got to do with me?

(C) 172 CONTINUED:

WADSWORTH turns on PROFESSOR PLUM.

WADSWORTH

You knew that Mr. Boddy was still alive. Even psychiatrists can tell the difference between patients who are alive or dead. You fired the gun at him in the dark, but missed -- then you dropped the gun and pretended he was dead, so that you could kill him later, unobserved. You were missing in the Kitchen when we found the Cook dead -- and that's when you did it. The other four murders were easy -- luck was on your side, you drew lots to search the house together. So while we were all occupied searching the rest of the house you burned the evidence, killed the Motorist, then switched off the electricity and killed the others.

MR. GREEN

So it was all nothing to do with the disappearing nuclear physicist and Colonel Mustard's work on the new fusion bomb.

WADSWORTH

No -- Communism was just a red herring.

MRS. WHITE is still puzzled.

MRS. WHITE

But why did they kill all those people?

MRS. PEACOCK/PROFESSOR PLUM

We didn't!!

WADSWORTH ignores their denials.

WADSWORTH There's no other possible explanation.

PROFESSOR PLUM is thinking fast.

(C) 172 CONTINUED

PROFESSOR PLUM

I think there is.

Thinking, he walks slowly out of the Dining Room, through the swing door into...

(C) 173 INT. THE KITCHEN (shooting in ALL DIRECTIONS)

... PROFESSOR PLUM comes into the Kitchen, the OTHERS behind, agog, hanging on his every word.

PROFESSOR PLUM stares into the Kitchen cupboard, then turns to face WADSWORTH. PROFESSOR PLUM I think there is. Wadsworth, you knew about the secret

passages. And...

He crosses to the Kitchen table.

PROFESSOR PLUM (continuing) ... when we drew lots you held the matchsticks in your hand -you could have made sure we went to the Cellar together.

MR. GREEN (excitably) It's a frame-up!

WADSWORTH (angrily) No, it isn't!

PROFESSOR PLUM remains calm. He smiles.

PROFESSOR PLUM I'll tell you how we find out. The gun's missing, right? Everybody turn out their pockets and purses -whoever's got the gun, shot the Singing Telegram.

WADSWORTH suddenly produces the gun from his pocket.

WADSWORTH Very clever, Professor.

(C) 173 CONTINUED:

The OTHERS stand back, aghast! MISS SCARLET stares at WADSWORTH.

MISS SCARLET You killed that girl?

PROFESSOR PLUM (quietly) He killed all of them.

MR. GREEN is one step behind.

MR. GREEN

He did??

PROFESSOR PLUM Of course. Who knew every detail about us all? Who brought us all here, and Mr. Boddy and all the victims? Who had the key to the cupboard with the weapons?

COLONEL MUSTARD steps forward, thinking furiously.

COLONEL MUSTARD

BUT -- he said the Cook was murdered when we all were standing in the Library doorway with Yvette. So it <u>couldn't</u> have been Wadsworth -- he was there beside me.

WADSWORTH smiles.

WADSWORTH

(smoothly) But I was lying. That's not when she was murdered. I killed the Cook earlier on, when Mr. Boddy was on the floor in the Study, and you were all clustered around him. It took no time at all. You see, as Professor Plum realized, I knew about the secret passage from the study to the Kitchen.

MRS. WHITE Well, the police'll be here any minute -- you'll never get away with this.

(C) 173 CONTINUED (2):

WADSWORTH

(smiling) Why should the police come? Nobody's called them.

MISS SCARLET

(a sudden realization) Oh my God, of course not!

MRS. WHITE Why did you do it?

WADSWORTH Would you believe me if I said it was to rid the world of an appalling blackmailer and his disgusting informers?

MR. GREEN

No.

WADSWORTH

(cheerfully) And you'd be quite right. No -- all my life has been spent in a struggle for perfection. I tried to be the perfect husband, but my wife killed herself. I strove to be the perfect butler, but I was driven to killing mv employer. So I resolved that, in doing so, I would commit the perfect murder. But there is no pleasure in my triumph without an audience to admire it -- and, as none of you had the brains to expose me, I

COLONEL MUSTARD Good God, man, there are ladies present!

decided I must expose myself.

PROFESSOR PLUM But you didn't commit the perfect murder. There are six witnesses to your confession.

WADSWORTH

Not for long, Professor. When the police eventually get here they'll find twelve bodies -- and no explanation.

(C) 123

(C) 124

(C) 173 CONTINUED (3):

MRS. PEACOCK Twelve? There's only six.

WADSWORTH laughs like a maniac. Clearly he has flipped his lid.

WADSWORTH The champagne was poisoned! If you don't get an antidote in three hours, you'll die. All of you. And I'm leaving now -- and locking you in.

He laughs maniacally and runs out of the kitchen.

(C) 174 INT. THE LOUNGE (shooting towards doors and telephone table) WADSWORTH runs in.

> WADSWORTH There's no escape!

He rips the telephone cord off the wall.

WADSWORTH (continuing)

Ha ha!!

(C) 174A INT. HALL (shooting towards DINING ROOM) The OTHERS have followed into the Hall and watch him with horror. WADSWORTH flashes by (on roller skates)

175 INT. THE LIBRARY

... WADSWORTH whizzes in, and rips the phone out of the floor

WADSWORTH

Hahahaha!!

176

INT. THE STUDY (shooting towards desk, then PANNING across to DOOR) WADSWORTH races into FRAME and rips out that phone too. He turns in triumph to the OTHERS.

> WADSWORTH Haha -- hahahaha -- haha!!

176 CONTINUED:

(C)

The DOORBELL RINGS. They are all surprised -- and wary.

WADSWORTH (continuing) Don't move -- any of you.

He tries to leave the room

WADSWORTH Get out of the way.

ALL.

You said don't move.

(C) 177 INT. HALL (shooting in ALL DIRECTIONS)

WADSWORTH hurries to the front door, gun in hand. He opens the door. The ELDERLY EVANGELIST stands there.

WADSWORTH I thought we told you to get lost.

ELDERLY EVANGELIST Yes...but...

WADSWORTH reveals the gun.

WADSWORTH Scram, you stupid old...

The ELDERLY EVANGELIST lunges at WADSWORTH expertly, and grabs his wrist. In the struggle the GUN GOES OFF. SEVERAL COPS appear from just out of sight, and burst in, guns at the ready, overpowering WADSWORTH. The SIX GUESTS rush out into the Hall, screaming.

SIX GUESTS

Help! Help! / Get us to a hospital! We've been poisoned! / etc.

COPS Hands up! Get 'em up!

They hold all SIX GUESTS at gunpoint, backs against the wall, frisking them. COPS race into all the rooms. The FIRST COP finds the gun in WADSWORTH's pocket. Simultaneously, THREE COPS burst out of the Lounge, the Billiard Room and the Library respectively.

THREE COPS (to each other; all together) There's a body in there

(C) 177 CONTINUED:

Then they realize that the other TWO COPS said the very same words. They can't believe their ears.

THREE COPS (continuing; to each other) What???

A COP shoots out of the Study.

FIFTH COP There's THREE BODIES IN THERE!!

THREE COPS

THREE MORE?

FIFTH COP What do you mean, THREE MORE????

The ELDERLY EVANGELIST is holding WADSWORTH in a vice-like grip.

WADSWORTH

Who are you?

ELDERLY EVANGELIST (shows a badge) F.B.I. They sent me to clean up these murders.

WADSWORTH Is that why it's run by a man called Hoover?

ELDERLY EVANGELIST Who's responsible for these deaths?

ALL SIX GUESTS

He is!!

The ELDERLY EVANGELIST and all the COPS are surprised.

ELDERLY EVANGELIST

All of them??

WADSWORTH

It's true, it's true, it was the perfect murder. Let me show you how I did it.

(C) 177 CONTINUED (2):

He pushes them all back and clears a big space. In a WIDE ANGLE LONG SHOT, WADSWORTH stands in the Hall, surrounded by the SIX GUESTS, and ALL THE COPS with their guns trained on him. He starts retelling the story at incredible speed!

> WADSWORTH (continuing) At-the-start-of-the-evening-Yvette-was-in-the-Library-byherself-waiting-to-pourchampagne-I-was-in-the-Hallthe-Cook-was-in-the-kitchenthe-doorbell-rang-ding-a-ling...

WADSWORTH has thrown open the front door. As all the GUESTS and COPS watch him, mesmerized by the performance, WADSWORTH steps out onto the porch and SLAMS the FRONT DOOR SHUT.

(C) 178 EXT. FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

WADSWORTH locks the front door from the outside with his key.

(C) 179 INT. THE HALL

All the GUESTS and COPS rush to the front door and beat upon it furiously, screaming to be let out.

(C) 180 EXT. FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

WADSWORTH races down the front steps. The rain has stopped. It is a clear moonlit night. He jumps into the nearest police car, starts the ENGINE and pulls away.

(C) 180A. EXT. CONSERVATORY

As he disappears, the GUESTS and COPS burst through the Conservatory glass, and out into the garden.

(C)181 INT./EXT. THE POLICE CAR

WADSWORTH is driving along, smiling. Suddenly he sniffs. There is a familiar and unpleasant smell. Then he hears a SOUND:

(C) 181 CONTINUED:

))

GERMAN SHEPHERD (O.S.)

Grrrr!

WADSWORTH looks in the rear-view mirror. Teeth! Snapping! He turns, and there are the THREE DOGS, waiting to pounce. As they leap towards him...

BLACKOUT.

END CREDITS:

FADE OUT.



And finally, the fourth ending which continues on after one speech from the bottom of page 117 of the main script. This fourth ending is numbered with D pages.

(D)

171 INT. HALL (shooting in ALL DIRECTIONS)

WADSWORTH (continuing) In-the-dark-the-murderer-ranfrom-here-across-the-hall-tothe-Study,-gets-the-rope-and-the-lead-pipe. He-ran-to the-Billiard-Room-strangled-Yvette-

(MORE)

(D) 171 CONTINUED:

WADSWORTH

I'm sorry, I don't want to frighten you.

MR. GREEN YOU'RE A BIT LATE FOR THAT!

WADSWORTH And then there were three more murders!

ALL So which of us killed them?

WADSWORTH None of us killed Mr. Boddy or the Cook.

ALL So who did?

WADSWORTH The one person who wasn't with us --Yvette!

ALL

Yvette?

WADSWORTH

Yes, she was in the Billiard Room listening into our conversation.

WADSWORTH acts out his explanation as he speaks:

WADSWORTH

She-heard-the-gunshot,-she-thought-hewas-dead-...

INT. STUDY (shooting towards door) (D) 172

> WADSWORTH (continuing)

... and-while-we-all-examined-Mr.-Boddy-she-crept-into-the-studybehind-us, - picked-up-the-dagger-...

(D) LIOA .

(D)

172A INT. DINING ROOM/KITCHEN (shooting DINING ROOM towards HALL, PANNING to see KITCHEN through the PASS-THROUGH)

> WADSWORTH (continuing) ...ran-to-the-Kitchen-and-stabbedthe-Cook. We-didn't-hear-the-Cook-scream-...

(D) 172B INT. STUDY (shooting towards DOOR)

WADSWORTH (continuing) ...because-Mrs.-Peacock- was-screamingabout-the-poisoned-brandy ...

(D) 172C INT. HALL (shooting ALL DIRECTIONS)

WADSWORTH (continuing) ...Then-Yvette-returned-to-the-Billiard-Room,-she-screamed-andwe-all-ran-to-her.

(D) 172 C CONTINUED:

MISS SCARLET You said before that that was the time the Cook was killed.

WADSWORTH (enigmatically) I have my methods.

COLONEL MUSTARD When did she kill Mr. Boddy?

WADSWORTH

When I said. We all ran to the Kitchen, to see the Cook. She stayed behind in the Study for a moment to check that Mr. Boddy was dead. He opened his eyes so she hit him on the head with the candlestick, and dragged him to the toilet.

MISS SCARLET

Why?

WADSWORTH To create confusion.

PROFESSOR PLUM Why did she do it?

WADSWORTH

(menacingly) Because she was acting under orders? From the person who later killed her.

ALL

WADSWORTH looks at COLONEL MUSTARD.

WHO?

WADSWORTH Was it one of her clients? (looks at MRS. WHITE) Or a jealous wife? (looks at PROFESSOR PLUM) Or an adulterous doctor? No, it was her employer -- <u>Miss</u> Scarlet!

He turns to MISS SCARLET.

MISS SCARLET stands, defiantly.

(D) 172C CONTINUED (2):

MISS SCARLET

WADSWORTH

Is it? You used her, the way you always used her. You killed the Motorist when we split up to search the house.

MISS SCARLET How could I have known about the secret passage?

WADSWORTH

Easy. Yvette told you. And then, when we split up again, you switched off the electricity. It was easy for you, here on the ground floor. Then-in-the-dark-youran-to-the-Study...

(D)	173	INT.	THE	STUDY	(shooting	towards	cupboard)
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It's a lie.

WADSWORTH whizzes in and demonstrates.

WADSWORTH ...got-the-rope-and-lead-pipe...

WADSWORTH whizzes out.

- (D) 174 INT. THE HALL (shooting towards DINING ROOM) WADSWORTH whizzes past the SIX GUESTS. (Roller skates?)
 - 175 INT. THE BILLIARD ROOM (shooting towards window) WADSWORTH demonstrates.

WADSWORTH ... strangled-Yvette...

WADSWORTH whizzes out.

176 INT. THE HALL (shooting ALL DIRECTIONS)

WADSWORTH is beside the front door.

WADSWORTH

...saw-the-automobile-lights,picked-up-the-gun-where-Yvettedropped-it-opened-the-front-doorrecognized-the-Singing-Telegramfrom-her-photograph-and-shot-her.

MISS SCARLET

You've no proof.

WADSWORTH

The gun is missing. Gentlemen, turn out your pockets, ladies your purses. Whoever has the gun is the murderer.

MISS SCARLET suddenly produces the gun.

MISS SCARLET

Brilliantly worked out, WADSWORTH. I congratulate you.

COLONEL MUSTARD

Here, here.

MISS SCARLET snarls at him.

MISS SCARLET

Shuttup!

MR. GREEN But there's one thing I don't understand.

ALL

One thing??

MP. GREEN

Yes -- why did you do it? Half of Washington knows what kind of business you run -- you weren't in any real danger, the whole town would be implicated if you were exposed.

MISS SCARLET

I don't think they know my real business. My business is secrets. And Yvette found them out for me -- the secrets of Senator Peacock's Defense Committee, of Colonel Mustard's fusion bomb, of Professor Plums's U.N. contracts, and of the work of your husband the nuclear physicist.

(CONTINUED)

(D) 121

176 CONTINUED (2):

(D)

She is looking at MRS. WHITE.

MR. GREEN So it <u>is</u> political. You're a Communist.

MISS SCARLET laughs.

MISS SCARLET The State Department has always been so unsophisticated. No, Mr. Green, Communism is just a Red herring. Like all members of the oldest profession, I'm a capitalist. I shall sell my secrets -- your secrets -- to the highest bidder.

COLONEL MUSTARD And if we don't cooperate?

MISS SCARLET Then just like Mr. Boddy, I shall expose you.

PROFESSOR PLUM But we can expose you. Six murders.

MISS SCARLET

I hardly think it will enhance your reputation at the UN, Professor Plum, if it is revealed that you have been implicated not only in adultery with a patient but in her death and the deaths of five other people.

PROFESSOR PLUM

You don't know the kind of people they have at the UN. I might go up in their estimation.

COLONEL MUSTARD It's no good blackmailing me, Madam -- I've no more money.

ALL

Nor have I.

(CONTINUED)

(D) 176 CONTINUED (3):

MISS SCARLET I know, sweetie-pie -- but you can pay me in Government information. (looks around) All of you. (turns to WADSWORTH) Except you, Wadsworth -- you -as a mere butler, have no access to Government secrets. So I'm afraid your moment has come.

She turns the gun on him. The OTHERS respond appropriately -- one or two watch with horror, others can't bear to look.

WADSWORTH Not so fast, Miss Scarlet. I do have a secret or two.

MISS SCARLET is unimpressed. Her finger is ready on the trigger.

MISS SCARLET Oh yeah? Such as?

WADSWORTH The game's up, Scarlet. There's no more bullets in that gun.

MISS SCARLET You think I'll fall for that old trick?

WADSWORTH It's not a trick. There was one shot at Mr. Boddy in the Study; two that shot down the chandelier; two at the Lounge door and one for the Singing Telegram.

MISS SCARLET That's not six.

WADSWORTH One plus two plus two plus one.

The OTHERS are watching, -- and counting furiously on their fingers.

MISS SCARLET No, there was only one shot that got the chandelier -that's one plus two plus one plus one.

WADSWORTH

Even if you were right, that'd be one plus one plus two plus one, not one plus two plus one plus one.

MISS SCARLET

Okay, one plus two plus... The <u>point is</u>, there's one more bullet in here and guess who's gonna get it!

The FRONT DOOR BELL RINGS. MISS SCARLET turns automatically toward the door. WADSWORTH leaps forward, smashes the gun out of her hand, and holds her in a vice-like grip. MR. GREEN opens the front door and several FBI AGENTS and COPS burst in, guns in hand. OTHER AGENTS spread out into various room and reappear almost immediately.

> THREE AGENTS. (to each other, all together) There's a body in there:

Then they realize that the OTHER TWO AGENTS said the very same words. They can't believe their ears.

THREE AGENTS (continuing; to each other) What???

A COP shoots out of the study.

COP There's THREE BODIES IN THERE!!

AN AGENT

THREE MORE??

WADSWORTH Where's the Chief?

The ELDERLY EVANGELIST strolls in through the front door, gun in hand. WADSWORTH still holds MISS SCARLET in the vice-like grip.

(D) 176 CONTINUED (5):



ELDERLY EVANGELIST Ah, Wadsworth - well done. (turns to MISS SCARLET) I did warn you, my dear. Mr. Hoover is an expert on Armageddon.

MISS SCARLET turns to WADSWORTH.

MISS SCARLET Wadsworth, don't hate me for trying to shoot you.

WADSWORTH Frankly, Scarlet, I don't give a damn.

(he raises his revolver) As I was trying to tell you, there were no bullets left. See?

He pulls the trigger. The <u>GUN GOES OFF</u>! WADSWORTH is shocked, then puzzled.

WADSWORTH (continuing; thoughtfully) One plus two plus...

The other chandelier CRASHES down behind COLONEL MUSTARD. BLACKOUT

END CREDITS:

FADE OUT.

THE END

