



FREE PREVIEW · NOT THE CASE FILE ITSELF

# The Postmarked Letter

*A letter posted on Valentine's night, 1979, arrives at your door today. Its writer died that night, and the case went cold. The letter says the clock was wrong.*

## HOW A CASE FILE WORKS

- ☐ Decide who is the Correspondent and who is the Timekeeper (see “Playing,” on the next page). Make a pot of tea; there is no hurry.
- ☐ Read “The case” and the street plan together, then the five suspect files. Each file ends with what that person told the police in 1979 (statements SA to SE).
- ☐ Lay out the Stage 1 evidence and read it aloud — each partner reads their own kind. Start with the letter.
- ☐ Open Stage 2 when you have read everything in Stage 1 and agree on when Leander really died. Open Stage 3 when you can name no more than two suspects who could still have done it.
- ☐ Stuck? Turn over the first hint card for your stage. Still stuck after ten minutes? Turn over the second. When you agree, fill in the accusation together — and only then open the solution.

## WHAT THIS PREVIEW IS NOT

It has no evidence, no suspect statements and no solution — you cannot solve the case with it. The full case file is a separate download.

# The case

*Who, how and why — the rest is in the file.*

This morning a letter came through your door, addressed to Rosalie Linnet, who lodged in your house in 1979. The envelope is postmarked 9.45 PM, 14 February 1979. A note from the delivery office says it was found behind a sorting frame during repairs.

It is a love letter from Leander Tarrant, a bookbinder on Market Row. That same night Leander was found dead in the bindery. The inquest decided Leander died at 8:40, by a clock broken in the struggle, and nobody was ever charged.

Leander's letter says the clock read twenty past nine. Forty-seven years late, the two of you are going to find out what really happened.

## YOUR QUESTION

*Who killed Leander Tarrant — and when did it really happen?*

## THE SUSPECTS

|                        |                                  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Conrad Ashcombe</b> | Landlord of the bindery building |
| <b>Imelda Fairfax</b>  | Leander's apprentice binder      |
| <b>Victor Mallin</b>   | Rare-book dealer                 |
| <b>Rosalie Linnet</b>  | Leander's sweetheart             |
| <b>Hamish Teale</b>    | Baker, next door                 |

## WHAT THE FULL CASE FILE INCLUDES

- The letter, a street plan with walking times, and five suspect files with what each told the police in 1979.
- Fourteen numbered pieces of evidence in three sealed stages: the letter, the inquest, records, photographs and statements.
- Roles for two: the Correspondent and the Timekeeper, a suspect worksheet and a timeline, six fold-over hint cards in two tiers, and an accusation form.
- A separate solution that proves the answer step by step and says why it was not anyone else.