



The Big Reveal

People of Madawood Lane, you have had ample time to question the suspects to find who had the motive, means and opportunity to murder Alan Puckett! Did you find the killer in our midst? Did you figure out how he died?

There's no doubt that, as you formed your theories, the list of people who wished Alan Puckett dead became seemingly never-ending. He spent an inordinate amount of time harassing his neighbours, as though it was the only thing in his life that brought him joy – well, that and, of course, his dog, Rocky. That poncho-wearing dog seemed to be the only connection Alan Puckett had to being a real person, and his love for that little dog was his only redeeming quality.

It's a macabre bit of irony then, that the only thing he loved was the thing that killed him.

Alan Puckett was a man with habits. Every morning he did the same thing, at the same time, in the same way. He woke up, threw on the same ratty pair of jeans and grey t-shirt, started his vehicle and let it run while he opened his driveway gates. From there he went out to get his coffee and newspaper. He used to make his own coffee at home, but in the last year has decided to get his morning brew at the local cafe, The Wired Lobster. This is because his wife, Rose Puckett, spent most of her time when Alan was around outlining all the ways she imagined killing him. In fact, Alan was so worried about Rose murdering him, he even mentioned his fears to his neighbour, Patricia.

But making his morning coffee himself? Madness. And so, he began driving each morning to the local cafe, where he not only got his coffee, but also his newspaper – each morning, without fail, Alan left with the copy of the newspaper that the cafe provided for the patrons.

Caffeinated and all up to date on the Ruby's Trove news, Alan Puckett would then arrive back at #529 Madawood Lane and back into his driveway, parking in the same exact spot each time. He would then get out and leave his car door open while shutting and padlocking the gate behind him. Once the gate was shut, he would call for his pug, Rocky, who would race down the property in his colourful poncho and, thanks to Rose, a whimsical sombrero. Alan would scoff at the hat and take it off of Rocky before Rocky would lick his face to say hello. When both Rocky and Alan had enough, Alan would place Rocky down and the two would go inside.

The trouble with having such a predictable routine when one has spent his life making enemies, is that predictable routines make easy murder plots.

Alan Puckett's murderer exploited his daily routine to bring about Alan's death.

The key to solving this murder was in realizing a few things. First, the killer had to use the window of time when Alan was out getting his morning coffee to make their murderous plan work.

Second, the killer was not working alone, we actually have *three* killers in our midst.

And finally, the killers did their research on Alan, and, in doing so, found the perfect way to bring about his demise, in spite of all of his locked doors and gates. It was in hacking the pharmacy database that they got the information they needed to finally bring down the nastiest man in Ruby's Trove.

But why would anyone go to such trouble just to remove this crotchety old man from this plain of existence? The answer is, of course... revenge.

When he was just 10 years old, Jake Kleery had to rescue himself and his little sisters, Annabelle and Samantha, from a house fire in the city. That same fire took their parents. After being separated in the foster system, Jake finally found his little sisters again years later. Upon becoming a wiley hacker and private investigator, Jake discovered that the detectives investigating the fire were certain it was arson, and that the fire was started by a neighbour – Alan Puckett. With the judge in his pocket though, no arrest warrant was ever issued, and Alan Puckett remained a free man. When these three kids, now adults, found each other, they swore to find Alan Puckett and kill him. They tracked him to Ruby's Trove. Both Jake and Annabelle moved, separately, to the town, and Samantha followed shortly after as a tourist. With all three Kleerys in Ruby's Trove, they began exacting their revenge.

Annabelle, Samantha and Jake had no public contact with one another; nothing that could make anyone suspect they knew one another. Instead they met in secret in Lilac Park in the middle of the night.

As they went about their lives, they all watched Alan Puckett separately, then reported all their findings to each other as they met in secret. Alan Puckett had his place locked down so well that no one got in or out unless Alan wanted them to. They had to be creative, but they also wanted to make sure that Alan knew the reason he would die. They put an obituary for their parents in the local newspaper, including a line that their parents would be missed by their neighbour, Alan Puckett. It had the desired effect; Alan Puckett was seen at the cafe reading the obituaries and was clearly distressed by what he read.

Meanwhile, while Alan was out having his morning coffee and torturing the cafe patrons, his wife, Rose, plotted. She delighted in annoying Alan, making him fear for his life. But this mischief-loving, husband-hating woman did something every day for the sole purpose of angering Alan Puckett. Alan had purchased a brightly coloured dog poncho for Rocky the Pug, so that he would stay warm. Rose thought he needed a sombrero to go with it, and made him one. Alan hated it, and got angry when he returned home to find his beloved dog wearing a ridiculous hat. Enjoying his anger to no end, Rose made it her daily routine to put a hat on Rocky the Pug whenever Alan was out, and this morning was no exception. Anticipating his return, she went back inside the house to refill her coffee and to get a sombrero for Rocky, giddy with mischief and excited to enrage Alan Puckett upon his return. When she returned to the porch, she had to walk the length of the driveway to get Rocky, as he was eating something on the driveway.

So how do all of these things fit together?

Jake Kleery, of course, bought the house house directly across from The Pucketts' - #528. You all know him as Bob Sanderson.

Annabelle is none other than Sally Gleeson.

Samantha is in town under the guise of being a writer named Cherry Archer.

When Jake hacked the pharmacy computer system, he learned that Alan Puckett was allergic to peanuts.

When Rose went back into the house to get coffee and the tiny sombrero for Rocky, Jake, Samantha and Annabelle took advantage of the moment and threw something from Jake's second story window onto the Puckett's driveway.

A dog treat.

Smothered in peanut butter.

When Alan Puckett returned from the cafe, frazzled from the obituary he had just read, he picked up his dog as usual and let Rocky the Pug lick his face, as usual.

Within minutes he was dead on the ground, having suffered anaphylactic shock from contact with the peanut butter in Rocky's mouth.

Jake, Samantha and Annabelle watched every moment of his death from Jake's living room across the street.

Residents of Ruby's Trove, as revenge for the murder of their parents, Bob Sanderson, Cherry Archer and Sally Gleeson, aka Jake, Samantha and Annabelle Kleery, are guilty of Alan Puckett's murder. But, on the up-side, we are all finally free of the horrible Alan Puckett, and the town of Ruby's Trove will finally be the peaceful, picturesque seaside town all of the residents dreamed it could be – now that Alan Puckett has kicked the bucket.