

# HOW ALAN PUCKETT KICKED THE BUCKET



# Your Character

## LOGAN GLEESON

Newlywed Logan Gleeson just recently purchased #525 Madawood Lane with his new wife, Sally Gleeson. After a whirlwind romance, the two decided to leave it all behind for a peaceful and picturesque dream life in the seaside town of Ruby's Trove. Logan always wanted to be a writer, and now that he and Sally have both dropped out of college, he spends his days working on his first novel. His enthusiasm for life is infectious, and even though he is new to Madawood Lane, Logan is already well-liked by his neighbours.

# Logan's Hide Information

You and Sally are technically still newlyweds, and truth be told, you don't really know each other very well. You went to the same college, and for months you asked her to go for dinner with you. Each time she refused though – she said that she wasn't interested in dating. She insisted that she didn't have the time, since she spent her days in school and her evenings at her part time job. You were disappointed, of course – you really had strong feelings for her and wanted to get to know her better, but you respected what she had said and turned your attentions elsewhere.

Then, one day, she approached you and asked you if you would still be interested in having dinner together. Of course you jumped at the chance, and it was amazing! She was so easy to talk to, and was genuinely interested in you. She told you that she grew up in the foster system and worked like crazy to get her scholarship so she could pursue a career in toxicology. You told her that your parents forced you into college, and if it were up to you, you would quit and spend your days writing. She told you she loved the ocean, you told her you did as well, and you both agreed that you wanted to live in a seaside town one day.

Three blissful weeks later, you said that it might be cool to have her as a wife one day, and she said, "Why not? Let's do it!" You were confused. "Do what?" you asked. "Get married!" she cried. "Let's just do it! Let's have a romantic secret wedding and then quit school and move to a seaside town and live happily ever after!" Sally is usually pretty tempered, but she was so excited, you couldn't help but get excited too. She said she had an inheritance from her parents that could support you both until you got jobs and also pay for a house... you couldn't help it, you agreed.

Since you eloped, your life has been so blissful. You found the perfect oceanfront house in Ruby's Trove on Madawood Lane, and you and Sally bought it with her inheritance. You are so happy and everything is great – well, almost everything.



There was, of course, the problem of Alan Puckett, the curmudgeon who lived at #529 who died this morning – er – was murdered. The day you arrived on Madawood Lane, he came to the door and told you that there were "rules" that you and Sally had to follow if you wanted to live on "his" street, in "his" town. You let out a sort of laugh, but he stiffened and you realized he was serious. He demanded you address him either as Mr. Puckett or "Sir", and that if you crossed him, he would make your life a living hell. Then, he gestured behind you and said, "What a pretty woman. We will have to keep her in line too."

# Logan's Hide Information

You were too shocked to process everything he said until it was too late, and it wasn't until after you shut the door that you noticed Sally standing on the stairs behind you – she overheard the whole conversation!

Ever since that day, Alan Puckett's dreaded knock on your door happened constantly, almost as though he enjoyed harassing you – your garbage bins were out too long. Your compost was supposedly attracting rats – which was completely absurd. Your piano playing was “very distressing” to him and he insisted you cease playing all together or he would report you to the town bylaw enforcement. The list went on.

To make matters worse, you have grown suspicious of Sally. A few nights ago, you woke up and she wasn't in bed beside you. You called out for her, but there was no answer. Then, you heard the front door quietly close and you looked out your bedroom window to see her walking down the street. Worried she was sleepwalking or something, you quickly grabbed your slippers and followed.

Sally walked down the street and around the corner, turning into Lilac Park. You were about to call out to her when you saw a man standing there. At first you were afraid for her, but then the two embraced! Your stomach leaped – who was this shadowy figure having a clandestine rendezvous with your wife? You hurried back to the house in the hopes that she wouldn't realize you had followed her. You raced up to your room, then stood at the window, watching for her to return. But the person who came down the street was not Sally – she didn't return until a few minutes later. The person who came down the street was the same shadowy figure she met at the playground – and he went into house #528 across the street – Bob Sanderson!



# Logan's Share Information

Around the time of the murder you were at The Wired Lobster Cafe. You try to get there early enough each morning to enjoy your coffee before Alan Puckett arrives. This morning, you were not so lucky – you were reading a book in the deep arm chair and lost track of time.

Alan barked his coffee order to the barista, then went to the condiment stand and poured enough sugar in the cup to give the average person diabetes. He sat down at a table across from you, facing you, and told you that if you left your garbage can on the curb overnight after garbage pick up again he would drive over it with his truck.

You couldn't get back into your book while fuming about Alan Puckett. But you also didn't want to get up and leave, because then he would think he won. One of the reasons you don't like to be there while Alan is there is that he reads - aloud - the items in the newspaper to no one in particular. So, regardless of whether you want to be in a conversation with Alan Puckett or not, just by being in the proximity you have no choice but to hear what he says. This is why most people don't go to The Wired Lobster cafe when they know Alan will be there.

This morning, though, you're glad you stuck around, even just for the satisfaction of seeing Alan Puckett rattled. He was reading the obituaries. "Oh, looks like Jackson kicked the bucket. Not like anyone around here will miss him, he ran his business into the ground..." and then, he trailed off. You glanced up from your book just in time to watch the colour drain from his face. He stared at the obituaries for a moment and then, with hands shaking, he closed and folded the newspaper, grabbed his coffee and left the cafe.

You know that there's always an extra copy of the newspaper hidden behind the counter because Alan Puckett steals the copy the cafe leaves out for the customers, so you asked for it. You turned to the obituaries, and right under Fred Jackson's obituary was another, for a young couple named Janet and Clive Kleery, who died in an house fire. It said they were survived by their family and two young children, aged 10 and 8, and would be missed dearly by many, especially by their neighbour... Alan Puckett!

Alan's reaction to the obituary, and what it meant, has been bothering you ever since. You asked around, but there have been no house fires, let alone fatal house fires, in Ruby's Trove. By the time you got home from the coffee shop, Alan Puckett was being taken away in an ambulance, dead. You ran into the house to ask Sally what had happened, but she wasn't home.

