



THE SUSPECTS

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VANESSA THORNTON

A member of the catering staff, Vanessa Thornton blends into the background, her quiet demeanor making her nearly invisible as she serves guests at the Christmas party. Always polite but noticeably distant, she's known for her efficiency and precision, never drawing attention to herself. Despite her reserved nature, there's a hint of tension behind her calm exterior, and she seems to be constantly watching over her shoulder as she circulates food and drinks to all the guests.

LILY CARGILL

Party host Lily Cargill exudes effortless grace, and has a commanding confidence and presence common of those raised in privilege. Having recently taken over as head of the Holiday Helpers board of directors, Lily has revived the charity her grandfather started. Her polished exterior and poised demeanor make her the picture of sophistication, and she is a gracious and welcoming host.

SHERRY MORNING

Sherry Morning is the meticulous accountant behind Holiday Helpers' recent financial success, her sharp eye for detail ensuring every donation is accounted for as the charity flourishes. A recent addition to the team, her expertise has proven invaluable as contributions have reached record highs under her watch. Sherry is proud of her work and deeply committed to the foundation's mission, always ready to crunch numbers late into the night if it means helping those in need.

DETECTIVE CONSTANCE FITCH

The lead detective on the city's police force, Detective Fitch is not the typical detective. She's extremely involved in the community, and was a huge part of Holiday Cheer's fundraising efforts this year. During her time as a detective, she has become somewhat of a local celebrity, and people even stop her in the streets to take a selfie with them. Constance made time on her Christmas Eve away from her family to gather with the rest of the people from Holiday Cheer and celebrate the team's incredible fundraising success for the year.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 4



MARIBELLE COSTA

Maribelle Costa is one of the cater waiters working Lily Cargill's Holiday Cheer wrap-up party. Maribelle keeps her back straight and her movements controlled, the kind of posture that suggests she's concentrating on efficiency and perfection. She's polite when spoken to, but doesn't linger, moving on as soon as her task is done. Maribelle doesn't seem entirely comfortable among the town's wealthiest residents, yet she handles the job with the touch of a true professional, circulating food and drinks with focus and a practiced routine.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 4



IVY PARRISH

A volunteer for Holiday Cheer, Ivy has taken on the role of being an assistant to the board, specifically Lily Cargill, Clint Forsythe and Kendall Crane. She keeps their fundraising meetings organized, the press releases distributed and knows just how each one takes their morning coffee. Ivy is devoted to Holiday Cheer and has been an integral behind-the-scenes contributor to Holiday Cheer's success this year.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 4



CLAUDINE WALCOTT

Head of a holiday charity in a different city, Claudine has traveled all this way to congratulate those involved in Holiday Cheer, celebrate with them and, hopefully, learn some of their secrets. Claudine is outgoing and friendly, and has already made numerous friends even though she arrived at the party alone earlier this evening.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 3



CLINT FORSYTHE

Clint Forsythe is the charismatic face of the Holiday Helpers foundation, known for his charm and ability to win over corporate sponsors and media alike. Husband of the victim, Kendall Crane, together the couple became the driving force behind the charity's recent revival, catapulting it into the spotlight and breaking donation records. Clint's smooth, confident demeanor made him the perfect ambassador for Holiday Helpers, effortlessly commanding attention wherever he goes.

PETER CREST

Peter Crest devoted over a decade of his life to Holiday Helpers, guiding the foundation through challenging times. Once a respected leader, his tenure came to an abrupt end when Lily Cargill stepped in and took control, forcing him to step aside. Ever since, whispers of resentment have followed him around town, and rumours abound that his feelings about Lily taking over are less than supportive. Regardless, he has arrived at the party tonight to celebrate the success of Holiday Helpers this year.

TREV BRUYER

Son of a wealthy hotelier, Trev is a man who wants for nothing in life. Fortunately for Holiday Helpers, he is a philanthropist and donates happily, while using his influence in society to encourage his wealthy friends to do the same. Trev is friendly and charismatic, and people gravitate toward his positive mood and warm smile.

KARL YORK

There are not many people who don't know the name Karl York. An international business man, Karl is renowned for his astute business sense, and owns companies all over the world. This billionaire spent most of his life traveling, doing deals and making money – until recently, when he decided to settle down and focus on his local businesses more. His desire to up his public image has made him focus on philanthropy, and one million of Holiday Cheer's record-breaking funds have come from his coffers.

BRONSON CRANE

The victim's older brother, Bronson arrived at the party tonight to help celebrate his sister and brother-in-law's success in raising millions for Holiday Cheer. While he doesn't know many at the party, his presence is felt by everyone; Bronson moves from conversation to conversation, loudly making friends with everyone at the party, while enjoying copious amounts of egg nog.

GARTH SWANSON

A serious man, Garth is a bit of a mystery at this holiday party. While most of those attending the party are volunteers of Holiday Cheer and donors, Garth is not a regular around Holiday Cheer headquarters. Not particularly forthcoming, he seems to be standing against the wall sipping a drink rather than mingling with the other guests.

TED BEXLEY

News anchor Ted Bexley is a local celebrity in every sense of the word. There's not many who don't know the name Ted Bexley. Attending the party in a working capacity, Ted was tasked with doing a follow-up interview with the people behind Holiday Cheer's success. His original story about the charity went viral, and suddenly people from all over the country were demanding more about the feel-good story of the year. Ted is charming, and has that air of confidence exclusive to those who live a life of celebrity.