



# THE SUSPECTS

# OLIVE SMYLES

The oldest living relative of the Smyles family, Olive ran the Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm for decades with her husband, Jack, who passed away not long ago. Jack's death was followed soon after by the death of her daughter-in-law, Clara, and then the pandemic hit. Needless to say, Olive is resilient and tempered, and has been trying tirelessly to get the family business back in the black. In spite of the challenges she has and is facing, Olive is soft-spoken and kind, and puts her family above all else.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 4



# BECKA SMYLES

Wife of the victim, Nick Smyles, Becka is new around Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm. While Nick was away on vacation, he and Becka met and married in a whirlwind romance – the stuff of fairytales. When Becka learned Nick's family needed him to return to save the business, she was a big part in convincing him to come home. Becka is confident and enchanting, and leaves a lasting impression on anyone she meets.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 4



# SARAH CALITTO

An employee at Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm, Sarah has been working there since she was a teenager, and has become a part of the family. Being around the same age as the Smyles kids, they all but grew up together, with Sarah always on hand to help out while earning money. While she is responsible for many things at Smyles, during the holiday season, she takes on the role of Santa's Elf, helping out at Santa's Study to set up the kids for their pictures with Santa Claus. Sarah is gentle and sweet, the perfect person to be working with kids at Christmas time.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 5



# SOPHIE SMYLES

While most people don't know the name Sophie Smyles, there aren't many who don't know the name Evie Stark - Sophie's stage name. A child star, Sophie has been singing and acting since she was young, and is now one of the biggest celebrities in the world. Her return to her childhood home of Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm had to be in secret, as the paparazzi follows "Evie Stark" relentlessly. Regardless, Sophie returns home every few months in secret to visit her mother and get a break from her demanding life as one of the world's biggest pop stars.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 4



# GRIFFIN GRANT

Patron of Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm, Griffin Grant has an air of understated mystery. His conversations never go beneath the surface, and while he's polite and interested, he doesn't reveal much about himself. Griffin's gaze seems to sit too long on those of the Smyles family, not least of all on the victim, Nick.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 4



# PAUL FARLEY

Until recently, Paul was known as "Santa Paul", the man playing Santa at "Santa' Study" for the holiday season at Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm. Ironically, Paul is surly and grouchy most of the time – in fact, most of the other staff at Smyles try to avoid him whenever possible.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 3



# TOBY SMYLES

One of the Smyles family adult children, Toby works for Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm cutting trees and maintaining the forest, running the sleigh ride... he was his father, Jack's right-hand man from a young age. For the time being, Toby is playing Santa in Santa's Study, filling a gap in employment since Nick suddenly fired the previous Santa without warning or explanation.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 5



# TYLER BARKLEY

An old friend of the victim, Nick Smyles, Tyler has arrived at Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm to visit with his old friend and catch up. A bit of a beach bum, Tyler has no career and has dedicated his life to partying and hanging out with the rich and famous of the world. He has no income himself – or so it seems... he simply hangs out with the wealthy and they buy him things. It's nice work if you can get it, which is why his sudden appearance at Smyles was such a surprise.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 4



# LEVI WAUTERS

A waiter at Olive's Restaurant inside Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm, Levi has worked for the Smyles family for years, having grown up with the Smyles children. For the other 11 months of the year, Levi earns his money as an apiarist. Levi owns a picturesque piece of property just down the road in the valley, where he keeps bees for honey and other items, and also sells maple syrup from the maple trees that make up the forests on his property. His company is called Buzzy Woods Syrup and Honey Co., and his brand has become iconic at the local markets. Levi is friendly and outgoing, and many of his products line the shelves in the Smyles Gift Barn.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 5



# SEBASTIAN LORE

Sebastian Lore is the magician at Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm. He has worked for the Smyles family for years, coming in each holiday season to entertain the kids while they wait in line at Santa's Study, The Elves Nook, the hot chocolate stand and the bonfire. Sebastian is a skilled magician, performing the old favourites and card tricks, but also some impressive new illusion-style magic. He's personable and fun-loving – a true pillar of the Smyles Christmas Village experience.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 5



# GREG HART

The horse-drawn wagon driver at Smyles Christmas Village and Tree Farm, Greg Hart has been with Smyles for the past six Christmases, and loves his job. Each day he gets to take people out into the forest, sing Christmas carols with them and be filled with non-stop festive cheer. The patrons of Smyles love Greg as well... his happy personality helps them feel at home and welcome at the Christmas Village, and over the years he has become a staple at Smyles, with families returning each year with gifts and cards for him when they visit.

CHARACTER COMPLEXITY RATING: 4

