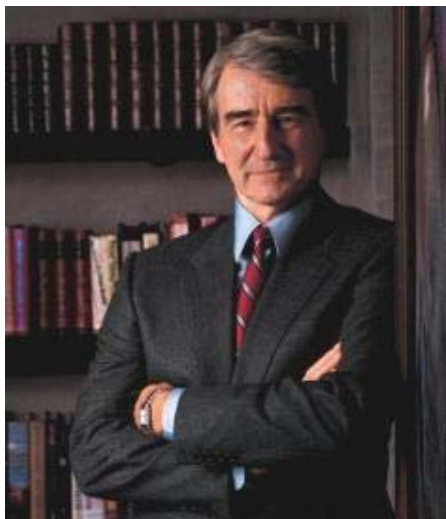




*Mystery!*



# Part I: Who Shot Adam Falk?

*The Berkshire Eagle*, 5/14/2010

Williamstown, MA-- The Williams College community is in shock this morning upon the discovering the tragic news that President Adam Falk has been dead. His body was discovered just east of the Paresky student center at 5:15 on Friday morning by two jogging students, apparently shot to death. The police have established the time of death at or around 4:30 AM, and are pursuing the case as a murder investigation.

A mere month and a half into his presidential tenure at the time of death, Falk, 45, is survived by his wife Karen and his children Briauna, David, and Alexander. The police have been unable to locate the Falk family either at the presidential residence or through their extended family and are seeking information as to their whereabouts.

"It's such a tragedy," said Greg Avis, '80, Chair of the Board of Trustees who had lead the search committee who hired Falk last September. "He was not only a distinguished scholar and administrator, but a funny man and an all-around nice guy." Dean Bill Wagner, who had served as interim president before Falk assumed the role April 1st, and who seems likely to resume that role until a new president is found, added, "It's too bad we didn't get to know him well enough. He had some wonderful plans for the school."

"It really makes your skin crawl," said Morton Owen Schapiro, Williams president from 2000-2009 and currently the president of Northwestern University. "I always felt incredibly safe at Williams. Some nights we forgot to lock the front door, and it never bothered us."

Though Falk had been greeted warmly by the Williams student body -- "He always seemed really engaged," said Stephen Webster, '11 -- his first month and a half on the job was not without turbulence. First, the sudden, cost-cutting closure of Greylock and Dodd dining halls for the 2010-2011 school year had upset both students and staff alike--particularly those among the latter group scheduled to be laid off by the move. Second, the beginning of Falk's tenure had seen an upsurge in activity from a shadowy organization dubbed "The Anti-Neighborhood Underground," a secret society that has militantly protested the current Williams housing system ever since its inception. Before the end of Falk's first week, his residence had had the now-distinctive purple "ANU" acronym spray-painted on its front door; before a month was up, Falk had received a note, written in magazine cuttings, making vague threats unless he immediately moved to reinstate the previous housing system. Still, no one expected that either of these early troubles would present any more than a passing problem, and certainly not lead to any violence.

A memorial service will be held for Adam Falk at the Congregational Church on Tuesday, May 18th, at noon.

## **Your Assignment!**

Adam Falk's murderer is on the loose, and only you can bring him to justice. Moreover, you can do so without even leaving your computer—in fact, there are some hidden on our website. As with any puzzle, of course, before you can come up with the correct *answers*, you'll probably need to find the right *questions*. Be sure to listen closely to our radio broadcast, because we'll be dropping a few hints for you over the course of the contest's early hours.

It'll probably help you to know a few things about Williams College. Regardless, you'll probably want to start by looking at the evidence the police have collected so far. You can find it at <http://www.trivia.to/police> .

*Your Instructions*

A. Although the rest of this Super Bonus must be submitted electronically at 4:00 AM, this part of the bonus will be accepted and scored separately. **You may use the entire eight hours of the contest to work on Part I.**

B. While you must submit the rest of the first Super Bonus through the contest website, you must submit your answers for this mystery via email to [david.letzler@gmail.com](mailto:david.letzler@gmail.com) . Please provide as complete a solution as you can, responding to as many of the little puzzles this mystery provides as possible.

C. Since we wish to bring Falk's killer to justice as swiftly as possible, the first several teams to submit solutions that correctly identify the killer(s) and his/her/their motive will receive a slight bonus over those who turn it in later.

D. If your team is stuck, you may email [david.letzler@gmail.com](mailto:david.letzler@gmail.com) to request a hint that's a little more direct than the ones we give here and over the air. However, this hint will cost your team one point against its scaled score on the bonus.

E. For this task only, you **may use the Internet as much as you'd like with no penalty.**

# Part II--Solving the Classics

Give the information necessary to solving the mysteries described below. (Note: If you're not a mystery buff and you want to get off to a faster start, you might want to browse Part III first.)

## **...But the Room Was Locked!**

The classic trope: a body is found dead inside a locked room. Name the mysteries from which these locked-room enigmas come **and** explain their solutions.

21.-22. A woman, her daughter, and an unidentified third voice – speaking a foreign language of whose nation of origin witnesses cannot agree – are heard screaming inside a locked fourth floor hotel room. When the door is opened, the woman is found decapitated and the daughter strangled, but the assailant is missing. The window is open, but there is no ledge onto which anyone might have escaped, and no one could have survived a fall.

23.-24. Witnesses hear a gunshot, and find a woman wounded, but not dead, alone inside a room locked from the inside. The only window is barred. The victim claims not to know who attacked her, nor how he escaped.

25.-26. After being ushered in to speak to a stamp collector, a man is found dead of a crushed skull inside a waiting room, locked from the inside. His clothes and all of the room's furniture are turned around, and two spears have been inserted in his pant legs.

27.-28. The victim's family hears a tremendous squealing and clattering from their patriarch's room, and immediately rush upstairs to find the room locked, and after breaking in, find him alone and dead with blood and furniture splayed everywhere. No window can be opened more than a crack, and everyone's alibi checks out at the time of the commotion. The only clue is a cork and a pink bit of rubber twenty found feet below the window.

29.-30. A particularly important statesman is being slowly poisoned. He is locked into his room with multiple guards – of multiple species – standing watch outside. Every meal he eats has been tested and found to be free of poison, as has virtually every item in the room, from the silverware to the carpet to the pages of his journal, in which he stays up each night to write. And yet, somehow, every night, he gets sicker. So how is he being poisoned?

## **Other Imponderables**

Again, give both the mysteries featuring the following knotty puzzles **and** their solutions.

31.-32. A man is invited to join a club in which he must copy out pages from the encyclopedia by hand, at an enormous salary, based on no other qualification other than a moderately uncommon aspect of his physical appearance. Soon after, he finds the club has suddenly dissolved, and no one else has any idea of what has happened to it.

33.-34. Upon fatally shooting the last possible murder suspect, the remaining guest returns to her room, finds a noose and chair left for her, and is compelled to use it to hang herself. When the police arrive later, they find all the earlier corpses precisely as described in the diaries, and that the chair has been removed from the final victim's room.

35.-36. An aristocrat novelist stages an elaborate prank on his wife's lover, setting him up in a fake burglary so that he might pretend to shoot and kill him before sending him away humiliated. However, a police inspector arrives days later investigating the lover's disappearance and finds substantial evidence of a real killing.

37.-38. A valuable jewel is found missing one morning. The paint on the doorway is smeared, but no stained nightgown can be found. Later, the jewel is traced to a safebox in London, and still later, the jewel's owner admits that she saw her lover take it, but he has no memory of doing so and cannot recall what he did with it.

39.-40. A man is found dead on a high, deserted rock in the wilderness, his fresh blood suggesting that he had been killed within minutes. However, the only fresh footprints are those of the heroine, and the most likely suspect has an airtight alibi for that time.

### **Murder Weapons**

What mysteries feature these unlikely murder weapons?

- 41. A slab of frozen meat, later fed to the police
- 42. A rare volume of Aristotle, with poisoned ink placed on its pages
- 43. An icepick
- 44. A poison dart from the South Pacific
- 45. A dildo with a blade attached

### **The Key Clue**

To what mysteries do these function as climactic, revealing clues?

- 46. The central witness insists that his orders are always obeyed, yet he claims to have ordered both that no one harm victim and that the victim be transferred from the base out of concern for his security.
- 47. The victim's newly-purchased dictaphone is nowhere to be found.
- 48. The main witness has indentations on the sides of her nose, suggesting that she wears glasses.

49. Monkey's brains, though popular in Cantonese cuisine, are not often to be found in Washington, D.C.

50. Though this had initially been obscured by an interruption, the third section of the will ends with an injunction to "find the," then continues on to the proceeding section without ending the sentence.

51. There is a milk saucer in the stepfather's bedroom, though he does not own a cat, as well as a cord that does not attach to a bell.

52. Though the victim drowned in a reservoir, he had salt water in his lungs--and a pair of glasses were found in the pond behind the PI's client's house.

53. A plain-looking note with the villain's insignia sits in plain sight on a rack in his study.

54. A gun found at the villain's house matches the bullets found in the last victim—though it was planted there by the detective, who couldn't find any other way to pin anything onto the villain other than staging that victim's suicide as a murder.

55. The victim collapsed onto a large stone compass, gesturing toward the "W" and "S"—but he approached it from behind.

### **Spoiler Alert**

Sorry, we're just going to give a ton of stuff away now. To what mysteries are these the surprising solutions?

56. The arson and murders were committed by the chief witness, who has invented all the details of his story using the bulletin board behind the interrogator.

57. The twelve knife wounds of wildly differing sizes and depths did not come from one killer, but twelve people seeking vengeance for a kidnapping.

58. The hero killed his wife himself, accidentally, and all of his tattoos and notes are efforts to trick himself into thinking otherwise so that he can track down the "real" killer.

59. The title animal was killed by the detective's father out of anger at the wife of the man for whom his own wife (whom he had told his son was dead) had left him.

60. The protagonists are not hallucinating the existence of the old lady they had met earlier, despite what the other passengers say; she is actually a spy being held captive.

61. Upon meeting the victim, the murderer suddenly realized that she was the woman whose German measles had caused the complications in her only pregnancy, leading her to poison her drink.

62. The mythical spirit who runs the hero out of town is likely the local bully, who wished to dispose of his rival for the town's prettiest young lady.

63. Instead of being an act of industrial espionage, the murder was merely motivated by the need for several hundred dollars to get a teenaged exhibitionist an abortion.

64. The murders at the film's start were masterminded by a police captain attempting to take over organized crime in the city in the wake of a mobster's incarceration. He was also responsible for the deaths of a high-end pimp, a gossip columnist, a celebrity cop, and the shooting of the protagonist's father—and if that sounds complicated, wait until you read the book.

65. The supposed murder victim depicted in the painting is actually alive; she had been away for the weekend in the country, and the girl she let stay in her apartment was killed instead of her.

### **Foiled!**

Both great detectives and good people get bested sometimes. Name these mysteries in which good doesn't necessarily out.

66. After managing to disguise himself and steal away an incriminating photograph, the detective has the photo stolen back from him by his disguised opponent, though she promises never to use it for any ill purpose.

67. Neither able to account for his own location nor that of a sack of three thousand rubles, a man is wrongfully convicted of his father's murder, likely committed by his suicidal stepbrother; it doesn't help that the brother whose testimony might have saved him is driven insane by his nihilistic atheism and a vision of the devil.

68. Despite the protagonist's demonstration – via his client's crippled hand and cross-examination of the plaintiff – that his client did not rape the plaintiff and was in fact invited to have sex with her, that client is found guilty. He is later shot while trying to escape prison.

69. After revealing at the very end that she's the main character's little sister, the narrator explains that she had been the one who'd killed both his wife and the man who'd slept with the wife while her brother had been in jail. Misfortune placed her brother at the scene of the second crime, where, after he waved down the police, he was wrongfully executed in an impromptu trial.

70. Upon seeing his lover wearing a certain necklace, the detective realizes that she had been impersonating the victim on behalf of the latter's husband so that he could stage her death as an accident. The detective takes his lover to the scene of the murder he had been unable to stop, but while accusing her, she is frightened by an approaching dark figure and falls tragically to her death.

## **Serial Killers**

What is the true identity of the following serial killers?

- 71. Buffalo Bill
- 72. Ghostface (original)
- 73. The Jigsaw Killer
- 74. The Miniature Killer
- 75. The Origami Killer

## **The Great Questions—Fiction Division**

- 76. Who shot J. R.?
- 77. Who was the one-armed man? (We'll take two answers.)
- 78. Who framed Roger Rabbit?
- 79. Who killed Laura Palmer?
- 80. Who killed Trudy Monk?

## **The Great Questions—Nonfiction Division**

- 81. Who kidnapped the Lindbergh baby?
- 82. Who was the Son of Sam?
- 83. Who was the Unabomber?
- 84. Who was the Boston Strangler (as far as we know)?
- 85. Who planted the SUV bomb in Times Square?



# Part III: Detectives, Their Trademarks, Their Buddies, and Their Enemies

## Trademark Appearances

Name the mystery-solvers that match these descriptions.

86. Usually wearing a trilby and trenchcoat, he sports a small black mustache and an outrageous French accent.

87. Repeatedly described as being remarkably nondescript, he is thin and fair-haired, with a perpetually vacuous expression and horn-rimmed glasses.

88. Short and stocky, usually in a thick overcoat and fedora, he always travels with a pipe in his mouth and a pint of cider in his stomach.

89. Perpetually wearing sneakers in the workplace, this stubbled man walks with the partial help of a cane with flames on it.

90. Short and skinny, his left hand has been amputated, making it impossible for him to successfully use a whip as his career requires.

91. Typically he is clad in a red fedora, a checked shirt, a green striped tie, metal-framed glasses, a brown suit and leather jacket.

92. This married couple is always impeccably dressed, and neither is often to be found without a martini in hand or their loyal terrier at foot.

93. These three investigators each wear a variant of traditional African clothing, and each has at least one body part that is abnormally large and sensually super-perceptive.

94. Over six feet tall and grey-haired, this detective is confined to a wheelchair after having been shot in the back by a criminal, forcing early retirement.

95. This Welshman is short and stocky, with a sailor's rolling gait and black, tonsured hair.

## Bases

Given the location out of which they are based, name the detective(s).

96. Cabot Cove, ME

97. St. Mary Mead, Downshire

98. Neptune, CA
99. River Heights, IL
100. Barnard's Crossing, MA
101. Pickax, MI
102. West Sitka, AK
103. Gaborone, Botswana
104. A private room at the Milano restaurant, NYC
105. A secondhand bookstore, NYC

### **Assistants**

#### *Trusty Sidekicks*

Whom do the following people assist in solving crimes?

106. Della Street
107. Conrad McMasters
108. Chet Morton
109. Archie Goodwin
110. Sally Kimble
111. Mary Russell
112. Number 1 Son and Number 2 Son
113. Jamal Jenkins and Gaby Fernandez (among others)
114. "Mouse" Alexander
115. Robbie Lewis

#### *Underpaid Flatfoots*

For what more brilliant detectives do these policemen file paperwork?

116. Inspector Lestrade

117. Leland Stottlemeyer

118. Purley Stebbins

119. Jim Gordon

120. Lt. Arthur Tragg

### *Henchfolk*

What criminal masterminds do the following underlings assist in their nefarious plots?

121. Colonel Sebastian Moran

122. Anita Bath & Mac R. Roni

123. Joel Cairo

124. Mr. Chalk and Mr. Cheese

125. MAD Cat

### **Catchphrases**

126. "Click."

127. "Just one more thing..."

128. "We just want the facts, ma'am."

129. "Who loves ya, baby?"

130. "I'm getting a vision!"

### **Uncreative Titles**

Writing a crime series is hard work, so some writers relieve themselves of the burden of coming up with interesting titles for each entry. Name the authors and protagonists of these series with predictable names.

131-132. [Progressive Letters] is for...

133.-134. [Progressive Numbers]...

135-136. Cat in a [Alphabetically Progressing Alliterative Phrases]

137-138. [Phrase from Nursery Rhyme]; later becomes [Phrase Involving Detective's Last Name]

139.-140. The Girl... (Note: English translation)

### Rides

Detectives need awesome rides. Name the primary drivers of the vehicles pictured below.



141.



142.



143.



144.



145.



146.

## Spinoff Soup

Given a cast picture from a procedural mystery that is either the inspiration or result of much spinning-off and/or copycatting, name the show.



147.



148.



149.



150.



151.



152.



153.





154.



155.

### Mysteries About Mystery Writers

Name the fictional mystery novelists who are themselves featured in murder mysteries.

156. To help solve a set of copycat murders, the NYPD enlists the aid of this mystery writer to partner with one of its female detectives.

157. This apple-loving mystery novelist, known for spinning tales about an eccentric foreign detective, often tries to use her “feminine intuition” to assist a good friend of hers in solving crimes.

158. After the death of her husband Frank, this widow takes up writing mystery novels, completing at least thirty over the course of twelve seasons—which, for some reason, seems to also make people die wherever she goes.

159. This detective novelist and Oxford alumna meets her monocle-wearing future husband while she is herself on trial for murder.

160. This best-selling novelist employs her extensive scientific expertise in a partnership with an FBI agent, solving murders by examining the decomposed remains of the victims.

### Chandlerspeak

If you’re a hardcore Raymond Chandler aficionado, you’ll be able to complete the following famous hard-boiled witticisms...but since you’re probably not, we’ll give you **full credit** if you come up with something that **sounds like** Chandler would’ve written it (partial credit if we don’t laugh).

161. It was a blonde. A blonde to make...

162. The robe she was wearing came open, and underneath it she was as naked a September morn but...

163. From thirty feet away she looked like a lot of class. From ten feet away...

164. I was neat, clean, shaved, and sober, and I...

165. He gave murder back to the kind of people that commit it for reasons, not just to provide a corpse; and with the means at hand, not with...

### **Miscellaneous**

166-168. The (currently-running Off-Broadway) play with the most performances in NYC history is a mystery, as is the (currently-running) play with the most performances in American theater history, as is the longest- (and still-) running play in the world. What are they?

169. In the world of murder mystery, who is Dr. Black?

170. What British illustrator designed the opening titles to the TV series "Mystery!"?

### **Extra Credit**

As best you can, postulate answers to these long-unsolved mysteries

171. Who was Jack the Ripper?

172. What happened to the paintings stolen from the Gardner Museum?

173. What happened to Jimmy Hoffa?

174. What happened to D.B. Cooper?

175. Who killed the Black Dahlia?