



Downton Abbey

by Corby A. (SF Bay Area)

Colonel McGuffin's visit to Downton Abbey ended not with a sumptuous dinner as he expected, but rather with his own murder. Lord Grantham (Robert Crawley) called the Inspector in to solve the crime. The Inspector interviewed each suspect about the murder, and their replies are below. Rearrange them according to the following rules.

- The layout is a 4x4 checkerboard of alternating nobles and servants, except for the bottom row on the right, where the cooks are.
- Cora, Mary, and Robert each have their servant next to them.
- Three common flower names are in a diagonal, along with another woman.
- Violet is not next to Anna.
- Cora is backed against a wall by her daughters, who are next to her.
- Carson and Mrs. Hughes are at the center of everything, ensuring that the crafty Baxter and Thomas are as far apart as possible.
- Molesley is the only male on the left half, and is next to two males.

"Next to" refers to any of the eight neighboring locations. Once everyone was rearranged, the Inspector took a step back to survey the suspects. He didn't need to draw on his years of experience because the first thing he saw gave him everything he needed to crack the case. He bagged the murder weapon as evidence, and wrote its name on the answer sheet.

Anna Mary's Lady's Maid "He... he... did pinch me on the bum, but that's hardly a motive!"	Bates Robert Crawley's Valet "Leave the tormenting to Mr. Barrow. He's the expert in it."	Baxter Cora's Lady's Maid "All this evil you accuse me of, is it because of my past crime?"	Branson Robert's son-in-law "You see patterns in everything. Just look at the facts."
Carson Butler "Really? In this day and age you think the butler did it? How droll."	Cora Crawley Countess of Grantham "Silly Constable... I mean Inspector. How would I gain from his death?"	Daisy Assistant Cook "Early Sunday I'll be at church. Do you need an answer before then?"	Edith Crawley Daughter of Robert and Cora "Barrow with that Baxter, if you ask me. But no one ever asks me."
Mrs. Hughes Head housekeeper "You know serving this family is my life's work."	Mary Crawley Daughter of Robert and Cora "I think it rather a good idea to look for suspects elsewhere."	Molesley First Footman "All this is impossible. I don't think I was anywhere near him!"	Mrs. Patmore Cook "Leave off poise and manners. Just ask me your questions."
Robert Crawley Earl of Grantham "Doesn't the killer warrant more focus than I, who summoned you?"	Rose Aldridge Great Niece of Violet "Something mysterious is going on, that's certain. I'm off to a party!"	Thomas Barrow Underbutler "Tell me more. Your story is fascinating."	Violet Crawley Dowager Countess of Grantham "Let's not utterly lose our heads, young man. Maintain some decorum!"