

Gentle hints

Read one hint at a time. Try the clue again before turning to the next page.

1 / Behind the mask

The mask hides the face, but it does not hide everything. Find the two clearly visible costume details in Exhibit B.

2 / A later photograph matters

The first photograph was taken at 7:00. Who exchanged something before the 7:12 disappearance?

3 / Follow the route

Begin in the party hall. Which doorway is east? Which room beyond the dining room has no outside windows?

4 / Read the tag carefully

The tag asks about the pin the culprit gave away, not the pin in the camera image. Both the number of symbols and the room matter.

5 / Why do it?

Compare the proposal with the host's reply. A planned surprise is not automatically an approved surprise.

Stronger hints

These hints reveal important steps. Stop as soon as you can continue.

1 / The sleeve shortlist

Only Maya and Arlo have striped sleeves. Nobody changed costumes, so the other four guests cannot match the carrier.

2 / Follow the star

Maya gave her star pin to Arlo at 7:08. At 7:12, Maya is wearing the round moon and Arlo is wearing the star. The carrier has stripes and a star.

3 / The final room

The route is party hall -> dining room -> study. The porch has three outside windows; the study has none.

4 / Which cupboard?

Arlo gave away the round-moon pin. The tag asks for two matching symbols. In the study, the right bookcase cupboard has two moons.

5 / The motive

Arlo wanted to lead a candy treasure hunt and stage the reveal. The host explicitly told him not to move the bowl.