

Who Took Old Man Riddles' Prize Riddle?

FRIDAY · 27 CLUES · 7 GUESTS

During Auntie Pearl's dinner for 7, Old Man Riddles' prize riddle disappeared from the sealed envelope. The thief is still at the table, and only the thief will lie. Tonight there are three ledgers to square (who ate which dish, who laid which offering, and who brewed which potion), and the clues cross between them. Solve every grid and find the liar.

Find the liar. Solve every grid.

	Dish eaten							Offering laid							Potion brewed						
	Stew	Tart	Roast	Wurst	Hash	Cake	Fritter	Candle	Garland	Loaf	Ribbon	Sheaf	Thread	Feather	Tonic	Salve	Philter	Wash	Oil	Numbroot	Cure
Anne																					
Baldric																					
Dan																					
Elise																					
Ivan																					
Kattia																					
Michael																					
Potion brewed																					
Tonic																					
Salve																					
Philter																					
Wash																					
Oil																					
Numbroot																					
Cure																					
Offering laid																					
Candle																					
Garland																					
Loaf																					
Ribbon																					
Sheaf																					
Thread																					
Feather																					

Mark each cell: X ruled out · confirmed.

The clues

- Offerings spelled with an R (Garland, Ribbon, Thread, Feather, Wreath): Garland · Ribbon · Thread · Feather
- Offerings spelled with an F (Loaf, Sheaf, Feather): Loaf · Sheaf · Feather

AUNTIE PEARL'S LEDGER: THESE FACTS ARE ALWAYS TRUE

1. Whoever is behind this didn't lay the Ribbon, the Loaf, or the Garland.
2. Elise laid an offering spelled with an R.
3. Elise, Anne, and Baldric laid the Thread, the Feather, and the Candle, in some order.
4. The Seeker who laid the Candle brewed the Oil.
5. Elise, Dan, and Anne laid the Sheaf, the Thread, and the Feather, in some order.
6. Dan laid an offering spelled with an F.
7. Whoever is behind this didn't brew the Salve, the Wash, the Tonic, or the Oil.
8. The Seeker who laid the Feather brewed the Tonic.
9. Whoever is behind this didn't eat the Tart, the Hash, or the Fritter.
10. Baldric, Elise, and Kattia ate the Tart, the Fritter, and the Cake, in some order.
11. The Seeker who ate the Hash didn't brew the Philter.
12. Dan didn't brew the Wash.
13. The Seeker who ate the Stew brewed the Numbroot.
14. Baldric's offering has no F in its name.
15. The Seeker who ate the Roast laid the Thread.
16. Anne, Baldric, and Kattia laid the Candle, the Thread, and the Loaf, in some order.
17. Baldric and Anne laid the Thread and the Candle, in some order.
18. The Seeker who ate the Wurst didn't lay the Ribbon.
19. The Seeker who brewed the Cure ate the Tart.

WHAT THE SEEKERS SAID

20. 🗨️ *Baldric says: "Michael brewed the Philter."*
21. 🔧 *Ivan says, like testing a weld: "The Seeker who ate the Stew laid the Sheaf."*
22. 🕸️ *Dan says: "I ate the Hash."*
23. 🗣️ *Michael says: "Ivan didn't lay the Candle."*
24. 🗣️ *Michael adds: "The Seeker who ate the Fritter laid the Feather."*
25. 🦋 *Kattia says: "The Seeker who ate the Roast brewed the Salve."*
26. 🧠 *Anne says, watching faces instead of the food: "I didn't brew the Numbroot."*
27. ✂️ *Elise says: "Michael didn't eat the Tart."*

Answer: Who Took Old Man Riddles' Prize Riddle?

 **The liar (culprit):**  **Dan**

The lie, clue 22: Dan ate the Hash. (false).

	 Dish eaten							 Offering laid							 Potion brewed						
	Stew	Tart	Roast	Wurst	Hash	Cake	Fritter	Candle	Garland	Loaf	Ribbon	Sheaf	Thread	Feather	Tonic	Salve	Philter	Wash	Oil	Numbroot	Cure
 Anne	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X
 Baldric	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X
 Dan	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X
 Elise	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	●	X	X	X	X	X	X
 Ivan	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X
 Kattia	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●
 Michael	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X
 Potion brewed																					
Tonic	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	●							
Salve	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X							
Philter	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X							
Wash	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X							
Oil	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Numbroot	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X								
Cure	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X							
 Offering laid																					
Candle	X	X	X	X	X	●	X														
Garland	X	X	X	●	X	X	X														
Loaf	X	●	X	X	X	X	X														
Ribbon	X	X	X	X	●	X	X														
Sheaf	●	X	X	X	X	X	X														
Thread	X	X	●	X	X	X	X														
Feather	X	X	X	X	X	X	●														

Step-by-step proof

- From clue 2: Elise didn't lay the Candle, Elise didn't lay the Loaf, and Elise didn't lay the Sheaf.
- From clue 3: only Elise, Anne, and Baldric can have the Thread, the Feather, and the Candle. Rule those out for everyone else.
- From clue 4: Dan didn't brew the Oil, Elise didn't brew the Oil, Ivan didn't brew the Oil, Kattia didn't brew the Oil, and Michael didn't brew the Oil.
- From clue 5: Anne didn't lay the Candle, Baldric laid the Candle, Dan laid the Sheaf, Ivan didn't lay the Sheaf, Kattia didn't lay the Sheaf, and Michael didn't lay the Sheaf.
- From clue 1: Ivan is innocent, Kattia is innocent, and Michael is innocent.
- From clue 4: Anne didn't brew the Oil and Baldric brewed the Oil.
- From clue 7: Baldric is innocent.

8. From clue 8: Dan didn't brew the Tonic, Ivan didn't brew the Tonic, Kattia didn't brew the Tonic, and Michael didn't brew the Tonic.
9. From clue 10: only Baldric, Elise, and Kattia can have the Tart, the Fritter, and the Cake. Rule those out for everyone else.
10. From clue 12: Dan didn't brew the Wash.
11. From clue 13: Elise didn't brew the Numbroot and Kattia didn't brew the Numbroot.
12. From clue 15: Dan didn't eat the Roast, Ivan didn't eat the Roast, Michael didn't eat the Roast, and Elise laid the Feather.
13. From clue 8: Elise brewed the Tonic.
14. From clue 7: Elise is innocent.
15. From clue 16: Anne laid the Thread, Ivan didn't lay the Loaf, Kattia laid the Loaf, and Michael didn't lay the Loaf.
16. From clue 8: Anne didn't brew the Tonic.
17. From clue 15: Anne ate the Roast.
18. From clue 13: Anne didn't brew the Numbroot.
19. From clue 19: Baldric didn't eat the Tart, Elise didn't eat the Tart, Anne didn't brew the Cure, Dan didn't brew the Cure, Ivan didn't brew the Cure, and Michael didn't brew the Cure.
20. From clue 20: Michael brewed the Philter.
21. From clue 11: Michael didn't eat the Hash.
22. From clue 13: Michael ate the Wurst.
23. From clue 18: Michael laid the Garland.
24. From clue 24: Baldric ate the Cake, Elise ate the Fritter, and Kattia didn't eat the Fritter.
25. From clue 25: Anne brewed the Salve.
26. From clue 7: Dan is the culprit.
27. Only one possibility remains: Dan didn't eat the Wurst, Ivan didn't eat the Wurst, Kattia ate the Tart, Ivan laid the Ribbon, Dan brewed the Numbroot, Ivan didn't brew the Salve, Ivan didn't brew the Philter, and Kattia brewed the Cure.
28. From clue 13: Dan ate the Stew.
29. Only one possibility remains: Ivan ate the Hash and Ivan brewed the Wash.