

The Case of the Strongbox Key

THURSDAY · 24 CLUES · 7 GUESTS

During Auntie Pearl’s dinner for 7, the strongbox key disappeared from Auntie’s keyring. The thief is still at the table, and only the thief will lie. Tonight there are three ledgers to square (who wore which garb, who champions which pastime, and who leases which trinket), and the clues cross between them. Solve every grid and find the liar.

Find the liar. Solve every grid.

	Garb worn							Pastime							Trinket leased						
	Cloak	Hood	Vest	Wrap	Robe	Scarf	Tunic	Quoits	Riddling	Jacks	Skittles	Wrestling	Fetch	Tiles	Silver Ring	Gold Amulet	Jade Bead	Onyx Coil	Ruby Pin	Copper Key	Tin Charm
Anne																					
Betsy																					
Dorian																					
Elanna																					
Ivan																					
Kattia																					
Mara																					
Trinket leased																					
Silver Ring																					
Gold Amulet																					
Jade Bead																					
Onyx Coil																					
Ruby Pin																					
Copper Key																					
Tin Charm																					
Pastime																					
Quoits																					
Riddling																					
Jacks																					
Skittles																					
Wrestling																					
Fetch																					
Tiles																					

Mark each cell: ✕ ruled out · ● confirmed.

The clues

※ Games played on your feet: Quoits · Skittles · Wrestling · Fetch

📄 AUNTIE PEARL’S LEDGER: THESE FACTS ARE ALWAYS TRUE

1. Elanna champions a game played standing.

2. The Seeker who champions the wrestling wore the vest.
3. The Seeker who wore the hood doesn't champion the fetch.
4. The Seeker who champions the riddling leases the Silver Ring.
5. The Seeker who leases the Tin Charm wore the vest.
6. Whoever is behind this champions the riddling, the quoits, the jacks, or the fetch.
7. Kattia, Mara, Dorian, and Ivan champion the jacks, the riddling, the wrestling, and the quoits, in some order.
8. Betsy's game isn't played standing.
9. Ivan, Elanna, and Kattia champion the skittles, the jacks, and the wrestling, in some order.
10. Whoever is behind this didn't wear the scarf, the tunic, the hood, or the vest.
11. Kattia, Anne, Mara, and Betsy lease the Silver Ring, the Copper Key, the Ruby Pin, and the Jade Bead, in some order.
12. The Seeker who wore the wrap champions the quoits.
13. Kattia, Mara, and Elanna lease the Gold Amulet, the Silver Ring, and the Ruby Pin, in some order.
14. The Seeker who champions the fetch wore the tunic.
15. Whoever is behind this doesn't lease the Copper Key, the Tin Charm, or the Jade Bead.
16. The Seeker who leases the Jade Bead wore the robe.

WHAT THE SEEKERS SAID

17.  *Ivan rumbles, setting down the hammer: "The Seeker who champions the skittles wore the scarf."*
18.  *Elanna says: "Ivan wore the vest."*
19.  *Kattia says: "Anne didn't wear the tunic."*
20.  *Mara says: "Mara, Dorian, and Kattia wore the hood, the wrap, and the cloak, in some order."*
21.  *Anne says: "Mara doesn't champion the skittles."*
22.  *Anne adds: "Ivan doesn't lease the Gold Amulet."*
23.  *Betsy says: "Mara's game isn't played standing."*
24.  *Dorian says, like reading a watch-log: "The Seeker who leases the Jade Bead champions the tiles."*

Answer: The Case of the Strongbox Key

 **The liar (culprit):**  **Kattia**

The lie, clue 19: Anne didn't wear the tunic. (false).

	 Garb worn							 Pastime							 Trinket leased						
	Cloak	Hood	Vest	Wrap	Robe	Scarf	Tunic	Quoits	Riddling	Jacks	Skittles	Wrestling	Fetch	Tiles	Silver Ring	Gold Amulet	Jade Bead	Onyx Coil	Ruby Pin	Copper Key	Tin Charm
 Anne	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X
 Betsy	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	●	X	X	X	X
 Dorian	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X
 Elanna	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
 Mara	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X
 Trinket leased																					
Silver Ring	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Gold Amulet	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X						
Jade Bead	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●						
Onyx Coil	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Ruby Pin	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X						
Copper Key	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X						
Tin Charm	X	X	●	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	●	X	X	X	X						
 Pastime																					
Quoits	X	X	X	●	X	X	X														
Riddling	X	●	X	X	X	X	X														
Jacks	●	X	X	X	X	X	X														
Skittles	X	X	X	X	X	●	X														
Wrestling	X	X	●	X	X	X	X														
Fetch	X	X	X	X	X	X	●														
Tiles	X	X	X	X	●	X	X														

Step-by-step proof

- From clue 1: Elanna doesn't champion the riddling, Elanna doesn't champion the jacks, and Elanna doesn't champion the tiles.
- From clue 4: Elanna doesn't lease the Silver Ring.
- From clue 7: only Kattia, Mara, Dorian, and Ivan can have the jacks, the riddling, the wrestling, and the quoits. Rule those out for everyone else.
- From clue 2: Anne didn't wear the vest, Betsy didn't wear the vest, and Elanna didn't wear the vest.
- From clue 4: Anne doesn't lease the Silver Ring and Betsy doesn't lease the Silver Ring.
- From clue 5: Anne doesn't lease the Tin Charm, Betsy doesn't lease the Tin Charm, and Elanna doesn't lease the Tin Charm.
- From clue 8: Betsy champions the tiles.

8. From clue 6: Betsy is innocent.
9. From clue 9: Anne doesn't champion the skittles, Dorian doesn't champion the jacks, Dorian doesn't champion the wrestling, Elanna champions the skittles, Ivan doesn't champion the quoits, Ivan doesn't champion the riddling, Kattia doesn't champion the quoits, Kattia doesn't champion the riddling, Mara doesn't champion the jacks, and Mara doesn't champion the wrestling.
10. From clue 2: Dorian didn't wear the vest and Mara didn't wear the vest.
11. From clue 4: Ivan doesn't lease the Silver Ring and Kattia doesn't lease the Silver Ring.
12. From clue 5: Dorian doesn't lease the Tin Charm and Mara doesn't lease the Tin Charm.
13. From clue 6: Elanna is innocent.
14. From clue 11: only Kattia, Anne, Mara, and Betsy can have the Silver Ring, the Copper Key, the Ruby Pin, and the Jade Bead. Rule those out for everyone else.
15. From clue 4: Dorian champions the quoits.
16. From clue 5: Kattia didn't wear the vest.
17. From clue 2: Kattia champions the jacks.
18. From clue 12: Anne didn't wear the wrap, Betsy didn't wear the wrap, Dorian wore the wrap, Elanna didn't wear the wrap, Ivan didn't wear the wrap, and Kattia didn't wear the wrap.
19. From clue 13: Anne doesn't lease the Ruby Pin, Betsy doesn't lease the Ruby Pin, Dorian leases the Onyx Coil, Elanna leases the Gold Amulet, Ivan doesn't lease the Gold Amulet, Kattia leases the Ruby Pin, Mara doesn't lease the Jade Bead, and Mara doesn't lease the Copper Key.
20. From clue 14: Betsy didn't wear the tunic, Elanna didn't wear the tunic, Ivan didn't wear the tunic, Kattia didn't wear the tunic, and Mara didn't wear the tunic.
21. From clue 15: Anne is innocent.
22. From clue 16: Elanna didn't wear the robe, Ivan didn't wear the robe, Kattia didn't wear the robe, and Mara didn't wear the robe.
23. From clue 18: Ivan wore the vest.
24. From clue 2: Ivan champions the wrestling.
25. From clue 5: Ivan leases the Tin Charm.
26. From clue 6: Ivan is innocent.
27. From clue 17: Elanna wore the scarf.
28. From clue 23: Mara champions the riddling.
29. From clue 4: Mara leases the Silver Ring.
30. From clue 12: Mara didn't wear the wrap.
31. Only one possibility remains: Anne wore the tunic, Betsy didn't wear the scarf, Kattia didn't wear the scarf, Mara didn't wear the scarf, and Anne champions the fetch.
32. From clue 16: Anne leases the Copper Key.
33. Only one possibility remains: Betsy wore the robe and Betsy leases the Jade Bead.
34. Kattia's statement (clue 19) cannot be true, and only the culprit lies. Kattia is the culprit.
35. Suppose Kattia wore the hood. Then clue 10 would be broken. Kattia wore the cloak.
36. Only one possibility remains: Mara wore the hood.