

# The Route Map Affair

THURSDAY · 14 CLUES · 6 GUESTS

Auntie Pearl had 6 Seekers at the table when Kay’s route map went missing from the driver’s bench. One of them took it, and that one will lie; the rest are honest. Two ledgers tonight (who grew which crop, and who gathered which mote), and the clues braid across them all. Square the grids. Find the liar.

 **Find the liar. Solve every grid.**

|                                                                                                   |  Crop grown |     |      |      |        |        |  Mote gathered |      |       |      |        |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------|------|--------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|------|--------|------|
|                                                                                                   | Yam                                                                                          | Pea | Leek | Corn | Turnip | Squash | Clay                                                                                            | Wave | Flame | Rime | Shadow | Gust |
|  Anne            |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
|  Baldric         |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
|  Dan             |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
|  Elanna          |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
|  Kattia          |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
|  Minty         |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
|  Mote gathered |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Clay                                                                                              |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Wave                                                                                              |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Flame                                                                                             |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Rime                                                                                              |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Shadow                                                                                            |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Gust                                                                                              |                                                                                              |     |      |      |        |        |                                                                                                 |      |       |      |        |      |

Mark each cell: ✕ ruled out · ● confirmed.

## The clues

- ✧ Jar-fillable motes (they scoop: Clay, Wave, Rime): Clay · Wave · Rime
- ✧ Motes ending in a vowel (a, e, i, o, or u: Wave, Flame, Rime): Wave · Flame · Rime

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

- Elanna and Baldric gathered the Flame mote and the Shadow mote, in some order.
- Whoever is behind this didn’t gather the Clay mote or the Wave mote.
- The Seeker who gathered the Rime mote grew the pea.
- Dan’s mote won’t fill a jar.
- The Seeker who grew the corn didn’t gather the Clay mote.
- Baldric didn’t grow the leek.

7. Anne, Dan, and Elanna gathered the Flame mote, the Wave mote, and the Gust mote, in some order.
8. The Seeker who grew the leek didn't gather the Clay mote.

#### WHAT THE SEEKERS SAID

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9.  *Kattia says:* "Minty gathered a mote whose name ends in a vowel."
10.  *Minty says, all innocence:* "Dan didn't grow the squash."
11.  *Anne says:* "Anne, Dan, and Minty grew the squash, the yam, and the pea, in some order."
12.  *Baldric says:* "Dan didn't grow the yam."
13.  *Dan says:* "I didn't grow the leek."
14.  *Elanna says, not looking up from the whetstone:* "Minty and Dan grew the squash and the pea, in some order."

## Answer: The Route Map Affair

🕯️ **The liar (culprit):** 🧑🏻‍🍳 **Minty**

The lie, clue 10: Dan didn't grow the squash. (false).

|                 | 🌱 Crop grown |     |      |      |        |        | 🌟 Mote gathered |      |       |      |        |      |
|-----------------|--------------|-----|------|------|--------|--------|-----------------|------|-------|------|--------|------|
|                 | Yam          | Pea | Leek | Corn | Turnip | Squash | Clay            | Wave | Flame | Rime | Shadow | Gust |
| 🧠 Anne          | ●            | X   | X    | X    | X      | X      | X               | ●    | X     | X    | X      | X    |
| 👉 Baldric       | X            | X   | X    | ●    | X      | X      | X               | X    | X     | X    | ●      | X    |
| 👤 Dan           | X            | X   | X    | X    | X      | ●      | X               | X    | X     | X    | X      | ●    |
| 🔪 Elanna        | X            | X   | ●    | X    | X      | X      | X               | X    | ●     | X    | X      | X    |
| 👤 Kattia        | X            | X   | X    | X    | ●      | X      | ●               | X    | X     | X    | X      | X    |
| 🧑🏻‍🍳 Minty      | X            | ●   | X    | X    | X      | X      | X               | X    | X     | ●    | X      | X    |
| 🌟 Mote gathered |              |     |      |      |        |        |                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Clay            | X            | X   | X    | X    | ●      | X      |                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Wave            | ●            | X   | X    | X    | X      | X      |                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Flame           | X            | X   | ●    | X    | X      | X      |                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Rime            | X            | ●   | X    | X    | X      | X      |                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Shadow          | X            | X   | X    | ●    | X      | X      |                 |      |       |      |        |      |
| Gust            | X            | X   | X    | X    | X      | ●      |                 |      |       |      |        |      |

### Step-by-step proof

- From clue 1: only Elanna and Baldric can have the Flame mote and the Shadow mote. Rule those out for everyone else.
- From clue 3: Baldric didn't grow the pea and Elanna didn't grow the pea.
- From clue 4: Dan gathered the Gust mote.
- From clue 3: Dan didn't grow the pea.
- From clue 6: Baldric didn't grow the leek.
- From clue 7: Anne didn't gather the Clay mote, Anne didn't gather the Rime mote, Baldric gathered the Shadow mote, Elanna gathered the Flame mote, Kattia didn't gather the Wave mote, Kattia didn't gather the Gust mote, Minty didn't gather the Wave mote, and Minty didn't gather the Gust mote.
- From clue 3: Anne didn't grow the pea.
- Only one possibility remains: Anne gathered the Wave mote.
- From clue 2: Anne is innocent.
- From clue 11: only Anne, Dan, and Minty can have the squash, the yam, and the pea. Rule those out for everyone else.
- From clue 3: Kattia gathered the Clay mote.
- From clue 2: Kattia is innocent.
- From clue 5: Kattia didn't grow the corn.
- From clue 8: Kattia grew the turnip.

15. From clue 9: Minty gathered the Rime mote.
16. From clue 3: Minty grew the pea.
17. Only one possibility remains: Baldric grew the corn and Elanna grew the leek.
18. Suppose Minty were innocent. Then Minty's every word would be true, but clue 14 would be broken. Only the culprit lies, so Minty is the culprit.
19. From clue 12: Dan grew the squash.
20. From clue 14: Anne grew the yam.