

The River Wager

FRIDAY · 12 CLUES · 6 GUESTS

There's a standing wager on the morning's best catch, and today someone's lying to win it. 6 Seekers, 6 fish, one fibber. Settle who caught which fish; the honest remember their catch true.

Find the liar. Close the case.

	Carp	Pike	Trout	Roach	Smelt	Gudgeon
Anne						
Baldric						
Dan						
Elise						
Kattia						
Michael						

Mark each cell: ✕ ruled out · ● confirmed.

The clues

※ Pan fish (small fry, pan-sized): Roach · Smelt · Gudgeon

AUNTIE PEARL'S LEDGER: THESE FACTS ARE ALWAYS TRUE

- Anne caught a pan fish.
- Whoever is behind this caught the smelt, the gudgeon, or the pike.
- Anne, Baldric, and Michael caught the roach, the gudgeon, and the carp, in some order.
- Anne didn't catch the roach.
- Baldric caught a pan fish.

WHAT THE SEEKERS SAID

- Baldric says: "Elise didn't catch a pan fish."
- Anne says: "Dan didn't catch the carp."
- Dan says flatly, not lowering the spyglass: "Elise and Kattia caught the trout and the smelt, in some order."
- Michael says: "Baldric didn't catch the smelt."
- Kattia says: "Baldric didn't catch the roach."
- Kattia adds: "Michael caught the roach."
- Elise says, quiet as morning mist: "Dan caught the pike."

Answer: The River Wager

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

A lie, clue 10: Baldric didn't catch the roach. (false).

A lie, clue 11: Michael caught the roach. (false).

	Carp	Pike	Trout	Roach	Smelt	Gudgeon
 Anne	X	X	X	X	X	●
 Baldric	X	X	X	●	X	X
 Dan	X	●	X	X	X	X
 Elise	X	X	●	X	X	X
 Kattia	X	X	X	X	●	X
 Michael	●	X	X	X	X	X

Step-by-step proof

- From clue 1: Anne didn't catch the carp, Anne didn't catch the pike, and Anne didn't catch the trout.
- From clue 3: only Anne, Baldric, and Michael can have the roach, the gudgeon, and the carp. Rule those out for everyone else.
- From clue 4: Anne caught the gudgeon.
- From clue 5: Baldric didn't catch the carp.
- Only one possibility remains: Baldric caught the roach and Michael caught the carp.
- From clue 2: Baldric is innocent and Michael is innocent.
- From clue 6: Elise didn't catch the smelt.
- Kattia's statement (clue 10) cannot be true, and only the culprit lies. Kattia is the culprit.
- From clue 8: Dan caught the pike, Elise caught the trout, and Kattia didn't catch the pike.
- Only one possibility remains: Kattia caught the smelt.