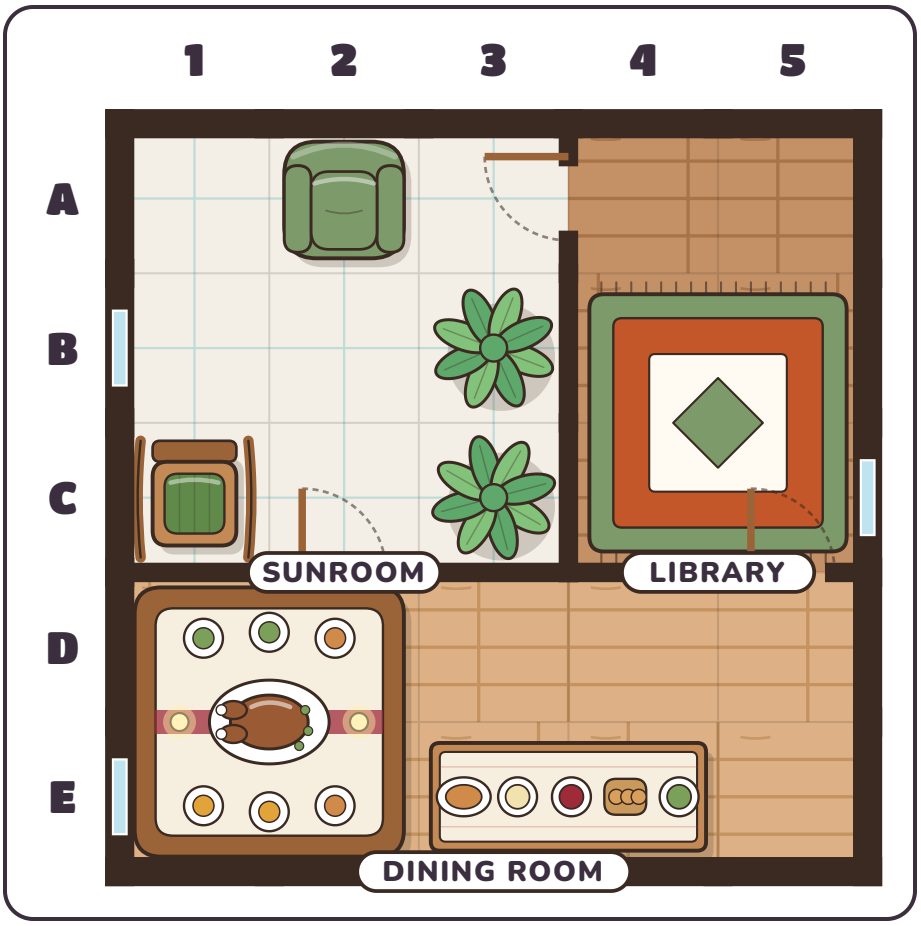
Leftovers at the Old Inn

The gravy was lumpy, the rolls were burnt, and **Imogen** was dead.

Set in Cranberry Hollow, the town from the book Room for Murder: Thanksgiving.



What the witnesses say



Ty the star quarterback
"He was in the Sunroom. He was not beside any rocking chair."



Rosa the sous-chef
"She was in the Library."



Shirley the lunch lady
"She was in a corner of a room."



Dot the crossword champion
"She was beside a rocking chair. She was not beside any plant."



Imogen the victim
Found dead — alone in a room with the killer.

CAN STAND / SIT ON

armchair · rug · rocking chair

SOLID — NOBODY THERE

plant · buffet table · feast table

The rules

1. Exactly one person in every row and every column.
2. Nobody stands on solid furniture.
3. Every statement is true. "Beside" = the square directly next to it; north is up.
4. The victim was alone in a room with exactly one other person: the killer.

Your verdict

The killer was _____

in the _____

Solved in _____

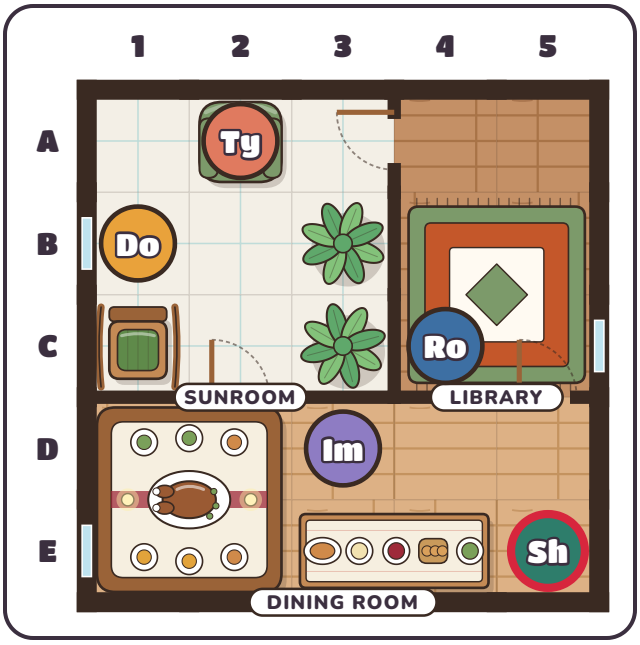
Notes

Answer and step-by-step solution: on the next page.

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Solution: Leftovers at the Old Inn



THE KILLER

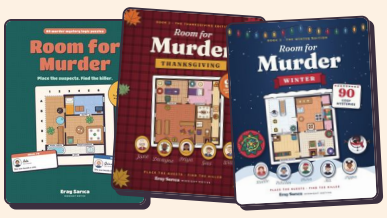
Shirley, the lunch lady

The only other person in the Dining Room with Imogen.

Ty A2 · Rosa C4 · Shirley E5 · Dot B1 · Imogen D3

How to solve it, step by step

1. Dot: “She was beside a rocking chair. She was not beside any plant.” Only one square on the whole plan fits: B1.
2. Every square left for Ty is in row A, so row A is Ty's — nobody else can be in row A.
3. Every square left for Rosa is in row C, so row C is Rosa's — nobody else can be in row C.
4. Column 2 still needs someone, and Ty is the only one who can still stand in it. In column 2, “He was in the Sunroom. He was not beside any rocking chair.” fits only A2.
5. Imogen, the victim, has no statement — but only one square is left in a free row and column: D3, in the Dining Room.
6. Shirley: “She was in a corner of a room.” Of the squares that fit, only E5 is still open — the rest are ruled out above.
7. Rosa: “She was in the Library.” Of the squares that fit, only C4 is still open — the others are in rows or columns already taken.
8. Everyone is placed. Imogen lies in the Dining Room, and the only other person in there is Shirley. Shirley is the killer.



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The **Room for Murder** puzzle books — Maple Bend, Thanksgiving in Cranberry Hollow and a snowed-in Winter in Juniper Falls — as paperbacks on Amazon and printable PDFs on Etsy (Midnight Motive). Every case has one answer you can reach by logic alone.