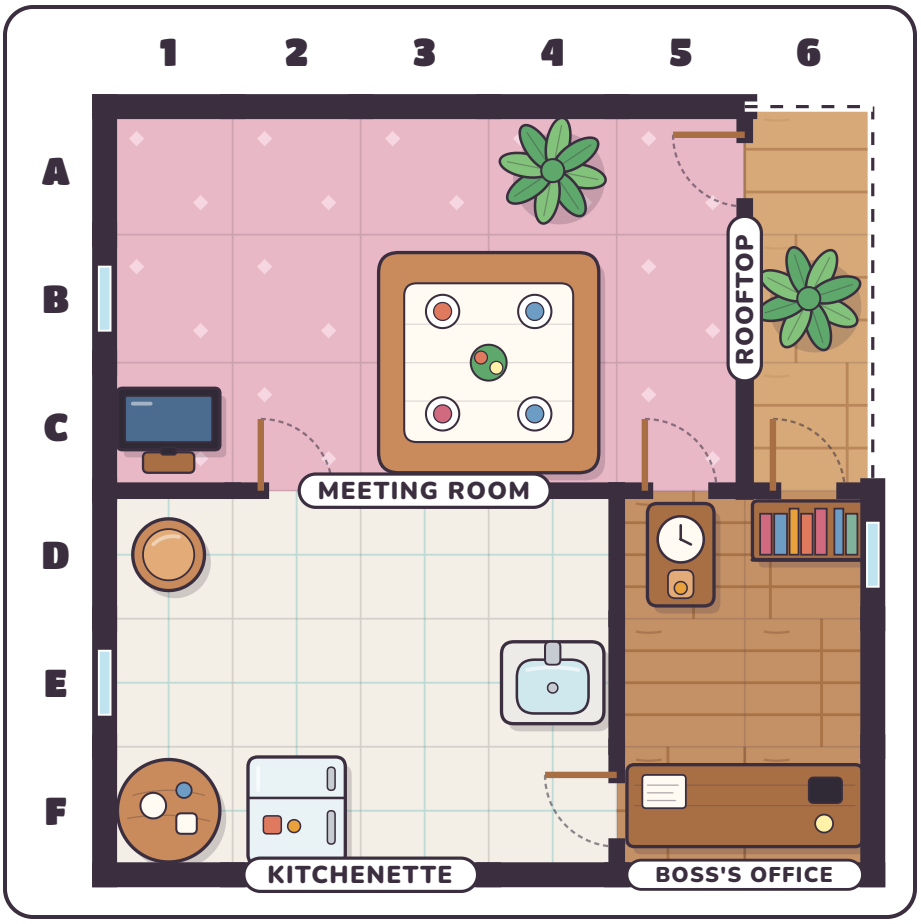
A Quiet Night at the Office

A storm, a power cut and one less guest: poor **Theo**.



What the witnesses say



Milo the student
"He was exactly one row north of Greta."



Emmett the plumber
"He was in a corner of a room."



Greta the gardener
"She was beside a table. She was diagonally next to Milo."



Fern the yoga teacher
"She was diagonally next to Emmett."



Mabel the librarian
"She was in the Kitchenette."



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

CAN STAND / SIT ON

- stool

SOLID — NOBODY THERE

- table
- dining table
- desk
- plant
- bookshelf
- fridge
- sink
- TV
- grandfather clock

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 _____

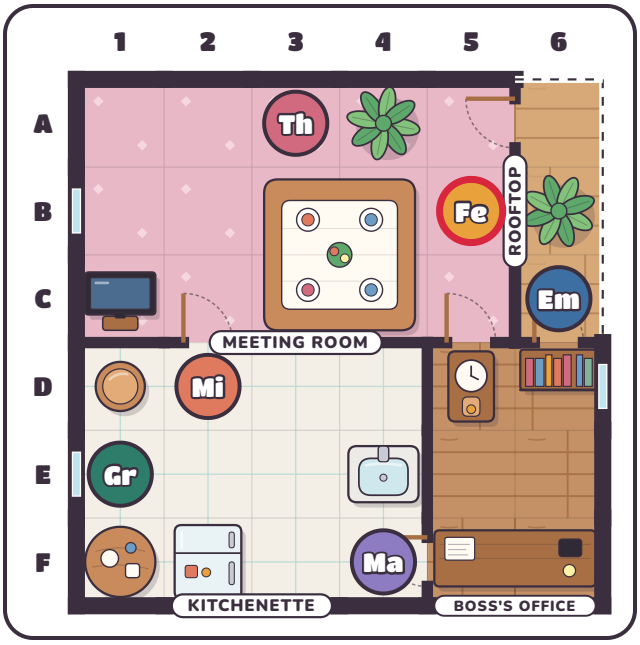
Notes

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

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Solution: A Quiet Night at the Office



THE KILLER

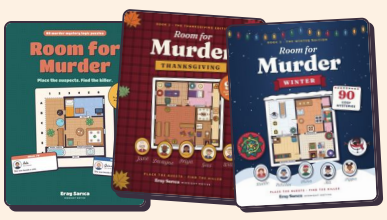
Fern, the yoga teacher

The only other person in the Meeting Room with Theo.

Milo D2 · Emmett C6 · Greta E1 · Fern B5 · Mabel F4 · Theo A3

How to solve it, step by step

1. Greta: “She was beside a table. She was diagonally next to Milo.” Only one square on the whole plan fits: E1.
2. Milo: “He was exactly one row north of Greta.” And Greta said: “She was diagonally next to Milo.” With Greta on E1 and Greta on E1, only D2 still fits — the others are in rows or columns already taken.
3. Every square left for Mabel is in row F, so row F is Mabel's — nobody else can be in row F.
4. Column 4 still needs someone, and Mabel is the only one who can still stand in it. In column 4, “She was in the Kitchenette.” fits only F4.
5. Read Fern's statement — “She was diagonally next to Emmett.” — against where Emmett can still be: Fern can only be on B5; Emmett can only be on A6 or C6.
6. Fern: “She was diagonally next to Emmett.” Of the squares that fit, only B5 is still open — the rest are ruled out above.
7. Theo, the victim, has no statement — but only one square is left in a free row and column: A3, in the Meeting Room.
8. Emmett: “He was in a corner of a room.” And Fern said: “She was diagonally next to Emmett.” With Fern on B5, only C6 still fits — the others are in rows or columns already taken.
9. Everyone is placed. Theo lies in the Meeting Room, and the only other person in there is Fern. Fern is the killer.



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