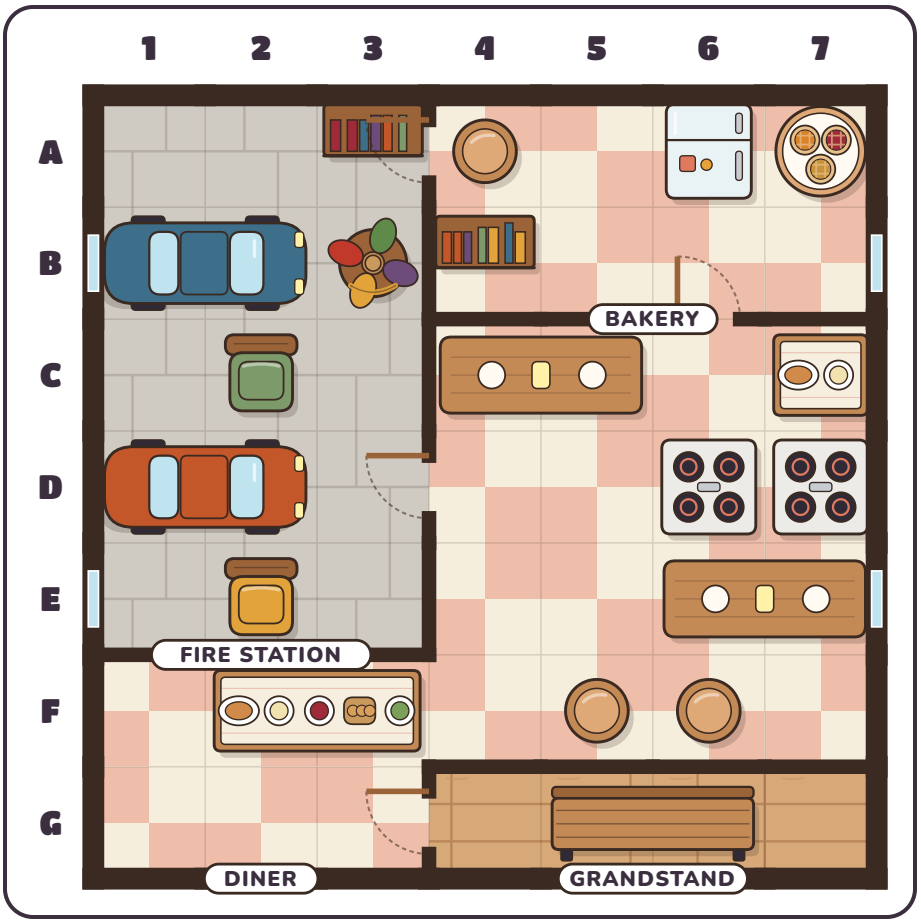
Black Friday at the Parade

They found **Hector** just before the pumpkin pie. Nobody touched the whipped cream after that.

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



What the witnesses say



Rosa the sous-chef
"She was beside the fridge. There was the pie table in her row."



Hank the volunteer fireman
"He was exactly one row north of Felipe. He was in a corner of a room."



Felipe the baker
"He was alone in the room."



Dwayne the turkey farmer
"There was the coat rack in his column."



Ramon the butcher
"He was beside the car."



Nadia the vet
"She was beside a chair. She was exactly one row north of Hank."



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

CAN STAND / SIT ON

chair · stool · bench

SOLID — NOBODY THERE

table · bookshelf · stove · fridge · car · buffet table · pie table · coat rack

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 _____

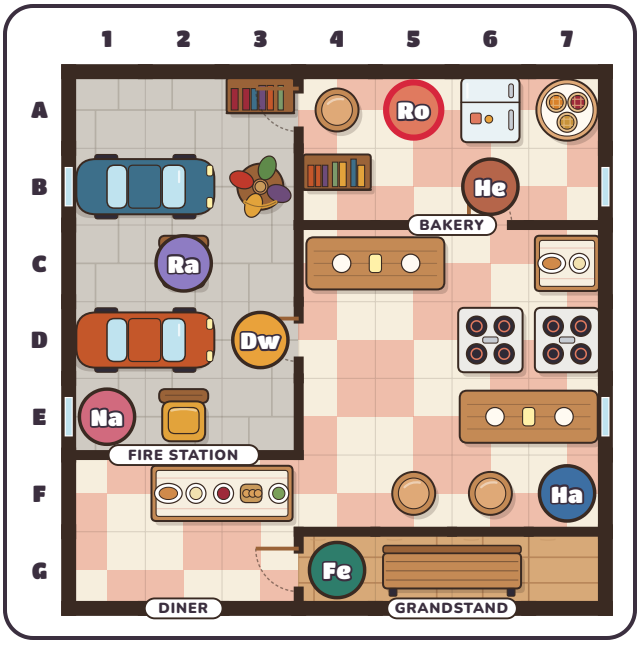
Notes

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

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Solution: Black Friday at the Parade



THE KILLER

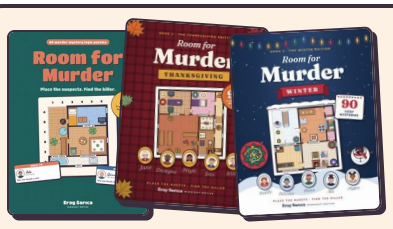
Rosa, the sous-chef

The only other person in the Bakery with Hector.

Rosa A5 · Hank F7 · Felipe G4 · Dwayne D3 · Ramon C2 · Nadia E1 · Hector B6

How to solve it, step by step

1. Rosa: “She was beside the fridge. There was the pie table in her row.” Only one square on the whole plan fits: A5.
2. Every square left for Dwayne is in column 3, so column 3 is Dwayne's — nobody else can be in column 3.
3. Ramon and Nadia can only stand in rows C and E — 2 people for 2 rows, so those rows are theirs and nobody else can use them.
4. Ramon and Nadia can only stand in columns 1 and 2 — 2 people for 2 columns, so those columns are theirs and nobody else can use them.
5. Column 2 still needs someone, and only Ramon can still stand in it — so Ramon is somewhere in column 2.
6. Read Hank's statement — “He was exactly one row north of Felipe.” — against where Felipe can still be: Hank can only be on F7; Felipe can only be on G4 or G6.
7. Hank: “He was exactly one row north of Felipe. He was in a corner of a room.” Of the squares that fit, only F7 is still open — the rest are ruled out above.
8. Nadia: “She was beside a chair. She was exactly one row north of Hank.” With Hank on F7, only E1 still fits — the rest are ruled out above.
9. Ramon: “He was beside the car.” Of the squares that fit, only C2 is still open — the rest are ruled out above.
10. Hector, the victim, has no statement — but only one square is left in a free row and column: B6, in the Bakery.
11. Felipe: “He was alone in the room.” And Hank said: “He was exactly one row north of Felipe.” With Hank on F7, only G4 still fits — the rest are ruled out above.
12. Dwayne: “There was the coat rack in his column.” Of the squares that fit, only D3 is still open — the others are in rows or columns already taken.



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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.