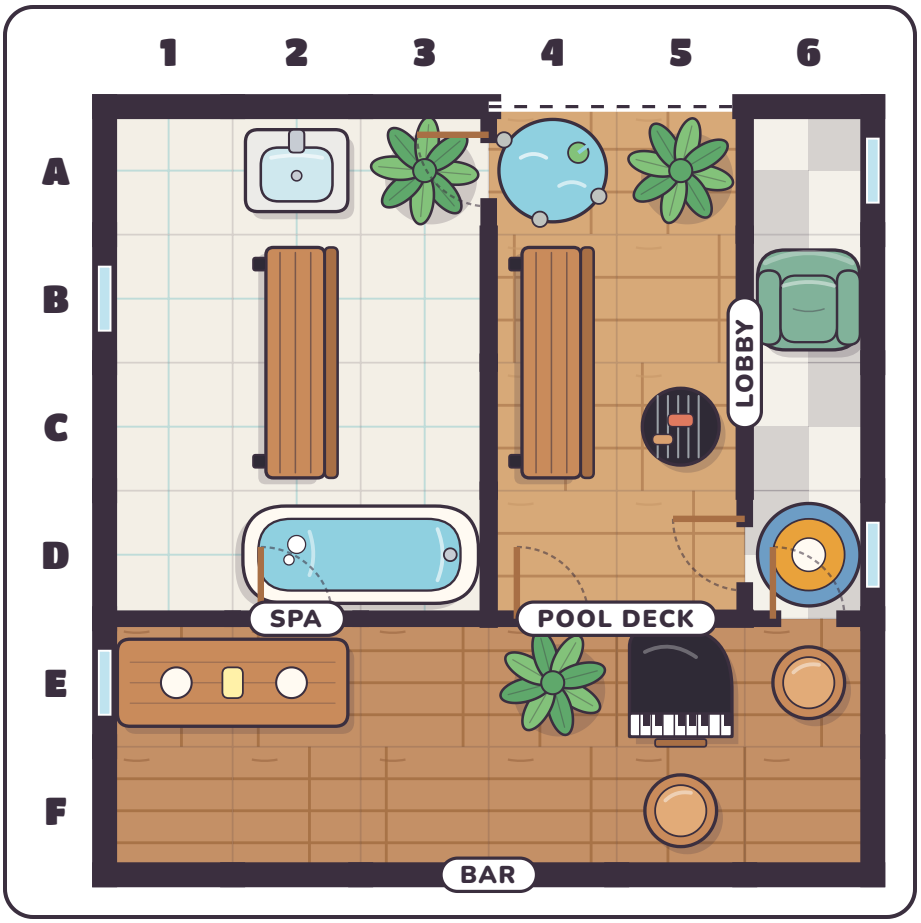
The Grand Hotel Mystery

The dog started barking at **Jasper**'s door. It was already too late.

Sunday special: one suspect is lying — the killer. Everyone else tells the truth.



What the witnesses say



Uma the architect
"She was beside a sink."



Leo the lifeguard
"He was beside the pond."



Yara the doctor
"She was beside a rug."



Kurt the security guard
"He was beside a plant."



Ada the baker
"She was beside the grill."



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

CAN STAND / SIT ON

armchair · stool · bench · rug · bathtub

SOLID — NOBODY THERE

table · plant · piano · sink · pond · grill

The rules

1. Exactly one person in every row and every column.
2. Nobody stands on solid furniture.
3. Every statement is true — except the killer's. "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 _____

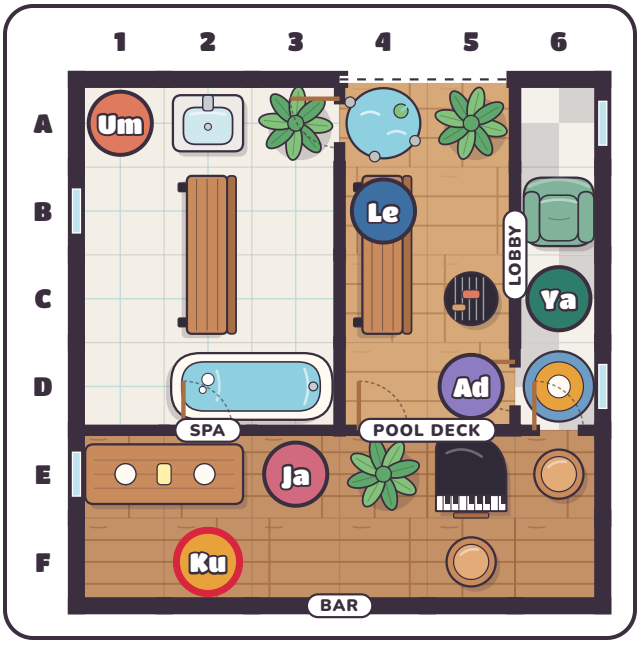
Notes

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

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Solution: The Grand Hotel Mystery



THE KILLER

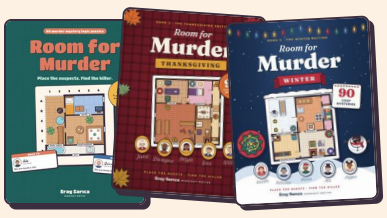
Kurt, the security guard

The only other person in the Bar with Jasper — and the suspect whose statement was false.

Uma A1 · Leo B4 · Yara C6 · Kurt F2 · Ada D5 · Jasper E3

How to solve it, step by step

1. **Sunday rule: exactly one statement is false — the killer's. Try each suspect as the liar in turn: every choice but one runs into a contradiction. Only Kurt works, so Kurt's statement is the lie and the truth is the opposite: "He was not beside any plant."**
2. Leo: "He was beside the pond." Only one square on the whole plan fits: B4.
3. Yara: "She was beside a rug." Only one square on the whole plan fits: C6.
4. Uma: "She was beside a sink." Of the squares that fit, only A1 is still open — the others are in rows or columns already taken.
5. Ada: "She was beside the grill." Of the squares that fit, only D5 is still open — the others are in rows or columns already taken.
6. Jasper, the victim, has no statement — but only one square is left in a free row and column: E3, in the Bar.
7. Kurt: "He was not beside any plant." Of the squares that fit, only F2 is still open — the others are in rows or columns already taken.
8. Everyone is placed. Jasper lies in the Bar, and the only other person in there is Kurt. Kurt is the killer — and the one who lied.



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