

Miss Moneybags's Last Will and Testament

A Newspaper Article

Obituaries

Marybeth Moneybags

Miss Marybeth Moneybags, heir to the Moneybags family fortune, died of natural causes in her home Thursday afternoon. She was ninety-nine years old. Her father, Cornelius Moneybags, was the founder of Bite Delight Cookie Company. His famous cookie, the Merry Chocolate Bite, established him as a leader in the baking industry.

Miss Moneybags resided at the Moneybags Mansion, the family estate near Boston, Massachusetts. A noted philanthropist, Miss Moneybags established the Moneybags Foundation in 1970. Since that time, the Foundation has given millions of dollars to many charitable organizations.

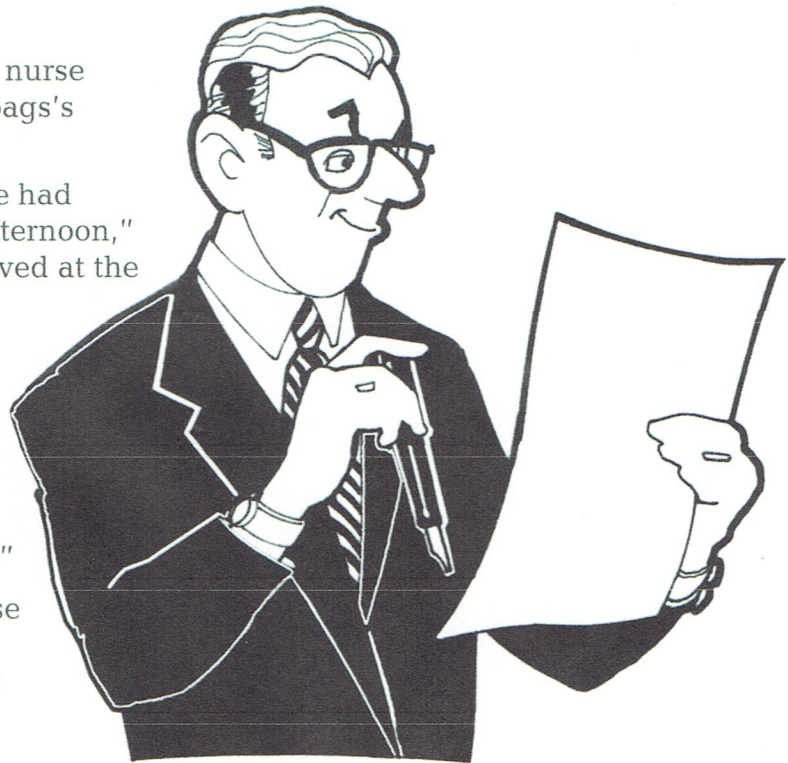
The Crime

When Miss Moneybags died, her nurse raced downstairs to call Miss Moneybags's attorney, Rufus Beam.

"She wanted you to know that she had written a new will. She wrote it this afternoon," the nurse told Mr. Beam when he arrived at the mansion fifteen minutes later.

"After she wrote it, she sealed it in an envelope and asked me to take it downstairs and put it in this desk drawer. It was 1:45 p.m. when I put the will in the drawer. Then I returned to Miss Moneybags's room. She was asleep. She died at 3:45 p.m."

When Rufus Beam asked the nurse to get the will from the desk drawer, she was horrified to find that it wasn't there. "Someone has taken it!" she exclaimed.



➡ Who might have stolen the will? _____

➡ Why might someone want to steal it? _____

➡ When was it stolen? _____

The Beneficiaries

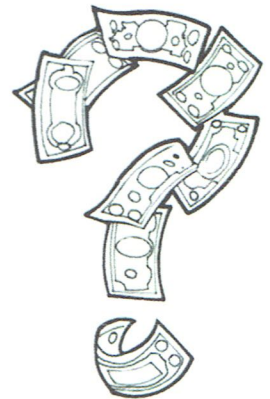
Mr. Beam called his friend Detective Hayden Basse at police headquarters and asked him to meet him at the Moneybags estate. Upon his arrival, Detective Basse learned that in her first will, Miss Moneybags had made bequests to her nephew, her best friend, and some of her employees. All other property and money would go to the Moneybags Foundation. Her last will made the day of her death, however, would be the will that would be honored.

When Detective Basse read the first will, he discovered that Miss Moneybags had been more generous with some of the people than with others. Solve the logic puzzle to determine how much she planned to leave each person in the first will.

	jewelry	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$500,000	\$5 million	\$10 million	\$15 million	\$20 million
nephew								
secretary								
director								
butler								
cook								
housekeeper								
chauffeur								
friend								

Clues

1. The chauffeur was to receive the most money.
2. Miss Moneybags planned to leave the butler millions of dollars.
3. The housekeeper would get less than the secretary.
4. Her best friend, who was as wealthy as Miss Moneybags, was to receive only her jewelry.
5. The cook would get either seventy-five thousand or ten million dollars.
6. The housekeeper was disappointed she wouldn't get millions.
7. The director would get more than the butler but less than the nephew.



➡ Who had a motive to steal the will? _____

➡ Was there anyone who didn't? _____



The Suspects

Detective Basse asked the nurse and Rufus Beam if any of the beneficiaries knew about the new will. He also asked if either of them had detected any hostility between Miss Moneybags and the beneficiaries. Detective Basse recorded their statements.

Detective Basse's Notes

Nurse

The housekeeper was in the library when I put the will in the desk drawer. I told her Miss Moneybags had just written it. That housekeeper is such a gossip, I'm sure she told everyone about it. Actually, Miss Moneybags was always fussing at her about gossiping.

I overheard an argument several days ago between Miss Moneybags and her nephew. She told him that he was spending money recklessly. "It doesn't grow on trees," she said.

I never heard the chauffeur quarrel with anyone. He's very kind. In fact, even though Miss Moneybags hasn't needed him since she became ill three months ago, he has come here every day to check on her.

Mr. Beam

I informed everyone who was at the house that sadly Miss Moneybags had passed on. Everyone seemed to already know that there was a new will.


Yesterday when I came to the mansion, I found the secretary crying her eyes out in the parlor. When I asked what was wrong, she said that she could never please anyone, especially Miss Moneybags.

The butler told me he was worried Miss Moneybags wasn't happy with him because he had recently taken a long vacation.

The cook and Miss Moneybags have always been at odds.

The director and Miss Moneybags had a disagreement about an issue at the Foundation. Just last week Miss Moneybags said she was not happy at all with a decision he had made.

 Why is it important to know if any of the beneficiaries knew about the will? _____

 Why did Detective Basse want to know if any of the beneficiaries had a conflict with Miss Moneybags? _____

 Who does not seem to have a motive to steal the will? _____

Who Had the Opportunity?

Detective Basse asked each of the six remaining suspects what time during the day they arrived at the Moneybags mansion. Complete the logic puzzle to determine the name of each suspect and the time they arrived at the mansion.

	Byrd	Grey	Hill	Whit	Free	Tull	8:00 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	12:25 p.m.	4:20 p.m.
nephew												
secretary												
director												
butler												
housekeeper												
cook												
8:00 a.m.												
8:30 a.m.												
10:00 a.m.												
11:30 a.m.												
12:25 p.m.												
4:20 p.m.												



Clues

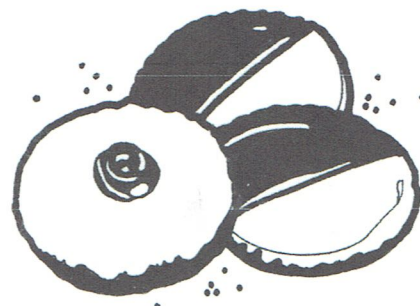
1. Byrd arrived at 10:00 a.m. after Hill and Grey.
2. Whit arrived at 12:25 p.m. before the secretary.
3. The housekeeper, whose name is neither Grey or Free, arrived first.
4. The butler arrived after the cook but before the nephew, whose name is Tull.

➤ How does this information help Detective Basse? _____

➤ Based on this evidence, can he eliminate anyone as a suspect? _____

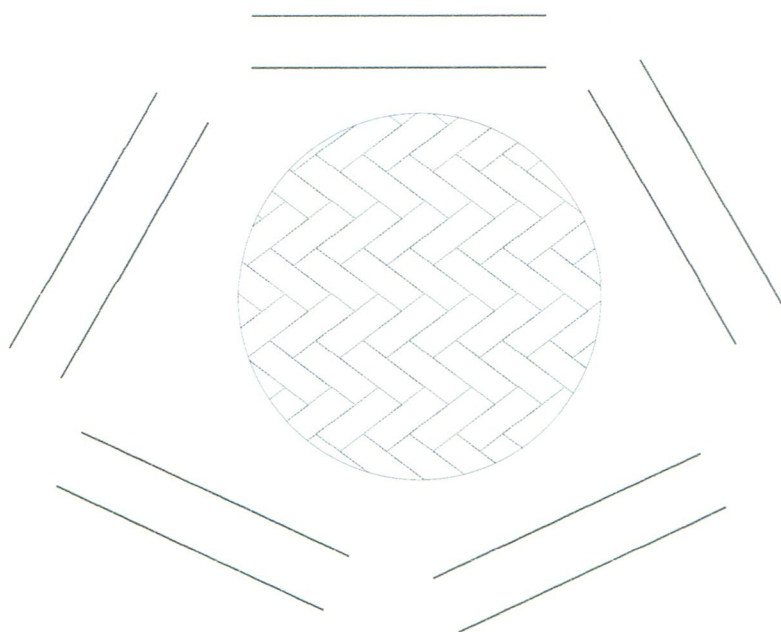
An Afternoon Treat

After questioning the suspects, Detective Basse examined the drawer in and around the bedside table, searching for even the tiniest clue that might have been left behind. He found traces of a white powder inside the drawer, which the forensics lab analyzed and concluded was powdered sugar. He asked the butler if anyone had eaten a snack in the house that afternoon.



The butler informed him that he, the housekeeper, the butler, the cook, and the nephew had met in the dining room at 2:00 p.m. for an afternoon snack. "We were all here for about 30 minutes." The detective then asked everyone to come to the dining room and sit where they had sat earlier. He also asked them to get the same treat that they had eaten for their snack.

Solve the logic puzzle to determine where each of these suspects (the butler, the director, the nephew, the housekeeper, and the cook) sat and what type of snack they ate.



Clues

1. The director, who ate Incredible Squares, sat to the left of the cook.
2. The housekeeper sat to the right of the person who ate Chocolate Bites.
3. The person who ate Tasty Dandies sat between the butler and the cook.
4. The housekeeper ate Coconut Delights.
5. The person who ate Mysterious Treat sat next to the person who ate Incredible Squares.

Bite Delight Recipes

Read the recipes for these Bite Delight treats to determine which suspect might have left traces of powdered sugar beside the desk.

Mysterious Treat

1 c. shortening	2 eggs
1 c. brown sugar	1 tsp. vanilla
1 c. white sugar	1 c. crushed potato chips
1 T. baking soda	$\frac{3}{4}$ c. nuts

Cream shortening, sugar and eggs until creamy. Add remaining ingredients. Mix. Drop by teaspoons onto cookie sheet and slightly flatten with a fork. Bake at 350° for 10 minutes. Cool. Dust with powdered sugar.



Tasty Dandies

1 c. butter	1 T. vanilla
4 T. powdered sugar	powdered sugar
2 c. flour	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. baking powder

Cream butter and sugar. Add flour, baking powder and salt. Add vanilla and nuts. Drop in one inch balls on a greased cookie sheet. Bake at 375° until brown. Roll in powdered sugar.



Incredible Squares

$\frac{1}{2}$ stick butter	$\frac{3}{4}$ c. chopped nuts
1 c. sugar	$\frac{3}{4}$ c. chocolate syrup
3 eggs	powdered sugar
2 c. flour	dash of salt

Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs. Add flour and salt to the creamed mixture. Add chopped nuts, chocolate syrup and vanilla. Pour into greased and floured 9-inch square pan. Bake at 350° for 35 minutes. Cool. Sprinkle with powdered sugar.

Chocolate Bites

1 c. butter	2 tsp. vanilla
$\frac{3}{4}$ c. sugar	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. flour
$\frac{3}{4}$ c. brown sugar	$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
2 eggs	1 tsp. baking soda
2 c. flour	24 oz. chocolate chips

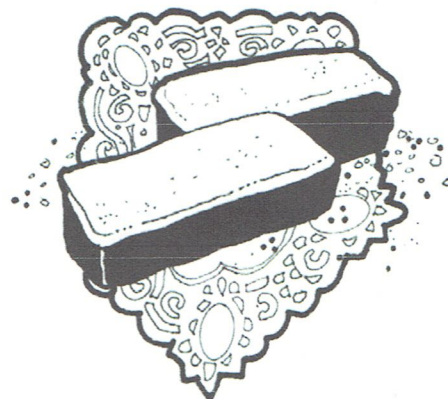
Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat in flour, salt, and soda. Fold in chocolate chips. Bake at 375° on an ungreased sheet for 8-10 minutes.



Coconut Delights

2 sticks butter	1 tsp. vanilla
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. sugar	1-3 oz. coconut
2 c. flour	powdered sugar

Cream butter and sugar. Add flour, vanilla and coconut. Roll into small balls. Put on a cookie sheet. Flatten with a fork. Bake at 350° for 20-25 minutes. Cool and dust with powdered sugar.



➤ Which suspects might have left traces of the powder?

Caught In a Lie

Detective Basse asked the four prime suspects where they were between 2:30 and 4:00 p.m. The suspects said that after their snack they became engaged in an activity in one of the rooms in the mansion. They all claimed someone had been with them and could substantiate their alibi.

Solve the logic puzzle to determine where the suspects spent time, the activity they were engaged in, and the people who could substantiate their alibis.

	location				activity			substantiated by				
	den	living	dining	sun room	puzzle	reading	journal	T.V.	chauffeur	butler	secretary	friend
director												
nephew												
housekeeper												
cook												
chauffeur												
butler												
secretary												
friend												

Clues

1. The cook said she remained in the dining room to write in her journal.
2. The suspect in the den said he watched T.V. with the secretary.
3. The housekeeper loved to work puzzles.
4. The director was in the sunroom with the butler but was not watching T.V.
5. The friend was knitting in the living room next to the person doing puzzles.
6. The chauffeur said he was not with the person watching T.V.

After Detective Basse talked with the suspects, he knew that one of them was lying and, therefore, most likely was the person who stole the will.



Who was lying? How did the detective know it was a lie? _____