

Interviews

Ms. Anderson

On the night of the crime, I was at the school helping students until 5 p.m. I then went out to dinner with my husband and then to a movie. I went home and graded papers until 1 a.m., being the dedicated teacher that I am. The only thing that went wrong with my day before I heard about the crime is that Samantha and Lucy (two eighth-grade students) got in a huge marker fight in class. Not only did they dry out my only blue permanent marker, but they caused a huge commotion in class. Teaching is getting harder every day. I wear a size 7 shoe and I am 5'5" tall. I have natural brown hair, but I get blonde highlights. I live in the middle of town. My favorite water is Crystal Geyser. I guess I left my water bottle back there when I was borrowing paper from Ms. Miller. Is that a crime? I think not!

Ms. White

On the day of the crime, I left school at 4 p.m. to pick up my kids, and then I went to a spinning class at the health club. I then went home to grade papers until 1 a.m. My fingerprints are probably found in the back room because at the last ice cream social, I went in there to get the bowls, spoons, and napkins. Ms. Miller stores our team's teacher supplies so any teacher on our team has been back there and probably has left prints. Ms. Miller wasn't in the room yet so I just used my master key that I got from the principal when I lost my keys. I haven't given the master key back even though I found my keys. It comes in handy, especially when Ms. Miller forgets her school keys and has to borrow mine so she can get into her room. The only thing unusual that happened the day of the crime was that I just had one discipline referral that day and it wasn't even I who gave it. I had a substitute teacher the day before, and George (an eighth-grade student) was acting out in class and being a show-off, I guess. He insulted the substitute teacher so she wrote him up. I have to process it through the computer system though, since it happened in my class. I wear a size 10 shoe and I am 5'6" tall. I wear Clark shoes mainly and I have Nike running shoes. I have natural brown hair with blonde and black highlights. I live in the middle of town.

Ms. Miller

Yesterday, I left my room at 3:00 p.m. to attend a night class in with Ms. Holmes for our master's degree. We got back about 11:30 p.m. and I was exhausted so I went right to bed. I definitely had my windows locked and it has been since last October that they have been open as far as I know. My storage door and classroom door were both locked. I have no known enemies, of course, but I did overhear a student (Sierra) say she would like a chemical to eat someone's skin. She was very angry at Lucy (another eighth-grade student) who she found out stole her brand new Doc Martens shoes. Ms. Anderson did borrow paper from me with my permission. The bottled water must be hers because I don't buy that brand of water. My favorite bottled water is Evian. Ashley is my ninth-grade clerk, and she just completed a chemical inventory for me. I don't think she would do anything like this, but she hangs around some friends who are not the best influence. Their names are Bob, Samantha, and a new girl that just came to O'Leary, Sally. I don't know about her yet. I didn't take it very seriously though. I am 5'8" and wear a size 10.5 shoe. I have natural strawberry blonde hair. My favorite shoes are K-Swiss and loafers. I hate Doc Martens and Adidas shoes. I live just four blocks from O'Leary.

Custodian

O.K. I confess! I borrowed sodium borate from Ms. Miller because it is a good cleaning agent and our cleaning order hasn't come in yet. I was going to replace it. I usually don't clean Ms. Miller's back room. I clean the rooms at the school from 3:00-11:00 p.m. I cleaned Ms. Miller's room from 7:00-7:15. I noticed Ashley waiting for a ride after the school play, but then a blue car finally came and picked her up at 9:45 p.m. She was the last student to leave the grounds, which is why I noticed her. The only thing that is kind of strange is that when I was cleaning today (one day after the crime), there was spilled soda in the bathroom and some food particles and a few playing cards. Who has time to sit in there and eat? I wear a size 11 shoe and I am 5'10". I have dark

brown hair. I live south of town. I was wearing Adidas shoes that night. I have a cut on my hand that I got from blowing the tree stump out of the ground by the track (the roots sliced my hand). The roots were messing up with the sprinkler system. The explosive we used for this has aluminum potassium in it, but it is mixed with other chemicals and it is manufactured. By the way, the head custodian just informed me that we are missing a crowbar.

Sierra

I was at a basketball game until 10:30 p.m., and then I went home. Earlier, I stayed at the school working in Ms. Anderson's room until 5 p.m. before going to the game with my family. I wear a size 6 shoe and I am 5'4". I have natural dark brown hair. I live in the middle of town. I am very angry at Lucy (another eighth-grade student) who I found out stole my brand new Doc Martens and ruined them. I did say I wanted a chemical to eat her skin but I was just venting. Of course, I would never do anything like that.

Ashley

I stayed after school until 5 p.m. to get help from Ms. Dodd and then went to the O'Leary play. I don't know where my other friends were that night. They didn't want to come to the play with me. I am Ms. Miller's ninth-grade clerk fourth hour. I did recently conduct a chemical inventory for Ms. Miller, but I would never take anything from her or be part of anything like that. I have natural brown hair, but I do dye it blonde. I do not have any Doc Martens, but I wear Adidas shoes all the time. I am 5'6" and wear a size 8 shoe. My mom owns a blue car.

Principal

When I came to this morning, I ran an activity report on my computer like I always do. This lets me know if anyone has been into the computer system and what documents had been modified in the last 12 hours. This test always comes out clear except for today. It revealed that a student's discipline, tardy, and absences files had been modified at 11:45 p.m. This student's name is George. He is in the eighth grade and this is his first year at O'Leary. He had some trouble over at his other school, and he has been in the detention center. He hangs around Ashley (ninth-grader), Sally (another new student in the eighth-grade), Bob (ninth-grader), and Samantha (eighth-grader). The kids aren't the best role models, but they don't cause too many problems. I have checked to see if any teachers were in the building who might have added something to George's discipline records, and the only teacher that was here was Ms. Ramirez. She was cleaning up after the school play. I don't know what time she went home.

Ms. Ramirez

I don't even have George as a student and therefore would not be adding or changing his records. I do think I set off the alarm system at midnight. I'm not sure how, because I thought I knew how to disarm the system, but it went off at midnight when I was moving around the building cleaning up after the school play. The police came out to school and conducted a perimeter check and didn't find anything unusual, so I must have set it off. I left the school at 12:30 a.m. finally.

Samantha

I was at the O'Leary play until 10 p.m. and then spent the night with Sally. We both stayed after school to get help until 5. We walked down to the supermarket to eat in the café and then walked back in time for the play. I am an eighth-grade student. I have natural brown hair but highlight it blonde. I am about 5'7" and my shoe size is a 10.

Samantha's Parents

Sam spent the night with a new girl to the school whose name is Sally. We thought that was sweet of Sam to make Sally feel welcome. They were planning on going to the O'Leary play and then walking to Sally's house since she lives only ½ mile away.

Sally

Samantha spent the night with me last night. My parents are often out of town for their business (they own resorts all around the world), and so my older brother (a senior) is supposed to take care of me while they are gone. Samantha and I stayed after school to get help until 5 p.m., and then we walked down to the bowling alley and ate (they have the best fries and hamburgers), and then walked back to attend the O'Leary play with Samantha, and then we went home at 9:30 p.m. We were alone until my brother came home at 1 a.m. I am an eighth-grade student. I wear a size 5 shoe and I am 5'3". I have natural blonde hair. I am new to O'Leary and have been having a tough time transitioning to such a big school. My other school only had 100 students in it, and O'Leary has 900 students. I have made some new friends, though, so things are better.

Sally's Parents

We were out of town, and Sally's older brother was watching her while we were gone.

Bob

I was out with my parents the night of the crime. We went to the high school concert and then went home for the rest of the evening, and I did homework in my room. I am in the ninth-grade. I wear a size 11 shoe and am 6 feet tall with brown hair. I live southeast of O'Leary about ½ mile.

Bob's Parents

Bob was with us for the entire night, and then he was just doing his homework in his room. He is such a good boy. It was a rare evening that none of his friends were over. Two nights after the crime, there was a loud explosion in our neighborhood. We live on the edge of some farm fields, so it is hard telling where it came from. The police came out and investigated and filed a report.

George

I was at the high school concert with Bob and his family, and then I spent the night with Bob. I am in the eighth-grade and this is my first year at O'Leary. I really like O'Leary now that I have made friends with Bob, Sally, and Samantha. They don't even make fun of my horrendously smelly feet. My shoe size is 8 and I am 5'6" tall with red hair. I live by the sugar beet factory.

George's Parents

George went to the concert with Bob and his family and then spent the night.