### Scenario

It's the 20-year reunion of Oakwood High School's Class of 2004. The event is being held at the luxurious Grandview Hotel. Old classmates gather to reminisce about the past and catch up on the present. However, the festive mood turns dark when Charlie Thompson, the former class president and current successful businessman, is found dead in the hotel's garden. Now, everyone is a suspect, and old rivalries and secrets come to light.



## Your Character: Alex Rivera

- Background: Former school athlete, now a struggling personal trainer
- Relationship: Charlie's former best friend
- Alibi: You were at the bar during the time of the murder
- Motive: Charlie was the biggest bully in high school and your lifelong best friend. You looked up to him. You were his "muscle" and constant sidekick. When he wanted someone to be beat up, you did it, no questions asked. Charlie gave you the money to open a gym in town, but since you were never very smart, you were terrible at running it as a business. Recently, Charlie refused to extend the deadline on a large loan he gave you, Without that money and without your gym, you will have no future whatsoever.

## Secret Information (For Alex only)

- You owe Charlie a large sum of money from a failed joint investment
- You lured Charlie to the garden under the pretense of discussing repayment
- You pushed Charlie during an argument, causing him to hit his head fatally
- You returned to the bar, trying to act normal
- You must lie about killing Charlie, but you can be truthful about other details.

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## Your Character: David Patel



- **Background:** Former skinny little band geek, now one of the richest and most famous jazz musicians in the world
- Relationship: Was mercilessly bullied by Charlie in high school
- Alibi: You were setting up the sound system
- Key Info: You saw Alex leaving the garden area looking distressed
- Motive: 20 years ago, after the graduation ceremony, all the students had a picnic. Charlie humiliated you in front of everyone: While you were inside the portable toilet, he knocked it over, door side down. Nobody would help you, so had to crawl out of the bottom the toilet, covering you with filth. People took photos and laughed at you. You immediately left the picnic, walking to the nearby home of your best friend Rachael Green (who didn't attend the picnic), crying and vowing revenge. You hate all of your classmates (aside from Rachel, of course), but you especially loathe Charlie.

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## Your Character: Emma Chen

- Background: Former valedictorian, now a renowned scientist
- Relationship: Charlie's ex-girlfriend
- Alibi: You were giving a speech when Charlie was killed
- Key Info: You overheard Charlie arguing with someone but couldn't identify who
- Motive: 20 years ago, after the graduation ceremony, all the students had a picnic. You caught Charlie cheating on you and it broke your heart. You hadn't seen him in 20 years but you never got over the pain and never married, which is why you dedicated your entire life to scientific research instead of raising a family.

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### Your Character: James Foster



- Background: Former quietly intelligent kid, now a bestselling author
- Relationship: Based a villainous character in your book on Charlie
- Alibi: You were signing books for former classmates
- Key Info: You noticed Alex and Charlie having a tense conversation at the bar
- Motive: You've always been a keen observer of people and you've been keeping a quiet eye on Charlie for years. You knew all his secrets. Charlie was suing you for defamation over your thinly-veiled portrayal of him in your latest novel. You knew you will lose the lawsuit and go bankrupt.

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## Your Character: Kevin Wu

- Background: Former computer club president, now a tech entrepreneur
- Relationship: You are a recently betrayed long-time loyal friend of Charlie
- Alibi: You were in the hotel gym, burning off steam because you were angry
- Key Info: You had a heated argument with Charlie earlier about him stealing technology you invented
- Motive: You've always trusted Charlie. For many years, he loaned you small amounts of money (which you always repaid) to help keep you going while you spent years and years developing a new kind of computer chip that will change the world. Charlie recently stabbed you in the back by stealing your work and patenting it. Before he was murdered, Charlie was about to become very rich from the technology you developed, leaving you nothing!

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## Your Character: Linda Martinez



- Background: Former student council treasurer, now an accountant
- Relationship: Recently fired by Charlie as his personal accountant
- Alibi: You were in the hotel lobby, taking a phone call
- Key Info: You discovered irregularities in Charlie's company finances
- Motive: You came from a poor family but in school you were known for being good at math and studying hard. After graduating, you took out loans to attend a prestigious but very expensive university. When Charlie because a successful businessman, he hired you as his personal accountant. Charlie recently fired you when you questioned some suspicious transactions. He threatened to ruin your professional reputation if you spoke up. Now you're unemployed and can't pay off your student loans.

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## Your Character: Michael Brown



- Background: Former class clown, now a stand-up comedian
- Relationship: Charlie was the main investor in your failing comedy club
- Alibi: You were entertaining guests in the main hall
- Key Info: You overheard Charlie making a mysterious phone call about "settling debts"
- Motive: In high school, everyone knew your dream was to open a comedy club someday. You and Charlie stayed close friends after high school. Over the years, Charlie loaned you a lot of money to keep your failing comedy club open, but he was planning to pull his investment, which would bankrupt your club and shatter your dreams.

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## Your Character: Natalie Wilson



- **Background:** Former school newspaper editor, now the owner of a small, local newspaper that's struggling to keep afloat
- **Relationship:** You were writing an exposé on Charlie's extramarital affairs and illegal business practices
- Alibi: You were interviewing classmates for a reunion article
- Key Info: You saw Alex entering the garden shortly before Charlie was found
- Motive: Charlie recently found out that your newspaper is going to publish an article that will expose all of his unflattering personal and business secrets. Charlie told you he's going sue your newspaper for libel, and he knows that even if he loses, the legal fees will put your newspaper out of business.

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## Your Character: Olivia Taylor



- Background: Former drama club star, now a struggling actress
- **Relationship:** Charlie's long-time mistress. He recently broke up with you and pulled out of funding your recent film project
- Alibi: You were rehearsing your lines in your room
- Key Info: You saw Linda leaving Charlie's room looking upset
- Motive: You've been Charlie's secret mistress for many years. He paid for your lavish lifestyle and your luxury apartment, but he recently dumped you for a young fashion model and stopped giving you money.

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## Your Character: Rachel Greene



- Background: Former nerdy eco-club president, now an environmental activist
- **Relationship:** Was suing Charlie's company for environmental violations related to the computer chip manufacturing factory he was about to start building
- Alibi: You were picketing outside the hotel
- Key Info: You overheard Michel and Charlie arguing about money
- Motive: Charlie's company is about to break ground on a huge computer chip factory. It would be built on forest land that's home to the Narrow-Eyed Pygmy Owl, most endangered owl in the country. There are only six left! You'll do anything to stop him from building that factory. You've always hated each other. In high school, he used to torment you and your best friend David Patel because the two of you were nerds.

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## Your Character: Samantha Cho



- Background: Former shy art student, now a successful gallery owner
- Relationship: You're Charlie's current wife. Five years ago, you ran into each other at an exhibition at your art gallery. In high school, you didn't know each other well but you fell in love and quickly got married.
- Alibi: You were in a private meeting with the hotel manager, discussing an upcoming art exhibition
- **Key Info:** You saw Charlie sneaking away from the reunion party with Linda Martinez, his personal accountant with whom you've always suspected him of having an affair.
- Motive: You recently discovered that Charlie had been embezzling money from your art gallery to fund his other ventures. He was planning to divorce you and leave you penniless. You also found out about his affairs with multiple women, including some of your former classmates.

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## Your Character: Sarah Johnson



- Background: Former cheerleader, now a stay-at-home mom
- Relationship: Had a secret crush on Charlie in high school
- Alibi: You were in your hotel room putting your kids to bed
- Key Info: You noticed Charlie seemed nervous earlier in the evening
- Motive: 20 years ago, after the graduation ceremony, all the students had a picnic. Charlie saw you taking a walking alone through the park. Suddenly, and to your great surprise, he grabbed you forcibly kissed you. At that very moment, his girlfriend, Emma Chen, saw the two of you kissing! He blamed it on you, saying you kissed him. Emma didn't believe him, but he told everyone else at the picnic that it was your fault. You lost many friends that day, and never forgave Charlie for lying.

#### **Notes**