

THE KILLER ISN'T JUNE

A deduction case built from a fixed
25,600-name register and 21 literal clues.

25,600

PRINTED SUSPECT ENTRIES

21

LITERAL CLUES

1

SURVIVING ENTRY

OBSERVE • ELIMINATE • VERIFY

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EDITION & RIGHTS

The case file

TITLE The Killer Isn't June

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This is a work of fiction and a logic-puzzle experience. The names in the suspect register are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to real persons is coincidental.

IMPORTANT

The register is a fixed sequence. Its order, page boundaries, and repeated entries are part of the puzzle. Do not sort or rearrange it.

CASE BRIEF

A name in the system

A fictional forensic puzzle built around evidence integrity.

The homicide file was not lost. It was compromised.

During a routine audit of a fictional regional case-management archive, a forensic records analyst found that one sealed suspect reference no longer matched the narrative file attached to it. The original case notes were incomplete, but the system export remained intact: a fixed register of 25,600 names, printed in sequence.

The export did not contain photographs, addresses, occupations, motives, or witness statements. It contained names only. That limitation was deliberate. The analyst's task was not to decide who looked guilty. It was to determine which single entry could survive a set of objective tests without contradicting the surviving evidence.

A second sheet contained 21 instructions. Each was written as a literal test: letters, vowels, name length, alphabet values, and immediate position in the register. No outside knowledge was required. No intuition was admissible. The register could not be rearranged.

THE INVESTIGATIVE PRINCIPLE

Do not ask who looks guilty.

Ask which entry cannot be eliminated.

Evidence first. Guessing never.

INCIDENT LOG

The audit trail

23:14

ARCHIVE REVIEW

The analyst notices a discrepancy between a sealed reference number and the name attached to an internal index.

23:31

EXPORT RECOVERED

A fixed register is recovered from the archive print queue: 25,600 entries across 98 numbered register pages.

23:46

EVIDENCE SHEET

Twenty-one tests are found in a separate envelope. Each test can be checked from the printed register alone.

00:02

ORDER LOCKED

A handwritten instruction reads: "Do not sort the names. Do not infer. Eliminate."

00:19

FIRST FILTERS

The broad clues reduce the register rapidly. Position-based clues are checked against the printed sequence.

01:07

FINAL CANDIDATES

Only a handful of entries remain. The last tests are designed to separate them without interpretation.

01:12

CASE STATUS

One printed entry survives all 21 tests. The audit can now be closed.

YOUR MISSION

Solve the register.

The puzzle is designed to reward method, not instinct.

01**START**

Begin with all 25,600 printed entries.

02**FILTER**

Apply each clue to the surviving entries only.

03**TRACK**

Respect the exact reading order and page boundaries.

04**VERIFY**

When one remains, test it against every clue again.

THE GOLDEN RULE

Eliminate what the evidence disproves.

Do not promote a suspect because a clue “feels” right.

HOW TO SOLVE

The four-pass method

01 READ

Take the clue literally. Pay attention to words such as exactly, fewer, immediately, and NOT.

02 FILTER

Cross out every entry that fails. Never remove a name because it merely “looks wrong.”

03 TRACK

For immediate neighbors, read the register left-to-right across each line, then continue downward.

04 VERIFY

At the end, check the survivor's position and run the complete clue list again.

SOLVING LOOP

READ → TEST → CROSS OUT → CONTINUE

FAIR-PLAY PROTOCOL

Rules of the evidence

VOWELS	A, E, I, O and U only. Y is a consonant.
ORDER	Read each register page left to right, then continue down.
NEIGHBORS	“Immediately before/after” means the adjacent entry in that reading order.
COUNTING	Every printed occurrence is a separate suspect. Repeated names remain separate entries.
PAGES	Use the printed register-page number, not the physical book page number.
STATISTICS	Global name-length and initial-frequency clues use all 25,600 printed entries.
ALPHABET	For value clues, A=1, B=2 ... Z=26.

REPEATED NAMES

If the same name appears twice, both printed occurrences are separate suspects. A name-based clue affects both occurrences in the same way; a position clue can distinguish them because their register positions are different.

DETECTIVE TOOLKIT

Quick checks

CONSONANT / VOWEL

Count A E I O U as vowels; every other letter is a consonant.

DISTINCT VOWELS

Count different vowel letters, not total vowel occurrences.

FIRST + LAST

Convert both letters to alphabet values and add them.

DISTINCT LETTERS

Count each different letter once, even if it repeats.

LAST TWO

Do the same for the final two letters.

DOUBLE LETTER

Look for adjacent identical letters, such as LL or TT.

ALPHABET SPAN

Find the earliest and latest letters, then subtract their values.

POSITION

Use the register sequence for before/after tests and entry numbers.

ALPHABET QUICK REFERENCE

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

A=1 • Z=26 • Y is a consonant

EVIDENCE SHEET

The 21 clues

Clues 01–11 • Apply in order

- 01 The killer's name contains the letter E.
- 02 The killer's name has more consonants than vowels.
- 03 The second-to-last letter of the killer's name is a consonant.
- 04 The killer's name is more than 6 letters long.
- 05 The killer's name begins with a letter from G to Z.
- 06 The killer's name contains the letter A.
- 07 The suspect listed immediately before the killer has a shorter name than the killer.
- 08 The killer's name begins with a letter from G to M.
- 09 The first and last letters of the killer's name add up to less than 20 (A=1 ... Z=26).
- 10 The killer's name uses exactly 3 distinct vowels.
- 11 Counting every entry in the book, the killer's name length is NOT one of the most common name-lengths (6, 7).

EVIDENCE SHEET

The final tests

Clues 12–21 • Apply in order. Do not jump ahead.

- 12 The last two letters of the killer's name add up to less than 19 (A=1 ... Z=26).
- 13 The killer's name contains the letter A exactly once.
- 14 The suspect listed immediately before the killer begins with a consonant.
- 15 The killer's name contains none of the letters C, D or T.
- 16 The killer's name contains exactly 7 distinct letters.
- 17 The killer's initial is NOT one of the four most common starting letters in the whole register (A, M, K, J).
- 18 The killer's name contains exactly 4 vowels.
- 19 The killer's name contains a double letter.
- 20 The gap between the earliest and latest letter of the killer's name (in the alphabet) is less than 18.
- 21 The killer's name has exactly 6 consonants.

INVESTIGATION SCORECARD

Watch the register collapse

Your totals should match these cumulative survivor counts.

CLUE	REMAINING	CLUE	REMAINING
01	13,865	12	68
02	7,912	13	45
03	4,482	14	35
04	3,002	15	21
05	1,977	16	12
06	1,266	17	8
07	905	18	5
08	564	19	3
09	411	20	2
10	209	21	1
11	130		

CHECKPOINTS

C05 1,990 • C10 208 • C15 21
C20 2 • C21 1

If your count is far off, revisit the latest clue before continuing.

REGISTER BRIEFING

The register is evidence.

98 pages • 25,600 printed entries • fixed reading order

01**READ**

Start at Register Page 1. Read every line from left to right, then move down.

02**COUNT**

Every printed occurrence is one suspect. Crossed-out names still count for global statistics.

03**POSITION**

"Immediately before/after" follows the same continuous reading order, including page breaks.

04**PAGE**

When a clue names a register page, use the printed register-page number in the heading.

05**MARK**

Cross out failures cleanly. Keep surviving entries visible so you can audit your

SPOILER WARNING

The solution appears only after the final register page. Stop before the case-resolution section if you want a clean, spoiler-free solving experience.