

Inspector Polombo' investigation : *Theft at the Theatre Hotel*



The door: *Knock knock...*
Manager: *Come in.!*
Manager: *Ah, here you are, inspector. I have worked in this hotel **for** ten years, but I have never seen anything like this.!*
Polombo: *What happened?
Let me take this down.*



Manager: *Three of my best customers have been robbed! Three!
The first one was Miss Edwina Arty, the famous actress. She has been coming here **for** years. Well, last night her jewel box was stolen!*

Polombo: *When did she miss it?*

Manager: *Yesterday morning, first thing. She had been asleep **for** hours and she didn't hear anything, but she is sure she put away her jewels in the box before going to bed.*

Polombo: *Before going to bed. Let me take this down.
What next?*

Manager: *You've heard of Jack Clintwood, the film director? Well, he has been staying here **for** the past month and his briefcase disappeared yesterday morning.
It contained a large sum of money.*

Polombo: *A briefcase disappeared. Let me take this down.
What else?*

Manager: *Maria Aria, the opera singer -have you heard of her?
She has also been a client **for** years. Someone stole her good-luck charm. The thief was nearly caught red-handed.*

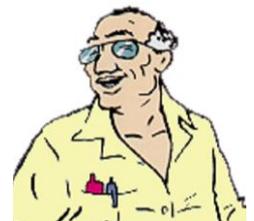
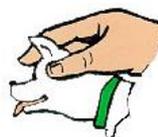


Polombo: *Did she see him?*

Manager: *Yes. He pushed her as he ran away and she nearly fell. This is all I have learned **for** the moment. Did you record everything inspector?*

Polombo: *Yes, I wrote everything in my note pad. I won't be without it **for** a minute! Where is it now?
I have lost it! And where is my pen?*

Ha, thank you Watson!



Inspector Polombo' investigation : A very suspicious suspect



Polombo: *I'm Inspector Polombo. You're Paul Handsome, I believe?*
Paul Handsome: *I am.*
Polombo: *Very handy, those compact mobiles...*
Paul Handsome: *Yes, very. And yours, is it a new design??*
Polombo: *No, that's Watson, my chihuahua.
He's a miniature radar. Well well...
He's decided to wake up **for** now.
He must have realised that you were afraid
of him: he's vibrating!*
Paul Handsome: *How amusing! Am I a suspect?
What have you found out about me?*



Polombo: *Tuesday at 11pm you phoned Miss Edwina Arty
and you told her that you would be waiting for her
in the bar **for** a while.*
Paul Handsome: *Phoning Miss Arty at that time! I would never
do that! This must be a joke. Anyway, I stayed
in my room **for** the whole evening.
What's more, I haven't met Miss Arty in public
for ages. The papers make too much of it. I only
meet her on the set.*



Polombo: *And nothing was stolen from you?*
Paul Handsome: *On the contrary, my wallet was taken. It must have happened
last night in the bar. I was there **for** a few moments.*
Polombo: *And you didn't notice anything?*
Paul Handsome: *Nothing! But I'm sure I was followed.*
Polombo: *Yes, Watson, I understand what you're saying.
That'll be all **for** tonight, Mr Handsome.*



Inspector Polombo' investigation : *Unforgivable crimes*



Polombo: *Mrs Aria, what exactly was stolen?*

Maria Aria: *A good-luck charm that I have owned **for** years, a lovely little ivory statuette. It was given to me by one of my admirers, a very famous man, after he heard me singing in « The magic flute ». If you don't find it, I will miss it **for** the rest of my life!*



Polombo: *Is that all?*

Maria Aria: *What do you mean, is that all?!?! Did you not understand? It's my good-luck charm! How can I sing now? Anyway, that's not all that was stolen. Two of my stage costumes were taken, two absolutely magnificent dresses. And that's all **for** now. Is that not enough? Will I have to plead with you **for** hours before you decide to...
Oh, what an absolutely adorable little dog!
Did it make this lovely little noise*



Polombo: *I taught him to appreciate music...*

Maria Aria: *What a pity you can't take him to the Opera!
You'll have to bring him to me for a visit, won't you inspector? You promise?*



Inspector Polombo' investigation : *Reviewing the situation ...*



Edwina Arty : *No inspector, I wasn't asleep at 11 pm, when my jewel box was stolen. The manager obviously misunderstood me. It was taken while I was out of my room **for** a few minutes. This is what happened: I had been in my room **for** about an hour when the phone rang. It was Paul. He said: "Could you go down to the bar **for** a moment? I need to talk to you. I won't be long."*



Polombo: *You didn't suggest waiting until the morning?*

Edwina Arty: *Unfortunately, I didn't. I thought to myself "I'll only go down **for** a short time". I suppose that as soon as I was in the lift, the thief went to my room. He must have taken my jewel box and made his getaway down the fire escape. When I arrived in the bar, Paul has been gone **for** some time.*

Edwina Arty: *Later, I was told that he never called me and that the whole thing was a joke. This has really upset me. I think I will go away **for** the weekend to forget about it **for** a while.*

Polombo: *Do you believe that someone imitated Paul Handsome's voice?*

Edwina Arty: *Of course! There is no way that Paul is involved in this. I've known him **for** years and he would never lie to me!*

Polombo: *I see! Well, I'll have to think about all this **for** a while.*



Jack Clintwood, film director:

- He deliberately avoided me **for** ages and gave me the minimum of information. Why?
- He left his briefcase in his room when he went away **for** half an hour, even though it contained £10,000.
- He said that the money came from the sale of a painting that he had owned **for** over ten years. Is this true?



Paul Handsome, actor:

- He said that he was in his room **for** the whole evening.
- He also said that he went to the bar **for** a few moments, when his wallet was stolen.
- He has known Edwina Arty **for** years and must have been aware of the content of her jewel box.

