



Personality Profile

ANDREW MASON

You are 52 years old, married, and you run a well-established natural stone distribution company. Ceramic patio tiling, window sills, stair steps, floor tiles, paving, curbs, walls, palisades... anything the 'natural stone heart' may desire, you have it.

Due to its large selection, your company is known beyond the confines of the region. The stones are sourced from various places, from quarries within Britain or the Czech Republic, but also from India and China. By now, an increasing number of clients are demanding a certificate documenting that the stones were made without the use of child labour. You do your best and insist on appropriate certificates.

A few weeks ago, there was a call for tenders from the town of Chocville for the delivery of the stones for the market square, which is to be repaved. The company offering the best price within the specifications – no child labour in the quarry – will be awarded the contract. You have applied and won the contract, the stones are ordered and paid for!

But there is someone who could put a spoke in your wheel: Kevin Doogood, the 'young entrepreneur' who just opened a 'Fair Trade store' in Chocville. You paved his driveway before the shop opened. He also wanted stones with a certificate that marks them as 'Not produced with child labour'.

You cooperate with the Indian company Hadday Mincha, which offers stones at low prices. You used these stones for Kevin, who seems to be a control freak. When he did not pay the bill after completion of the paving and you asked him what was the matter, he only said he still had to make a few inquiries first. Then, several days later, he submitted several reports to you about 'your' Indian cooperation firm. They claim that it uses fake certificates and makes stones using child labour.

Under these circumstances Kevin was absolutely not willing to pay the bill. On the contrary, he expected a free redesign of the driveway with the required stones and even threatened to contact the press. Your company's reputation would suffer tre-

mendously and you'd have to forget about the town's commission, even a contractual penalty would be likely. You'd be ruined!

The only option you are left with is to try to make Kevin see reason. After all, you were not aware of the fact that you were fooled by the Indian company! Of course, you would also assure him to stop all contacts with this company in the future. During your discussion, Kevin did not seem to be convinced of your credibility, but he gave you until the big gala evening of the town of Chocville (where the 'Fairtrade Town' certificate will be awarded) to come up with some sort of 'amends'. You never spoke with him since this meeting. You've been wondering how to soothe or bait him ever since. There's no point in offering money to this guy, he is too much of a do-gooder for that and would surely just denounce you.

When the evening of the reception has come, you still have no idea – except to kill him. Haha, you wish! You will probably offer to donate a large sum for a social project and promise to be more careful going forward.

Today he is even invited as the keynote speaker, no less. The event starts at 6.30 pm with a 'flying buffet'. The speeches will be held from 8 pm and the highlight will be the grand award ceremony. When you see Kevin talking to the town's building director some time after you arrive, you feel queasy already. Surely, he won't say anything? You are standing at a table with other entrepreneurs and acquaintances and chatting with John Rock.

But then you are distracted, because around 7.30 pm your wife calls and asks if you could pop into the ShopHere supermarket next door to get cat food. She says she had forgotten and would not be able to do it, since she had worked overtime and now had to go straight to her friend's birthday party. The store would close at 8 pm, after the reception it would be too late. You grab a few more snacks and get the cat food. Unfortunately, in the supermarket you bang up against a shelf with hazelnuts, but being the nice person you are, you help the shop assistant to put things back in order.

15 minutes later you are back and go to the toilet. When you return just before 8 pm, you notice a commotion in the front part of the room. From the murmuring you understand that someone has broken down there. The emergency service has apparently been alarmed already. That calls for a whiskey at the bar. There you learn that the person who collapsed is Kevin.

A short time later, the ambulance arrives and the 'gaping crowd' is screened off. At some point, finally, the message gets around that Kevin Doogood could not be saved.



The Suspects

John Rock, 58 years

Farmer, the father of Jane Doogood, divorced for 10 years, president of the Chocville Heritage Society – you chatted with him at the beginning of the evening.

Frank Bellows, 45 years

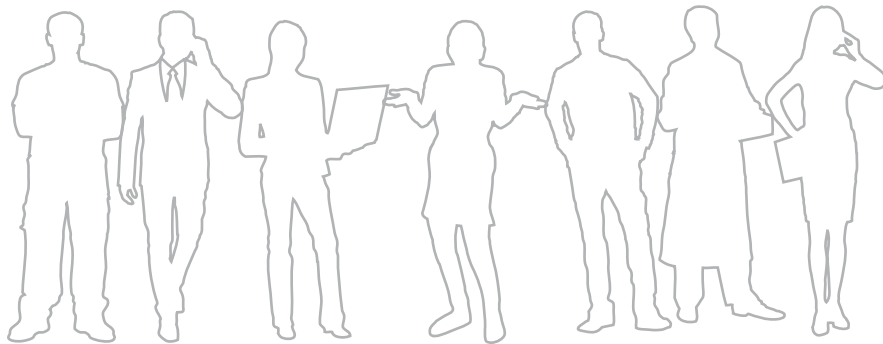
Boss of the wholesale company 'Fair Space', lives and works in Bristol, single – you know him by name from Bristol.

Jane Doogood, 25 years

Private investigator by profession, married to Kevin – you know her since you worked on the driveway. Hopefully she'll at least pay you for your expenses.

Natalia Petroviczka, 34 years

Owner of the catering business 'Delibites', partner of Yusuf. Her stuff is quite yummy, considering that it's all organic.



Nikos Zanidis, 23 years

Self-employed with an organic food truck, Kevin's best friend. Does not look like an entrepreneur...

Yusuf Karaca, 40 years

Owner of the ShopHere supermarket, partner of Natalia. Started early with that organic and Fair Trade stuff.

Rebecca Roller, 27 years

Town manager of Chocville, single. She started that thing with the Fairtrade Town. You are negotiating with her over the paving of the market square.



Fair Trade: Background Information

Even though the plot and characters of the crime dinner are fictitious, the backdrop is in many places inspired by reality. Fair Trade and Fairtrade Towns really exist. To shed some light on the subject, we would like to clarify some terms and background aspects. Of course, many topics can only be touched upon. Therefore, you will find even more detailed information in the Host's Manual.

What is Fair Trade?

Fair Trade aims to improve the situation of small producers. For this purpose, direct and long-term trade relations are sought. To enable producers to make a living, minimum prices are paid that are above world market prices. In addition, there are premiums for organic farming. Also, exploitative child labour is prohibited, as is discrimination against women, migrant workers and trade unions.

For further information on Fair Trade go to:

wfto-europe.org.

What is a Fairtrade Town?

Towns can apply to the 'Fairtrade Towns Campaign' to be certified as a Fairtrade Town. To qualify, they have to fulfil certain conditions. For example, only Fair Trade coffee may be served in the town hall and a certain number of shops (depending on the size of the municipality) must offer Fair Trade products. After certification, these criteria are regularly checked so that Fair Trade is upheld.

For further information on the 'Fairtrade Towns Campaign' go to:

www.fairtradetowns.org.

What about seals and labels?

Nearly all products come with colourful seals and labels. Fair Trade also uses such seals and labels. For consumers, it is not always easy to see which of the many seals are verified and trustworthy. This is why we have compiled a list of trustworthy Fair Trade seals for food. We present these in the Host's Manual in the chapter 'Shopping Tips'.

What about child labour in the quarries?

All over the world children work for money – to support their family or, as in Germany, to supplement their pocket money. This work becomes problematic when it is physically exhausting or dangerous, but also when it makes it impossible for the children to go to school, or just be a child. ILO Convention 182 bans this exploitative kind of child labour worldwide.

Nevertheless, especially in India and other Asian countries, children work in quarries under such conditions. However, some quarries do not use child labour and also pay attention to labour rights generally. You can have your products independently certified by Xertifix.

For further information on exploitative child labour – not only in quarries – and measures against it go to www.aktiv-gegen-kinderarbeit.de (in German).

Information in English can be found at www.un.org/en/events/childlabourday.