

Personality Profile

NATALIA PETROVICZKA

You are 34 years old and for four years you have been running the catering business 'Delibites'.

Over the years, you've worked your way up from kitchen helper to cook, and then chef, with a lot of dedication, creativity, and a lot of overtime. Although you enjoyed working in the hotel kitchen, you always dreamed of going freelance. And by now you have managed to do so: The business is running well – almost too well. Sometimes you feel that things are overwhelming you.

At the beginning, you prepared meals for smaller parties in your own kitchen. As demand rose, you rented a former butcher's shop, where you can now do as you please.

Last year you increased your food repertoire to include a Fair Trade and regional product range. That is more expensive for your customers, but many appreciate it and are willing to pay a higher price. For example, you get fresh fruit, vegetables, meat and eggs directly from farmers in the region. And you order your coffee, cocoa, rice, honey, sugar, wine, nuts and spices from Frank Bellows, the managing director of the Bristol-based wholesale company 'Fair Space', which imports Fair Trade products.

Your partner in life is Yusuf, the managing director of the ShopHere supermarket, the largest supermarket in the region. Of course, he is not so happy that you do not buy these goods from him, and instead from Frank Bellows. Your regular contact with Frank often causes tensions in your relationship because Yusuf is so jealous. And that although Frank isn't your cup of tea at all.

Plus, there has been a shop for Fair Trade Products in Chocville for a few weeks now. It was Kevin Doogood who opened it. For Yusuf this is a slap in the face, because since 'Fair Craze' has opened, there has been a marked decline in sales in ShopHere. Recently Kevin tried to woo you away from Frank Bellows, but he is much more

expensive. Yusuf got that wrong again and got jealous.

Soon there will be a big event where you are allowed to conjure up the flying buffet. The town of Chocville has invited you to a reception to receive the certificate as a 'Fair-trade Town'. Of course, for the buffet you should use only Fair Trade and regional products.

The big gala evening is just about to start, preparations are in full swing. At 6.30 pm the reception begins. As early as one hour before that, you and your employees started dragging numerous trays with small nibbles, snacks and finger food into the venue's kitchen. The mini-cupcakes, which will be served as a dessert together with the eclairs, will receive their final cream icing on the spot. You'll see to that yourself, just to be on the safe side.

Once again you have surpassed yourself: everything looks fantastic. People will be able to eat until just after 8.00 pm; after that the official part starts with the speeches and for you and your team the unpleasant job of tidying up will begin.

You're flat out working but are constantly being distracted because tonight everybody seems to feel a need to talk to you. First, the Head of Marketing, Rebecca, asks you to come and see her: she wants to know if everything is running smoothly. Then Nikos, a good friend, bursts into the kitchen and wants to engage you in small talk. That's the last thing you need now! Quickly you send him on his merry way.

In the midst of this hustle and bustle, some person has placed an envelope in the kitchen. Apart from a bag of hazelnuts, there is a note in spidery, certainly disguised, handwriting in it. You are to mix hazelnuts into the cream for the cupcakes' icing. Otherwise, the anonymous writer threatens to make it public that you mainly employ clandestine workers. That would be the end of your business...

You are shocked and follow the instructions on the note. You burn it after reading – as instructed – and throw out the unfinished pack of nuts. You walk through the

crowd carrying around the tray with the cupcakes, offering one of them to Kevin. He accepts it and takes an indulgent bite. After a while you head back for the kitchen and notice that something must have happened behind you. Quickly you turn around and indeed: Kevin has collapsed at his table. The surrounding people gather around him, someone reaches for the phone.

Damn, what has happened there? You did not expect that! You hope he'll get back on his feet.

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 suffered an allergic shock and could not be saved.

Hadn't Rebecca Roller said that hazelnuts were absolutely taboo? And Kevin had asked about it, too. But if you speak about what you know, it's not only you who will have to face the music. Your employees would lose their jobs, so you better keep your mouth shut. After all, you're not the murderer, but to prove it, you'd have to know who blackmailed you. What in the world have you got yourself into here?

The Suspects

John Rock, 58 years

Farmer and president of the Chocville Heritage Society, father of Jane Doogood, divorced for 10 years. You have nothing to do with him.

Frank Bellows, 45 years

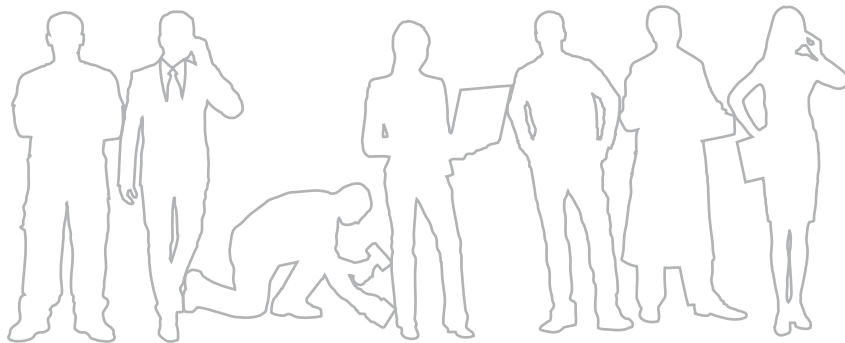
Boss of the wholesale company 'Fair Space', lives and works in Bristol, single. You have business contact with him.

Andrew Mason, 52 years

Entrepreneur and manager of a natural stone distribution company, lives in Chocville and works in Bristol. You know him by sight.

Jane Doogood, 25 years

Private investigator, widow of the victim Kevin Doogood. You know her by sight.



Nikos Zanidis, 23 years

Self-employed with an organic food truck, Kevin's best friend. Nice guy, but a bit disorganised. He is also active in catering, but he's no competition.

Yusuf Karaca, 40 years

Owner of the ShopHere supermarket, – your great love!

Rebecca Roller, 27 years

Town manager of Chocville, unmarried – you have dealings with her in the context of the reception. She made sure that Chocville would become a Fairtrade Town.



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.