

FOOLSCAP GLOBAL STORY GRID – © Shawn Coyne

GLOBAL STORY	GLOBAL GENRE		
	External Genre: Crime > Cozy Murder Mystery		
	External Value at Stake: Justice – Injustice		
	Internal Genre: NA		
	Internal Value at Stake: NA		
	<p>Obligatory Scenes: 1. An Inciting Crime 2. A speech in praise of the villain 3. Discovering and understanding the antagonist’s MacGuffin 4. Progressively complicated Following of the Clues 5. The protagonist is actively trying to solve a crime or a puzzle 6. Exposure of the Criminal 7. Criminal brought to justice</p> <p>Conventions: 1. A MacGuffin: Villain’s object of desire 2. Investigative Red Herrings: seemingly revelatory false clues that mislead the protagonist/investigator 3. Making it personal. The villain needs the protagonist to get the MacGuffin and thus must manipulate them to lead them to success 4. Clock. There is a limited time for the protagonist or villain to act</p> <p>Conventions Specific to Cozy Mystery: 1. The investigator/protagonist is usually a woman and an amateur who cares about other people, proving that average people can make a difference 2. Profanity, sex and physical violence is downplayed or treated humorously 3. Crime and detection take place in a small, socially intimate community 4. Unsuspecting victim 5. Quirky supporting cast 6. Villain is rarely an evil person 7. Community bands together for what is right 8. Humor 9. Happy ending 10. Justice is served.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please refer to the Editor’s 6 Core Questions to see the details</p>		
	Point of View: Traditional third person omniscient.		
	<p>Objects of Desire:</p> <p>Conscious External Want: Miss Marple wants to find the killer/s and bring them to justice and save the reputation of her friends, Mr. and Mrs. Bantry.</p> <p>Subconscious Internal Need: To restore safety to St. Mary Mead and Danemouth.</p>		
	Controlling Idea/Theme: Justice prevails when we stick to the facts during times of great suspicion.		
	BEGINNING HOOK		External Charge
<p>Inciting Incident (causal) The dead body of a beautiful blonde girl has been found in Mr. Bantry’s library and his wife Dolly has called Miss Marple for help.</p>		-	
<p>Turning Point Progressive Complication (Revelation) When Miss Marple meets the dead girl’s cousin Josephine Turner, she is unnerved by Josie’s saying that she was angry when Mr. Conway Jefferson called the police because Ruby Keane was missing from The Majestic Hotel. Josie isn’t showing grief. She’s showing anger towards Ruby; she doesn’t seem to care for her.</p>		-	
<p>Crisis (Irreconcilable goods) Should Marple pursue this and help her friend unburden the suspicions that will naturally fall on her husband, or should she let the police do their jobs - but also possibly let someone with a lot of red flags (Josie Turner) get away with... murder?</p>			
<p>Climax: Miss Marple accepts her friend Dolly’s offer to stay at The Majestic for a weekend of amateur sleuthing.</p>		+	
<p>Resolution: Sir Henry Clithering, aware of Miss Marple’s fame as a sleuth, calls her into consultation about Ruby Keane’s murder.</p>		+	

MIDDLE BUILD		External Charge	Internal Charge
	Inciting Incident (causal): News of a blazing car fire with another dead girl inside leads Miss Marple to think that the charred body must be that of Girl Guide (Pamela Reeves) who had gone missing around the same time as Ruby.	-	
	Turning Point Progressive Complication (Revelation): Despite the investigators discovering that Mark and Adelaide are financially distressed, the investigation comes to a complete standstill because their alibis are airtight.	-	
	Crisis (Irreconcilable goods): There are a few things bothering Miss Marple, things she knows about girls that the investigators don't. Should she follow her instincts or accept that the police are stalled for good reason?		
	Climax: Marple follows her instincts: 1. Mark said Ruby's teeth ran down her throat, but the girl in the library had protruding teeth. 2. The body in the library had chewed nails but to all accounts Ruby had her nails clipped. 3. If she went out to meet a boyfriend, a girl of Ruby's (low) class would have worn her "best dress," not the tatty white one they found her in. - Marple concludes the two girls were switched and made to look like alike, providing an alibi for the murderers.	+	
Resolution: Marple knows who killed Ruby, but she must prove it.	+		
ENDING PAYOFF		External Charge	Internal Charge
	Inciting Incident (Causal): Learning that Pamela was going to meet a bloke at The Majestic for a screen test for Lemville Studios, the focus of the investigation falls back on Basil Blake.	-	
	Turning Point Progressive Complication (Revelation): Knowing Basil is innocent, Miss Marple rushes to prepare his "girlfriend," Dinah Lee, for his imminent arrest. Dinah admits to their secret marriage and wonders if Marple went to Somerset House to find that out.	+	
	Crisis (Irreconcilable goods): With Somerset House in mind, Miss Marple wonders if she should look for other secret marriages among the key suspects or trust the investigators to figure it all out?		
	Climax: Marple goes to Somerset house and finds that Mark is secretly married to Josie, who would also inherit Conway's money with Ruby out of the way. Miss Marple urges Conway to publicly declare that his will is changing tomorrow - that all his money will be going to a cause that would have helped a dancer like Ruby. This would force the murderers to kill Conrad (tonight) to protect their inheritance.	+	
Resolution: That evening, Josie is arrested while trying to inject Conway with digitalis while he sleeps; Mark is away with friends – another convenient alibi. Mark and Josie are charged with murder and expected to hang for their crimes.	+		