

Lights brighten as as Wilbert enters stage right

Wilbert Holmes: Greetings, you may call me Mr Holmes.

Princess Penelope: Holmes? As in *Sherlock* Holmes!?

Wilbert Holmes: *sniff* No, Sherlock is my distant cousin. My name is Wilbert, Wilbert Holmes.

Princess Penelope: *disappointed* Oh.

Wilbert Holmes: Now, as you are all aware, the King's crown has been stolen. I have have searched high and low, and have determined that it was someone in this room who is responsible.

Princess Penelope, Captain Patrick, and Chef Arnold, gasp in shock and start talking over each other

Wilbert Holmes: Quiet Now! If you have done nothing wrong you need not worry and your being here is just incidental.

Everyone calms down

Wilbert Holmes: Now I'm just going to ask each of you some questions, and hopefully we can sort this all out before tea-time.

Wilbert Holmes: Alright, Princess Penelope where were you-

Princess Penelope: Alright that's enough! It obviously wasn't me who stole my father's crown! What motive would I-

Wilbert Holmes: Princess, there are infinite possibilities. Attention? A dare? Revenge-

Princess Penelope: I hardly think I would want revenge on my own father!!

Wilbert Holmes: Princess please calm yourself, I am just stating possibilities.

Princess Penelope: Hmmf!

Wilbert Holmes: Now I'll ask again, where were you at the time of the crown's disappearance?

Princess Penelope: If you must know *detective* I was in my chambers practicing my etiquette for the arrival of a foreign ambassador. *judgy sniff* like any good Princess would.

Wilbert Holmes: Is that so? Well, moving on. Captain Patrick, where were you at the time of the crown's disappearance?

Captain Patrick: Well detective, Me and me crew had just returned from a long voyage at sea, we all was taken the day off for some much needed rest.

Wilbert Holmes: I see, Captain. Very well, Chef Arnold you are his majesty's royal Chef of Pastries, is that correct?

Chef Arnold: Y- Yes um Detective, my family have served as the royal family's Chefs of Pastries for three generations.

Wilbert Holmes: That is quite a legacy, high Chef, now where were you at the time of the crown's disappearance?

Chef Arnold: Of- Of- Of course, Mr Holmes sir, I was at the north market, sir, getting flour and cream for my famous lemon meringue pie.

Wilbert Holmes: Very, very interesting.

Wilbert paces across the line of chairs

Wilbert Holmes: Because I happen to know that all of you are lying!

All: Gasp!!!

Everyone begins talking over each other in a panic

Wilbert Holmes: Quiet, all of you, I-

Margie runs in from stage right her arms flailing about wildly and madly

Wilbert Holmes: Margie!! What's the matter?

Margie: Oh! Mr Holmes! I have some bad news! The King forgot the foreign Ambassador from Blimington is arriving early! — again. And the King is still without his crown!

Wilbert Holmes: My! This is turning into a crisis! But I am very close to uncovering the thief's identity.

Margie: Oh! That is good to hear, Thank you Mr Holmes! I will let his majesty know!