It's Death, My Darling!

By AMELIA REYNOLDS LONG

(AP Newsfeatures)

Chapter 11

They came within the next half hour, headed by Sheriff Jefferson Wilkes, a tall, loose-jointed man with a deceptively sleepy eye which actually missed very little. When he had gathered us all—with the exception of Aunt Minerva, who had by this time been taken to her room and left in the care of Marionette—into the smaller drawing room, he listened in silence to Beau's account of his discovery of Claude's body. Then he turned to the rest of us.

"Is that the way you all tell it?" he inquired.

"I heard a—a sort of thump," Bobby volunteered timidly.

The sheriff turned his heavy-lidded eyes upon her.

"When was that," Miss Brennon?" he asked.

"Just before Mrs. Dumont started screaming," Bobby replied. "Beau said it was the door slamming when he came in."

The sheriff offered no comment.

"Any more of you hear it?" he asked instead. "What about you, Miss Piper?"

"I don't remember any thump," I told him. "It was the screaming that woke me."

"I believe I heard it," Lee offered uncertainly. "But I thought it happened before the screaming began; at least fifteen minutes before. Or come to think of it," he added, as an after thought, "I seem to recollect a second thud or thump, just a few seconds before the screaming started."

The sheriff looked as though he had heard of seeing, but never hearing, double before. For my part, I was wondering whether Lee actually had heard two thuds, or whether he had suddenly realised what his admission about the time might mean where Beau was concerned, and was attempting to cover up.

Sheriff Wilkes waited a moment, as though expecting some more of us to mention a second thud.

"Was everybody stayin' here in the house?" he inquired, when none of us did.

As he asked the question, he glanced at Henri, who seemed to think that this made it incumbent upon him to answer.

"No," he said. "Some of us were sleeping in the garconnieres."

"Which ones?"

"Both of them. There are only two."

"The sheriff means which of us, Henri," Amedee explained. He turned to Wilkes. "My brother and I were in the garconniere on the right, my cousin Beauregard and Mr. Haye in the other."

The sheriff's eyes flickered. Suddenly he swung upon Beau.

"If you were supposed to be sleepin' out there," he shot out, "what were you doin' over here at nearly three o'clock in the morning?"

"I couldn't sleep," he answered without hesitation. "The truth is, I'd had a little too much to drink last evening, and it was giving me something of a head. So I decided to take a turn or two around the grounds in the hope that it would wear off. Then I noticed the light over here, and thought I'd see who was up. That was how I came to find Claude."

The sheriff seemed to weigh this answer. "Wasn't your grandfather's funeral a funny time to get drunk?" he demanded.

"Perhaps I'd better explain that Colonel Dumont left some rather unusual instructions to be carried out after his death," Cousin Jeff intervened. "He directed that after the funeral, a formal dinner party was to be held in his honor, when a special case of champagne would be opened. He also asked that all his male relatives wear Confederate uniforms, which accounts for the costume Mr. Claude Dumont was wearing when he was killed."

The sheriff scratched the side of his lean jaw. He looked as though he was wondering whether this had been a funeral or a three ring circus complete with everything except the peanuts and pink lemonade.

But before he could put another question, the door to the hall, which the coroner had closed while he was busy out there, was opened, and Aunt Delphine came into the room.

She stood there looking around the room and smiling gently.

"So Claude is dead," she observed with the satisfaction of a prophetess whose words have been verified. "I knew it would happen."

That made the sheriff swing around.

"So you knew it would happen?" he repeated with interest. "May I inquire your name, ma'am?"

Aunt Delphine drew herself up with old-fashioned dignity.

"I am Madame Dumont," she stated.

"Not the mother of the man who was killed?"

"Of course not. I am Madame Dumont."

"She is the widow of my eldest brother," Raoul explained. Then he added, lowering his voice. "I'd suggest that you didn't pay too much attention to anything she may say."

The sheriff ignored this piece of advice, and turned back to Aunt Delphine.

"So you know it would happen," he said again. "How did you know ma'am?"

Aunt Delphine lowered her voice to a confidential whisper.

"They told me," she announced, smiling up at him. "They said Claude didn't belong, even if he did bear the Dumont name, and so they would have to kill him."

"Mrs. Dumont," he asked, uttering each word separately and distinctly, as if to impress her with the importance of the question and of her answer, "which of these people told you they were going to kill Claude Dumont?"

Aunt Delphine shook her head slowly from side to side, like a child who is enjoying the mystification of its elders.

"None of them told me," she replied with a rougish smile. "But I know who did it."

"Then for God's sake tell me, Mrs. Dumont!" The sheriff was tense now. For that matter, we all were, but for different reasons. "Who killed your nephew?"

"Le Loup Garou," Aunt Delphine announced, still smiling.

(To Be Continued)

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TUESDAY—P. M.

	KGW 620 NBC	KOIN 970 CBS	KEX 1190 ABC	KSLM 1250 MBC	KGAE 1450 Ke.	KOCO 1490 LBS
12:00	News	News	Paul Harvey	Top Trades	Spider	News
12:15	Road of Life	Come Get It	Noon Edition	News	Spider	F. De Vol
12:30	Pepper T'ng	House Party	Jack Owens	Gay 90's	Spider	F. De Vol
12:45	Happiness	House Party	Jack Owens	Merg'n Musi	Spider	Richie
1:00	Ekstr Wife	Hilltop	Kay West	Jack	Spider	Magic Mel.
1:15	Stella Dallas	Geo. Fisher	Kay West	Kirkwood	Spider	Magic Mel.
1:30	Wld. Brown	Kirkham	Kay West	J. Sebastian	Spider	News
1:45	Wmr in Hse.	Kirkham	Kay West	Music	Spider	Melody
2:00	Plain Bill	Mus. Spkle.	Cal Tinney	News	Spider	Magic
2:15	F. Fr Farrell	A. Godfrey	Cal Tinney	Music	Spider	Melody
2:30	Life Beautl.	A. Godfrey	Live Like a	Music	Spider	Magic
2:45	Doc's Wife	A. Godfrey	Millionaire	Shopper	Spider	Melody
3:00	Welcome	Godfrey	Revue Music	Music	Jim Dandy	Magic Mel.
3:15	Travelers	Godfrey	Bill Ring	Music	Show	Magic Mel.
3:30	Dr. Paul	Godfrey	For the	News	Jim Dandy	Magic Mel.
3:45	D. Garroway	Massey	Girls	Paula Stone	Show	Magic Mel.
4:00	Music Box	Kirkham	Tunes	Fulton Lewis	Kiddies Krar	World News
4:15	Music Box	Ruth Ashton	Squirrel	Hemingway	Music Mart.	Here's to Ve
4:30	Music Box	Jim Wahely	Cage	Curt Massey	Music Mart	Second Look
4:45	Art Baker	Tunefully	Happy Time	Sam Hayes	Music Mart	Womens Pg
5:00	News	Ed Murrow	Marrie Circle	Sgt. Preston	Music Mart	Showcase
5:15	News	News	V. Pinkley	Sgt. Preston	Music Mart	Showcase
5:30	L. McCall	World Today	C. Huntley	Sky King	Music Mart	Valley Time
5:45	E. Peterson	Frank Goss	Bob Garred	Sky King	Sign Off	Song to Rem.
6:00	Relax Music	Life with	Weatherman	Gab. Heatter		Candlelight
6:15	Relax Music	Luigi	Home Ed.	NW News		Candlelight
6:30	Fibber &	Mr Friend	Good	Answer Man		News
6:45	Molly	Irma	Listening	Sam Hayes		88 Keys
7:00	Herb Shriner	People Are	Silver Eagle	Reporter		Rosary
7:15	Herb Shriner	Funny	Silver Eagle	Roundup		Stars Sing
7:30	Jane Pickens	Music Hall	Michael	W Coast		OSC Coaches
7:45	Jane Pickens	Music Hall	Shayne	Ramblers		Music
8:00	Man's Famil	L. Thomas	Symphonette	High		Midcourt
8:15	World News	On Spot	Symphonette	Adventure		SHS-Albany
8:30	Calvalcade of	Mr. and Mrs	Meet Your	Music		SHS-Albany
8:45	America	North	Neighbor	Music		SHS-Albany
9:00	Martin &	Doris Day	Town	Glen Hardy		SHS-Albany
9:15	Lewis	Doris Day	Meeting	Fulton Lewis		SHS-Albany
9:30	Freedom US/	Jo Stafford	Town Meet.	What's Cook		SHS-Albany
9:45	Freedom US/	Junior Miss	Monitor N.	Music		World News
10:00	Reporter	5 Star Final	Final Ed.	Behind Story		Night Song
10:15	Sports Final	Interviews	Dance Time	Newsreel		Night Song
10:30	The Chase	Navy Show	Dance Time	News		Music
10:45	The Chase	Orchestra	Dance Time	Hammer Gun		You Wait
11:00	News	Organ	Dance Time	Hammer Gun		Nocturne
11:15	L. McCall	Melodies	Dance Time	Midnight		Nocturne
11:30	Wax	Treasury	Dance Time	Melodies		Nocturne
11:45	Museum	Band	Dance Time	Melodies		Nocturne
12:00	Sign Off	Sign Off	Dance Time	Xtra Hour		Sign Of.

WEDNESDAY—6 A.M. TO 11:45 A.M.

6:00	Music Time	News	Oregon Farm	NW News	Breakfast	Melodies
6:15	Music Time	RFD Oregon	Hour	Timekeeper	Nook	Melodies
6:30	Music Time	KOIN Klock	Ore. Farm	News	Breakfast	Farm News
6:45	Farm Time	KOIN Klock	O. Farm Hr.	March Time	Nook	Nat. News
7:00	Country Ed.	KOIN Klock	First Edition	Hemingway	Breakfast	Meditations
7:15	J. L. Wills	News	M. Arronsky	Breakfast	Nook	KOCO Klock
7:30	News	News	Bob Garred	Gang	Breakfast	KOCO Klock
7:45	Knox Man.	H. Babbitt	Bob Hazen	Sam Hayes	Nook	KOCO Klock
8:00	Old Songs	Con. News	Breakfast	Cecil Brown	Jim Dandy	News
8:15	Old Songs	News	Club	Family Altar	Jim Dandy	KOCO Klock
8:30	Music Box	Grand Slam	Breakfast	Haven of	Jim Dandy	KOCO Klock
8:45	Music Box	Rosemary	Club	Rest	Jim Dandy	News
9:00	Music Box	W. Warren	9 A.M. Edit	Dr. Sweet	Back Fence	Happiness
9:15	Music Box	Aunt Jenny	Today's Star	Cptl Cmntry	Matinee	Tune Time
9:30	Music Box	Helen Trent	Break Bank	Pastor's Call	Back Fence	Piano Pix
9:45	News	Gal Sunday	Break Bank	Brn. Counter	Matinee	Evelyn K.
10:00	Hostess Hse.	Road Life	D. Gardner	Glen Hardy	Back Fence	Rays
10:15	Hostess Hse.	Ma Perkins	Chet Huntley	Tele Test	Matinee	Records
10:30	Strike It	Dr. Malone	My True	Answer Man	Back Fence	Rays
10:45	Rich	Guid. Light	Story	Music	Matinee	Records
11:00	Double or	Mrs. Burton	Whispering	Ladies Fair	Back Fence	Rays
11:15	Nothing	Perry Mason	Girl Marries	Ladies Fair	Matinee	Records
11:30	Bob and Ray	Nora Drake	V. Lindlahr	Queen For	Back Fence	Rays
11:45	Bob Hope	Brighter Day	Barney Keep	Day	Matinee	Records

FM Mer.: KOIN 10 1.1, 6 a.m. to 12 p.m. KEX 92.3, 3 to 9 p.m.

DIAL LISTING, KOAC, 550

KOAC Tuesday P. M. — 12:00, News; 12:15, Polk County Agent; 1:00, Ride 'Em Cowboy; 2:00, Music; 4:00, World Review; 5:00, Children's Theater; 6:00, News and Weather; 6:45, Oregon Legislature; 7:15 Evening Farm Hour.

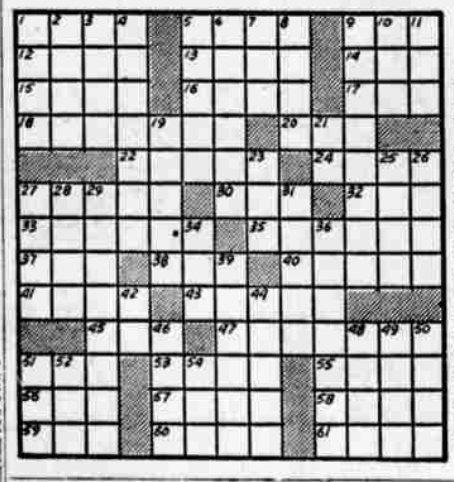
KOAC Wednesday A.M.—10:00, News and Weather; 10:15 Especially for Women; 11:00, Concert Hall; News; 12:15, Noon Farm Hour.

9:45, News; 9:45, Meditation; 10:00, Sign Off.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Agricultural establishment
5. Cigarfish
9. Chum
12. Medicinal plant
13. Peel
14. Gone by
15. Quantity of matter
16. Spoken
17. Stitch
18. Place rubbed out
20. Piece of ground
22. Flower
24. Capital of Italy
27. Be merry
30. Hard-shelled fruit
32. Line
33. Coincides
35. Scold
37. Lawless crowd
38. Rodent
40. Governor
41. Minced oath
43. Abyss
45. Negative
47. Constituent
51. Silkworm
53. Rave
55. Region
56. Fragment
57. "---- upon a time"
58. Unit of weight
59. Lad
60. Row
61. Ancient Italian family

DOWN
1. Renown
2. Winglike
3. Girl's name
4. Communication
5. Fun
6. Tip over
7. Southern constellation
8. Dale
9. Relating to rural life
10. Epoch
11. Degraded
19. Show to a seat
21. Word of choice
23. Chafe
25. Speck of dust
26. Pitcher
27. Halt
28. Excited
29. Politeness
31. Laconic
34. Pouch
36. Ransack
39. From there
42. Perform
44. Change
46. Jog
48. Sins
49. Orderly
50. Domesticated
51. Flow back
52. River: Spanish
54. Keel-billed cuckoo



Solution of Saturday's Puzzle

SELAH APA AND
EDILE SAD NAY
AESIR PROMISE
SCOTIA ATAR
ALOE ORDINALS
DIM KNEELS
STEIN LEAST
RIFLES DUE
DONATION EDNA
APED NODULE
REVERES SANTA
IRE ORE EIDER
CAR DYS SNARE

ROOM & BOARD By Gene Ahern