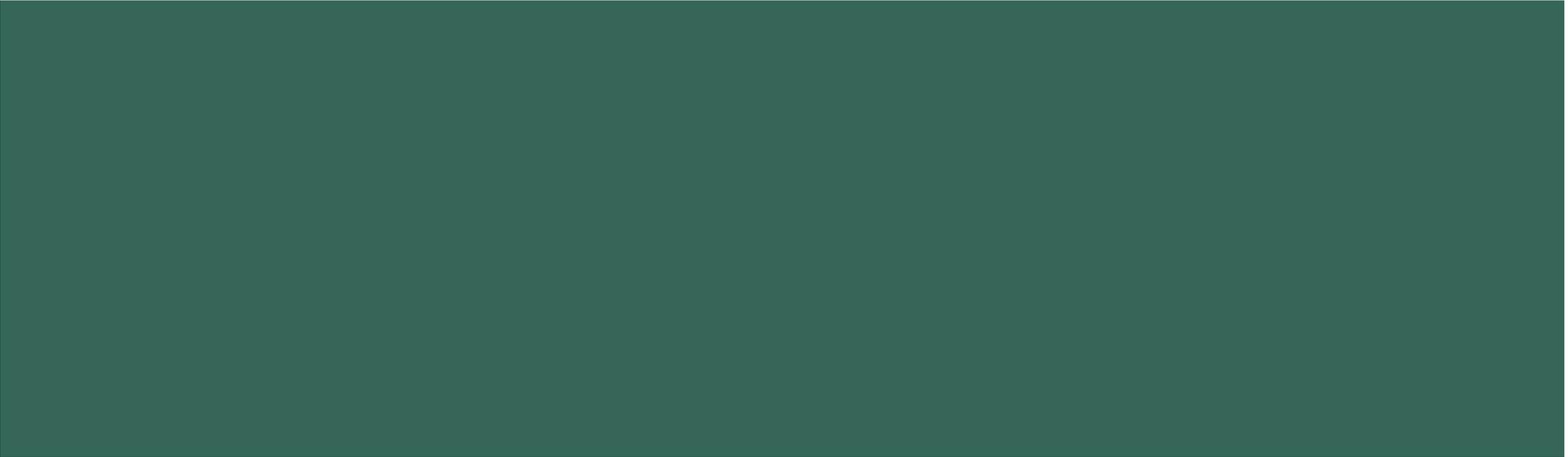




SWEETNESS CHECK I



CHARACTERS

■ **Flavia de Luce:**

- eleven-years old
- third and youngest daughter of Colonel de Luce
- an aspiring chemist
- have a particular passion in poison
- likes to ride bike named Gladys

■ **Ophelia de Luce:**

- oldest daughter of the Colonel, seventeen-years old
- likes Ned Cropper, a jack-of-all-trades
- likes to admire her reflection in silverware
- the only daughter to call Harriet "Mummy"
- a very good pianist

CHARACTERS

■ **Daphne de Luce:**

- Second daughter of the Colonel, thirteen-years old
- a fanatic reader
- wants to be a writer
- hardly been seen doing anything besides reading

■ **Colonel Laurence (Jacko) de Luce:**

- head of the house
- a philatelist
- went to Greyminster school
- former amateur illusionist
- does not like telephones
- likes to have some alone time in the coach house sitting in Harriet's (deceased wife) Rolls Royce

CHARACTERS

- **Arthur Wellesley Dogger:**

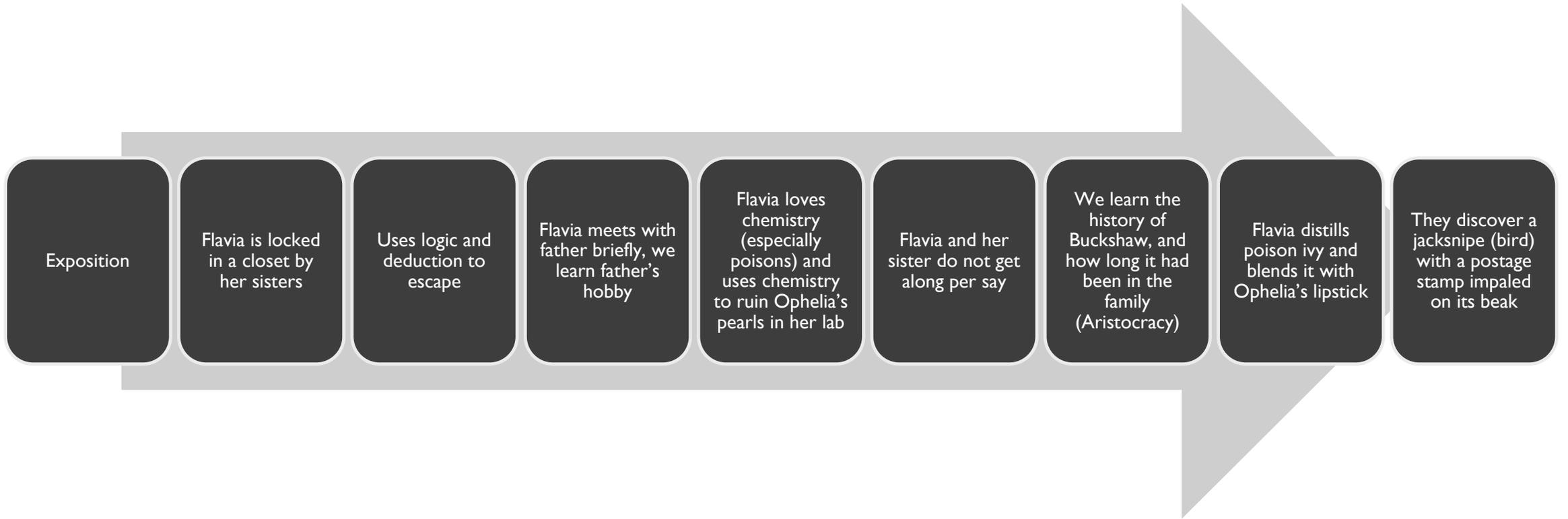
- Colonel de Luce's factotum (an employee who does a wide range of tasks)
- survived for two years in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp, followed by thirteen more months of torture, starvation, malnutrition, and forced labor on the Death Railway between Thailand and Burma
- suffers frequent bouts of memory loss and hallucinations due to posttraumatic stress disorder
- have little "fits" and "spasms"
- fiercely loyal to the Colonel

- **Mrs. Mullet:**

- housekeeper and cook for the de Luce family
- believes in the magical properties of eucalyptus leaves
- makes a custard pies that the De Luces hate

- **Inspector Hewitt:**

- the Inspector chasing after the case of the dead man in the de Luce's cucumber patch



CHAPTER I KEY POINTS

Father took the stamp and placed it in his pocket

We meet Dogger, who is having a spell of shell shock (ptsd), Flavia calms him down

Flavia overhears and argument between Father, and an unknown man with red hair

Father and the man claim responsibility for the death of "Old Cuppa" Twining.

Dogger muffles Flavia and tells her to leave

On her way out to fix the wheelbarrow Dogger overturned the day before during his "spell" she notices that someone took a slice of Miss Mullet's custard pie...All of the De Luces despise her custard pie.

Flavia discovers a dying man in the cucumber patch, he whispers the word "Valle" as he dies.

CHAPTER 2

Flavia engages Dogger to help her, she is surprised when Dogger knows how to check for a pulse, they call the police

Inspector Hewitt and two other officers arrive. Once they start investigating, Hewitt sends Flavia off to “organize some tea”, which infuriates her

After talking with her sisters for a bit, Flavia retires to her “sanctum sanctorum” (lab), and looks up the word “Valle” which means “Farewell”

Dr. Darby, the coroner, comes, determines time of death.

Dogger covers for Father’s absence to this point

Hewitt wants to talk to Flavia

CHAPTER 3

CHAPTER 4

Flavia discusses Dogger with Hewitt, and we find that the only car is an old Rolls Royce that used to belong to Harriett.

Flavia admits she was the first to find the body, but she isn't sure if she should tell the truth

Father is found in the coach house, is informed about the body Miss Mullet tells Hewitt about the bird

At the mention of the "penny black stamp" father faints, the doctor is called for

Flavia uses this as a way to escape, and head into town to figure out who Twinning is.

Flavia gives background information on the Bishops Lacey library

She finds the Library closed when it should be open. Flavia decides to go to the librarian's house to get her to open it.

On her way to Miss Pickery's, she overhears conversation between Ned Cropper (Ophelia's crush) and Mary Stoker. They discuss something bad that a guest had done.

Miss Pickery is gone on family business, and the library is being tended by Miss Mountjoy

Flavia convinces her to let her look at the newspaper stacks from 1920 (when her father attended school)

Flavia finds that Twinning had "plummeted to his death". She asks Miss Mountjoy about it and turns out Twinning was her uncle

CHAPTER 5

CHAPTER 6

Flavia and Miss Mountjoy discuss Twinning

Twinning was a Latin teacher, and a philatelist who specialized in the "penny black"

Mountjoy claims that his downfall came because of some boys and how they destroyed his prized stamp

Mountjoy accuses the boys of murder

Mountjoy only remembers one boys name, and Flavia guesses it is "Jacko" the name the stranger had called her father

Hewitt discusses finding the body with Flavia, he hints that Dogger may be a suspect

Flavia Learns from Miss Mullet that jacksnipes live in Norway this time of year... Where the police determined the dead man came from.

Flavia realizes she must get to town before Miss Mullet, once Miss Mullet his town the rumor mill will start

Flavia talks with Ned, she offers to be a go between for him and Ophelia. Ned denies leaving the jacksnipe (which Ophelia had thought)

Mary Tells Ned to give Flavia all the information about the man who “had crept up behind her” in his room, but Ned doesn't

Flavia befriends Mary, despite Mary's initial distaste for Flavia, while they are heading to the man's room

Flavia tells Mary that if a stranger shows up dead, chances are he is staying at the inn, Mary tells Flavia the mans name is Mr. Sanders

While rummaging through Mr. Sander's things Flavia discovers he is a diabetic

Flavia guesses Mr. Sander has red hair... Just like the man from the house who is now dead

CHAPTER 7

