

Chapter 60

In Chapter 60 of "We Solve Murders," the narrative centers around Tony Taylor, who reflects on the last time he had a date—around 1987 during the Thatcher era. Despite his long absence from the dating scene, he enjoyed a pleasant evening with Felicity, who engaged in light conversation about television and famous actors while Tony discussed his Ford Sierra Cosworth and local parking issues. Their date at The Pig in Brockenhurst was lovely, matching the restaurant's high prices.

After dining, Tony and Felicity strolled through the gardens, culminating in a kiss beneath a sycamore tree. Felicity planned to stay at Steve's empty house for the night, and Tony had arranged to take her on a picturesque tour of the New Forest the next day, planning stops at Lymington, Beaulieu, and Buckler's Hard, even contemplating getting fudge.

At a local pub named The Brass Monkey, Tony stepped away momentarily to use the restroom and upon his return, he found Felicity animatedly conversing with friends John and Jyoti. He overheard them discussing a recent murder, details Tony was reluctant to share with Felicity on their first date. Despite an uneasy feeling, he didn't want to seem out of touch and attempted to divert the conversation towards the beauty of the area rather than dark tales of crime.

As they sipped their drinks, laughter flowed. Felicity's easy-going nature pleasantly surprised Tony, who felt a budding connection with her. However, as the group discussed a mysterious woman in prison, Tony maintained a façade of confusion, not wanting to complicate matters.

Eventually, he decided to walk Felicity home, the atmosphere comfortable and warm. Felicity expressed interest in returning after having enjoyed the evening and making a good impression on Tony's friends. At Steve's cottage, Felicity invited Tony in for coffee, prompting him to agree despite his usual aversion to it. As they entered the house, Tony was startled by a sudden noise, revealing only Steve's black cat, Trouble.

This chapter captures a pivotal moment in Tony's life—his tentative steps back into romance, mingling with hints of local intrigue and murder that loom in the background, setting the tone for both comedic and suspenseful elements as relationships develop.