Chapter 74

In Chapter 74 of "We Solve Murders," Amy and Steve find themselves outside The Brass Monkey, a pub adorned with flowers that contrasts the relaxed summer atmosphere filled with chatter and laughter. As they wait, they engage in light banter regarding their feelings about returning and the idea of participating in a pub quiz that night. Amy appreciates the normal conversations they have about life in New Forest, although she prefers observing it from a distance rather than living it herself.

Soon, Rosie joins them carrying an overnight bag and expresses her satisfaction with The Pig, aside from the unsettling presence of a hitman, Eddie, who's still pursuing her. This leads Rosie to voice her concerns about Vasiliy Karpin, another potential threat. The group hints at tensions and unresolved matters as they discuss their safety, bringing their focus back to the quiz awaiting them inside.

As they enter The Brass Monkey, they are greeted by a lively crowd ready for the weekly quiz night. Among the familiar faces, Amy spots Jyoti and John at a table, but she is caught completely off guard when Martin, who is actually Jeff Nolan, reveals himself. Jeff's supposed demise was a ruse to escape François Loubet, who was trying to kill him. He maintains that to lay low, he chose to hide at Steve's house before making a surprising appearance at the quiz.

The atmosphere shifts as they probe into how deep the trouble goes. Jeff explains that both he and Amy are in danger from Loubet, who has ties that complicate their situation even further, hinting that Henk—part of their team—is involved as well. A playful battle of knowledge about a soap opera star ensues between Henk and Jeff, culminating in Amy exasperatedly providing the correct answer.

Throughout their encounter, camaraderie and suspense intertwine as they navigate the complexities of their relationships and threats encroaching upon them, all while attempting to enjoy what should be a simple pub quiz. As they move forward, Amy wonders if they will ever fully unravel the layers of danger surrounding them amidst the quizzical atmosphere .