

Chapter 96

In Chapter 96 of "We Solve Murders," a tense conversation unfolds between Steve and Mickey in a pub. Steve directly accuses Mickey of being François Loubet, a notorious money-smuggler, noting the absurdity of Mickey's claim to be just a scrap-metal dealer. Mickey laughs off the accusation and implies he has eluded any incriminating evidence for years. Their exchange hints at a deeper, darker past, with Steve probing Mickey about the recent murder of Rob Kenna, suggesting Mickey might be involved.

As they reminisce, Mickey recounts his childhood thefts of milk, showcasing both a sense of nostalgia and a complex relationship with the law. Despite his criminal past, he claims he has never been arrested beyond a minor caution. Their conversation continues to oscillate between light banter and darker implications, with Steve pushing Mickey to reveal his true self amidst the veil of lies he typically presents.

Steve makes a bold claim about the connections between their families, touching on the influence of Mickey's grandmothers, Lou and Bet. While Mickey initially dismisses Steve's inquiries, he becomes increasingly riled when Steve presses on about the implications of his actions, particularly regarding family loyalty and violence. Mickey insists that his endeavors are merely "business" despite the chilling undertones of the word.

As the discussion spirals deeper into the morality of their actions, Steve outlines the evidence he has against Mickey, hinting at video proof of a connection to Kenna's murder—an accusation Mickey vehemently denies, questioning the feasibility of surveillance and proclamation of innocence. Ultimately, the chapter culminates in a cryptic question about Mickey's doorbell, leaving readers in suspense about Steve's intentions, as it could reveal a pivotal clue tying Mickey to the crime. The nuanced back-and-forth encapsulates a fierce exploration of guilt, family, and the lengths to which individuals will go to protect their secrets.