

# Chapter 79

Chapter 79 of *We Solve Murders* delves into the restless minds of various characters, each dealing with insomnia for different reasons, which leads to reflections on their personal struggles and the upcoming events. Steve Wheeler lies awake in bed, unable to sleep because his cat, Trouble, insists on lying across his chest. The cat's presence is a small comfort after being away, but Steve's mind is preoccupied with the ongoing investigation. He connects Max Highfield to Felicity Woollaston, recognizing the potential danger in their ties, especially with his upcoming trip to Dubai. While Steve is accompanied by Rosie for the journey, Jeff stays behind, fearful of being discovered. This contrast between Steve's need for comfort and his anxiety about the investigation paints a vivid picture of the emotional weight he carries as he prepares for what's to come.

Meanwhile, Rosie D'Antonio struggles with her own inner conflict as she lies awake in Steve's spare room. She anxiously waits for Jeff's knock, knowing they share a mutual attraction, yet grappling with the boundaries she has set for herself. Her thoughts drift to past relationships and a conversation with her therapist, who had pointed out her lack of boundaries, which now fills Rosie with doubt about pursuing anything further. The uncertainty of whether to act on her feelings for Jeff or maintain her distance adds complexity to her character, as she navigates the desire for connection while protecting herself emotionally. Her internal turmoil underscores her need for reassurance and stability in the midst of her complicated feelings, especially as she contemplates what her actions might mean in the long run.

Elsewhere, Jeff Nolan struggles with his own insecurities as he lies on the sofa, unable to find comfort. His mind races as he reflects on his relationship with Steve and the tensions between them, considering returning to London and warning François Loubet about their knowledge of Max Highfield. He debates sending an email but ultimately

questions its usefulness, feeling uncertain about his ability to make a meaningful impact. Jeff's jealousy toward Trouble's bond with Steve surfaces, revealing his complex emotions and vulnerability. This small but significant moment highlights the deep-seated feelings he has, not only toward Steve but also regarding his role in the investigation. It adds an emotional layer to Jeff's character, showing the challenges he faces in balancing his personal feelings with the professional pressures he is under.

As the night stretches on, Henk van Veen lies awake, lost in his own thoughts, reflecting on his family and the issues of trust that have surfaced with Jeff. These concerns continue to weigh heavily on him, adding to his mental strain as he lies in bed. Bonnie Gregor also finds herself awake, thinking about the logistics of packing her bags and the notion of safety and autonomy in the decisions she's making. Meanwhile, Eddie Flood struggles with sleep deprivation, obsessively checking his alarm settings as he prepares for the next day. His compulsive behavior reveals his deep-seated anxieties about the upcoming challenges, highlighting his need for control in an uncertain world.

In contrast, across the globe in Dubai, Max Highfield is indulging in a hedonistic night out, surrounded by influential figures who affirm his place in the world of power and influence. He relishes the vices that come with his newfound status, embracing the risky lifestyle that now defines him. The chapter contrasts Max's excessive, carefree attitude with the tense and anxious moments experienced by the other characters, emphasizing the stark differences in their current situations. At the same time, Amy Wheeler enjoys a peaceful sleep, confident in the knowledge that her safety rests in the hands of her trusted allies. As the night unfolds, each character faces their own set of challenges, anxieties, and uncertainties, setting the stage for the complicated events that are bound to occur in the near future. The chapter beautifully intertwines their lives, showcasing the fragile nature of their emotional states as the uncertainty of tomorrow looms large over them.