



mini crimes

—— Like Cat and Mouse ——

Solution

1. Who broke the bowl?

A **thief**, to protect himself from Gandalf's attack.

2. What was the exact succession of events?

While Peter was away, a **thief broke into his house** by forcing the window, unaware of the presence of Gandalf, who was fast asleep as usual in another room. As the burglar was preparing to break into the safe, **a little bird came in** and caught Tora's attention. **The cat then climbed up the curtain and jumped on the bird on top of the bookcase.** Tora failed to catch it but **caused the vases to fall on the floor.**

This sudden loud noise **woke Gandalf** who, entering the room, attacked the intruder and began chasing him. When the thief found himself cornered, he overturned the table and **hurled the goldfish bowl at Gandalf**, then took refuge behind the nearest door. But he did not realise that it was a closet and got imprisoned there.

3. How many living beings are there in the house, excluding the investigators?

There are **5 living beings** in the house besides you and Peter: Gandalf, Tora, the bunny in the cage, the thief in the closet, and the frightened little bird hiding behind the top vase on the shelf on the right.

The whole story

While Peter was away, a burglar broke into his house, forcing in the window and climbing over the windowsill, as the bent flowers point out. He then went straight to the safe: he certainly knew of its presence in some way (after all, Peter said it was already there when he bought the house), but he was unaware of the presence of Gandalf, sleeping in his kennel in another room. He moved the cabinet with the fishbowl from the corner where it was to better work on the safe and access the power socket... but he didn't even have time to plug in the drill.

In fact, unfortunately, as he was getting ready to break into the safe, a little bird came in and, fluttering around, caught Tora's attention. It perched on top of the bookcase to the right, and the cat's hunter's instincts prevailed: the cat climbed up the curtain and jumped on top of the furniture, knocking over several vases that, crashing to the ground, woke Gandalf.

The bird, however, managed to save itself by flying to the other side of the room, behind one of the vases on the top right shelf, where it still is now, terrified by Tora's aggression and Gandalf's arrival.

When Gandalf entered the living room and saw the intruder, he began to chase him around the room, contributing to the current confusion and even knocking over the bunny's cage and the first-place cup he had won shortly before at a dog competition, which is currently lying on the floor by the side of the sofa. Eventually, he cornered the thief, who found himself caught between Gandalf and the wall of the safe. The thief forcefully launched the small table towards Gandalf, thereby hurling goldfish bowl at him. Taking advantage of the moment, the thief slipped behind the first door he saw: but he did not realise it was a closet and was imprisoned there. Gandalf scratched the door and barked for a while, then stood guard in front of it until his master returned.

Trivia

The fact that some dog breeds are heavy sleepers, particularly certain large dogs, is a real fact. In the past in southern Italy it was customary to keep a Pomeranian foxhound, a small and very alert dog, in the garden, paired with a Corsican dog, a typical Molossian popular as a guard dog. The foxhound's job was to act as a "bell dog" in case of intruders, to wake up its sleeper but decidedly more threatening companion.

Credits

GateOnGames Editions

www.gateongames.com – edizioni@gateongames.com

Game Design: Remo Conzadori, Christian Giove

Illustrations: Stefano Tartarotti

Development manager: Christian Giove

Supervision: Mario Cortese

Graphic design: Margherita Cagnola

Revision: Francesca Gherardi, Zachary Smith

Translation: Silvia Salis

Additional resources: we thank Freepik for their fantastic DB of icons!

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