

Deadly Harvest

Carolyn Walker

Before reading

1. Look at the front cover and the back cover blurb. What sort of story do you think this will be?
2. Look at the contents on page 3. What do you think might happen in the story?
3. Look at the list of characters on page 4. What sort of crime do you think the police will investigate?
4. If you have the cassette, listen to Chapter 1.

Check your reading

PROLOGUE

1. What do you think the woman has discovered when she says: 'I know what's going on'?

CHAPTER 1

1. Put the events in the right order.
 - a Jane realised she might be late for work.
 - b Jane regretted leaving her boyfriend, Alan.
 - c Jane remembered her ex-boss's advice.
 - d Jane's car had been broken into.

CHAPTER 2

1. Who said what?
 - a 'Have you never seen a DCI wearing a skirt before?'
 - b 'We need more bright women at the top in the police force ...'
 - c 'People are used to the way things are and they don't like change ...'
 - d 'If you can get Pete Fish on your side, you won't have any trouble.'

CHAPTER 3

1. True or false?
 - a Jane regretted moving into her new flat.
 - b Jane made some immediate changes in her department.
 - c Pete Fish tried to annoy her.
 - d Jane thought that zero tolerance policing was a good idea.

CHAPTER 4

1. Match the beginnings and endings.

1 At the farm, the scene-of-crime officers	a who was Mervin Peck's farmhand.
2 The murder victim was a local woman	b were already looking for vital clues.
3 The body was in the back of a pick-up truck	c with an ugly-looking wound to the head.
4 The body was found by Brian Millman,	d under a rubber sheet and a beehive.

CHAPTER 5

1. Look at the words in italics. Who do *he*, *you* etc. refer to?
 - a 'It's a while since any of us have had to do this, you know,' *he* said defensively.
 - b 'No. I haven't got an alibi, if that's what *you* mean.'
 - c But then *he* must have realised he was a suspect.
 - d 'Those bloody bees of *his* are dangerous.'

CHAPTER 6

1. Complete the summary.

The postmortem confirmed that the cause of Rose Carter's death was a to the head with a instrument but there hadn't been any attack. They also found an bite on her hand and under her fingernails. DI Fish learnt that Rose was having an affair with a man. Neighbours of Rose thought the man looked like Mervin's , Jack.

CHAPTER 7

1. Match Jane's questions with Jack Peck's answers.

1 'Do you mind me asking what you do?'	a 'Yes. It's a hobby of mine.'
2 'Do you keep bees at your brother's farm?'	b '... about once or twice a month, I suppose, at the moment.'
3 'How often do you visit Chittleham Farm?'	c 'I was at work. You can confirm that at the factory.'
4 'Would you mind telling me where you were yesterday afternoon?'	d 'Hunter Products. In the research department.'

CHAPTER 8

1. Match the beginnings and endings.

1 In Rose Carter's diary, Jane discovered	a Jane saw Jack Peck getting into a green MG at 17.10.
2 On the Thursday before Rose died	b that she may have visited local farms regularly.
3 The receptionist at Hunter Products confirmed that	c there was a diary entry: 'JP—3.00!!!'.
4 On the video of the car park for Monday afternoon	d Jack Peck hadn't left the building during the day on Monday.

CHAPTER 9

1. Put the events in the right order.
 - a Susan Peck admitted that she had seen Rose Carter on Monday.
 - b Susan Peck found out that Rose Carter had broken off the relationship with Jack.
 - c Elisa Scott phoned to tell Jane why Rose Carter had visited the farm.
 - d Susan Peck agreed to give a DNA sample.

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CHAPTER 10

1. Look at the words in italics. Who or what is *we*, *they*, *you* etc.?
 - a 'Sometimes I suppose *we're* a little aggressive.'
 - b '*You* have no right to be in here. Get out.'
 - c 'Don't move or *I'll* shoot.'
 - d '*I* need assistance urgently.'

CHAPTER 11

1. Complete the summary.

Mervin Peck heard a and found Rose Carter, who had discovered the sick He confessed to hitting Rose with an old and hadn't called the police because he had Peck was and had a terrible pain in his so Jane stopped the interview. Later, Pete told Jane that he was with how well she was doing and said he had been about her.

CHAPTER 12

1. True or false?
 - a Mervin Peck had been bitten by a sheep.
 - b Dr Fahid wasn't quite sure what was wrong with Mervin Peck.
 - c Jack Peck was allowed to see his brother.
 - d Jane spent the weekend cooking and decorating.

CHAPTER 13

1. Match the beginnings and endings.
 - 1 Early on Sunday, Pete called Jane
 - 2 The policewoman outside Peck's room
 - 3 Then someone had attacked the policewoman
 - 4 Dr Fahid had seen Peck the day before
 - 5 Peck's death was suspicious
 - a had been told there was a phone call.
 - b so Jane ordered a postmortem.
 - c and his condition was stable.
 - d to say that Mervin Peck had died.
 - e with a chemical that made her pass out.

CHAPTER 14

1. Who do you think had the strongest motive to kill Mervin Peck?
 - a Jack Peck?
 - b Susan Peck?
 - c Elisa Scott and PAW?
 - d Jo Keane?

CHAPTER 15

1. Put the events in the right order.
 - a Jane was attacked by a very angry bee.
 - b Jack Peck had organised payments to Mervin from Hunter Products.
 - c She noticed Mervin had £30,000 in the bank.
 - d Jane thought the motive for murder was not just revenge.
 - e At Chittleham Farm, Jane went through Mervin's papers.

CHAPTER 16

1. What is fact or possibility? Write F or P in the boxes.
 - a Jack tried to delete two of Rose's computer files.
 - b Jack and Rose had an argument before she died.
 - c Rose broke off the relationship with Jack.

- d Rose knew Hunter Products tested products on animals.
- e Rose knew the sheep at the farm were being used in an experiment.

CHAPTER 17

1. What do you think the 'Samson' project is?
2. What do you think is the true nature of the work at Hunter Products?

CHAPTER 18

1. Match the questions with the answers.
 - 1 'OK, but why kill him?'
 - 2 'Did Jo tell you to do it?'
 - 3 'What kind of business is it, Mr Peck, which means that two people, Rose and your brother, have to die?'
 - 4 'So, what was the Samson Project?'
 - a 'If you stood to make several million dollars, you'd do the same.'
 - b 'He was going to tell the authorities what had been going on at the farm.'
 - c 'We'd perfected a way of using bees to deliver stings that go gangrenous.'
 - d 'Nobody tells me what to do. We did it together.'

CHAPTER 19

1. True or false?
 - a M16 already knew about Hunter Products.
 - b The employees at Hunter Products knew they were making deadly viruses.
 - c Susan Peck told her husband that she would withdraw the alibi.
 - d Jack Peck realised it was a mistake to involve Rose in his work.

After reading

Choose some of these activities.

1. Do you think *Deadly Harvest* is a good title? Make up an alternative.
2. What is your opinion about using animals in scientific experiments?
3. Which character did you like best? Why?
4. Look at page 110. Write the conversation between Jane and Susan Peck.
5. Here is a newspaper headline: DOUBLE MURDER IN PILTON. Now write the article.
6. What do you think happens between Jane and Pete after the end of the story? Write an extra chapter.
7. Make your own activities for other students to do. e.g. Write some True/False questions.

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