



Who is Who?


My Top Secret Diary

By Birgit


3b.

Getting started: Grace's Funeral

Read the info to set the scene and discuss it in class:



EKATERINA



SEARCH

Ekaterina Archives

Alistair Oh's report on Grace Cahill's funeral

To: The Ekaterina Leadership

From: Alistair Oh

Re: Grace Cahill's funeral

August 21, 2008

I daresay Cousin Grace might have been playing one last joke on me when she invited me to the will reading. This is no game for old men. I nearly perished in the fire that erupted afterward. Really, our relatives are wasting no time eliminating the competition. That fire was no accident, or I'm not the inventor of the microwavable burrito!

As we all suspected, my crafty cousin had been hiding a great secret from us. She has arranged a competition to find the 39 Clues. At first I found this rather silly. After all, we Ekats have been hunting for the Clues for centuries. The competition has never ceased! However, I think there's more to this game than we can see. This is no wild goose chase. I suspect that Grace laid a path for us to follow. Is there a chance she actually located all 39 Clues before her death? How could she have kept such a secret? Our Lucian cousins aren't quite as all-knowing as they pretend to be.

I will try my best to stay close to Amy and Dan. I'm quite sure Grace had been feeding them secrets over the years. They did spend every weekend with her. However, the other teams seem to be using a different strategy. Instead of allying themselves with the Cahill children, they are trying to kill them. I wonder why Grace was so eager to include her grandchildren. They have no training. No experience. I fear this competition could end very badly for Amy and Dan. It would be a shame for them to lose their lives like that, especially after the tragic death of their parents.

Don't worry that I am going soft, though. I assure you that I am doing everything to guarantee that the Ekats emerge victorious. I "borrowed" a very helpful book that Amy discovered in Grace's library. I fear the Lucians will have the advantage finding this Clue, but I'm close. Off to Paris tomorrow...

2. Starting to read:

Find the students who have received the same book and start to read. (30min)

3. Who is who? Character Profiles

Find further instructions in the back of this booklet

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Amy

2/11/11

I'm going to put a picture in

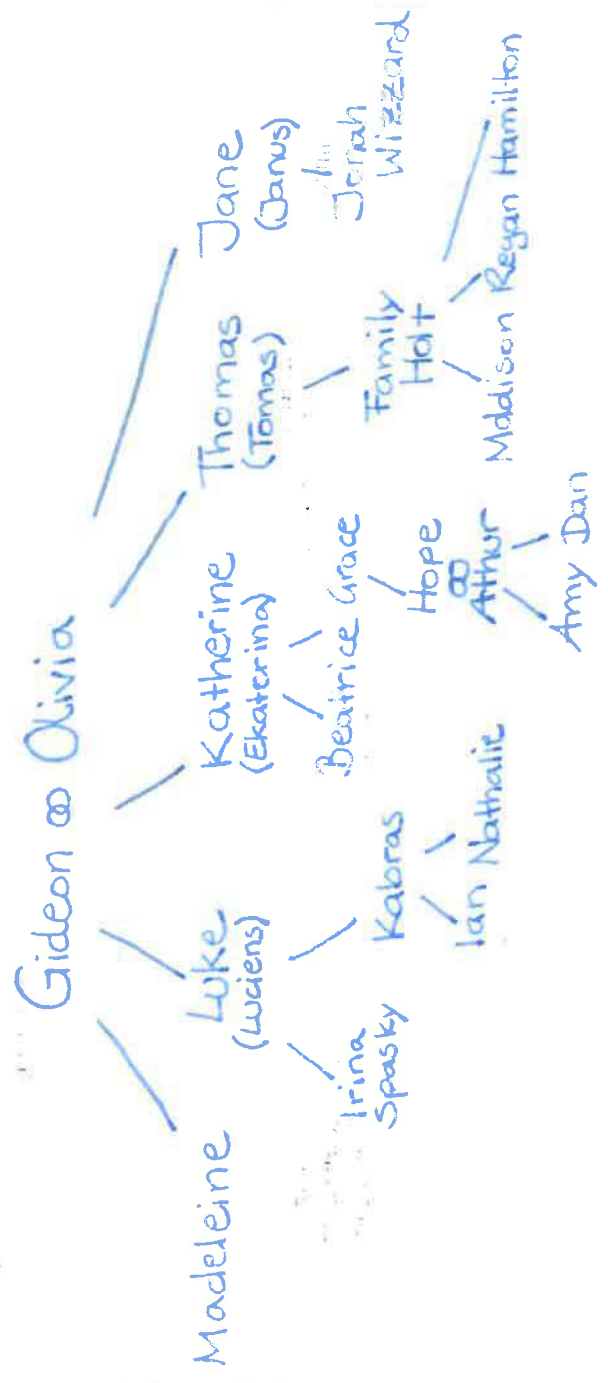
She is a fourteen year old girl with reddish-brown hair and green eyes, like jade. She hates crowds, computers and gets extremely nervous, if people talk to her. She can't help it, if Amy tries to get something out of her mouth, she is just able to stutter. Maybe Amy is not as brave as she wants to be, but she is really clever and remembers everything she has ever read. The Library is her world, there she isn't nervous at all. She wants to become a historian one day. Amy can remember biographies of important historical persons but can't memorize numbers unlike Dan - her little brother. Amy is really sad, when her grandmother - Grace Cahill - dies. She was really close to her. One of the reasons, Amy wants to get as many clues as possible is, that she wants to make her grandmother proud.

Dan

I'm going to put a picture in

He is eleven years old and has green eyes, just like Amy and dark blond hair. He doesn't have any problems, saying what he thinks. Collecting things, is his passion, especially rubbings of tomb stones and baseball cards. Sometimes Dan also sells parts of his collection to earn some money, because aunt Beatrice isn't a generous person. She looks after the siblings, since their parents have died. Especially Dan has had a very hard time since this horrible day of his parents death. He misses them so much. Dan always carries a photo of his mum - Hope and his father - Arthur with him, so that they would be with him no matter where he goes. Dan is the math genius, he can memorize numbers easily. He hates books and loves adventures.

Family Tree



The Ekaterina branch was founded by Katherine Cahill. She moved to an unknown far off land: Egypt. She was fascinated by the country and became an Egyptologist. Their mascot is the dragon. It should represent the Ekaterinas (short Ekats) intelligence, creativeness and inventiveness. On their coat of arms you find a white dragon on a yellow, orange background. Members of the Ekaterina branch have been the greatest inventors. Here are a few examples of very famous and clever people: Marie Curie, Albert Einstein, Galileo Galilei, Abraham Lincoln.

Ekaterina

Lucien

Luke Cahill was the founder of the Lucien branch. Their mascot is the snake as you can see in their coat of arms. There, two white snakes are wrapped around a white sword, with a blood red background. The Luciens are known for leadership skills and endless wealth. They prefer poison instead of weapons. They are really talented in making strategies and traps. Here are a few well known personality who belonged to the Lucien branch: Benjamin Franklin, Napoleon Bonaparte.

Dear Diary

Finally I have made it out of the first day alive. So many things happened at the same time, it still takes me a while to process all this. Was it the right choice to enter the competition? Maybe the others were right, we are just kids. What can we do against someone so shrewd like Irina Spasky? Or the Kabras with their tons of money and their private jets? What if Dan would get hurt during this clue-hunt? Could I stand it to lose the last member of my real family? First Mom and Dad - god how I miss them! I wished they would be still with us. Grace left us alone, as well. Her death was another hard punch, because I finally had the feeling again of having someone who supports you, who makes you feel at home. And if something would happen to Dan... no I don't even want to think about that! I can't!

We've accepted the competition, now we have to give our best to get out of it alive and successfully! Actually Dan and I have been always the first ones at the hints to the first clue. First the book... but then Alister Oh stole it from us. I don't know what I should think now. Is there even one person, we could trust? Then this trap with the letter, the hint to the Benjamin Franklin museum, where the Starlings wanted to steal our information. The bomb... behind every corner someone is waiting for us, wants us to fail, wants to kill us, wants to betray us. We can't trust anyone. We have to do this by our own, for Grace for Mom and for Dad. To make them proud.

Yours Amy

Dear Diary

When I've heard about that whole clue-treasure-hunt, I thought it will be the greatest adventure ever. Far more exciting than my ninja comics. And it is indeed. But what I've never thought, when I was seeing those adventure movies on TV, was that you could REALLY die. Movies and comics and comics are so obvious. The good guys win over the bad guys, gets the girl and the treasure. But in real life... All the time, someone wants to get rid of you, wants to kill you. Behind every corner someone pretends to be your friend, and in the next moment he betrays you. Like Alister Oh. First I really thought, that we could trust him. That was a mistake. Since Amy and I have started this competition, we've faced the death plenty of times. The fire in Grace's library, the bomb in the museum and then the almost-crash at the underground station. That was the worst, because I knew that the underground was coming, but I couldn't go without my backpack, with the photo of my parents inside. It's the last thing I own from them, the last and only memory. I miss Mom and Dad so much. I miss the feeling of having someone that I can trust unconditionally. If I was hurt, even if there were just a few scratches. Who was there for me? Mom. If I didn't know what to do, who gave me always an wise advice? Dad. I wished they could see what I was doing right now. Would see how much I tried to be brave. Would see how much I love them. Would see how I tried to solve all these mysteries, so that they would be proud of me.

Yours Dan

Nelly

She is a student from Spain. So she must be approximately 22 years old. Nelly is Amy's and Dan's au pair. She has a normal height and half black, half blond hair. She also has a nose piercing. She is not really strict. Dan always says: "Three words work for Nelly: guys, food and money". I think she's not as boring and as irascible as their great aunt Beatrice. But what I don't think is, that she is so shallow as she gets described sometimes. She just wants the best for her "kiddoz".

In the clue hunt Nelly helps them as much as she can, even if she has to risk her life for them. She wants to protect them and loves them really much, I think.

Nelly is really clever as well. That comes out during the hunt for the first clue. She is able to speak French, English and Spanish.

Dear Diary

I have mixed feelings about all this "get-the-clues-adventure". Mainly I have agreed to come with the kiddoz, because I have noticed how important that stuff is for the two. They have already lost so much. First their parents, then their grandmother. They had to be with their absolutely horrible great aunt Beatrice. Since I have met the Canill siblings they have been dear to my heart. Amy is so shy around other people, that her high intelligence keeps hidden. She is so clever. I don't know anybody in her age who knows so much about history, literature, politics and sciences. She is amazing! I help her as much as I can, so that she isn't left alone with the responsibility over Dan. Dan is one of the cutest boys I have ever seen. On one hand, he is still a bit childish and collects coins, baseball cards and rubbings of tomb stones (!), and on the other hand he is so serious and ambitious. Dan is a math genius! He can remember number like as if it was the day of the week. He calculates mathematical problems (which I'm not able to solve by the way) within minutes or seconds! Dan is so loyal to his sister. He would never let anything happen to her. Although he sometimes acts like his sister is a freaky readerholic, he is so proud of her. But anyway, my two kiddoz are amazing. They'll become something great one day.

Yours Nelly

Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was born on the 17th of January in 1706, in Boston. Before he started his political career, he worked as an apprentice in his fathers' candle making shop. He was a member in the Continental Congress which led the country during the Revolutionary War and was one of few, who wrote the United States Declaration of Independence. At that time he was the ambassador to France. Benjamin Franklin was the 6th president of Pennsylvania. He had three children called William Franklin, Francis Folger-Franklin and Sarah Franklin Bache. He was a very talented man in many aspects. He was a scientist, a writer and a politician. His face was perpetuated on hundred dollar bill since 1928. He was also on fifty cent coins, but just for a short time. His greatest knowledge in science was the theory of electricity. His greatest publication is "Poor Richard's Almanac". He led an exciting and successful life. He died on the 17th of April in 1790.



3. Who is who? Character Profiles

Computer-room or homework: Go to the [Cahill's Web](#) (link on Moodle) and click on BOOKS. Choose your book and find out about the main characters in your book.

Start your "Who is Who?: Character Profiles". Keep adding to your profiles as you find out more about the characters in the course of the project.



For your character profiles you will need one page per character. Organize your pages clearly so you can easily find and add information and facts to the characters. Use one full page per person.

Name	Branch
Picture (print or draw)	
Facts: (age, profession, achievements...)	Personality: (describe the person in detail, collect lots of fitting adjectives and other little details from the book)
	...

4. The Clue Hunters' Travel Diary and Scrapbook



Slip into the minds of either Dan or Amy and write a diary entry at each place that they have visited. In your diary describe the places you have visited and what happened there. Make sure you include your/their thoughts and feelings, worries, hopes... Diaries are usually full of such reflections. Add fitting materials as if this was a travel

scrapbook: Pictures, maps, tickets, personal notes, drawings...

5. Optional:

Read as many books as possible and collect the clues. Play the online game and win... or write short entries for each book into your reading diary to get credit for your reading.

Dear Amy, Dear Dan!

By the time you will get this letter, I won't be here with you anymore. And I'm also aware of the fact that you have already seen the video I made to start the clue hunt. The worst thing I could think of, is that you two might feel betrayed of me, because I've never told you anything about all this. But I thought, and still do, that that is the only way of protecting you. As you might have seen, everyone wants to win, no matter what. And even if the only way of getting the price means that they have to get their relatives out of the way. Please be careful! Don't trust anyone, except for Mr. Intyre. Your parents left their lives for that mission. Be also aware of the fact that this all is much more than a competition! The aim of all these riddles leads to the greatest knowledge about the Cahill and the world. If the riddle gets solved, nothing will be like it was before. My

dear Amy: Go your way, no matter what. Stay how you are: curious, polite, erudite and the most loving sister, I've ever met. If you stick to what you love and believe, you will be successful! I love you so much, take good care about Dan. Dan - my little rascal! Don't loose your love to adventures, even if it seems that there's no more outcome. Every system has its gabs, you will be the one to find them. Don't be shy about saying out loud what you think, the world needs these people. Never loose hope. You are not alone, because I will be watching over you, together with your parents. I love you so much and I'm so proud of you.

In Love your
grandmother
Grace