

The Silent World of Nicholas Quinn by Colin Dexter**1**

The Syndics meet six times each year to discuss the Syndicate's examinations policy. But their work for the Syndicate is only a small part of their lives. They have important jobs in colleges of Oxford University. The graduates on the Syndicate's permanent staff work for the Syndicate all the time. They have no other jobs.

2

Because Nicholas Quinn can lip-read. He watches the Sheikh's lips and he can understand what the Sheikh is saying.

3

Roope has told the ticket collector that he travelled from London in a first-class compartment of the train, although he had a second-class ticket. He has offered to pay extra money – the difference in cost. If he had not told the ticket collector about it, the man would not have known about Roope's first-class journey. By offering to pay the extra, Roope is showing that he is honest.

4

- 1 They find Quinn's body, a sherry bottle and a glass. The bottle is almost full and the glass is almost empty. They also find a note in a waste-paper basket. It is a note to Quinn from Mrs Evans, his cleaner.
- 2 *Student's own answer. The student might guess that Morse wants to know when Quinn had bought the things in the fridge. If he has a list of these things, he could ask people in the nearby shops whether they remember Quinn buying them. He could also try to find out whether the food which was not in the fridge was really bought by Quinn. The student might guess that if the same kinds of food are in the fridge and on the table, then Morse will wonder whether the food on the table was put there by someone other than Quinn. The student might also guess that Morse thinks that Quinn did not kill himself but was probably murdered.*

5

She did not finish the cleaning on her first visit because she had to leave after one hour. She had to get some medicine for her husband, who was ill. She got the medicine, went home, and made some tea for her husband. Then she had to make a second visit to Quinn's flat to finish the cleaning there.

6

He wants to find out if Sally saw the film too. He wants to know whether she was at home watching TV, on the afternoon of the Friday when Quinn was last seen alive. If she was at home, her mother and Donald Martin have been lying about where they were.

7

He was like an actor, because, when Morse asked him questions, he did not stop to think about his answers before he gave them. Morse thought that he had

already learnt these answers, and was repeating them in the way an actor in a play repeats words he has already learnt.

8

Because Peters has told him that Quinn did write the note which Mrs Evans found. Morse thinks that Quinn must have written this note between Mrs Evans's first and second visits to his flat. Then he must have gone out, and returned to the flat after six forty-five, when Mrs Evans left the flat for the second time.

9

He wants to find out whether Richard could have killed Philip Ogleby.

10

He wants to check that Christopher Roope was telling the truth about his movements on the Friday of Quinn's death. He wants to speak to the taxi driver who took Roope from the station to the Syndicate building on that afternoon.

11

- (a) He thinks that someone changed the beginning of a note which Quinn left for his secretary, Margaret Freeman. He thinks that someone changed this note so that people would think that it was a note to Mrs Evans. He thinks that someone changed Margaret's initials, 'M.F.' to 'Mrs E'.
- (b) By changing the note so that people would think that Quinn wrote it at home in the late afternoon, he could make the police believe that Quinn died at home and that he died in the evening.

12

Student's own answer.

13

The student should mention at least some of the following: Morse has decided that Quinn had told Ogleby that Dr Bartlett was dishonest after the dinner with the Sheikh and his ministers. Quinn had read the name 'Dr Bartlett' on the Sheikh's lips at the dinner. Because Quinn was a good lip-reader, Morse has believed that Bartlett must be dishonest. This was one of Morse's mistakes. In fact, Quinn had been wrong. The two names 'Dr Bartlett' and 'Donald Martin', look the same to a lip-reader, even to good one. It was Donald Martin that the Sheikh was talking about. Morse has also misunderstood the facts about the cinema ticket which was found in Quinn's pocket after his death. Ogleby had made a drawing of the cinema ticket – this was found after Ogleby's death. Morse has decided that he must have drawn the ticket when he saw it on Bartlett's desk during the afternoon of the day of Quinn's death. This is correct. But Morse has also decided that this means that Bartlett himself put it there. This was a another mistake. In fact, Donald Martin put it there. When Monica Height tells Morse that she did see Bartlett at

***The Silent World of Nicholas Quinn* by Colin Dexter**

the cinema on that Friday, Morse has added this fact to his belief about how the ticket came to be on Bartlett's desk. He has decided that Bartlett must have helped Roope to kill Quinn and that he went to the cinema just to get a ticket to put in Quinn's pocket. Morse did not think that there might be another reason why Bartlett went to the cinema and why he did not want to tell anyone this. That was another of Morse's mistakes. Bartlett went to the cinema because he was unhappy and he wanted to see a sexy film. He did not want his colleagues to know this. Finally, Morse has thought that Bartlett sold exam papers to Al-jamara because he needed more money than he earned. Morse thought that he needed to money to pay for his son's treatment. He did not know that Mrs Bartlett was a rich woman and that the Bartletts did not need more money. He has not tried to find out about Mrs Bartlett. This was also a mistake.