Lizzie Borden

You can use this outline as a guide for your notes—plug in information as you find it out to help you 1. Organize, and 2. See what more you need for your research and notes.

CHAT GPT

1. **Lizzie Borden Case** (July 19, 1860 – June 1, 1927) was an American woman who was tried and acquitted of the August 4, 1892 axe murders of her father and stepmother in <u>Fall River, Massachusetts</u>. No one else was charged in the murders, and, despite ostracism from other residents, Borden spent the remainder of her life in Fall River. She died of pneumonia at the age of 66, just days before the death of her older sister, Emma.

2. Victims: Parent

- a. Andrew Borden: Father
 - i. 69 y/o when murdered
 - ii. Wealthy businessman—made \$300,000 (\$10,146,890 in 2023).
 - 1. Owned mills, banks, real estate

iii.

- b. Abby Borden: Mother
 - i. Lizze called her "Mrs. Borden", believed she married Andrew for money
 - ii. 64 y/o when murdered
- c. Lifestyle
 - i. Lived in a modest home on neighborhood street rather than "the HIll" where wealthy typically lived
 - 1. Predominantly Irish immigrant neighborhood

3. Suspect: Lizzie Borden

- a. Daughter of a wealthy businessman who owned textile mills and many properties
- b. Wished to live with peers in wealthy area and away from catholic immigrant neighborhood
 - i. Looked down on immigrant neighbors
 - ii. And yet—Sunday school teacher for recent US immigrants
 - 1. Sunday school teacher Christian Endeavor Society, for which she served as secretary-treasurer
 - 2. Member of Christian Temperance Movement
- c. Siblings:
 - i. Older sister, Emma Lenora Borden (1851–1927
- d. Circumstances of crime
 - i. Lizzy was 32 at time of murder
 - ii. Abby believed to have gone upstairs at 9 am to make bed
 - 1. Believed that killer was waiting for her in guest room
 - 2. Struck with hatchet above ear and then received 17 more blows to the back of head
 - iii. Andrew believed to have come home at 10:30 am
 - 1. Maid Maggie Sullivan had to let him in bc door was jammed
 - 2. Lizzie supposedly laughed hysterically from upstairs (this testimony was important)
 - 3. If Lizzie were upstairs, she would have seen her step mother's body upon her father's arrival home
 - iv. Andrew found downstairs on the sofa, dead—with boots on

1. Maggie claimed she had put his slippers on (another inconsistency)

4. Setting

- a. Fall River, Massachusetts
- b. Murder occurred August 4, 1892
- c. Victorian era—women were assumed to be pure and innocent, another factor leading to her acquital

5. Witnesses/Friends/Family

- a. Pharmacist:
 - i. Day before murder, had tried to purchase deadly prussic acid at drugstore nearby
- b. Bridget/ Maggie Sullivan:
 - i. Maid: said that the sisters rarely ate w/ parents
- c. John Vinnicum Morse, Lizzie and Emma's maternal uncle,
 - i. Night before murders
 - 1. Discussed business matters with Andrew,
 - 2. Speculation that their conversation, particularly about property transfer, may have aggravated an already tense situation
 - ii. Family had been ill for days before murder
 - 1. Abby believed their dinner (mutton) had been poisoned because Andrew was unpopular in town

6. Suspect Apprehension or Conclusion of Case

a. How were the suspects caught? If not caught, how do investigators/family feel about this?

7. Case as of Today/Where are we now?

- a. Has new information come out or anything about this case changed?
- b. How did it affect our society? Were new laws made? Do people do things differently because of this occurrence?
 - i. C. Any books, films, etc. that came out about the case? Why?

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Amelia Earhart: Tragedy in the Sky

I. Introduction

Amelia Earhart was a spunky kid loved adventure from childhood--making soapboxes into planes and climbing trees with her sister "Pidge" (Johnson 22). Despite society's expectations, her mother never pushed them to be "nice little girls" and allowed them to be as curious and rough and tumble as they like (Cole). It was no surprise that by the time she was twenty-four years old she was at an airfield getting lessons. In 1937 she was challenged herself to flying around the world--this would be the flight that no one in history would forget, because on July 2nd the last correspondence from Amelia Earhardt was, "KHAQQ [Earhart's plane] CLNG ITASCA WE MUST BE ON YOU BUT CANNOT SEE U BUT GAS IS RUNNING LOW BEEN UNABLE TO REACH YOU BY RADIO WE ARE FLYING AT A 1000 FEET" ("Amelia Files"). Searches went on for months--and to this day, no one knows exactly what happened or where they landed.

II. Victims

A. Amelia Earhardt

- 1. Born on July 24th, 1897
- 2. Grew up in Atchison, Kansas
- 3. Very close with her younger sister, Grace, known as "Pidge"--she called Amelia "Meelie" (Johnson 22)
- 4. Sisters were known tomboys, getting into trouble--mother supported this curiosity in her girls.
- 5. When she was in high school, her father lost his job at the railroad for being an alcoholic
- 6. She kept a scrapbook of newspaper clippings about successful women in predominantly male-oriented fields, including film direction and production, law, advertising, management and mechanical engineering (*Interview with Rebecca Carlson*)
- 7. In 1917, received training as a nurse's aide from the Red Cross, started work with Voluntary Aid Detachment at Spadina Military Hospital.
 - a. Her duties included preparing food in the kitchen for patients with special diets
 - i. "Earhart was considered to be invaluable to the patients, as they were often the ones most ignored, but she made time to make sure they were cared for properly" (Sisick 23).
 - b. Handing out prescribed medication in the hospital's dispensary.

8. Hospitalized in November 1918

- a. Pneumonia
- b. Sinus-related symptoms were pain and pressure around one eye and copious mucus drainage via the nostrils and throat.
- c. Pre-antibiotic era, she had painful minor operations to wash out the affected maxillary sinus but these procedures were not successful
- d. Chronic sinusitis significantly affected Earhart's flying and activities in later life
 - i. Forced to wear a bandage on her cheek to cover a small drainage tube (Rich 74)

B. Fred Noonan (Second Navigator)

- 1. Born 1861
- 2. 22 year career at sea (Rich 72)
- 3. Started working for Pan-Am as a navigation instructor in 1930s