

The Fundamentals of Autopsies & Investigations in 1584 Prague

(Or: Where Did Amy's Blood Go?)

Step One: Finding Out Why Amy is Dead

An autopsy is conducted to determine the cause of death, identify contributing factors, and occasionally confirm whether she died **normally** or was **obviously just short on her Humors**.

In modern times, forensic pathologists handle this grim business with sterile gloves and fluorescent lights. Sadly, CSI Prague is a few hundred years away! In **1584 Prague**, things were far less clinical. There is no ability to draw blood to test it for special properties... Blood is blood... unless it looks different... then it is a different Humor... Who needs special tools? We have knives, Alchemy, and the power of Religion! Autopsies were performed by a delightful variety of professionals, including:

- **Physicians**, who were mostly guessing based on ancient texts.
- **Barber-surgeons**, who preferred stabbing people for medical reasons.
- **Church officials**, eager to blame the Devil before doing any actual science.
- **Alchemists**, conducting secret dissections to figure out if souls had a physical weight.

Naturally, in Amy's case, **the blood is gone**, which is deeply inconvenient for proper forensic analysis.

Step Two: Asking the Important Questions

- **Where did Amy's blood go?**
 - If it's pooling suspiciously somewhere nearby, congrats—it was an ordinary stabbing! Death solved! Who wants some strong beer?
 - If she is mysteriously pale and crumpled, and there's no sign of external bleeding, well... *something happened here.... Hmm... Maybe she used it in witchcraft?*
- **Was Amy murdered the old-fashioned way, or did supernatural forces intervene?**
 - Typical causes of death in **1584 Prague** included plague, poison, and sword fights.
 - But if her internal organs look **burnt, blackened, or are missing entirely**, then **congratulations!** You're dealing with something unholy. Obviously demons! Quick! We need to get to the Church!
- **Did anyone see Amy's murder?**
 - *Sure I saw it! It were a man! Sucking on her! Course it coulda been a lovers meeting... did I know him... oh yeah. That fancy pants Count Drockuna. Hmm... He has a lot of money and power... he's a Noble... Yep. Shame she had a sudden case of the deads on the street... Can't be running around accusing the Nobility if I want to keep my head on. Natural causes it is!*

Step Three: Blaming Demons (Because Obviously)

If Amy was **drained, twisted unnaturally, or found in a contorted pose that no living person could comfortably manage, demons may be involved.**

- **Tell-tale signs of infernal influence:**
 - **A distinct *lack of blood***, which is inconvenient for Amy, but fascinating for investigators.
 - **Strange symbols** carved into her bones. Was she hexed? Cursed? Used as demon bait? Obvious signs of Witchcraft!
 - **Unnatural decay**—if she's rotting faster than usual, something dark may be festering nearby. *She may also have an unhealthy amount of Humors in her that are just... clumping?*
- **Alternative suspects include:**
 - Witches, Warlocks, and Cults (Those are everywhere these days! Sometimes they just need parts for rituals... or maybe Amy volunteered!)
 - Secretive scholars testing the limits of human longevity. (They got all that learning in them! Can't be healthy! Obviously this leads to murder!)
 - A particularly enthusiastic alchemist who wanted to see if draining people could produce gold. (It didn't)

Final Thoughts: What to Do When You Find Amy's Killer

After all this thrilling investigation, you must decide whether to:

1. **Deliver justice** (assuming Prague's authorities won't laugh you out of their chambers or turn you over to the Asylum or Church, themselves).
2. **Destroy the unnatural culprit** (which may require holy relics, alchemical fire, sheer determination and religious fervor, or a very sturdy sword).
3. **Run away screaming**, pretending none of this ever happened (a totally valid option).

If nothing else, remember: Amy did NOT deserve this, and **her missing blood is now someone else's problem.**