

# To all, a Merry Turnabout

**Case name:** To all, a Merry Turnabout

**Type of case:** Standard case with 2 investigation days and 2 trial days. Each investigation and trial would probably also be divided in 2 parts, because there are a lot of things to do. Think of it as a Christmas themed Rise from the Ashes like case. It takes place between 3-2 and 3-3, with the small change that everything that happens in 3-3 takes place a month later (this is to avoid shenanigans that have to do with 3-3's phony trial.).

**Lawyer:** Phoenix Wright (age 26): While this might be his third year since his debut as a lawyer, the biggest thing currently on his mind is the upcoming Christmas reunion party he is going to host.

**Prosecutor:** Franziska von Karma (age 19): She came back from Germany to be part of Wright's reunion party and to give him back something that should belong to him. But when she hears from Edgeworth that a murder happened in one of the most popular malls in the city, she immediately takes the case so that she could have a rematch with Wright in court.

**Detective:** Dick Gumshoe (age 31): On the day of the murder he was at the lead of a small group of policemen to try and prevent a possible robbery that an unknown caller said was going to happen at Snowflake mall. He is also part of Wright's reunion party.

**Assistant(s):** Maya Fey (age 19): Not wanting to take part in the Fey family's Christmas party, she is helping Nick to set up his party instead. She tags along with Nick when he takes up a new murder case.

Miles Edgeworth (age 26): Back from Europe to take part in the reunion party, he ends up unwillfully tagging along Wright's investigations as his chauffeur.

**Defendant:** Nicholas Clause (age 37): A trucker working at Kremy Poshley's Wonderous Workshop, a toy factory. During the Christmas holidays he also works as Snowflake mall's mall Santa. He was arrested for robbing a supermarket and subsequently killing a witness to that crime.

**Victim(s):** Dagnea Deep (age 32): A worker at Center, the supermarket that was robbed. She was shot in the forehead by a gun.

Roberto Inatto (age 30): Worked at Kremy Poshley's Wonderous Workshop as the factory owner's personal bodyguard. He was killed when his neck snapped after being hit by a vehicle.

**Witnesses:** Aurora Alice Bora (age 18): The cashier that had an encounter with the robber while he was in the store. She has a goth aesthetic and a mood that changes quickly, drastically, and very often. She was also a high school classmate to Ema Skye, with whom she shares the same passion for forensic science, but unlike the latter she dropped out of

high school after failing for a couple of years in a row. In addition to being a cashier, she also works in Snowflake mall's forensic lab (yes, those actually exist, look it up.).

Scrooge Misser (age 77): An old man that became extremely rich by refusing to use any money unless it is absolutely necessary. Also, nobody that ever had the "luxury" of knowing him can say a singular good thing about him, and vice versa. He witnessed the exact moment of Dagnea Deep's death.

Lily "Lill" Clause (age 33) and Noelle Clause (age 9): Respectively, Nicholas Clause's wife and daughter (both put together because they always appear together.). Lill is a kindergarten teacher, but she has a couple of problems with how his husband is handling his job. Noelle is a shy kid that doesn't talk to strangers a lot, but has a great relationship with her parents.

Elvis Twinkles (age 28): The main tour guide and event organizer at Kremy Poshley's Wonderous Workshop. He tries his best to be relatable to the kids he is giving a tour to, but usually fails horribly. He discovered Roberto Inatto's body.

Kremy Poshley (age 40): The lanky and eccentric owner of the K.P.W.W. He created the workshop to produce things that will make more children smile, but after some financial troubles, the workshop has been turned into a tourist attraction that happens to also produce toys. Behind the eccentric, Willy Wonka like persona, Poshley is a man that genuinely wants to give children a childhood he never had himself.

Cody Hackins (age 9): Still a fanatic on all things justice-based, with an emphasis on the Steel Samurai, he now considers Phoenix a "justice bringer", and is willing to help him in any way he can, even though his parents don't agree. He was on a tour at the K.P.W.W. in the afternoon of the day of the murder.

**Character cameos (characters that are in the case, but are in no way involved in the murder or the following investigation.):**

Larry Butz (age 26): Invited by Wright to the reunion party, he's currently having a midlife crisis at 26 years old. He's trying to understand what he wants to do with his life after he "stopped trusting women".

Pearl Fey (age 9): Here with Maya on a holiday vacation, she tags along with Nick and Maya on their initial visit to Snowflake mall.

**Killer:** Kremy Poshley: He killed Dagnea Deep in order to keep his criminal dealings hidden, and he killed Roberto Inatto to silence him after he saw him hide Deep's body (the specifics are in the description.).

**Description:**

*Investigation 1, 22nd and 23rd December.*

Phoenix, Maya and Pearl find themselves at Snowflake Mall, the city's most popular shopping mall, because they have to buy gifts for the upcoming Christmas party's secret

Santa game. Maya and Pearl quickly abandon Phoenix to his own devices, and, after getting a map of the mall, he unexpectedly meets Detective Gumshoe. Gumshoe explains that he's at the mall because the precinct got a call saying that a robbery might happen at the mall that day. He then recommends Phoenix to go to Center (a supermarket found on the second floor of the mall) if he wants to buy a gift, and then tells him to not stay in the mall for too long, because if anything suspicious started to happen, the police would block off the mall's exits.

Phoenix takes some time at Center buying gifts and Christmas decorations, then as he gets to the cash register the cashier, a young girl with a goth aesthetic and a name tag that says "Aurora", stops him and says that she recognizes him. She introduces herself as Alice, clearly contradicting her nametag, and then tries and fails to remember why she recognizes Phoenix. After that awkward conversation, Phoenix reunites with Maya and Pearl, who are waiting close to the mall's mall Santa. Pearl has some fun with Santa, until he gets a phone call. After the call Santa tells all the kids waiting in front of him that he has to leave early, and then does just that. The trio leaves to make sure they won't get stuck in the mall.

The trio arrives at the office, where they are quickly joined by Edgeworth and Larry. They all catch up with each other for a while, and after realizing that it will take a while for Franziska to get there, they decide to spend some time decorating the office. By the time they have finished, dinnertime has passed, and Franziska hasn't shown up yet. Suddenly Phoenix and Miles get a phone call: Phoenix is called by Franziska, who tells him that she has just taken a murder case, and that she wants a rematch in the courtroom with him; Miles is called by Gumshoe, who tells him that a robbery and a murder had just happened at snowflake mall, and that according to him Franziska was acting strangely. Phoenix comes to the conclusion that he will not take the case because Franziska wants him to, but only if he believes the suspect to be innocent.

The next day, Phoenix and Maya get to the detention center to meet the suspect, and they see a relatively large man with a big bushy white beard, wearing a Christmas sweater and holding a mug filled with milk. He seems to recognize the duo, and when he asks them "how little Pearl is doing", they realize that he is the mall Santa they met the day before. The man introduces himself as Nicholas Clause, a trucker that works for Kremy Poshley's Wonderous Workshop (a factory that produces many children's toys) and that volunteers to be Snowflake Mall's mall Santa during the Christmas season. Phoenix wants to understand what happened on the day of the crime, so Clause explains that someone stole a bunch of toys made by the K.M.W.W. from Center, then killed Dagnea Deep, a witness who saw the

crime, all while wearing Clause's Santa costume. From what he knows he was arrested because of the costume, and because some incriminating evidence was found inside his truck. He also mentions that he has the bad habit of leaving his truck keys inside his truck, so someone could have entered it and left the evidence without any problem.

He then explains what he exactly did on the day of the crimes: he was at Snowflake Mall working as the mall Santa up until 4:00 pm when he got a phone call from his boss, saying that there was a last minute delivery to make to the mall; then from 4:15 pm to 5:15 pm he was driving Rudolph (the name he gave his truck) to the workshop; at 5:30 everything was packed on the truck so he took off towards the mall; he got there at 6:30 and couldn't enter the mall because it was blocked by the police, so to pass the time he took a walk in the nearby streets (aka: he has no alibi for the crimes); at 7 pm his truck was fully unloaded, so he took off to get back to the workshop; he got there at 8 pm and half an hour later he was arrested. Phoenix then asks Clause if he actually did it, and after no Psyche-Locks appear when he denies it, he decides to take his case. Phoenix is concerned on how they will investigate a crime when the 2 locations of interest are an hour apart by truck (40 minutes apart by car) and neither him nor Maya can drive, but Maya says that she has an idea that will solve that problem.

Phoenix and Maya arrive at Snowflake Mall's parking lot, this time accompanied by a rather annoyed Miles Edgeworth, who is acting as the duo's chauffeur. At the parking lot the trio finds Detective Gumshoe, who is searching for something using a metal detector. Gumshoe tells Phoenix that the victim was Dagnea Deep, a worker for Center: she was shot in the forehead right next to her car, which is an SUV, then her body was moved next to the mall's entrance, and then hidden under a pile of snow. He shows the trio a photo of the body: Deep was wearing heavy winter clothing, but is curiously missing her gloves. He also mentions that the tractor part of the defendant's truck was parked pretty closely to the victim's car. He says that the snow has been pretty annoying for the investigation: they can't find the victim's exact time of death because the snow she was buried under "refrigerated" the body, and, because it hasn't stopped snowing since the day of the murder, all footprints or tracks made that day have been covered and the bullet that was shot that night has been buried somewhere under the snow. He explains that the missing bullet is the reason he is using a metal detector right now. Gumshoe then tells Phoenix that there was an eyewitness for the murder who he is forbidden to talk to, and also informs him that the FBI has, for some unknown reason, taken an interest in the case. At last, Gumshoe warns the trio that Franziska is currently investigating the scene of the robbery, and that she doesn't want to be interrupted.

As the trio uses the mall's map to find their way to Center, they see an old man wearing what can best be described as rags and a sleeping hat obviously trying to look at the trio's map. He introduces himself as Scrooge Misser, and explains that he was looking at the map because he doesn't want to buy one himself because they're "overpriced" (they cost 1 dollar). He lets slip that he's the murder's eyewitness, but he refuses to give any information to Phoenix. Miles tries to convince Misser that he's actually the lawyer in charge, and that giving information to him shouldn't be a problem, and after thinking, Misser complies, but only under one condition: the trio will have to find something he lost in the mall before he gives any information. As he explains his condition 5 Psyche-Locks appear. Misser doesn't give any information about what he lost, and realizing that's the best they could get, the trio goes to Center to continue their investigation.

Inside Center, the trio can easily hear Franziska and her whip "investigating", and decide that if they want to get to Christmas alive, it's probably best not to get too close to her. The trio then hears a long sigh, and Phoenix recognizes that it belongs to Alice. Before he can even begin asking her questions, Alice yells out "I got it!" and asks Phoenix if he is the one who defended Lana and Ema Skye in court 2 years ago. When Phoenix confirms her suspicions, Alice starts beaming with energy and says that she is willing to help him because she has a favor to repay to him. She introduces herself fully as Alice Bora (again contradicting her name tag), and explains that Ema Skye was actually one of her classmates, and that they both shared a passion for forensic science. She then explains that actually, being a cashier for Center is just her side job, and that her main job was operating the mall's forensic lab as its only scientist. She shifts mood again when she mentions that she can't currently use it because the FBI is occupying it for their own purposes.

Phoenix asks Alice if she witnessed anything during the robbery, and she says that the robber actually threatened her that night: she was working like normal until a man with the same body structure of the defendant, wearing a ski mask and a Santa costume pointed a gun at her and threatened to shoot her if she didn't let him pass. She says that he was also holding a sack filled with the stolen toys, and then gives Phoenix a list of all of the things that were stolen that day: other than what was taken in the robbery, nothing left Center illegally that day. Phoenix then asks Alice if she knew the victim, considering that they both worked at the same store. Alice gets visibly sadder as she explains that Deep was her superior and the person that helped her get the job as the mall's forensic scientist. When asked about the victim's life outside of Center, Alice's demeanor shifts again, and she

nervously says that she would rather not talk about Dagnea's personal life because she doesn't want to speak ill of the dead. No Psyche-Locks appear as she says this, so Phoenix respects her decision and doesn't press further. For now. Lastly, Phoenix asks Alice if he knows anything about Misser or the thing he lost, and Alice says that the old man is basically a regular of the mall and that he's extremely grumpy and greedy. She doesn't know what he lost, but her best theory is anything that could help him save money, like a discount coupon. Suddenly a group of men who identify themselves as FBI approach the trio and Alice, and tell the latter that "they're accepting her proposal". Alice beams with energy again, and disappears outside the store. The FBI refuse to give any details to the trio and leave as well.

Confused, the trio tries to follow the one lead they still have: Misser's lost thing. They go outside the mall again to talk with the other person they know was at the scene on the day of the crime: Gumshoe. Phoenix asks the detective if he found or saw some kind of discount coupon or card that happened to be owned by the murder's eyewitness. Gumshoe thinks and says that he found a mall loyalty card after Misser reported the murder to the police, which happened at around 6:55 pm, but the name of the owner written on the card is Guy Randall. Phoenix is disappointed, but Gumshoe gives him the card anyway because he was going to start using it himself, but not if someone was actively looking for it. With very little hope, the trio meets Scrooge Misser once again, this time to break his Psyche-Locks. Phoenix reminds Misser about his deal, then shows him the card. Misser chuckles and says that he can't believe they actually found it. All 5 Psyche-Locks break. Misser takes the card out of Phoenix's hand and tells Edgeworth that he can ask anything he wants, considering that he's definitely the defense attorney here.

Edgeworth asks Misser what he does for a living, and he says that he's currently retired, but that thanks to a lifetime of hard work and extremely wishful spending, he is currently a millionaire. Phoenix realizes that the clothes he is wearing are probably several years old, and fully understands what type of person he is. Edgeworth then asks him what he saw on the night of the murder, and he says that he saw the exact moment the defendant shot the victim in cold blood. He explains that he saw it through the window walls while he was inside the mall's second floor. Edgeworth mentions that an old man seeing a murder that happened far away both horizontally and vertically, at night and while it was snowing isn't the most reliable testimony, and questions what Franziska has in mind for the trial. Lastly Edgeworth asks Misser why he even is at Snowflake Mall, considering his hatred for spending money, and Misser says that he comes there because it's filled with people that

happen to sometimes lose pennies and it's also close to his house. When asked why he was there the day of the crime, he just "Bah Humbug!"s and changes the subject. Phoenix finds this suspicious because he was willing to help the investigation until that exact question came up, so he tries to get Misser to answer, but he is violently interrupted by a wild whip's lash. Franziska scolds Phoenix for talking to a witness he wasn't supposed to talk to, and then Misser tells her how the team "duped" and "bribed" him for information. Franziska whips both Phoenix and Miles for "falling into a dark hole", then starts dragging Misser to the precinct so that he will not leak any more information. Misser was acting really cocky while he explained how he was duped, but he became extremely resisting when he started getting dragged away from the mall. Phoenix asks Franziska if she's really still upset over the whole "revenge" thing, and says that he thought that she had changed her ways, but she responds by saying to save questions like that for after the investigation, because otherwise he is going to fall short during the trial. She then leaves with Misser. The trio realizes that she's right, they only have so much time to investigate, so they have to use all of it. The team's next stop is Kremy Poshley's Wonderous Workshop, where they can investigate Clause's truck and his background.

Because the detention center is between the mall and the workshop, the trio takes a stop there to ask Clause some questions based on the new information they acquired. There they see that Clause already has 2 visitors: a woman wearing a similar sweater to what Clause was wearing, and a small girl sitting on her shoulder. Seeing his defense team arrive, Clause quickly introduces the other visitors: the woman is Lily Clause, Nicholas' wife, and the little girl is Noelle Clause, the pair's daughter. Lily says that her friends all call her Lill, and considering Phoenix and Maya are defending his husband, he considers them friends. Lill explains that she works as a kindergarten teacher, and Clause says that she is selling herself short, she isn't just "a" kindergarten teacher, she is the best kindergarten teacher. The trio quickly realizes that the Clauses have a very good relationship with each other. Noelle stays quiet most of the time, unless someone is trying to talk to her directly. Lill says that Noelle is really shy, and that she mostly only speaks with her parents or people she finds really trustworthy. Maya is the only one in the trio who manages to have some sort of a conversation with Noelle. Phoenix says that the family seems really tight knit, and asks if Clause's job as a trucker makes him less available in the family. Clause laughs and says that his job isn't problematic at all and that he is at home very often, but when he says that Lill seems to be lost in thought. Phoenix catches this and asks Lill her opinion on the matter. She responds while still lost in thought that she also doesn't find Clause's job problematic, but when she says it, 3 Psyche-Locks appear. Lill then checks the time and says that she has to leave quickly. She thanks Phoenix for taking his husband's

case, tells him that if he has any more questions for her she will be at Snowflake Mall for the remainder of the day, and then gives her last goodbyes and leaves the detention center. Now alone, the trio quickly gives Clause a run-down of their investigation so far, but don't ask any additional questions because they are even more pressed for time than before.

The trio arrives at Kremy Poshley's Wonderous Workshop and immediately sees "Rudolph" surrounded by police officers. The rest of the workshop's outside is apparently pretty free from the investigation, as there are civilians and workshop workers just walking around with no problem. Phoenix and Miles start asking questions about the truck to the police officers, and they say that they found in the truck a gun, a ski mask and the gloves that were part of the defendant's Santa costume. Other than that the only interesting thing found in the truck is a photo of a younger Nicholas and Lill next to a truck that resembles Rudolph. Maya then gets distracted looking at the workshop, and bumps into a somewhat familiar face: a Steel Samurai loving kid. Phoenix and Miles join in and also recognize Cody, who unfortunately can't get any words in before he is dragged away by his parents who are apparently very busy. Maya then sees a massive decorated Christmas tree with massive presents hidden under it, and instinctually gets closer. The team follows her to make sure she doesn't cause any trouble, and all of them see an employee approach them as they arrive at the tree. He is short, wearing a green sparkling uniform, a pointed green hat and a pair of sunglasses. He is also holding a red and white fidget spinner.

He tells the trio that the "Gifts under the Tree" event has been delayed to the 24th due to unforeseen events, and that they should leave the crew alone because they are working. Phoenix asks if the unforeseen event is Clause's arrest, and the employee stays silent for a while before saying that Phoenix must be the "lit" lawyer he was warned about. He introduces himself as Elvis Twinkles, the main tour guide and event organizer for the workshop. He says that he will answer any questions the trio has that may be related to the crime. Phoenix starts by asking about the workshop itself, and Twinkles explains that the workshop is the most "based" factory this side of the globe, and that visiting it is something everyone should do at least once. He says that, especially during the Christmas season, there are a "high key" number of "unhinged" events that are extremely popular with the kids. He says that the factory itself is visitable, but he won't give any information to not spoil the surprises. He then gives Phoenix a pamphlet with all the necessary information to start a factory tour, which includes a map of the factory itself. Phoenix then asks Twinkles if he knows anything about Nicholas Clause, and he says that Clause is an important asset for the workshop, but he thinks that, "no cap", people are using his kindness against him. According to Twinkles, Clause always accepts all orders given to him by the higher ups no



matter how last minute or time consuming they might be, and he can't even ask someone else to do his job for him because he is the workshop's only trucker. Twinkles says that if he was in his situation he wouldn't "pass the vibe check" like Clause is doing.

While the trio might have only understood half of the words Twinkles used, he still gave them a lot of useful information, so they prepare to take their leave and go back to the crime scene. Twinkles suddenly remembers something and tells the trio to wait, because Kremy Poshley himself was willing to have a meeting with them, considering they're Clause's lawyers. Twinkles takes them inside the workshop, where they get a small tour free of charge. Edgeworth mentions that even though they're touring a toy factory, there's very little mention of the toys and how they're made, but Twinkles just ignores his questions on the topic. Eventually they get to Poshley's office, and after opening the door, Twinkles leaves the trio alone with the workshop's owner. Poshley is a lanky man wearing an eccentric get up that includes a big purple top hat, a purple suit and purple pants all with golden linings, and a purple cane with a big ruby gem on top. To say he's eccentric would be an understatement.

Poshley greets the trio and thanks them for taking on Clause's defense, then says that as his boss he doesn't want to be biased towards one side, so he will give the defense the same information he gave the prosecution. Phoenix starts by asking Poshley some information about himself and the workshop, and he says that he started the workshop 20 years ago with the intention of creating toys that would make children smile. He says that operating the workshop has been the most important thing in his life since he started it, and that most of the profits he makes from it go to charities, because he doesn't like keeping money for himself. Phoenix then asks Poshley for information about Clause, and he more or less confirms what Twinkles said: he's an extremely hard worker, and even in situations where he should be resisting, he always accepts with a smile on his face. Poshley adds that for all of his hard work, he gets some benefits: he has his own office, which is not normal for a trucker, his pay is higher than usual, and he is allowed to "work" as Snowflake Mall's mall Santa, during normal work hours. Edgeworth mentions that for being a toy factory, he has seen or heard little to no mention about toy manufacturing since he got to the workshop, and he curiously asks Poshley if he can share something about it. Poshley looks away and says that he can't just share that information to everyone, then says that Miles should pay for a full workshop tour if he's that interested. As he says this, Phoenix sees 2 Psyche-Locks appear. Kremy asks the trio if they have any further questions, they are welcome to come back to his office any time. Phoenix shares that Kremy is hiding something about the toy manufacturing, but Miles says that information about the workshop

isn't as important as information about the case. He suggests going back to the mall to investigate the robbery further, and only if it becomes important they can come back and ask Poshley some more questions.

The trio gets back to Center, and sees that the number of police officers has been reduced to the minimum. Alice is also nowhere to be seen. As they go towards the toy aisle they are met by a familiar face: Franziska von Karma, who is less whippy than usual, at least for now. She quickly informs the team that the toy aisle has been scoured for evidence already, and nothing important was found. She also says that the trio is free to go to the mall's forensic lab, as the lead scientist has allowed them access. Phoenix asks Franziska about the reason she took on the case, and she says that having her "revenge" on Phoenix will probably be pretty satisfying, but it isn't the actual reason she took on the case. Ever since her last case in Japanifornia she has tried her best to find her way down the prosecutor's path: while in Germany she got involved in many cases involving a certain crime ring and Interpol, and during these cases she felt that she had changed in some way. She says that she took on the case because she wanted to have another court battle with Phoenix to prove that she had found her way. Phoenix is glad that she isn't taking the case for petty revenge, but he gets whipped before he can say it. Franziska says that Phoenix shouldn't let his guard down because she will not hold back anything during the trial, and suggests him to do the same. She then says that she will be looking forward to the greatest courtroom battle in the observable universe, and then leaves. Knowing they're allowed to, the trio decides to go meet with Alice at the lab.

The lab seems like something you would find in a police station, and definitely not a commercial mall. The lab is filled with FBI agents and Alice is seen actively working with them, which seems pretty weird or at least not normal. Alice notices the trio and starts talking with them, saying that this is probably the coolest thing she ever did, and saying that there's some new information about the case she can share with them. The first piece of information is that the robbery has been seen by the security cameras, and that the security tapes will be brought to the court as evidence tomorrow. Unfortunately she hasn't finished analyzing all the tapes, so she can't make Phoenix sneak a peek at them. The second piece of information is an updated list of stolen toys: it shows the toys that were stolen and all of their prices. Phoenix immediately realizes that the toys are all really expensive, and Alice agrees, saying also that no toy produced by the K.P.W.W. was bought legally that day. Phoenix then asks Alice why exactly is the FBI allowing her to work with them, and she says that they are using her lab so it should be obvious, but Phoenix reminds her that when they talked at Center, the FBI said that "they're accepting her proposal", and asks Alice to

elaborate on said proposal. Alice stays silent, then with a serious look says that the proposal is confidential information, and that she is not at liberty to speak about it. Just then 3 Psyche-Locks appear in front of her. She then returns to her cheery persona and says that she always wanted to say that. With some questions answered and others added, Phoenix feels like he has enough to break Poshley's Psyche-Locks.

Another drive later, the trio finds itself at the K.M.W.W. again. It's getting late, so they quickly go to Poshley's office, where they are welcomed warmly by the owner. Phoenix presents the Magatama and says that Poshley is hiding something about the toy manufacturing process. Poshley deflects by saying that the workshop puts toy production at the top of its priority list, but Phoenix finds that hard to believe: he presents the K.P.W.W. pamphlet and shows that in the map of the workshop it's easy to see that about 75% of the facility is just used specifically for tours, and that only a small part is actually used for toy manufacturing. Pretty weird for a factory that puts "toy production at the top of its priority list". 1 Psyche-Lock breaks. Poshley says that the workshop doesn't make mass produced toys, only hand crafted manufactured toys, so not a lot of space is needed for production. Phoenix asks if he is claiming that even though more than half of the factory is used as a tourist attraction, the workshop's main business is toy making, and Poshley confirms it. Phoenix then says that if that's the case, Poshley is doing a bad job at it: he presents the stolen toys list, and says that the toys are clearly expensive, and that not a single one was bought from Center the day before. Poshley flinches, but says that because the toys the workshop makes are handcrafted, it's normal that they're expensive. Phoenix says that he doesn't seem like someone who would sell toys only rich families could buy, so he proposes a second idea: as selling toys became less valuable, the workshop's tourist attractions became the company's main business. Poshley stays silent, then says that Phoenix saw right through him. The last Psyche-Lock breaks.

Poshley explains that the toys made by the workshop had waned in popularity recently, with more modern toys becoming more popular with the kids. The tours and events became the main business, while the toy making continued in a reduced form in the background. He gives Phoenix a copy of a document that explains that Center would become the only store chain that could sell toys produced by the K.P.W.W. as long as the workshop got 66% of the money gained from selling it. Poshley says that he signed the document because it was the best way to keep making some income out of the toys that didn't hurt the workshop's business with the tours. He says that because Snowflake Mall's Center is the closest to the workshop, it's mainly the only one that does any business with the workshop these days. Phoenix asks Poshley why he hid this information, and he says that with the robbery he lost

a big amount of money, and didn't want to alarm anyone, especially the children, during the holidays. Phoenix now thinks he should be able to break Lill's Psyche-Locks.

Another car drive later, the trio arrives at Snowflake mall. They quickly search for Lill and find her, then Phoenix presents the Magatama. He thinks that Clause's profession was creating problems in the family, something that Lill categorically denies. Phoenix doesn't agree: he has learned that Clause is the only trucker at the K.P.W.W. and so he has to accept any last minute deliveries no matter what, which Phoenix believes must be pretty annoying for a family father. Lill looks away as 1 Psyche-Lock breaks. She admits that Phoenix is right, because Clause is a trucker he is away most of the time going to many different far away places, so she mostly has had to raise Noelle alone. Phoenix doesn't believe that is the exact reason for her doubts about Clause's job, because he doesn't actually go "far away" at all: according to Poshley's document, the only place they sell toys to anymore is Snowflake Mall's Center, which, unless the Clause's live outside the city, should be decently close to home. 1 more Psyche-Lock breaks. Lill gets angry, saying that Phoenix has no business investigating family matters. She then angrily says that she doesn't like Clause's job because the one he had before made him more money. Only Noelle manages to calm Lill down. Phoenix says that it isn't as easy as that and presents Rudolph to prove it: in the truck they found a photograph of Lill and her husband standing in front of a truck that looks very similar to Rudolph, suggesting at the very least that Clause has been a trucker for a long time. Lill says that she doesn't understand why Phoenix is so insistent, but he's Clause's lawyer so she probably should trust him. The last Psyche-Lock breaks.

Lill explains that all the last minute deliveries and such that Clause takes aren't done out of the goodness in his heart, but because he is forced to do so. And not because he's the only trucker for the workshop: if he doesn't follow orders, he will be fired, and there will be financial consequences for the family. The trio is shocked at this revelation, and asks why neither she nor Clause himself told them sooner. Lill says that Clause doesn't see any problem in this: for following orders he gets additional benefits and he gets more time to spend with the family, but Lill herself thinks that he is letting others use him just for more time with the family, which Lill says is nice, but not nice enough to justify sacrificing your free will. Lill didn't say anything about this at the detention center because she realized Clause didn't inform the trio himself, so she thought that maybe it wasn't important to the case, and she isn't willing to drag her husband's name through the mud without a valid reason. With this information, the trio believes one last talk with Clause is in order. Lill and Noelle wish the trio good luck as they leave. Unfortunately when they get to the detention

center, visiting hours are already over. The constant back and forth between the 2 scenes wasted too much time. No matter what, Phoenix and Maya prepare for the following day's trial, while Miles says that he won't help them during the trial, but he will be observing it.

### *Trial 1, 24th December.*

Phoenix and Maya are waiting for Clause's arrival to the defendants lobby, when suddenly Edgeworth approaches the duo, saying "Merry Almost Christmas, Wright.". He says that he's lucky he's not the prosecutor in this case, because the prosecutors lobby's residents seem to be constantly bickering with each other. Franziska has refused to give Miles any additional information, so he can't give Phoenix anything more before the trial. At this point Clause enters the lobby and Miles leaves, saying he will look upon the trial from the gallery. Clause greets Phoenix and Maya and asks them how they are feeling for the upcoming trial, but he says that he can't be sure unless he stops withholding information from him. Clause is confused, but when Phoenix asks him why he didn't mention that he was being basically blackmailed he stays silent. Phoenix tries to get an answer out of Clause, but before he can the bailiffs call the defense to enter the courtroom. Clause says that it isn't important and that he should focus on the trial.

Court is in session for the trial of Nicholas Clause. The judge thanks everyone for coming here even though it's Almost Christmas, and asks the prosecution to give her opening statement. She explains that Clause had the perfect motive, the perfect means, and the perfect opportunity to commit the crimes, and she has the perfect pieces of evidence to prove his guilt. To explain, Franziska calls Gumshoe to the stand. He testifies on the prosecution's theory: Clause bypassed the blockade by going through one of the exits that wasn't blocked: an employee only entrance that went to the mall's warehouse. From there he went to one of the mall's locker rooms, where he found his locker that had all the necessary tools for the robbery hidden inside: the Santa costume, the gun, the ski mask and the sack. He disguised himself, then went to Center, took the toys, threatened a cashier and ran away. He escaped through the same exit he used to enter, and while he was there he hid his costume in his locker. He then went towards his truck tractor, but he met Dagnea Deep on the way, who saw him without the Santa costume on, and therefore could recognize him, so he shot her to leave no witnesses. He then hid the incriminating evidence on him inside his truck before finishing his deliveries like nothing had happened. He also mentions that the sack with the toys in it has yet to be found. Franziska shows off the Santa costume used in the robbery, and explains that it's a one of a kind, made by the defendant himself. Phoenix realizes that the costume doesn't have a fake beard. Franziska also mentions that the costume was found in the defendant's locker, which only he can

open. Phoenix realizes that the costume and the locker it was found in must be Franziska's perfect evidence. Franziska also explains Clause's perfect motive: he hated the company he worked for because they made him work more than necessary, among other things, so he decided to rob a bunch of toys made by the workshop, knowing it will hurt their business significantly.

Phoenix gets all the information he can from Gumshoe, before the judge bangs his gavel. He thinks that he heard enough from the detective, and could give a guilty verdict already, but Phoenix reminds the court that there were witnesses to the crime, so before the verdict is given, they should hear from them. The judge agrees and Franziska doesn't wait to bring in her first witness. Alice takes the stand, and Franziska reveals her full name to be Aurora Alice Bora, much to Alice's annoyance. She asks the court to call her anything but Aurora, then gives her testimony on what she saw on the day of the robbery. Her testimony is very similar to what she already told Phoenix: a man with the defendant's body structure wearing a Santa outfit and a ski mask threatened to shoot her if she didn't let him pass. Phoenix says that nothing proves that the man under the mask was Clause, but Franziska says that considering the costume was one of a kind, and that it was found in the defendant's locker, he must be the one who was wearing it. Phoenix asks Alice to give more information about the man's face, and she says that it was the face of Santa Claus, specifying the red hat and the white beard, but with a ski mask on. Hearing this, Phoenix objects, saying that if Alice had seen a man wearing a ski mask, she couldn't have seen a beard, because the defendant's costume specifically doesn't have a fake beard: he doesn't need it because his beard is naturally Santa-like! Alice thinks and says that she could swear she saw a beard, and Phoenix jumps at this opportunity, saying that if Alice saw a beard, the costume used must be a different one from the one the defendant owned. Alice speaks up, saying that while she might not be able to trust her memory, she can definitely trust in science.

Alice brings out three security tapes, and says that they contain the three most important moments of the robbery: the first shows the robber stealing from the toy aisle, the second shows him threatening Alice, and the third shows him escaping into a room outside Center. The second tape clearly shows the robber without a beard, which confirms that Alice was just misremembering things. She then gives a more detailed testimony explaining the contents of the tapes. Phoenix is interested about the third tape the most so he asks Alice for a more detailed explanation of it. She says that the robber is seen entering an entrance to the locker rooms, specifically the one that is found in the corridor Center is located in. Phoenix asks her why she's so sure of it, and she says that all six second floor corridors have been made from the same "template": the plots used for the shops are all of the same

measures, and they're placed in the same parts in all corridors. Another thing that is part of this template are the doors: some of them were used as security doors, and those that weren't useful as emergency doors were either hidden or used to bring some other place, like in this case the locker rooms. Also the camera that caught the robber entering the door moves periodically left and right, so if the tape is fast forwarded for a while, everyone can see that the door to the right is an emergency door. Finally, the only corridor with an emergency door to the right and an entrance to the locker rooms to the left is Center's corridor.

Phoenix keeps in mind this information, and asks Alice to update her testimony. She adds that the robber then entered the locker rooms to hide his costume in his employee locker, and Phoenix objects to this, asking what exactly is an employee locker. She says that it's a locker that only the Snowflake Mall employee who it's assigned to can open. Phoenix smirks, saying that in that case Franziska's whole case is broken, because it's well known that Clause isn't a Snowflake Mall employee! He works for the K.P.W.W. and only does volunteer work at Snowflake Mall, which wouldn't make him an employee. Franziska is livid: she knows that there's a locker assigned specifically to Nicholas Clause, so how could he have gotten it? Alice suddenly understands something, and says that there are actually 2 types of lockers: employee lockers, which can only be opened by the assigned employee, and loyalty lockers, who can be opened by an assigned person that has obtained enough points in their mall loyalty rewards card, and by any mall employee. She explains that volunteer workers for the mall get assigned a locker, but because they aren't employees, they give them an already filled out loyalty rewards card instead, that way they have a personal locker, while still not being employees. Phoenix latches onto this lucky break and says that any mall worker could have taken and put the costume inside Clause's locker, making it lose its power as a decisive piece of evidence. Franziska is livid that no one in the police force managed to see this before the trial, but she can't outright refute Phoenix's theory. The judge admits that the prosecution's theory is less perfect than expected, but still a massive amount of evidence is pointing towards the defendant, so he doesn't feel comfortable ending the trial there. Phoenix reminds him that they have yet to discuss the murder of Dagnea Deep, and asks that the murder's eyewitness be brought to the stand. Franziska thinks for a while, then acquiesces.

Scrooge Misser is escorted to the stand. Maya says that his testimony was already flimsy, so the trial should just be a victory lap from now on, but Phoenix disagrees: the judge is still leaning more towards the prosecution, so if he just invalidates Misser's testimony, they will get back to a point where the judge is more willing to pass a guilty verdict. To save Clause,

they will have to find something that disproves Franziska's theory instead, which will be difficult considering they are facing probably the world's most stubborn witness. Misser gives his testimony: he says that he was relaxing in the southernmost rim of the mall's second floor, when he suddenly saw a man come out of the main entrance holding a sack behind himself. He confirms that the man had the same body structure as Clause, and that he was wearing a ski mask. The victim had just exited her SUV when the 2 met. Suddenly he heard a bang and saw a flash, and the next second the victim was nowhere to be found. He immediately left to contact the cops afterwards. Phoenix immediately objects to his claim that he saw the robber come out of the main entrance: his only escape route was to exit from the mall's warehouse, which is behind the main entrance! Misser flinches and says that he never saw him come out the entrance, because that was actually behind him, but he remains on his idea that he came from the entrance area.

Hearing this, Franziska immediately says that the witness is clearly unreliable and therefore must leave the stand. Misser obviously protests, saying that she's the one who called him there anyway. Phoenix realizes that Franziska understands that if Misser is dismissed the trial is hers, so he protests the proposal as well, saying that Misser is a perfectly reliable witness. Franziska says that then Misser should prove it by making a more detailed testimony. Misser does just that, by giving an exact timeline of the events he witnessed: he arrived at the southern rim at 6:32 pm, he saw the robber and the victim meet at 6:40 and saw the shot at 6:42. Phoenix this time sees a major contradiction, because he knows that Gumshoe was informed about the murder at 6:55 pm, which is also the exact time the blockade ended. There's an almost 15 minute gap between the shot and the moment the police were informed of the murder! Phoenix asks Misser for an explanation, but he just sweats and tries to say that he just took 15 minutes to get to the police. Franziska asks Phoenix if he's accusing the witness of being involved with the crime, and at this Phoenix starts thinking logically. He doesn't believe that Misser is involved with the robbery or the murder directly, but he's still hiding something. Phoenix says that because he specifically didn't see anything that happened after the murder, Misser's first idea must've been to alert the cops, but on his way to them, something must've happened that made him change idea. He believes that after this thing happened, Misser must have had something to do that was more important than alerting the cops. Franziska suggests Phoenix to stop speaking in riddles, and present an actual theory and evidence to back it up. At this point Phoenix realizes what would've been more important to Scrooge Misser than reporting a murder: money. Phoenix suggests that Misser found something on his way to the cops, took it, possibly illegally, and to make sure the thing wouldn't be confiscated, he hid it somewhere safe.



Franziska once again asks for any evidence to prove this, but Phoenix says that he doesn't have any evidence, because he gave it to the witness yesterday! The stolen object must be inside Scrooge Misser's loyalty locker, which is the one assigned to Guy Randall! The stolen object must still be there because Misser hasn't had a chance to reopen his locker: he lost the card when he informed the cops, and after he got it back, he was dragged to the precinct! Misser tries to protest when Phoenix suggests looking through his locker, but to no avail. Some time passes, until Gumshoe takes the stand to deliver some news: officers at the mall searched Misser's locker, and found one of K.P.W.W. 's stolen toys inside! Everyone is surprised, including Phoenix who questions how one of the stolen toys found its way to Misser's locker, but Misser quickly silences the courtroom by explaining himself. He says that he didn't steal the toy, he bought it. He can't even finish the phrase before he is interrupted by Phoenix: Misser didn't even want to buy a 1 dollar map, but would buy an overpriced toy without batting an eye? That just doesn't make sense, but just to be sure, Phoenix presents the list of stolen toys, which proves no workshop-made toys were either bought or stolen before the robbery. Misser flinches, tries to find another excuse, but in the end confesses.

He was forced to buy a gift for one of his grandkids for the Christmas reunion his family was having, and tried buying one he thought his grandkid would like, but upon seeing the exaggerated costs he gave up. Then when he was going to inform the police about the murder he found a toy on the ground and thought that if it was abandoned there, it wouldn't be a problem if he took it for himself. But to make sure the cops wouldn't ask any questions he took the long way to get to his locker and hid the toy there. Then he informed the cops like he wanted to. Franziska congratulates Phoenix on wasting the court's time, and the judge somewhat agrees: a lot of information was uncovered, but nothing that changes the case. He allows one last testimony from Misser before giving his verdict. Misser makes an extremely long and detailed testimony that explains everything he did that day, but Phoenix needs only to press one statement to turn the case to his favor. Phoenix asks Misser where he found the toy on the ground, and he says in the south-eastern corridor. Phoenix thanks Misser, because that detail will prove Clause was innocent of all crimes pinned against him! The toy Misser found was one of the toys stolen during the robbery, so the most likely option is that the robber lost it while escaping and didn't notice. That must mean that the robber was at some point after the robbery in the south-eastern corridor. Franziska says that he would have no reason to go there, but Phoenix says that clearly a reason exists, because otherwise they never would have found a toy there. Phoenix now reminds the court of something Alice said: the six second floor corridors are made from the same

“template”, and doors are part of this template. Phoenix presents the mall’s map and shows that in the eastern and western parts of the mall, there are large terraces that can be accessed by some doors in the adjacent corridors. There is a “terrace” in the southern part of the mall too, but it’s just above the entrance, and the map specifically says that it can’t be accessed. But Alice mentioned also that “some useless doors were hidden”, which means that a door that access’ the southern terrace must exist, and it could be the robber’s actual escape route! Franziska reminds Phoenix that that escape route would include a 1 story fall for the robber, but Phoenix smugly says that that’s the point! The robber must’ve sustained an injury from falling, but Clause is completely unharmed! He must be innocent!

Franziska can’t come up with a comeback, and the judge says that because the defense brought up a plausible theory for the defendant’s innocence, and disproved the prosecution’s decisive evidence, he is willing to give a not guilty verdict. But before he is able to do so, a wild “Hold it!!!” stops him. It comes from... Elvis Twinkles? He says that the trial has to be stopped because a body has been found at the K.P.W.W. The gallery erupts in chatter, but the judge regains order, saying that he’s sorry to hear it but doesn’t understand what that has to do with the current trial. Elvis continues by saying that along with the body, they found all the toys that were stolen from Center! Franziska jumps at this, saying that the trial can’t end without first investigating this new piece of information. After thinking for a while, the judge agrees, and adjourns the trial for the day. Court is adjourned.

### *Investigation 2, 24th December.*

Phoenix and Maya meet back up with Miles at the detention center to finally get some answers from Clause, but they see that there’s someone else who is visiting him already: it’s Scrooge Misser, who is apologizing for testifying against him in court. When Clause forgives him though, he feels like he shouldn’t be forgiven and ends up returning to his grumpy self. When he sees the trio, he leaves without even saying a word. Clause greets them again, and tells Phoenix he is glad he chose him as his lawyer. Phoenix gets right to the point, and asks Clause why he hid the fact that he was being blackmailed. Clause sighs and says that if it’s important to his case, then he will explain everything. When he started to work at the workshop, he signed a contract that he didn’t know had a fine print saying that the owner of the workshop had the rights to modify the contents of the contracts at will. The contract currently says that Rudolph is owned by the K.P.W.W. and that if Clause doesn’t comply with all orders given to him, he will be fired, and lose Rudolph in the process, which would be a big economic problem for his family. Phoenix asks him why he goes along with this as if it isn’t a problem, and Clause angrily says that it isn’t a problem at all for him. He gets paid well, works less than normal, is allowed to do volunteer work

during work hours, and he has more free time for his family. No other employer would allow this, and he believes that it's worth taking a last minute delivery once in a while for all of that. Phoenix mentions that his wife clearly thinks that it's a problem, but he says that she is thinking he is being used for something nefarious. Phoenix asks Clause to elaborate, but he refuses, saying that he will not spread around the baseless rumors that are plaguing his boss. Clause calms down and apologizes for being so direct, and says that in his home he has a copy of his contract. He says that he will inform Lill that you need it, and that he will tell her to call Phoenix when she's home so that she can give it to him. Phoenix thanks Clause and tells him that sharing that information will help him prove his innocence.

The trio goes to the new scene of the crime, Kremy Poshley's Wonderous Workshop, and immediately see that the number of police officers has multiplied. They are mostly next to the Christmas tree, and with them is also Detective Gumshoe. The trio asks Gumshoe about the investigation so far, and he tells them what they have found: the victim is Roberto Inatto, apparently Poshley's bodyguard; the autopsy report hasn't been made yet, the cause of death is probably being hit by a vehicle, and the time of death will probably be unidentifiable due to where the body was hidden. Gumshoe explains that the prosecution's current theory is that Clause killed Inatto after he saw him hiding the toys he stole. According to him this must've happened between 8:00 pm and 8:30 pm. He then shows that the body was found inside one of the bigger presents found under the Christmas tree, and that in the same present is also a bunch of dry ice, that must've lowered the corpse's temperature. Phoenix notices that the present is filled to the brim with dry ice, and he is surprised that a body was found there along with the ice. Gumshoe then shows a second present, this one with a sack full of toys made by the K.P.W.W. The sack has a hole at the bottom, and the police have tested that the toy Misser stole would've passed through it, more or less confirming Phoenix's theory from the trial. Phoenix notices that this present is much bigger than the first, and he questions why the body wasn't hidden in the bigger one. Gumshoe says that he came up with the same question, considering that the victim was rather large to put it bluntly. He says that they have already analyzed the toys themselves, so the team can pick one to take for the court record. Maya picks a box with a wooden nutcracker inside and asks Gumshoe if she can use it, to which he chuckles and says that actually the boxes are made specifically in a way that you don't have to break it to open it, so opening it to take a closer look shouldn't be a problem. Miles immediately interjects by saying that playing with the evidence is not only illegal but also a very dumb idea because you will leave fingerprints on it. Gumshoe then tells the trio that Franziska is currently getting information from the workshop's owner and the one who found the body, who are both inside the workshop proper.

The trio enters the workshop, where they see Franziska talking with Twinkles. She sees them and immediately makes clear that Twinkles is going to be a witness tomorrow, and that he's not allowed to share what he's going to be testifying. Franziska then leaves, wishing Phoenix good luck with his investigation. The trio is left alone with Twinkles who says that he can answer any question that doesn't involve his testimony. Phoenix asks about the discovery of the body, and Twinkles starts explaining that in the morning they were doing the final preparations for the "Gifts under the Tree" event they were supposed to do in the afternoon, but when he checked inside one of the presents, he found Inatto's body, who he says had "pressed F". He then left as quickly as possible to give this information to the court. What he says seems believable, but Phoenix sees 4 Psyche-Locks appear when he explains his story. Now suspicious, Phoenix asks for information about the victim, and Twinkles says that he doesn't know anything about him other than that he's Poshley's bodyguard, and that he thinks he "slayed". By that he means that he always looked ready for a fight, and that he didn't want to stay near him for too long. Phoenix asks Twinkles what he was doing between 8:00 and 8:30 pm, and he says that he doesn't have an alibi for that time, because Poshley took his place in the evening tour to give him some time to relax. Phoenix asks for some more information about the tours, and Twinkles explains that the workshop allows for tours on most days, that they always take 1 hour from start to finish, and that they make 1 every 2 hours starting at 2 pm and ending at 8 pm. With that, the trio leaves Twinkles.

The trio enters Poshley's office, and are welcomed heartily by its owner. Phoenix immediately starts asking questions, beginning with Poshley's alibi: he says that he was in his office the entire day until about 8:00 pm, because he decided to take Twinkles' place as tour guide. He says that if the trio asks around the workshop, they should be able to confirm that Poshley's car never left the workshop on the day of the crime. Phoenix then asks for information about the victim, and Poshley says that he was his bodyguard, and that he doesn't know of anybody with a motive to kill him, so he thinks his murder was either an accident, or not for a personal reason. Phoenix then takes a big breath and asks Poshley about the rumors surrounding him, not wanting to directly mention Clause's contract, but Poshley has a confused reaction to Phoenix's question. As far as he knows there aren't any rumors surrounding himself. He says that he doesn't like hiding his past, and that everything about him is public knowledge so that people know who they're dealing with. Phoenix is even more confused, but before he can ask any more questions, Gumshoe bursts in the room, saying that Poshley has to come with them for an interrogation at the precinct. Poshley asks if he will be able to come back to the workshop before tomorrow,

and Gumshoe confirms it. Poshley says that if the trio has any further questions, they will have to wait until the evening. He then leaves with Gumshoe.

As the trio leaves they notice that Twinkles is also nowhere to be seen, and because of that they think they have investigated the new crime scene enough. They go back to the mall's parking lot, where they find Alice slumping around with a metal detector. They approach her and ask her what she's doing, and she responds that the detective in charge of the case told her that there was an "important forensic investigation" to do in the parking lot, and ended up searching the parking lot for the missing bullet. She doesn't appear to be enjoying it. Maya wants to cheer her up, so she tells Phoenix to show her something to do exactly that. Phoenix tells Alice that they actually have a piece of evidence they want her to examine: the toy taken from the gift box at the workshop. Maybe a forensic analysis of it will give them a clue to the robber's identity. Alice's eyes light up, and says that it will be done in a jiffy, and that they can come to the lab to see the results. She then leaves, entering the mall. Not having anything else to do outside, the trio enters as well.

Inside the mall, the trio finds an unexpected familiar face: Cody Hackins. He says that he's been trying to find Phoenix ever since he saw him at the workshop, and he says that he wants to help his investigation because he considers Phoenix an hero. Cody reveals that he was at the workshop on the day of the murder, specifically taking the tour that happened between 5:50 pm and 6:50 pm. He says he wanted to take the tour specifically because he wanted to see the "Pole Connection Room", which is filled with fog and "connects with Santa Claus' north pole workshop". Unfortunately the tour he took specifically didn't pass through that room, so he had to sneak away from the tour guide to see it by himself. In there he saw someone suspiciously moving a cardboard box, and he took a photo of him while he did it. The photo doesn't help identify the man, but at least show that what Cody saw actually happened. Phoenix asks Cody if he saw anything else of interest on that day, and he says that he saw something really funny during the tour itself: the tour guide lost his signature sunglasses, and his eye twitched every time he explained anything! He also says that he was interested in the "Gifts under the Tree" event, because during the event, Santa Claus was going to appear and open the five gift boxes full of toys that were then going to be given to lucky kids in the audience. Phoenix is confused, because he is sure to have seen 7 gift boxes under the tree while investigating, but Cody reiterates that he is sure to have seen 5 gift boxes when he visited the workshop on the day of the murder. Phoenix keeps all of this in mind, and thanks Cody for his help.

As the trio waits for Alice's analysis to end, they make one last investigation of Center, where they find one unlikely face: Scrooge Misser, holding a plastic bag with a steel samurai figurine inside. He quickly hides it behind his back as he sees the trio, and tries to leave, but Phoenix stops him to ask him some questions. Misser says that asking him questions will be a waste of time because he is an old liar who only cares about money, and you can't teach an old dog new tricks. As he says that 3 Psyche-Locks appear, suggesting that he actually feels bad for his actions and that he's forcing himself to believe he can't change. Phoenix quickly breaks his Psyche-Locks, by proving that he already changed, because he stole a toy specifically for his grandkid on the day of the murder, he apologized to Clause about his actions a couple of hours prior, and because he is actively buying a toy for full price right now. Misser seems to believe Phoenix's words and he is now much nicer and more helpful towards him. He asks Phoenix if he's investigating the death at the workshop, and after he confirms it, he reveals that he actually worked there before retirement, so he can give Phoenix some background information. Phoenix asks Misser if he knows of any rumors surrounding Kremy Poshley, but he says that there are no rumors about him, only straight facts. He reveals that when Poshley was young he was an associate to the mafia, specifically the Cadaverinis. Poshley right now actually hates the Cadaverinis with every fiber of his being, and in fact he started the workshop specifically to spite them. Misser then says that anything more specific than that will have to come out of Poshley's mouth directly. Phoenix then asks for clarification on Misser's testimony, and he says that everything he said during his last testimony is true, but he now remembers some extra details he forgot to mention before: he now remembers that the robber he saw was definitely limping, and that before the robber and the victim met, the latter was checking her SUV's trunk for something. The instant the robber approached her, she closed the trunk, and Misser didn't see what was inside the trunk. Phoenix thanks him for the information, and Misser thanks him back for helping him see things clearly.

The trio enters the lab, which now has a distinct lack of FBI agents. Alice greets them to her humble abode and starts informing them on her discoveries: first she explains that the police found out that the first murder weapon, the gun, was obtained illegally. Japanifornia has some strict gun laws that allow only some very specific weapon manufacturers to make them. The murder weapon didn't come from these manufacturers, so it must be illegally made. Secondly, she found some interesting fingerprints on the toy they gave her, but she said that it would be more exciting for them to find out who it belonged to on their own. She gives Phoenix all that is necessary to find and identify fingerprints, including a list of all the fingerprints of the people related to the case made by the FBI itself. Phoenix dusts for prints and finds some suspicious prints both on the box and the toy itself that belong to... Elvis

Twinkles? Everyone is shocked, but Alice says that Mr. Body discoverer clearly did more than just that. Edgeworth calms everyone down and mentions that there was something even weirder on the list of fingerprints itself. Phoenix agrees, saying that it contained the fingerprints of all the people of interest, including the late Roberto Inatto, but didn't include the ones from Dagnea Deep. Considering the list was made by the FBI, Phoenix asks Alice why she was working with them again, and what they are hiding, but when she refuses to talk her 3 Psyche-Locks appear again. Phoenix has enough to break them this time: he deduces that the FBI's involvement has something to do with Deep, and that's why her fingerprints weren't on the document; he then deduces that Deep was actually an undercover FBI agent investigating the mall, and that Alice was working with the FBI because she found out Deep's secret identity. All Psyche-Locks break, and after making sure that no one is listening in, Alice confirms all that Phoenix deduced. She doesn't know exactly what Deep or the FBI were investigating about the mall, but she is going to give Phoenix her best theory. The mall's construction was very long and very expensive, and it is rumored that part of the construction's funding came from the mafia, specifically the Cadaverinis. Alice believes the FBI was investigating the mall, to find out if there was any Cadaverini involvement, and sent Deep as an undercover agent to help with that. Deep was Center's logistics expert, so she worked with the mall's warehouse a lot. Alice's theory is that Deep was investigating the mall's warehouse. She then explains that the FBI agents she worked with were using the lab to check all security recordings of people leaving Center, and that it seemed like they were trying to find something specific. Lastly, Alice explains something Deep told her the day before she was murdered: Deep told her that she was taking the following day (the day of the murders) off to stay with her family during the holidays, and she suggested Alice do the same. When Alice told Deep she wasn't going to do that, she revealed to her that she thought that something dangerous was going to happen at Center on the 23rd, and that she only wanted her to stay safe. It seems like Deep knew that the robbery was going to happen, and that she probably was the unknown caller that notified the police about it.

Suddenly, Phoenix's phone rings, and after picking up, he hears Lill Clause's voice, who tells him that she's now available to give him Clause's contract. She gives Phoenix the location of her house, then hangs up. Phoenix thanks Alice for all the information she gave them, and she thanks him for giving her an excuse to leave her bullet finding job, even if she now has to return to it. The trio leaves the mall and arrives at the Clauses home, which is very welcoming and decorated for Christmas. Lill welcomes the trio, Noelle still sitting on her shoulders, and tells them to sit down as she gets Clause's contract. The contract stipulates that in signing the contract, Clause gives away ownership of the trailer part of his

truck, Rudolph, to the K.P.W.W. Clause still owns the tractor part of Rudolph, and has the responsibility of using it, together with the trailer part, to move all workshop merchandise. The contract also stipulates that, should Clause: 1. help or try to help load or unload the trailer; 2. look inside the trailer unless specifically allowed to; or 3. refuse an order from a superior to transport something using the truck; he will be fired from the workshop, and lose ownership of Rudolph's tractor to the K.P.W.W. Phoenix also notices a fine print that says that the K.P.W.W. holds the right of changing the contract's contents at any moment. The signers are Nicholas Clause and Kremy Poshley. Lill says that she thinks Poshley is using her husband to do something malicious, and says that there are rumors around him that say he's a mafioso. She says that Poshley must be the culprit: he robbed Center, killed poor Deep and framed Clause in the process. Hearing this, Noelle starts tearing up, saying that Poshley is a good man, and that he didn't kill anybody. Lill apologizes and tries to calm Noelle down, while Maya asks her if she knows Poshley. Noelle says that Poshley is his dad's boss and the one who led the beautiful tour she saw 2 days ago. The trio suddenly realizes that Noelle (and by proxy Lill) was at the workshop on the day of the crime, specifically during Poshley's tour, which was the one that started at 8 pm and ended when the police arrived to arrest Clause at 8:30 pm. Lill is confused, and asks why a workshop tour is so important, and when she is informed that a second murder happened at the workshop around when she and her daughter were there, she vows to answer all questions asked of her. Lill explains that they went to the workshop to meet with Clause after his long day of work, but when Noelle heard that Poshley himself was going to lead the following workshop tour, she insisted on seeing it, and Lill obliged. Lill says she wasn't paying attention to the tour because she already saw it a million other times, so Maya starts asking Noelle questions instead. She says that she was looking at and listening to Poshley the entire time, because he was really entertaining and friendly. She also mentions that the tour didn't pass through the "Pole Connection Room", but it was fine for her because she already saw it during another tour. Phoenix thinks that this confirms Poshley's alibi, but is confused about the fact that 2 tours that day didn't pass through the "Pole Connection Room". He starts to think that maybe Noelle could confirm something else that Cody claimed: he mentions the "Gifts under the Tree" event, and asks Noelle how many presents she saw under the Christmas tree. Noelle stays silent, but Lill speaks up, saying that it must be 5: his husband was supposed to make an appearance in the event, so she knows how it was set up. Phoenix mentions that when he investigated he definitely saw 7 presents, and hearing this, Lill suddenly remembers something. When the tour ended because of the police showing up, she went outside and noticed that there were 7 presents under the tree! She found it weird at the time, but she forgot about it when her husband was arrested.



Suddenly, the trio hears a door being knocked. Lill goes to open the front door, and on the other side, she finds Franziska von Karma and a group of policemen. She says that she needs to talk with Lill Clause because she holds important information about the defendant. Upon seeing Phoenix, Franziska tells him that she finished Poshley's and Twinkles' interrogation, so he's free to talk to them in the workshop. She also informs Phoenix that as an associate of Interpol, she got information about the FBI's involvement in the case, and that she is willing to use it in court tomorrow should it be necessary. When Miles tells her that she can't just leak classified information like that, he gets whipped, just as Franziska says that nothing will stand between her and the truth: she will see that the one behind all of the recent crimes will be arrested. She then says that it's getting late, and suggests that Phoenix finishes his investigation. He agrees, and after giving Franziska one last good luck, the trio goes towards the workshop. On their way, they take a stop at Snowflake Mall's parking lot, where they hear a familiar voice yell out "YEEEEES!!! I DID IT!!!!". They find Alice, absolutely ecstatic, and ask her what happened. She says that she actually found the bullet that killed Deep! She can barely contain her excitement as she says that she is gonna do all the tests she can on it, and she's gonna find out who killed her superior. In a blink of an eye, she disappears, leaving behind just some footprints in the snow that already start being filled up by the still falling snowflakes. With this additional point of knowledge, the trio actually gets to the workshop.

It's late in the evening as the trio arrives at the workshop, the only people outside of it are Gumshoe and some other investigators. Gumshoe tells the trio that Twinkles and Poshley are both inside the workshop, so they go to find them. Twinkles is nowhere to be found, so the trio goes to Poshley's office first. Poshley greets them again and asks the trio if they have any more questions to ask him. Phoenix gets straight to the point, and asks Poshley why he didn't share with them that he was part of the mafia. Poshley stays silent, and says that he now understands what Phoenix meant with "rumors". Phoenix says that the Cadaverinis are likely involved in the case, so the fact that Poshley is part of the family makes him a suspect. Poshley rudely tells Phoenix to no longer suggest that he is connected to those "animals". He sighs and asks the trio to listen to his story, so that he can explain why he hates the Cadaverinis more than anything else in the world. Poshley's family was always involved with the Cadaverinis, but after living his younger years as a proud gangster, he decided to leave the gang life behind, because he got severely traumatized by some things the family was doing. He refuses to go in more detail to spare the trio of the sights he was forced to see. Unsure on how to live a normal, happy life, Poshley realized something: the gang life only gave out sadness, grief and despair, to himself and others, so to repent for his former actions, and to spite the family he hated so

much, he just had to do something that was the exact opposite: bring joy and happiness to others. That's where he found his happiness. And that is the reason he created Kremy Poshley's Wonderous Workshop: to give out the smiles and childhoods he was never allowed to have. Poshley explains that the workshop means everything to him, because it represents the opposite of the life he left behind. Maya is saddened after hearing Poshley's story, and she apologizes for digging up old wounds. Poshley accepts the apology. Phoenix isn't as convinced: he shows Poshley Clause's document, and asks him why he is forcing Clause to comply with it. Poshley stays silent. Phoenix says that if he's truly given up on the gang life, he wouldn't be treating his employee's like this. Hearing this, Poshley twitches, then asks Phoenix to repeat what he just said. He does so, and then Poshley says that he hates to repeat himself, but he really doesn't like being compared to those "animals". He yells out that he's nothing like those Cadaverini scum, and he will not let himself just be insulted like that in his workshop. As he says that Phoenix sees 5... Black? Psyche-Locks? He has no idea what they mean, but before he can even think about them, Poshley tells the trio that if they have finished insulting him, he wants them gone from his office so that he can stay alone for a while. He makes it clear that he will not take no for an answer, so the trio leaves.

Phoenix asks Maya if she knows anything about Black Psyche-Locks, but she is just as confused as Phoenix is. Miles overhears this conversation, but understands even less about these Psycho-Locks, so he ignores them. Suddenly the trio sees Twinkles looking at an online article on his surprisingly modern phone. The trio approaches him, knowing that he's got something to hide about the discovery of Inatto's body. He tells them "Hello there, fellow lawyers!", then that "one does not simply sneak up" to him while he's reading articles about probable future slang words. Maya is interested in his research, but Twinkles admits that reading the article only made his brain rot. Phoenix interrupts the conversation to break Twinkles' 4 Psyche-Locks. Twinkles retells his story about discovering the body, but Phoenix knows he's hiding something about it: after all if he just found the body, his fingerprints wouldn't be on the stolen toy they analyzed. Twinkles says that he just touched it accidentally when he found the body, but Phoenix immediately says that if that's all that happened there wouldn't be fingerprints on the toy itself, but just on its box, and they found Twinkles' fingerprints on the toy too! Twinkles starts sweating and says that actually his fingerprints aren't "sus" because he helped pack the toys when they were made, and that's how they got on the toy. Phoenix teasingly says that if that's the case, it wouldn't be a problem to check the one toy that fell out of the sack during the robbery, because Twinkles' fingerprints would definitely be on it, right? Twinkles gets even more nervous, and accidentally lets out "If only that boomer Misser didn't steal that toy!", and Phoenix latches

onto it, saying that he shouldn't have known that Misser took the toy, because that was just revealed in court earlier today. Twinkles starts sweating and holds his sunglasses closer than usual as he says that Misser actually just told him after the trial, and that's how he knew, but Phoenix finds that hard to believe, considering Twinkles himself was either at the workshop or at the police station the entire day after the trial. Phoenix reminds Twinkles that his timing on announcing the discovery of the body to the court was impeccable: just when Clause was about to get a not guilty verdict, Twinkles appeared and suddenly all the tables had turned. Phoenix proposes that Twinkles actually found the body earlier than when he claims, and that he found the perfect moment to reveal it to stop the verdict. He knew Misser's involvement because he saw the trial from start to finish! There is one last lock to break, and Phoenix does so by revealing why Twinkles did all of that. Just as Phoenix accuses Twinkles of the murder of Roberto Inatto, a wild "Hold It!!!" is heard, but Phoenix ignores it, waiting for the last lock to break. Suddenly Phoenix is whipped out of the lock dimension, but he can't see Franziska anywhere: instead Poshley has entered the room, but he doesn't seem to hold any whip. Poshley says that while he may not have taken action against the trio had they just insulted himself, he will not tolerate them badgering an employee of his with baseless accusations. Twinkles suddenly regains all of his cool, and says that he will show them who's boss during the trial tomorrow. Poshley then says that he hates to do it to anyone, but the trio is banned from staying on the premises of the workshop, and tells them to please leave. Phoenix objects, saying he can't just do something like that, but Poshley replies that everything he is doing is perfectly legal, and that if Phoenix wants to he can sue them about it, but having a losing lawsuit is probably the last thing they want right now. Poshley then repeats that he hates repeating himself, and he tells the trio to "Please, leave.". As he says that, he twists the top of his cane, until a \*click\* is heard, and a grin appears on his otherwise emotionless face. Seeing no other way out, the trio leaves. Everything will be resolved in court tomorrow.

### *Trial 2, 25th December.*

In the defendant's lobby, Phoenix and Maya are talking with Pearl, who came here to wish them good luck and merry Christmas, asking her if she knows anything about Black Psyche-Locks. She has never heard of them before, but says that maybe the locks are Black because of the nature of the secret they're hiding. Other than that, she doesn't know, and says that she will inform herself about it after the trial. Suddenly Clause enters the lobby. Phoenix and Maya inform him of their findings during the last investigation, and their current suspicions on Twinkles and Poshley. Miles enters the lobby with another guest, Alice Bora. She says that she is doing all the necessary tests on the bullet by herself, and that she will get to the courtroom the moment they are all done. Miles remarks that they

would have already been finished with the tests if Alice had just worked with the police, but she says that this is her moment, and she will not give it away to some rando. She then says good luck to Phoenix and leaves. Clause remarks that she didn't even wish them a merry Christmas, but before he can end his sentence the bailiffs call for the defence to enter the courtroom. Miles tells Phoenix that he made sure that Poshley was present at the trial, so that he could be called on at a moment's notice, then gives his good luck and goes to the gallery together with Pearl.

Court is in session for the trial of Nicholas Clause. The judge thanks everyone for coming here even though it's Christmas, and asks the prosecution to give her opening statement. Franziska says that the trial will be mainly based on the murder of Roberto Inatto, a crime the prosecution thinks was also committed by the defendant, but before that, she wants to clear a couple of things with her theory about the crimes that happened at Snowflake Mall. During yesterday's trial, it was found out that the robber's escape route wasn't through the warehouse, but through a secret exit next to the mall's main entrance. After a thorough investigation, the secret exit was found, and because of that the prosecution will admit that it was the escape route that was actually used by the defendant. Phoenix objects, saying that Clause doesn't have any injuries from a 1 story fall, so he couldn't have used that exit. Franziska says that it was Phoenix himself that first suggested that the robber "must" have gotten hurt from the fall, so he's the one that actually has to prove that true. If he manages to do that, Franziska will take back her claim. Phoenix can't come up with anything so Franziska continues, explaining that using that escape route actually proves that the defendant was the robber: according to a contract made between the defendant and the K.P.W.W., the defendant isn't allowed to even try and help the loading and unloading of the merchandise he moves, which means that upon even entering the warehouse where the unloading was happening he would be recognized, and he would violate his contract. Phoenix quickly says that then Clause couldn't have even entered the mall, but Franziska responds that maybe he couldn't but Santa Claus could. She says that Clause must have kept his costume with him as he left Snowflake Mall at 4 pm, and that he must have had it on when he entered the warehouse, to make sure he wouldn't be recognized. Phoenix says that having a costume on wouldn't have helped him at all, but Franziska explains that not everybody at Snowflake Mall knows that the mall Santa is Nicholas Clause, and she says that they saw an example of it just yesterday during Alice's testimony. Franziska then says that after Clause hid his costume in his loyalty locker, the only exit he could take was the one that Phoenix found during yesterday's trial. The judge says that while the theory is farfetched, it still is plausible, so he thinks that both the prosecution and the defense have equally probable theories for the Snowflake Mall crimes.

Franziska then brings up the murder of Roberto Inatto, saying that it will be the final nail in Clause's coffin. She presents the victims autopsy report: Inatto died because of blunt force trauma caused by being hit with a vehicle, time of death unknown, only fractured bone is the right ankle. Franziska says that as Clause was hiding the toys he stole, Inatto saw him, so he killed him by hitting him with his truck. Clause then hid both the body and the stolen toys inside 2 empty presents sitting under the workshop's Christmas tree. She then calls Elvis Twinkles to the stand, who will give testimony that proves the prosecution's claims. Twinkles testifies that the "Pole Connection Room" is filled with fog because they use a fog machine that requires dry ice to function. He says that he saw Clause take a bunch of dry ice out of the machine, at about 8:10 pm. He didn't report it earlier because he didn't think that it was "sus", but after finding Inatto's body covered in dry ice, he knew that he had to reveal it to the court. Phoenix realizes that this is nowhere near what they discussed the day before, so it will take some more work, but he knows Twinkles must be lying. Phoenix objects, saying that he couldn't have seen Clause steal the dry ice because the dry ice had already been stolen! According to a witness, the tour that started at 5:50 pm deliberately didn't pass through the Pole Connection Room, and Phoenix is willing to bet that it's because the dry ice was stolen already. Twinkles flinches and says that actually that was because the fog machine broke just before that specific tour. All following tours didn't pass through the room for the same reason. Phoenix doesn't let that take him down and he presents Cody's photo, which clearly shows someone stealing something from the Pole Connection Room. Even better, the photo clearly shows that the room was misty, so at least until the moment the photograph was taken, the machine was working, and the photo was taken after the tour had already started. Twinkles almost loses his glasses, and then asks who even took that photo, a question that Franziska asks as well. Phoenix says that it was the same witness mentioned before, who decided to sneak away from the tour for a moment.

Twinkles gets serious for a moment and says that he already knows what Phoenix wants to say so he should just "yeet" out the accusation already. Phoenix does just that, accusing Twinkles of the murder of Roberto Inatto. Twinkles does the anime glasses thing and says "Hehehe... You activated my trap card, specifically... THIS CARD!!!" as he pulls out his driver's license. Crickets are heard across the courtroom, only interrupted by Twinkles disappointedly saying that he had prepared for that moment all night. The judge does say that it was a cool moment, but he doesn't understand what his driver's licence proves. Twinkles says that he does have a driver's license, but it only allows him to drive motorcycles, "aka" he doesn't even know how to drive a car, let alone a truck! Both Phoenix

and Franziska seem skeptical that driver's licences for motorcycles only even exist, and Twinkles realizes that he was so unlucky to be in the only court filled with people that never took a driving lesson. Anyway Twinkles testifies by saying that he couldn't have murdered Inatto because he can't drive a car, not to mention that he doesn't even have a motive to kill him. Phoenix starts to think about Twinkles' possible motive, which he completely forgot about until now. The only motive he can think of is that Inatto saw something that he shouldn't have seen, but Twinkles stops him by asking Phoenix if he's now going to say he was the robber as well, even though multiple people saw him conducting a tour at the same time that the robbery was taking place. He then asks if he's going to claim that he "mlg 360 no scoped" Dagnea Deep as well while he was in a completely different location.

Phoenix can't come up with anything... Is Twinkles really innocent? In that case who killed Inatto? Maya tells Phoenix to calm down, because if he breaks apart now, Clause's fate is sealed. Phoenix realizes that even if he proves Twinkles guilty of the murder of Inatto, Clause still isn't fully safe. But he is innocent of all two murders and the robbery, so who could have done it? Wait... The robbery... Phoenix remembers Twinkles' remark about "completely different locations", and has a massive realization: he figured out who the robber is! The courtroom is shocked in silence as they wait for Phoenix's next words. Phoenix says that the robber was Roberto Inatto, the second victim of the day! Franziska tells Phoenix that he must be insane, and tells him that he needs to present some evidence if he wants to be taken seriously, and Phoenix does just that: he presents the autopsy report, that mentions that Inatto's only broken bone was an ankle, something you would expect out a 1 story fall rather than a collision with a truck. In addition, Inatto was described as "rather large" which would fit with what witnesses described the robber. Twinkles laughs at this, saying that Inatto's car that day never left the workshop, so he is sure that he stayed at the workshop the entire day. Phoenix says that Inatto had the perfect method of transportation with him though, one that he could use while staying hidden: he hitched a ride on Rudolph! Clause didn't know it because he isn't allowed to see the truck's trailer! Franziska says that even if he could do something like that, how could he have returned without being noticed? Phoenix says that he returned the same way he got there, by hiding inside Rudolph. Franziska says that in the return trip there weren't any boxes to hide in, but Phoenix isn't so sure: 2 boxes were added under the workshop's Christmas tree sometime during the last tour, which started just when Clause got back from the Mall. Inatto must have hidden inside one of those two boxes. Franziska says that in that case the testimony from whoever unloaded those boxes will be enough to destroy Phoenix's theory.

Twinkles laughs, saying that the kids would call this a “coinkidink”. He reveals that he was the one that unloaded the truck at 8 pm. This is surprising to even the prosecution, but Twinkles continues by saying that Phoenix’s theory makes no sense because if Inatto is the robber, then who killed him? Everyone at the workshop had an alibi between 8 and 8:30 pm, except for Twinkles himself and Clause, but he can’t drive so he couldn’t have killed him with a truck, and Clause has no motive because he doesn’t even know a robber is in his truck. So according to Phoenix’s logic, Inatto’s corpse should “Ctrl + V” itself back to life. Phoenix tells him he got the wrong letter, then thinks about what he said really hard. If Twinkles is innocent, he must be an accomplice, the one who moved the body and the toys, and his fingerprints on the toys prove it. But if Twinkles is innocent, then Clause is the only suspect! The two are the only ones without an alibi between 8 and 8:30 pm... Wait... That’s it! If the only suspect is Clause between 8 and 8:30 pm, and Clause is innocent, the murder must’ve happened at a different time! Phoenix screams objection, and says that the 2 murders had one thing in common, that being that the time of death wasn’t discernable, and Phoenix says that this was done on purpose by the murderer to fabricate an alibi! The murders happened earlier than everyone thought! Franziska gets angry and says that if Phoenix wants to make his theory believable, he should show evidence that the murders happened before the originally thought crimes. Phoenix says that he will do just that: for Deep’s murder, he presents Cody’s photo, which shows someone stealing dry ice from the fog machine. This shows that something happened at around 5:50 pm that required someone to steal dry ice, which to Phoenix seems like someone that needs to keep a body from freezing. Franziska scolds him for suddenly suggesting that Deep was killed at the workshop, but Phoenix says that it will make sense when he explains why he thinks the murder of Inatto happened earlier: he presents Misser’s testimony, who claims to have seen the robber limping, which is an additional piece of evidence that shows Inatto to be the robber, and, much more importantly, saw the moment of the murder. “Claims” is the important word here because he specifically said that he “heard a bang and saw a flash, and the next second the victim was nowhere to be found.”, which means he never saw Deep’s body! And because he left immediately after seeing the scene, he didn’t see anything that happened after, which according to Phoenix is when “the victim” reappeared and ran over Inatto. Franziska still isn’t satisfied and asks Phoenix who would’ve done all of this, and Phoenix smugly says that there is only one person that would gain anything from having Inatto’s murder happening between 8 and 8:30 pm, the only one who could fabricate a perfect alibi for that exact time period. That person is Kremy Poshley! The court goes wild, and only after the judge regains order Franziska says that she is okay with having Poshley testify, to finally break Phoenix’s theory. Phoenix thinks that she let him have this a

bit too easy but doesn't let this opportunity go to waste. The judge announces a recess for the preparation of Kremy Poshley's testimony. Court is adjourned for a 20 minute recess.

Phoenix and Maya take a deeeeeeeep sigh of relief because they can't believe they actually got through all of that. Clause asks them if they truly believe that Poshley did it, and Phoenix tells him that he is the only suspect left. Clause sighs and says that if he did it, he better have a good explanation for the why, because he just doesn't seem like someone who would kill 2 people in one night. Suddenly the door is opened and Gumshoe and Alice come in, saying that they have important information for Phoenix. Alice starts by saying that forensic analysis shows that the bullet wasn't shot by the murder weapon, and that there wasn't even a shred of blood on it. Gumshoe then says that the police did a background check on Roberto Inatto, and they found out that he used to work as part of the Cadaverini family. Phoenix thanks both for the information and prepares to bring down Poshley.

Court is back in session for the trial of Nicholas Clause. Poshley is already on the stand ready to give his testimony, and he says that he forgets Phoenix for just trying out all the options he has to save Clause, but he will not take an accusation like that without defending himself. He likes to make things quick so he immediately questions the biggest hole in Phoenix's theory: motive. Why would Poshley do anything Phoenix has proposed? Why kill Deep, someone he didn't even know? Why kill Inatto, who was his loyal bodyguard? To him it doesn't make any sense. Phoenix thinks otherwise: he had ample motive to kill Deep, or should he say, FBI Agent Deep. Deep was investigating Snowflake Mall, specifically its warehouse, to find proof of Cadaverini involvement, and the FBI has been actively looking for something that people might have bought from Center on the 22nd before the robbery. A toy made from the K.P.W.W. perhaps? Considering that Poshley himself has a connection to the Cadaverinis, and that the workshop almost only sells toys to Snowflake Mall's Center, maybe the FBI thought that the two locations were connected to their case. Hearing this, Poshley is actively restraining himself and trying not to get too angry. He then asks why would the FBI ever be interested in some toys? Phoenix draws a blank for this, but fortunately Franziska doesn't: as an Interpol associate, the FBI allowed her to learn something about Deep's investigation. Apparently, they thought that the warehouse was being used for weapons and bullet smuggling, but they never understood how these things came to the warehouse itself. Franziska explains that an illegal arms manufacturing plant was making weapons like the one that killed Deep, all while never being found out. To her it seems like the work of a front organization. Phoenix puts it all together: if the workshop was a front for an illegal weapon manufacturing plant, they could hide the bullets and the guns inside the toys, which would get transported by Clause who



was forbidden from looking at what he was moving, and then Cadaverini workers at the warehouse could take the contraband out of the toys that could then go to the store's shelves like nothing happened!

A quiet laughter starts to be heard from the center of the courtroom. Poshley, hiding his face with his tophat, asks Franziska "Did you just call the fruits of my life's labours a "front" for those animals? Would you care to repeat that, child?". Franziska gets angry upon being called child, and instinctually whips Poshley, but contact is never made: Poshley has brought up his cane and had the whip wrap around it. After that he says that using whips like that isn't gonna land you on the nice list, and that the punishment for being on the naughty list is conveniently, also a whipping. He then lets the whip go in such a way that Franziska's whip whips herself. Poshley then throws away his tophat, revealing long black hair that covers his face, and twists the top of his cane, which then opens, revealing a cat o' nine tails whip that Poshley picks up and starts using on the witness stand. Franziska, still reeling in pain, says that whipping someone in court is illegal, but Poshley tells her to rudely shut up because the adults are talking. He then tells Phoenix that he won't allow himself to take accusations without fighting back, and he intends to do that without holding anything back. Phoenix tells him he intends to do the same.

Phoenix accuses Poshley of the murders of Dagnea Deep and Roberto Inatto, but Poshley immediately retorts by saying that he had no motive to kill either. Phoenix objects and says that he had a very good motive to kill Deep, because she would've arrested him for his part in the plot of the illegal weapons manufacturing. Poshley says that Deep was an undercover FBI agent, and that she wouldn't have arrested anyone without evidence of their crime, because otherwise she would have given away her cover for nothing. Phoenix says that Deep actually had evidence against Poshley: the gun that ended up killing Deep wasn't produced legally, so it was probably produced by Poshley's manufacturing plant! When Deep tried to arrest Poshley she showed him the gun as a piece of evidence against him, and he used it as a weapon against her! Poshley whips the witness stand a couple more times, then with a wide grin tells Phoenix that he's underestimating Deep's intelligence: even if the gun was produced by him, how did she get it? Probably by stealing it from somewhere. Deep wouldn't be so stupid as to use illegal evidence to try and arrest him, so Phoenix's theory is nonsensical. But Phoenix says that maybe the gun she showed to Poshley was illegal, but she knew well that a piece of completely legal evidence existed against him: the FBI were actively looking for people that may have bought a K.P.W.W. toy, and Deep seemed to have known that something dangerous might happen on the 22nd, which is why she informed the police of a possible robbery. These 2 pieces of information

together suggest that Deep was able to make a toy get to Center's shelves, while it still had the contraband inside! That way if someone bought it, the evidence could've been obtained legally! That's what Deep counted on when she tried to arrest Poshley, but unfortunately she didn't count on the fact that the toys' costs were so high, that no one bought them at all that night. Franziska gets the courage to speak up again and tells Phoenix that if what he says is true then there's no way the Cadaverini workers wouldn't have noticed that something was wrong. Phoenix agrees with her completely: the Cadaverinis and, by extension, Poshley definitely knew what happened and its possible consequences. They couldn't risk that someone paid for the overpriced toy, so they devised a plan to take all the toys off the shelves at once, and pin it to an innocent trucker: they sent Inatto to rob Center! Poshley grins and says that speaking ill of the dead will not make Phoenix's theory more credible, but Phoenix rebuts by saying that because they know that Inatto actively worked for the Cadaverinis, the fact that he was Poshley's bodyguard makes him less credible! Poshley prepares for a massive whipping of the stand, but the whip bounces back, hitting him in the face instead.

Poshley recovers and says that Phoenix can come up with interesting theories, but he has yet to show a single piece of decisive evidence to prove anything he said. Phoenix says that Poshley also didn't provide a singular piece of evidence that proves his innocence, so he asks to do it in the form of testimony, specifically on why he couldn't have killed Dagnea Deep. Poshley obliges, saying that according to Phoenix's theory Deep died at the workshop, but he knows damn well she never showed up there, and there's nothing to prove she was there. Her body was found at the mall, so it's much more likely she died there, and in general, nothing out of the ordinary happened that day before 8 pm. Phoenix objects at the last statement, because something unusual definitely happened that day: a tour started before its usual starting time, 5:50 pm instead of 6 pm. In addition someone stole some dry ice during that specific tour, and Cody's photo proves it. Phoenix explains his theory in full: Deep went to Poshley's office to try and arrest him, and that is when she was shot. This happened around 5:45 pm. Poshley realized that if an FBI agent was found dead inside or near the workshop he was, to put it bluntly, screwed. He remembered that he was already planning to frame Clause for a robbery, so he seemed the perfect scapegoat for the murder as well. He ordered Elvis Twinkles to start the next workshop tour early, and to skip the fog room during that specific tour. While the staff members prepared to start the tour, Poshley cleaned up his office, and when he was sure the tour had started, and therefore sure that all the people in the workshop were in the same place, he dropped Deep's body outside the window, making it land in the snow of the parking lot. He then went to the "Pole Connection Room" and stole some dry ice that he used to alter the body's time

of death. He then got to the body and took both Deep's car keys and her gloves, to make sure he would leave no more prints. He then put both the body and the dry ice inside the trunk of the victim's SUV, and then he used it to go to Snowflake Mall. That is how Poshley was able to move between crime scenes without using his car! Poshley grinds his teeth and then bursts out laughing. He says that he hates repeating things, and that once again Phoenix has forgotten to provide any decisive evidence to prove his claim. Phoenix thinks that he obviously hasn't been able because Poshley eliminated like 90% of all evidence that pointed to him! Phoenix calms down, and thinks to himself that he's bound to have missed something eventually. He tells Poshley that for someone who hates repetition, he also hasn't shown any piece of evidence that proves his theory is false. Poshley says that he can't because Phoenix's theory is based on nothing, like when parents lie to their children about... he stops himself suddenly. Phoenix is glad to see that Poshley at least still cares about the children, but he tells him that his theory hasn't yet come to its conclusion, after all Poshley killed Inatto as well.

Poshley gets the hint and testifies on why he couldn't have killed Inatto. He says that Phoenix's theory makes no sense, because if he was the one that came out of Deep's car, he should have been dead! After all, Misser saw the robber shoot the one who came out of the car. Phoenix objects, saying that actually, Inatto's shot missed, and Misser never saw the moment of the murder: the bullet found at the mall's parking lot proves it! It has no blood on it, and it was shot by a gun different from the one that killed Deep. Poshley says that the situation is still nonsensical: why would Inatto just shoot his employer all of a sudden? Phoenix says that what happened was a somewhat tragic misunderstanding: Misser said that the "victim" opened the trunk of its car before being seen by the robber, and if we follow the theory, inside that trunk was Deep's body. She was brought there to frame Clause, but Inatto thought that she was brought there to frame him! That's why he shot Poshley! Poshley says that now another, bigger problem appears: Poshley admits he can't drive 18 wheelers, so he couldn't have killed Inatto using it! Phoenix then says that he can't use the same excuse Twinkles used, because unlike him, Poshley can drive a car. The actual murder weapon was the victim's SUV, which was big enough to not be heavily damaged during the hit, and fast enough to actually be effective. Poshley hits himself with his whip again while he tries to think, and he finally comes up with something: how did he leave? The SUV stayed at the scene of the crime, but he was still at the workshop at 8 pm to lead the last tour of the day! Phoenix explains that he simply hitched the ride Inatto was supposed to take: he put himself inside the present box that ended up at the workshop! He also couldn't just leave Inatto's body at the mall, because then people would have started asking questions about why he died there and on that day specifically, so he had to be

brought back to the workshop as well. He hid Deep under the pile of snow she was found under, and then took Inatto's body, the sack with the stolen toys and the dry ice, and brought it to the warehouse. There he put Inatto and the dry ice inside the smaller box, and himself and the stolen toys in the bigger one. Because hiding Inatto and the stolen toys inside the boxes was part of the original robbery plan, the ones who loaded the boxes didn't even notice that the "cargo" was different. Poshley then, looking exasperated, says that if what Phoenix says is true, then the people that unloaded the cargo at the workshop must've realized that a body and a person were inside the supposedly empty cargo. Phoenix corrects Poshley, because there was only one person unloading the cargo at that time: Elvis Twinkles. Poshley must've threatened him into collaboration, and that is why he took the lead during the 8 pm tour: he needed an alibi, and he needed to give Twinkles time to hide the body and check all the toys for the one that had the contraband in it, and the fact that Twinkles' fingerprints were found on the toys proves it.

Poshley whips the stand a bunch, and then starts laughing. He says that once again Phoenix forgot all the decisive pieces of evidence to prove his claim. Phoenix can't believe it! He has come this far and still everything against Poshley is circumstantial! He starts thinking that he really managed to cover his tracks too well, but he is woken by the crack of a whip. Franziska tells Phoenix to give up: clearly he won't get anything by pressing Poshley constantly. Wait... That's right! Phoenix doesn't need Poshley to confess! After all he has an accomplice! Phoenix thanks Franziska for her heads up, and then tells Poshley that he's dismissed, and that Twinkles should take the stand. After all, he was part of the plot as well, even though he was forced to do it. Poshley objects, saying that Twinkles doesn't need to testify to anything, but he can't make up a convincing argument. Suddenly something shifts in his eyes and he screams out. He tells the court that he confesses: he killed Deep, Inatto, set up the robbery, and tried to frame Clause to stay free. But he says that Twinkles isn't involved and shouldn't be pursued. The crimes were committed by himself alone. Franziska asks him if he confesses to the weapons manufacturing and smuggling too, but Poshley completely denies it. Phoenix tells Poshley that he tries to distance himself from the Cadaverinis, but in the end, he killed 2 people and tried to frame another for his crimes. To the eyes of the people and this court, he is just another mafioso. Poshley starts denying it repeatedly while holding his head, all the while Phoenix sees the 5 Black Psyche-Locks appear, until all of a sudden they all break at the same time, making Poshley make a massive scream. When the scream stops, he seems to have realized what he's become, and starts whipping the air wildly, accidentally hitting himself on his back and sides, all while screaming "I'M A MONSTER!!!!". Suddenly he whips the witness stand so hard, that his whip breaks and splits on the floor.

Poshley explains that the workshop meant everything to him, so when it started failing economically, he didn't know what to do. In a moment of panic he asked his former family for financial help, but they used it as a chance to bring him back into the business. The family gave him the loans he wanted, but with the "usual" interest rate they used for any other customer. After some time, the interest got really high, and the workshop didn't get more popular, putting Poshley in a pretty bad situation. Because he was family, the Cadaverinis gave him a way out of this: all of his debts to the family would be forgiven, as long as he allowed the family to use the workshop as a front for some criminal activity. Seeing no other choice to save his life's work, he agreed. Poshley says that he hated that his workshop became a front, but slowly began getting more invested in its success, all while he believed that he was only doing it to save his legitimate business. He says that only a couple of minutes ago he realized that he became just like, no, worse than the disgusting monsters he hated. He says that he deserves the death penalty here and now, but a wild "Hold It!!!" pauses that thought. It comes from Clause, who says that he can hear it in Poshley's voice that he regrets every singular bad thing he's done. The death penalty isn't something he deserves, because he can't better himself if he's dead. Poshley tells him that he doesn't deserve anything, and that he can't improve, because in the end he's just a Cadaverini. Franziska says that he's a Cadaverini that happens to hate the family's guts, so if he's willing, she's sure that either Interpol or the FBI would be willing to lower his sentence if he testifies against them. Poshley has no idea what to say. Clause says that, if Poshley chooses to take the path of change, he's the first one that is going to forgive him. Poshley begins to tear up and the only words that come out of his mouth are "Thank you..."

As Poshley is taken by the police, the judge tells Clause to take the stand. He says that it's been a long trial, and definitely the most active Christmas he ever had to experience. He is ready to pronounce his verdict: Nicholas Clause is found Not Guilty of murder and robbery. Cheers and confetti erupt in the courtroom. The judge tells everyone to enjoy their Christmas dinner and to have a happy new year. Court is adjourned.

Phoenix, Maya and Clause enter the defendant's lobby, and there they find Edgeworth, Pearl, Alice, Lill and Noelle. The last two immediately go to hug Clause, while Edgeworth gives his congratulations to Wright, and Alice says that she was sure Phoenix was going to succeed. Cody suddenly enters the room, asking if the trial is still ongoing, but is disappointed to see that it has just ended. Noelle and Lill seem to recognize him, and it is revealed that the 2 kids actually go to the same class. When Phoenix tells them that it was him that gave him some of the evidence necessary to catch the culprit, he starts getting

hugged as well. Franziska and Gumshoe enter the room as well, and Franziska doesn't seem angry at losing at all! She actually says that losing felt right this time. Miles questions if she even is the real Franziska, but a whip to the face makes him realize how real she is. Cody asks Clause if he is Santa, but he says that he's just one of his many representatives. Cody still says that he wants a photo with him. Clause says that it's a good moment for a group photo to remember the moment, and Alice volunteers on being the photographer: she analysed so many photographs and video tapes that she's practically an expert by now. Pearl says that she also wants to be in the photo, and Clause allows her to sit on his lap. Alice clicks the camera and...

In the middle of the photo there's Clause, sitting on a chair, and with both Cody and Pearl sitting on his lap. Noelle is sitting on his shoulders, and Lill is standing next to her husband. Phoenix and Maya are standing to Clause's right, while Franziska and Miles stand to his left. In the background Gumshoe is throwing confetti.  
To all a Merry Turnabout, and a happy new year!

The End.