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Name of School : St. Paul's Convent School

學校名稱 : 聖保祿學校

Name of Play 劇名 : Fade to Grey

Script writer 劇作者 : Lauren Cooke, Wong Cheuk Nam Charlotte, Aleena Kiani,
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Synopsis 故事大綱:

In a society where at the age of 12, people are given bright colours or grey: bright colours signifying innocence whereas grey signifying danger. Enter Luna Chroma. She is shunned and ostracized, alienated and forgotten because of her grey colour. Arrested for the murder of a bright-coloured, she is put on trial and is flooded with memories from her past. The question still remains: what happened that night she has zero recollection of?



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ACT 1 SCENE 1

INT. COURTROOM - PRESENT DAY

Judge: (Strikes gavel on sound block twice) The court is now in session for the trial of Ms. Luna Chroma.

PA: The prosecution is ready, Your Honor.

DA: The defence is ready, Your Honor.

Judge: Very well. Mr. Partipris, your opening speech, please.

PA: Yes, your Honour. (Judge nods) A bright coloured. A bystander. A victim. A victim of a drunk's blind rage. With a history of aggression and hostility and most importantly she is in black. You, the court, will see beyond a reasonable doubt that Ms. Chroma committed this murder in cold blood, and justice is a dish best served cold.

Judge: Defence?

DA: Yes, your Honour. (Judge nods) Prosecution will try to use Ms. Chroma's history as evidence; but they have cherry picked. They will choose selectively. They will ignore crucial moments that shape today's case... All because the defendant is in black. Prosecution will shift your attention away and provide biased evidence. But members of the jury, see beyond this and see the truth; that Ms. Chroma didn't, using Prosecution's words, murder in cold blood.

Judge: Very well. We shall now move on to testimony. Mr. Partipris, the prosecution may call its first witness.

PA: I call Detective/Lead Investigator to the stand.
(The prosecutor brings out his first witness: the lead investigator in charge of the case) Detective/lead investigator, please briefly describe this case to the court.

Detective: Victim was present at the crime scene for about 15 minutes, staying there until the crime occurred. A black cat entered the alleyway some 5 minutes after the victim. Both were not seen to exit.

The defendant ran into the alley another 5 minutes afterwards. She was holding a bottle of presumably vodka. She stopped at the entrance of the alley, before rushing in.

At the crime scene, shards of the vodka glass bottle were found scattered all over the ground. The blood splatters on the walls and floors, bruises on both the victim and defendant, and the large wounds on the victim's head indicate a severe fight. The rationale of the fight was unexplained by the defendant.



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- Detective: In particular, according to forensics, the amount of alcohol present in the defendant's body during the time of the murder, was most probably enough to render her completely drunk. There's a large possibility that the defendant was drunk enough to defy logic and sense to murder this innocent man.
- There were also ashes from burnt wood, the pile of wood which was previously burning before being extinguished by the victim's jacket, and a styrofoam box. In it was the black cat, which was nearly burnt to death and unconscious. The cat is currently receiving professional medical care.
- The crime most probably played out like this: either the defendant or the victim lit a fire, and put the box with the cat inside on top, such that it was properly heated and the cat inside was cooked. Then, the fight occurred, and the victim fell onto the fire, knocking over the set-up, and set the victim's jacket on fire. The defendant, holding the bottle of vodka, delivered a sharp blow to the right side of the victim's head. The time of the blow was about 7:30 at night.
- That is the case summed up.
- Judge: Mr. Justitia, you may now begin your cross-examination.
- DA: Yes, Your Honour. How do we know the exact times of when the victim, cat and defendant entered the alley?
- Detective: Oh, that. They were caught on tape by a security camera facing the main road, recording them walking into the alley. It puts the time at the bottom of the video, too, just for reference.
- DA: Thank you. About the security cameras... are there any recordings of the actual crime scene itself?
- Detective: No, mister. There weren't any security cameras recording the location of the crime. It was a blind spot, perfect for the defendant to commit the crime.
- DA: You have stated that the security camera at the entrance of the alleyway does not cover the actual alley itself. Correct?
- Detective: That's right, mister.
- DA: Where else does the alleyway have entrances?
- Detective: Oh, no, mister, this alleyway leads into a dead end, and it can only be accessed from this entrance. That's why we're sure no one else entered or exited during that time, mister.



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- PA: That means since the defendant and the victim were the only ones in the alleyway during the occurrence of the crime, no one else could have committed the murder.
- DA: Hold it. The detective didn't say anything about other people entering, he simply stated that the victim, the cat and my client were three people who entered the alleyway. How are you sure, then, there wasn't anyone else in there? There's always a possibility that someone else was already within, before even the victim. They could've been there for more than, say, five hours ago.
- Detective: I'm terribly sorry, mister. It must've slipped my mind. No one else entered the alleyway apart from the three of them. We've checked the videotapes of the 24 hours preceding the crime, and I'm pretty sure no one stays overnight in an alleyway just to murder some random guy who walks in for a smoke.
- DA: Moving on. Detective, do you claim that during the time of murder, my client was intoxicated?
- Detective: Yes. Under the influence of such large amounts of alcohol, it is possible for one to commit acts they otherwise would not do. The defendant was also a regular drinker, starting the habit from about a year ago. She personally admits to it.
- PA: That indicates that the defendant is unable to control her consumption of alcohol, much less her actions under its influence. And since she typically steals her alcohol instead of buying it, owing to her black status, this goes to show that she has no qualms with breaking the law.
- DA: Objection! My client's practises of alcohol and colour are not direct evidence of physical harm to the victim and not related to this case of murder.
- PA: Objection! My point here is that given her drunkenness and her criminal state of mind, Ms. Chroma is perfectly capable of committing this crime!
- Judge: Understood. Mr. Justitia, please resume your cross- examination.
- DA: Detective, how are we sure that the murder weapon was, indeed, the vodka bottle?
- Detective: Shards of the bottle were found in the victim's wounds, as well as on the floor surrounding him. He must have been hit by the vodka bottle from his right, and immediately slumped down. The blow instantly killed, too.
- DA: So... if the bottle came from the victim's right, then that implicates that the murderer struck from the left.



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- Detective: You could say so, I guess...
- DA: Yet! The protagonist is right-handed, therefore rendering it impossible for her to create the wound. Am I wrong?
- PA: Unfortunately, *DA*, you are indeed wrong. We cannot rule out the possibility that the defendant held the bottle with her left hand instead to create false clues. Given that she is skilled in street survival skills, it is always possible that her left hand is nearly equally as proficient as her right hand, explaining how the blow would be fatal anyways.
- DA: Wait, detective, did you state that the defendant's left hand fingerprint is present on the bottle?
- Detective: No, sorry, mister. Only the right hand fingerprints of the defendant were found on the bottle.
- DA: Which means there's a probability that she was simply drinking from the bottle, and someone else was framing her, using her personal practises and colour as misleading clues.
- PA: You're overlooking another scenario. Detective, is it possible for the defendant to strike with her backhand?
- Detective: Yes, she could've used her right hand, striking with her backhand, such that she hit the victim from her left.
- PA: Striking with her backhand can also cause confusion, and serves as a red herring as mentioned before. Also, given her physical conflict with bright coloured classmates in her early life, her aggressive, violent nature goes to prove that she can and has harmed society, and will go on threatening us if she is not imprisoned.
- DA: Hold it. She was under the influence of alcohol, which means that she could not have had the logic or planning skills to plant such red herrings as you call them, especially at the heat of the moment.
- PA: Still! It must have been the defendant's doing. Otherwise, how would you explain the absence of other fingerprints?