

**Ring of Thieves by Richard Prescott****1**

- 1 In a park in Nuneaton.
- 2 A teenage boy with a dog.
- 3 A wallet, a house key and a gold earring.
- 4 James Keating. 12 Sutton Street, Birmingham.

**2**

- 1 His train ticket was a return ticket from Birmingham to London. But Nuneaton is not on the main railway line from Birmingham to London.
- 2 A woman. And Harvey Chapman.
- 3 James tries to grab the person's neck. But he is thrown into the air and he lands heavily on the floor.
- 4 She tells him that he is thirty-two years old and that he works as a jeweller.
- 5 James' attacker.
- 6 An actor. He is married to a Hollywood film star called Pauline Greenwood.

**3**

- 1 To a police station.
- 2 Because his office is very untidy.
- 3 A brooch and a ring.
- 4 He says he will go to Chapman's house at seven o'clock that evening.
- 5 He took twenty thousand pounds from his bank account. He took it from a branch in London. He needed the money to buy some diamonds.
- 6 To London. He wants to speak to the people at the bank in Baker Street.

**4**

- 1 Because he had paid cash for the diamonds. He had no record of the sale. Now he has no cash and no diamonds. He has lost everything.
- 2 He says that he saw James come out of the Chilton Hotel before he came to the bank.

**5**

- 1 A woman called Karen Winter.
- 2 She thinks Karen Winter is Dutch. She had booked a room for one night. The booking was made by a travel company in Amsterdam. She had checked into the hotel at 8.30pm on 5th June. She had checked out at 3.15 the next day. She had taken a taxi to the airport.
- 3 He needs to know whether he went straight to the railway station after he met Karen Winter. He needs to know whether he met some other people. Perhaps Karen Winter knows the answer to these questions. And he needs to know how many diamonds he bought and what kind of diamonds they were. Only Karen Winter can tell him that.
- 4 The receptionist says that Karen Winter is about forty years old and has short, dark hair.
- 5 They think that James had met Karen Winter at a trade fair in Amsterdam. They think her address might be on a business card in James' office.
- 6 That trains from London to Birmingham are all going through Nuneaton because workmen are repairing the main railway line. Therefore James had been travelling to Birmingham when he was pushed off the train at Nuneaton.

**6**

- 1 Because James forgot to go to his house at seven o'clock.
- 2 Harvey Chapman is a tall, strong-looking man. He has fair hair and his skin is sun-tanned. He lives in a big house in a quiet part of town.
- 3 At first, James thinks that Harvey Chapman had asked him to make the ring in his design. But Chapman does not know about the ring so James knows that he had designed it for another customer. Chapman likes the design and wants James to make the ring for him, but James does not want to make it for him.

**7**

- 1 A leaflet and an old envelope. On the leaflet was Karen Winter's phone number.
- 2 James has phoned the number many times, but no one has answered.
- 3 He does not know de Wolf Diamonds and he does not know anyone called Winter. And he tells James to speak to Mr de Wit at BKV Diamonds in Amsterdam. He says that James should get his diamonds from this company.

**8**

- 1 Susan has found out that there isn't a company called De Wolf Diamonds.
- 2 James speaks to a woman. She says that there is no one called Karen Winter on that number. She says it is not the number of de Wolf Diamonds, it is the number of a private flat. She says the owner is called Mrs van Mander, who is in hospital. The woman is Mrs van Mander's neighbour.
- 3 He wants to speak to Mrs van Mander. And he wants to buy some diamonds for Harvey Chapman's jewellery.

**9**

- 1 They look for it in the Amsterdam phone book.
- 2 They are rough-looking men and they are tall and strong. One has long, curly, blond hair and he has tattoos on his arm. The other has dark hair and wears a baseball cap.
- 3 The two men had followed them back to their hotel and had stood outside for a few minutes. They did not understand why the men had followed them.
- 4 They learn that Mrs van Mander has a daughter. The daughter has sometimes been in the flat while Mrs van Mander has been in hospital. And they learn that the daughter looks like Karen Winter.

**10**

- 1 Mrs van Mander has had a stroke. Her brain is damaged and she cannot speak.
- 2 To see if Mrs van Mander's daughter is Karen Winter. James thinks that if she is, perhaps he will recognize her and his memory will return.
- 3 The appointment is at BKV Diamonds. It is with Mr de Wit.
- 4 Susan and James think that Karen Winter is a crook who works with a gang of diamond thieves. They think the gang steals the diamonds and then Karen Winter sells them. After the sale, Winter's customers cannot find her again because de Wolf Diamonds does not exist. Susan thinks that Winter asked James to call her

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at a certain time when she would be in her mother's empty flat.

- 5 Because they see the two men who chased them the night before. The men are coming towards the café.
- 6 Because he knows that they work for BKV Diamonds. They are delivery drivers.

**I1**

- 1 James has told him that he knows who the diamond thieves are.
- 2 Because his delivery drivers have attacked James and Susan.
- 3 That no diamonds are missing.
- 4 Karen Winter gets into the delivery van with the two men. As the police car arrives the van drives away. It hits the police car but it does not stop. The police car follows it.

**I2**

- 1 So that they can make a full report.
- 2 Karen Winter and the two delivery drivers.
- 3 (a) He looks at the ears of the blond man. (b) The man's left ear is injured. (c) That these men had attacked him on the train in England.
- 4 Gertrud van Mander.
- 5 She has been using them to steal money from people.
- 6 He buys some diamonds.
- 7 He could not make the ring for Harvey Chapman now.

**I3**

- 1 He wants him to make the jewellery very quickly so he can take it back to America the next week.
- 2 He wants James to make the ring for him. He means that if James will not make the ring for him, he will not buy the brooch either.
- 3 She feels angry.
- 4 He was making the diamond ring for her.