Chapter 1: The Invitation

You are a detective.

Exhausted and worn down after a very challenging investigation, you decide to take some time off - you need a holiday.

Coincidentally, and a little strangely, a letter arrives from an old police officer friend of yours inviting you to stay at their holiday home in a sleepy village in the middle of nowhere.

It sounds like just what you need, so you accept the offer and make the long journey to this quiet little place.

On your journey, you notice how the scenery changes. Everything seems more peaceful and calming… maybe a little too much so. In fact, wherever you’re heading looks rather isolated.

**Task 1: Write your ideas for each section in the table below…**

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| Introduce your character.  Show that they are a detective and are troubled by their last case and in need of a holiday. |  |
| Describe receiving the letter.    Explain what it says or write it out in full.  Perhaps it has a slightly odd tone to it, or it lacks detail. The reader of your story should feel a bit suspicious of it! |  |
| Describe your character deciding to make the journey and getting ready to leave. |  |
| Describe travelling there. Your character watches the scenery change to become more relaxing,  (Choose an appropriate method of transport for your character and the time period you choose to set this story in. They are probably not in a Tesla if it’s set in the 1800s!) |  |
| Describe the change in scenery as it starts to become too bleak and a sense of isolation creeps in.  Use descriptions of weather changing to create tension. |  |
| Describe arriving at the destination. It should not look particularly welcoming.  Your character may or may not be aware of how bleak it looks. |  |

**Task 2: Now write things up fully as a first draft….**