

The story

The story takes place over six days.

- 1 Alex Dinon has escaped from prison where he was being held for the murder of the old President. The Chief of Police, Eva Hine, tells Felix, a young inspector, that the new President wants Dinon back in prison at once.
- 2 An old woman, Marta, gives Alex food, clothing and shelter for the night. Meanwhile, the President phones Eva Hine. She tells Felix that she wants Dinon dead or alive but she will not let him talk to people in the prison about how he escaped. Felix begins to ask himself questions which he cannot answer.
- 3 Alex has been seen so he has to leave Marta's house. When Felix and his colleague Adam arrive, Marta tells them that Alex Dinon does not have a murderer's face but that the new President does.
- 4 Local people help Alex to escape from a food shop with the police outside. Then a lorry driver hides



politicians, army or police might be tempted to take the law into their own hands. In fact, the very absence of other details helps readers to focus their attention on the main issues which are presented through the situation and through the reactions of the different characters.

The story is about right and wrong and about the abuse of power, and involves adventure and the combat between good and evil. There is strong dramatic tension in the way we gradually begin to ask ourselves the same questions which Felix begins to ask; and in our gradual realization that perhaps Alex has been allowed to escape deliberately so that the President – the one who is really responsible for the

Marta tells them that Alex Dinon does not have a murderer's face but that the new President does.

- 4 Local people help Alex to escape from a food shop with the police outside. Then a lorry driver hides him in the back of his lorry. When Felix arrives at the shop, the people tell him that Dinon is not the murderer. Felix doesn't understand why the people are helping Dinon. Adam is not interested in this kind of question.
- 5 Alex joins his wife, Olivia, in a friend's house. He says he knows who murdered the old President but that this is very dangerous information. The police find out where he is. Eva tells Felix that three hundred soldiers are going to the house. Felix is angry.
- 6 Alex is shot and killed leaving the house. Felix had wanted to talk to Dinon. He asks the Chief of Police who killed the President. She tells him not to ask questions but he says he is going to find the answer and leaves her office for the last time.

ourselves the same questions which Felix begins to ask; and in our gradual realization that perhaps Alex has been allowed to escape deliberately so that the President – the one who is really responsible for the death of the old President – can make Alex's death look like the shooting of a dangerous fugitive. At another level it is interesting to see how the various characters react in very different ways to the situation, for example:

- A Eva Hine, a cold and ruthless woman who seems to have little concern for right and wrong;
- B Felix, the young policeman who finds himself increasingly questioning what he is being asked to do;
- C His younger colleague Adam, in contrast, who has no such qualms of conscience;
- D The brave Marta who risks her own safety to help Alex and to tell the police what she thinks; as well as Alex Dinon himself and his wife, Olivia, the victims of the situation.

Match the words with the pictures

- a 'You're a wonderful woman, Marta,' Alex said. 'Goodbye and thank you.'
- b 'How did you escape from prison?' Marta asked suddenly.
- c 'I can't stay any longer,' Alex said. 'Perhaps the police are out there now.'
- d Felix and Adam asked a lot of questions in that small town, but they learned nothing.
- e 'But I did not kill the President,' Alex said. 'And the police know that.'
- f 'What are you saying? You lost him?' the Chief of Police said angrily.
- g The trees were a hundred metres



- g The trees were a hundred metres away . . . fifty . . . twenty
- h ‘What are you doing in my field, young man?’ the old woman said.
- i ‘And why do you work for the police, young man?’ Marta said.



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While reading activity







Good and bad people

Choose a number between 1 and 5 to show how good you think each character is.







- 1 = bad
- 2 = quite bad
- 3 = not good or bad
- 4 = quite good
- 5 = good



AT THE END OF THE THIRD DAY AT THE END OF THE SIXTH DAY

	AT THE END OF THE THIRD DAY	AT THE END OF THE SIXTH DAY
 Alex Dinon		
 Eva Hines		
 Felix		
 Adam		
 Olivia		
 Marta		



 Eva Hines		
 Felix		
 Adam		
 Olivia		
 Marta		
 The old President		
The new President		

