

Custody

A Serialized Novel
In Eight Installments

(October 2023 through June 2024)

Installment 8

June 5, 2024

Players and Places in Custody

Custody Finale – Part One

Custody Finale – Part Two

Custody Finale – Part Three

Custody - Epilogue

The players and places in Custody

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The Lowry Family

Linda Lowry: Six-year-old daughter of Rosalyn and Myles. Object of parents' custody battle
Rosalyn Lowry: (*aka* Roz Young in youth and college days) Mother of Linda. Former wife of Myles
Myles Lowry: Father of Linda. Former husband of Rosalyn

Mellon Law Firm

Godfrey Mellon: Attorney for Rosalyn Lowry
Miss Hayes: Executive Assistant to Godfrey Mellon
Godfrey Mellon, Sr: Lawyer and father of Godfrey Mellon
Charles Spada: (*aka* Charlie, to Ned Hegerman and colleagues) Intern at two law firms.

Hegerman Law Firm

Ned Hegerman: Attorney for Myles Lowry
Eleanor Quatrane: Executive Assistant to Ned Hegerman
Karidja Soro: Conflict Resolutionist and Attorney with Ned Hegerman
Gabriella Costa: (*aka Gaby or Gabs*) Stenographer and Records Manager for Ned Hegerman
Sally Norris: Young associate in Advanced Directives department at Ned Hegerman's firm
Thomas Bruce: Attorney and Managing Partner at Hegerman's (unnamed) law firm
Gladys: Administrative assistant to Thomas Bruce
Tom: Security guard at law firm

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The Courts

Eoin McCarver: Family Court Judge hearing the Lowry case
Ramona: Court Clerk for Judge McCarver
Benjamin Venticelli: Judge for Aello hearings

Next of Kin

Marie Aello: Illegitimate daughter of Ned Hegerman

Medical Professionals

Dr. Isidore Aronsen: Cardiologist/Surgeon, Hospital Physician for Ned Hegerman
Dr. Denison LeClerc: (aka Dennis Clark until 18th birthday) Oncologist / Clinic Founder and Director
Dr. Françoise Ouellette: Psychiatrist / Psychologist / Therapist

Riverdale Retirement Home

Missie: Intake specialist and Mellon Niece
Joshua Winston: Retired SEC specialist and Mellon Cousin
Angelique: (aka Angel) Staff aide, and caretaker for Joshua Winston

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Various Workplace Employees

Itzel Cocom: Work associate of Myles Lowry at Easton International, of Mayan heritage and wife of Bembe

Bembe Cocom: Artisanal jewelry artist, of Mayan heritage and husband of Itzel

Mrs. DeWitt: Archivist in S.E.C. New York Region

Mrs. Reading: Veteran librarian at the public library near Happydale

April Smith: Librarian/archivist in Myles Lowry's and Roz Young's childhood hometown; eventual caretaker for Myles after car crash

Petey: Developmentally challenged business district newspaper delivery and errand runner

Kelly Rocco: Criminal, Front man for illegal money-laundering and bond-trading operation

Yvonne: Retired restaurateur, part-time bartender/caterer, Beatriz Grey's lover

Happydale Residential School Staff

Beatriz Grey: Head Administrator

Mrs. Steadman: Linda Lowry's second grade teacher

Alexandria: (*aka* Miss Alex) Teacher's Aide and Tutor

Valerie McKinley: (*aka* Woman with Heterochromia) Teacher, College Friend of Rosalyn, Rosalyn's Sponsor to Happydale, Mother of Taylor

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Linda's Second Grade Classmates – Happydale

Beginning of Day Color Guard and Announcements

Betty: Announces Day of the Week
Laura: Announces Month of the Year
Amanda: Announces the Year

Posse

Deirdre: (aka Dee) The class bully, survivor of abuse, parental assaulter

Non-Readers (group of four)

Clementine: (aka 'Red') Feisty red head
Denise: Consensus leader of group
Portia: Thin girl, named for Shakespeare character
Ashleigh: Tallest girl, wears Winnie the Pooh shirts

Relatives

Rachel: Ashleigh's mother
Rebecca: Ashleigh's sister

School Friends and Neighbors - Happydale

Taylor: Senior High Schooler, Daughter of Valerie, Companion to Linda
Margie: Senior member of school moms, acquaintance of Rosalyn, Mother of Katie
Katie: Mid-level High Schooler, Daughter of Margie, Companion to Linda

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The Investigators and Law Enforcers

Danny Hart: (*aka Dan*) Private investigator, first for Mellon, then for Hegerman and later for Soro
Mike Riley: Former US Army Commando in Vietnam, Dog owner, Apartment Neighbor to Linda
Angie Flynn: Private investigator, hired by Attorney Mellon to replace Danny Hart, who knows her
Detective Howe: Local police detective in charge of investigating Linda Lowry's disappearance
Dominic Corredor: (*aka Linda's 'Gentleman Caller' and Rail Rider, Dom*) NYPD Detective on medical leave, specialist in discovery and rescue of missing persons
Maura Hammersmith: Long Island patrolwoman who discovered Myles Lowry's abandoned rental car and great-aunt of Sylvia Hammersmith, rescued from sex traffickers years before by Dominic Corredor
Frances: Policewoman researching Lowry's library microfilm file use, for fellow officer, Maura.

Friends and Supporters

Annie Meadows: Friend and Classmate to Linda, living near Jersey apartment
Paul Meadows: Father of Annie and Friend of Rosalyn, living near Jersey apartment
The Flash: Neighbor/tenant of Danny Hart, Remodeler, Entrepreneur, Chevy Suburban Driver

Unnamed Supportive Players

Court Reporter: For Family Court Judge McCarver
Bailiffs: For Family Court Judge McCarver and for Aello's Judge
The Dog: Mike Riley's dog
Posse: Two classmate followers of Deirdre

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Unnamed Supportive Players - continued

The Cocoms: Itzel Cocom's mother maintains intergenerational home & three granddaughters.
Police captain: Long Island police station, captain to Maura Hammersmith and Frances
The Corredor family: Dominic Corredor's wife and two daughters
Bankers & Federal Treasury Employees
Security Personnel & Eccentric Bond owner
Newspaper delivery truck driver
Medical staff and maintenance persons at LeClerc's clinic and for other hospitalizations
Railroad commuters, pedestrians, drivers, shoppers, shopkeepers in Myles' childhood village

Fictional Places

Named:

Easton International Medical Supplies: Business where Myles Lowry is an executive

Unnamed

Happydale Residential School: Academic private school where Rosalyn and Linda seek refuge
Ned Hegerman's law firm
Godfrey Mellon's law firm
Singles Bar near Happydale school
Local Town Library near Happydale school
Local Village Library in Myles Lowry's boyhood hometown
Doctor LeClerc's Oncological Clinic
Doctor Ouellette's Rehab and Recovery Center
LIRR Railroad Station, Bank, Church, and Assorted Businesses in Myles's boyhood hometown