



Opening Statement



A horrible crime has been committed:
Regicide, the death of a king. King Ish's
body was found by his sister, Merab. It
appears he died in his bed while napping,
during the heat of the day. He was stabbed
in the stomach and beheaded. (no head was
found).

It is up to all of you to get to the bottom of
this dastardly deed. Civil unrest, attacks by
surrounding enemy nations, absolute disaster
may fall on us all if you do not ferret out the
assassin.

Motive, means and opportunity are keys to
murders. Who had motive to kill the king?
Who benefits if he is dead? Who had the
means to kill him? Who had opportunity?
Who was in the right place at the right time?
You have one hour.



Crime scene report



Kig Ish's quarters were lavishly furnished:

Bronze couches were arranged on a mosaic pavement of multi-colored marble. The king's bed was made of oak and embellished with silver. Scarlet coverlets were saturated with blood as was the mattress, which was pierced directly below the stab wound in the king's thoracic area.

The body was beheaded. Decapitation is the complete separation of the head from the body which stops all other necessary functions. Unconsciousness occurs within 1 minute. Decapitation might be done to take the head as a trophy, for public display, or to make the deceased more difficult to identify.

A cedar harp missing one long string was in one corner and a tray of gold goblets, each with a different design and mostly empty was in a table by the bed.

The gold shields taken from Hadadezer's officers when Saul defeated the King of Zorba decorated the walls between white and violet linen hangings. All but one were fastened with fine white and purple linen cords to cedar columns.



Crime scene report II



One of the goblets by the King's bed contained residue from a sleeping draught. No others contained poison or anything other than wine.

A washbasin shoved under the bed held water and what appeared to be blood.

A bloody metal string (much like a harp string) was found under a small table in Ish's room.

Some wheat grains were scattered near the bed.

The Hebron Herald

Assassination for dessert

Israeli General slain in cold blood

King David hosted a banquet for General Abner and 20 of his men last week but a deadly dessert disrupted the festivities.

Inside sources reported that Abner said to David, "Let me go and I will gather all Israel to my lord the king. They will make a covenant with you, and you will rule over all you desire."

Abner had sweetened the deal by sending David's first wife, sister to rival King Ish, ahead of him to Hebron. David agreed to Abner's suggestion and allowed him to go in peace.

General Joab, returning from a raid, was furious and accused Abner's visit as nothing but a "to find out about your activities and everything you're doing."

Sources inside the military confirm that Joab still carried a grudge because Abner killed his brother Ashael at the Field of Blades battle.

Accounts vary but one source claiming to be an eyewitness to the slaying, claimed Joab pulled Abner aside as if to speak to him privately, and then stabbed him in the stomach.

The Hebron Herald

(Assassination for dessert continued)

David, in a public statement from the Hebron Palace said
“I and my kingdom are forever innocent before the Lord
concerning the blood of General Abner. May it hang over
Joab’s head and his father’s whole house.”

The king went on to pronounce a curse on Joab’s extended
family and ordered Joab and all the people who were with him,
“to tear your clothes, put on sackcloth, and mourn over
Abner.”

King David himself walked behind the funeral procession and
composed a lament for the fallen former foe.

Michal: Political Pawn or Princess?

David’s First Wife Sent to Hebron

Sources inside the palace say Princess Michal is unhappy to be
back with her first husband David, ranting that both Kings Ish
and David are using her as a political pawn.

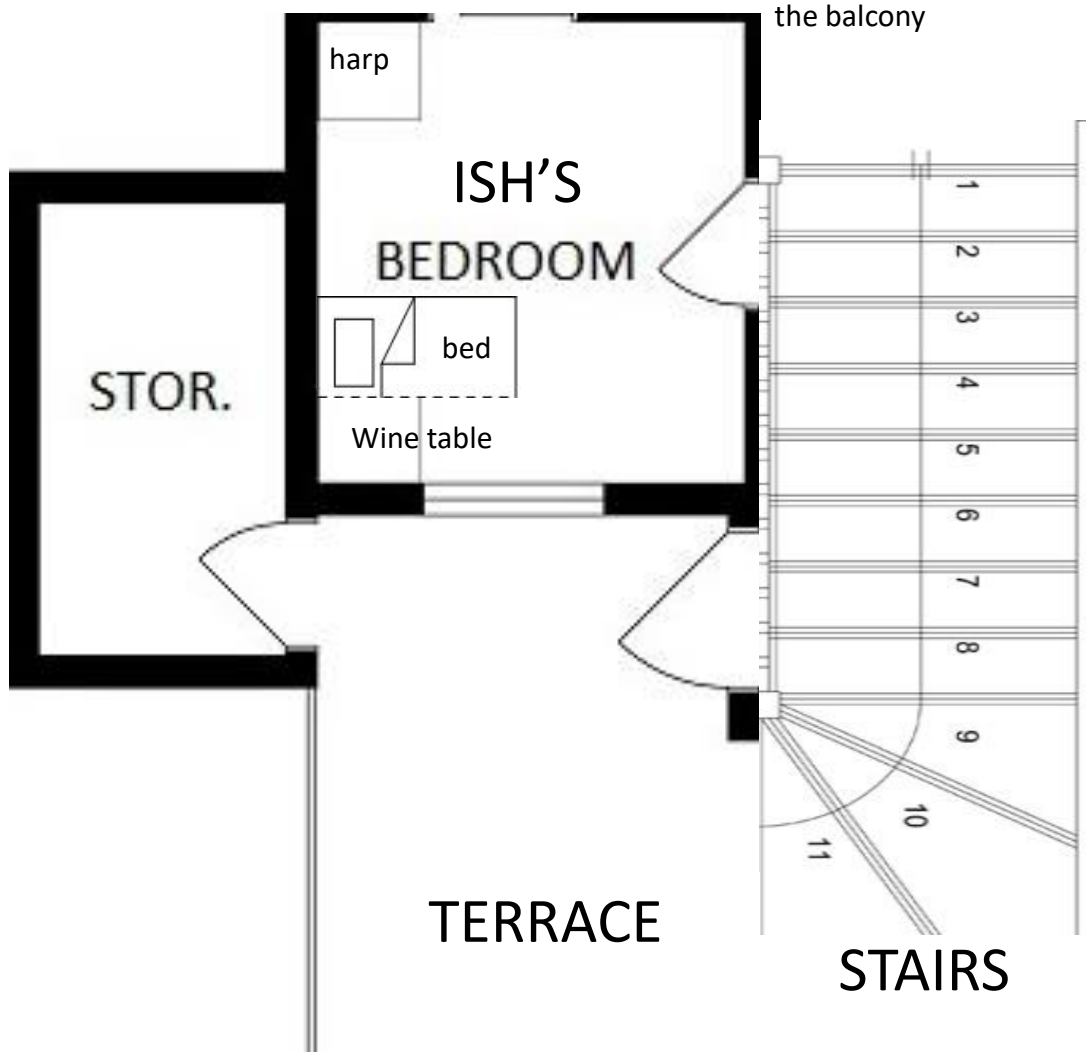
David fled Saul during their brief honeymoon and the couple
has been estranged for years. Saul insulted David by marrying
his daughter off to Paltiel son of Laish.

Witnesses reprt Paltiel followed her, weeping all the way to
Bahurim until General Abner sent him back.

Crime scene diagram



Balcony window Two horses and one mule were on the street below the balcony



Arrest Warrant



Ish was weak and not well liked. Lots of people had motive to have him out of the way. If he were dead, it would be easier for David to become king of both kingdoms or Merab to put her son Adriel, Jr. on the throne. But ruling was not the only motive for murder.

People like Baanah and Rechab were angry over promotions, Michal or Paltiel over Michal being yanked from her home and husband #2,

Rizpah feared for her sons' lives. Zorba, the servant may have appeared to have no motive but Zorba is actually royalty in the land of Zobah – a land crushed by Saul.

Only Adriel Jr., had no real motive – he just wanted to stay as far from a throne as possible.

Thus we must look at opportunity and means. David and Michal were not in the palace until after the murder. Paltiel never made it upstairs and carries no weapon.

Zorba had opportunity and means (a harp string) to decapitate someone but had no stabbing weapon. Merab was guilty of drugging him so he might grant her request to have a small throne next to Ish's for Adriel, Jr., but that would not stab or decapitate a man. Rizpah was planning on robbing Ish so she and her sons could get away. She was in the room, but only after the murder occurred.

Rechab and Baanah were in the room right next door to the sleeping king and both has weapons. Both were mad over not being promoted from raiding party to army officer. Both conspired and killed the king. Arrest and detain these men.