

*(They wait. And hope. Doorbell again. They look to the front door. Doorbell rings a third time. They huddle, worrying aloud.)*

**ALL.** *(Ad-libbing:)* What should we do? / Let's hide! / Shhh! / You're being too loud! / Maybe this time it's the killer! *(Etc.)*

**PLUM.** *(Within the melee, taking the gun from YVETTE and stashing it on his body:)* Quick! I'll hide the gun!

*(KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK.)*

**WADSWORTH.** Don't worry, it's not the police.

**COP.** It's the police!

*(EVERYONE gasps!)*

**GREEN.** I'm going to open the door.

**ALL.** No!

**GREEN.** It's the decent thing to do.

*(Hes run up to the front door, the GUESTS at his heels.)*

**COP.** Open the door!

*(GREEN opens the front door. A COP stands there.)*

**COP.** Good evening, sir.

**GREEN.** Good evening, Officer. We've been expecting you.

**COP.** You have?

**GREEN.** We haven't?

**COP.** I got a tip about an abandoned car near the gates of this house. Did a motorist stop by for help, by any chance?

*(They try to smooth away his suspicions.)*

**ALL.** No.

**GREEN.** *(On the heels of "No":)* Yes.

**COP.** *(Skeptically:)* There seems to be some disagreement. At any rate, can I come in and use the phone?

**ALL.** No!

**GREEN.** Of course you may, sir. There's a phone in the Lounge.

*(SCARLET, who is closest to the Lounge door, blocks it.)*

**SCARLET.** Out of order.

**GREEN.** Of course. My mistake. You can use the phone in the Study.

*(PLUM, who is closest to the Study door, blocks it.)*