A Tale of Two Brothers
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John Calabash, a tall, handsome 21-year-old, was eating lunch with his beautiful girlfriend, Casey Perez, a 20-year-old social butterfly with blue eyes and dark curly hair. They began to talk about their relationship and about his business. Casey wanted to be more involved with the business, but John, knowing what was at stake, told her "no." John and his older brother, Carl, were always competing for the top spot in the family business.

John and Casey had a serious relationship, but marriage was never discussed between them. John, however, had been talking to Carl a lot and was going to ask Casey to marry him soon. Carl was envious of his brother's relationship with Casey. Above everything, though, he wanted to be in charge of the family business. Their father had recently died and, if anything ever happened to John, and John and Casey were married, the business would go to Casey, not Carl. The family business was the largest known drug business throughout the United States.

Later that night, John and Carl got together at John's house to talk about a big business deal coming up in a couple of weeks. Casey was reading in the other room, but she was also listening to the deal. At 9:42 p.m., as Carl was getting ready to leave, he heard a muffled scream coming from the direction of the kitchen. He didn't think much of it and left the house. Later, Carl returned to John's house, planning to pretend that he had forgotten his wallet. His intention, though, was to put a plan into action to discredit Casey. However, when he arrived at 10:33 p.m., he found his brother dead in the kitchen; John had been stabbed twice in the chest. Carl went to look for Casey and found her dozing in a recliner with the book still open on her lap. After being told that her boyfriend was dead, she and Carl called 911.

When the police arrived, the crime scene was secured, and close-up and long-shot photos of the body and evidence were taken. Police began to collect the evidence, including a knife found in the kitchen. They also found evidence of a drug-related business, including weapons, large amounts of cash, and drug paraphernalia (see Figure 3-19). They found hair resembling Casey's and blood. All of the evidence was sent to the lab for further analysis. They dusted for fingerprints and found some footprints that were cast and photographed. There was no sign of a break-in—no sign of tool marks or broken glass at entry points. As the police began to
investigate an open window, they also began questioning Casey and Carl.

Casey stated that she had been talking with John when Carl came over to visit, but that she had gone into the study to leave them alone to discuss business. She had been reading a book, but eventually fell asleep in the chair. When she awoke, Carl told her that he had forgotten something and had returned to find John, stabbed to death, lying in the kitchen.

Carl claimed that he left the house at about 9:45 p.m., and returned at about 10:30 p.m., to pick up his wallet. When asked how he got into the house, he admitted he had a key. He said he walked into the kitchen, where he believed he had left his wallet, and that was when he saw John lying on the floor. He instantly ran to find Casey.

**Activity:**

**Answer the following questions based on information in the Crime Scene S.P.O.T.**

1. Identify the evidence in the story and classify it as class or individual.

2. What motives did Carl and Casey have for killing John?

3. Hair that resembled Casey's was found at the crime scene. Is that important to the case? Why or why not?

**Writing**

4. Write your own ending to this mystery. Be sure to include details about the analysis that would be done in the lab. You can be creative, but be sure that your ending is logical and that you demonstrate an understanding of various analysis techniques. Your ending should be 500 words or less.