

Talking about Rankin's 'The Gentleman's Club' pages 205 - 216

On page 216 we read: 'Until suddenly, with blinding clarity, he saw the truth of the thing.....'. He phones Holmes and asks him a favour (asks him to do something for him) and sets off in his car.

So from pages 205 - 216 the plot develops. After this the solution appears.

At the beginning (p. 205) Rankin first depicts the area, then the house and finally we get to know the main family - the McKenzies. (The weather is also important at least at the beginning.)

So watch for the tone of the area (a 'circus' is a road built in the round), the house and the family eg 'tasteful' (p. 205). Mark the words while you're reading. Watch for Rebus' reaction to the area, house and family, too!

Some help:

p. 206 (l.6) tugged - pulled middle : lugubrious = dark, sad, melancholy
(a tug can be a ship; your heartstrings can also be tugged:-)

p. 206 (bottom) waste - what you throw away. *Verschwendung*.

p. 207 (new section) McKenzie speaks 'irritably' = annoyed
bottom: loathed = hated very much

p. 208 top: sideboard = *Anrichte*; l.8 remedy = cure; slosh: *überschwappen, spritzen, platschen*; about 14 from the bottom: gulp = *hastig trinken* (much nice in Eng!)

l.12 from bottom: canny - comes from *können*. We'll talk about it. = clever (*pfiffig*)
We'll talk about this paragraph - it ties up with the first page

p. 209 third paragraph: niggled

p. 210 middle: victim / culprit = one done to, one doing it (*Opfer / Schuldiger, Täter...*)

4 from bottom: inkling = *keine Ahnung*
bottom tacky : (here) sticky

p.211 bottom:stifle - to (cause to) be unable to breathe because you have no air (CUP)

p. 212 Job = Hiob

p. 213 to muddy the waters - to make things less clear

l. 21 ruthlessness : the quality of not thinking or worrying about any pain caused to others when deciding what you need to do (CUP)

(p. 216 now we see the house Frazers live in and can compare it with McKenzies')

(p. 222 bottom: relentless : (here) *unbarmherzig*)

Many of you read more detective stories than I do. Is it considered OK in books for the detective to be really angry with the guilty party?

How much alcohol is a detective supposed to consume?