

**Official Report of the Emily Grierson Homicide Case
Yoknapatawpha County Sheriff Station**

Recently, we have had a strange case involving the late Emily Grierson. Upon investigation of her estate, we found the deteriorating body of Homer Barron in a bed in one of the upstairs rooms. The door to that had to be forced. Because his body had decomposed so severely, we decided we would not get a clear explanation of his death via autopsy. However, after we linked past events with Mr. Barron's death, things became clearer.

Here are listed the circumstantial events leading up to the discovery of Homer Barron's body:

Miss Emily Grierson first met Mr. Homer Barron after her father's death, when Mr. Barron arrived as a surveyor working with a team who were relaying a sidewalk near Miss Grierson's home. They flirted and apparently Miss Grierson hoped to marry him. However, the younger man who joined him at the bar claim that he said that he "was not a marrying man". Miss Grierson brought him a man's toilet accessories made of silver with the engravings 'H.B.' on them. After a short leave, he came back to Miss Grierson's estate and was never seen alive by the outside world again. During a period of which Mr. Barron was probably alive, Miss Grierson visited the druggist's and asked for the strongest poison they had, and ended up buying arsenic. When asked what she was going to do with it, she claimed she was going to use it to kill a rat. That "rat" was most likely Homer Barron, who planned on leaving Miss Grierson. After this event, Miss Grierson was only seen through her house windows, and the upstairs rooms did not appear to be used. Soon after, neighbors started complaining of a terrible smell emitting from Miss Grierson's house. The local judges snuck over to Miss Grierson's house and sprinkled lime around the entrances. The smell soon went away, and it was believed that her manservant had killed a rat or snake somewhere around the estate. Some years later, Miss Grierson died. When her sisters heard the news, they visited her house. Her manservant lead them in, went out the back door, and was never seen again. Upon investigation of the bed Mr. Barron was found in, there was a pillow in the space next to him. The pillow had the indent on it, the indent of a head. Upon the pillow, we found one of Miss Grierson's hairs.

Conclusion:

I believe that the events leading to Mr. Barron's discovery should be seen as so:

After her father's death, Miss Grierson met Mr. Barron. The two flirted, and Miss Grierson had hopes of marriage, but she found out he did not want to marry her. After Mr. Barron's leave, Miss Grierson tried to please Mr. Barron into marrying her by buying expensive toilet accessories. However, this did not work, evidently. Miss Grierson then plots to kill Mr. Barron, as she sees this the only way to keep him from going away. She arrives at the druggist's to buy poison to kill her 'rat', and then slips some arsenic into Mr. Barron's drink at dinner, and he dies. The bad smell was not a household pest, but Mr. Barron's body decomposing. Miss Grierson then starts sleeping with Mr. Barron's body, and bans access to everybody but her, until her death. The manservant then runs away, as he was the only witness.