

LISTEN! PODCASTS IN ENGLISH



TRUE CRIME

Explore the text, p. 105

Non-fiction novel: Truman Capote, *In Cold Blood* (USA, 1966)

Difficulty: **

3 – Answer

The young man's name was Floyd Wells, and he was short and nearly chinless. He had attempted several careers, as soldier, ranch hand, mechanic, thief, the last of which had earned him a sentence of three to five years in Kansas State Penitentiary. On the evening of Tuesday, 17 November 1959, he was lying in his cell with a pair of radio earphones clamped to his head. He was listening to a news broadcast, but the announcer's voice and the drabness of the day's events ('Chancellor Konrad Adenauer arrived in London today for talks with Prime Minister Harold Macmillan ... President Eisenhower put in seventy minutes going over space problems and the budget for space exploration with Dr T. Keith Glennan') were luring him towards sleep. His drowsiness instantly vanished when he heard, 'Officers investigating the tragic slaying of four members of the Herbert W. Clutter family have appealed to the public for any information which might aid in solving this baffling crime. Clutter, his wife, and their two teenage children were found murdered in their farm home near Garden City early last Sunday morning. Each had been bound, gagged, and shot through the head with a 12-gauge shotgun. Investigating officials admit they can discover no motive for the crime, termed by Logan Sanford, Director of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, as the most vicious in the history of Kansas. Clutter, a prominent wheat grower and former Eisenhower appointee to the Federal Farm Credit Board ...' Wells was stunned. As he was eventually to describe his reaction, he 'didn't hardly believe it.' Yet he had good reason to, for not only had he known the murdered family, he knew very well who had murdered them.

ranch hand	arbejder på en gård
sentence	dom
penitentiary	fængsel
drabness	kedsomhed
Chancellor	Kansler
drowsiness	søvnighed
slaying	drab
appeal	henvende sig, anmode
baffling	uløselig
gag	kneble
gauge	et mål på våben
wheat grower	hvedeproducent
appointee	en der er udnævnt
stunned	chokeret