

WRITTEN BY TRACY RICHARDSON

INHERITANCE

Chapter 1

Michael stared in amazement at the smartly dressed solicitor sat in front of him. This had to be some kind of joke; surely, he didn't have any family left, his parents died five years ago in a car accident.

But here was this stern looking woman, telling him he was to inherit all the worldly goods of one Mavis Peeks. Michael had never even heard of her. Mavis Peeks, who was this woman?

As if guessing his questions, Miss Jarvis told him that Mavis Peeks is, was, his father's sister; she had lost touch with the family before Michael was born. Some scandal had occurred. That was all she could tell him.

Michael was amazed, scandal! It wasn't the Middle Ages for god's sake. What could possibly be so bad as to send this woman into hiding? If only he had known about her, maybe he could have got to know her, help her even.

But here he was sat in front of Miss Jarvis, who was pushing a paper across the desk for him to sign.



It didn't seem right, accepting this inheritance, thought Michael as he signed the paper and handed it back to Miss Jarvis. Miss Jarvis stood up and extended her hand, "It's been very nice to meet you Mr Stone. I am very sorry for your loss."

How formal she sounded thought Michael as he stood, taking her hand. Michael found himself replying in a similar way. "I can only say Miss Jarvis, this meeting has been a shock, but it has been a pleasure meeting you. Thank you for all your help. Good Bye." he said, as he took the papers into his hand and headed for the door.

"Good bye Mr Stone." She replied, as the door shut.

Chapter 2

Michael sat there in his car, the paper crumpled in his hand. What did he do now?

He sat there deep in thought, though if you were to ask him what he was thinking about he couldn't have told you. A vacant look upon his face, as if he was just a statue sat there instead of a man.

It was so strange. This sort of thing didn't happen in real life. It was the stuff of stories. With a start Michael came around, he looked up and noticed how dark it had become. How long had he been sat there? Shaking his head, he put the crumpled up paper in his pocket and started the engine.

When he got home, he turned on the light and, after making himself a drink and something to eat, he went to the study. There must be something in here somewhere about Aunt Mavis. Questions scuttled through his brain like spiders, 'Who was she? Why didn't he know her? What had she done?' There must be answers here.



Michael searched through the drawers and cupboards, piling old diaries, papers and photographs on the desk. It was getting late, with a yawn Michael looked at what he had found, his family's life on paper, laid out on the desk before him. He was too tired to do anything more tonight; turning off the light he made his way up the stairs to bed.

Chapter 3

The next morning Michael awoke bright and early, made his way to the bathroom and had a wash. Then, after dressing, he went downstairs. Going to the kitchen he armed himself with a refreshing cup of tea and went through to the study. Strange! He was sure he had left the papers and diaries in a mess on the desk. Positive in fact, but as his eyes scanned his desk there were neat piles of papers, diaries and photos. Michael looked round, then laughed at his foolishness... He was the only person in the house. Wasn't he? But who had tidied up his desk? A shiver ran down his spine.

Michael sat down at his now tidy desk, turned on his computer, and started his search into the past. As he went through the papers in front of him, he noticed that they were not just in a neat order; someone had gone to a lot of trouble to make his search easier.

Something brushed his shoulder and Michael turned, but there was nobody there. It took a while to find Mavis in the family stuff. First he found a picture. It was of a small child, one of those portrait pictures, and on the back just the name Mavis and a date September 7th 1947.



What had happened in this small child's life to make her move away? What did she do for a living? Who did she marry? Did she have children? No, she couldn't have or surely they would have inherited her house and not him?

A noise alerted Michael. What was it? He heard it again. A 'sigh' near the window. What was happening today? It was so weird.

Chapter 4

The search had taken longer than Michael had thought and so far he had very little to go on, a few photos and a birth certificate showing Michael that Mavis was six years younger than his Dad.

It was past lunch time, so Michael decided to have a rest and go and get some lunch. Closing the door on his past Michael stepped into the hall of the house. Sunlight flooded in puddles on the floor. Funny, it had seemed so dark in the study?

Shaking his head he took his keys from the hall stand and made his way to the car. Michael drove into town, his thoughts still on his past. Looking up he found himself outside the solicitor's he had been to yesterday, how strange! 'Mind you Miss Jarvis was a lovely woman', he thought, 'Hmmm, I wonder if she is free for lunch?'

Walking up to the office Michael opened the door and entered the waiting room. He knocked on the door and hearing an 'Enter' voiced from the other

side he walked into the office. As he entered Miss Jarvis looked up, but Michael stopped. 'Sorry, I'm looking for Miss Jarvis?' he queried.



'Yes' came the reply from the woman from behind the desk.

'I'm sorry to seem rude,' said Michael, 'but, is there another Miss Jarvis that works here?'

For the woman behind the desk was a much older woman than the one he spoke to yesterday.

'No, Mr? Just me, I'm afraid. Can I help you?' said Miss Jarvis.

'Stone' Michael replied, 'Oh God, I'm sorry. I'm a little confused please excuse my manners. I'm Michael Stone, I came here yesterday?'

'Please, Mr Stone, sit down, you are looking a little peaky. I'm afraid I don't recall you at all.' said Miss Jarvis.

Michael entered the room and sat opposite Miss Jarvis. He looked at her with confusion on his face. Miss Jarvis spoke first 'Mr Stone, perhaps if you tell me what happened yesterday maybe I can help.'

Chapter 5

Michael sat there stunned, in the office of Miss Jarvis, for sat before him was a much older woman. She was a small, fair haired woman of seventy or so, not the vision he saw yesterday. In fact, it wasn't the same woman at all.

Miss Jarvis pressed a button, 'Sharon, can you bring in some tea for my guest and me please?' The room remained quiet until a knock broke the silence, the door opened and a young woman carrying a tray entered the room. After placing the tray on the desk Miss Jarvis told her that she was going to be busy and so didn't want to be disturbed.



'Now Mr Stone, perhaps we can start from the beginning.' said Miss Jarvis. 'Oh I am so sorry, Miss Jarvis... this has been such a shock. Yes. From the beginning, a few days ago I got a letter in the post, telling me to come to this office, on September 7th. I arrived at the stated time and entered this

room and spoke to a Miss Jarvis, who told me of my aunt's death and that I was the only person in the will. Hold on, I have the will here in my pocket.' Michael's hand dug into his pocket and brought out the crumpled will of Mavis Peeks. Straightening out the paper he placed it in front of the new Miss Jarvis, like a school boy handing in his homework, a look of 'told you' on his face.



Miss Jarvis looked at the piece of paper and nodded her head, 'Mr Stone, this document is indeed the last will and testament of Mavis Peeks. I wrote it myself for her some years ago. I knew Mavis very well; we were dear friends. We worked here in these offices for many years until her death some six months ago. I have been searching for her family since then.'

'Am I to assume that you are her nephew Michael?' said Miss Jarvis. 'Yes,' Michael said, nodding his head. 'Yes I am. Well I guess I am? I got the appointment didn't I.' Confusion broke across Michael's face.

'Mr Stone I would need more than that to prove you were Mavis's relative, documents, birth certificates, that sort of thing.' replied Miss Jarvis.

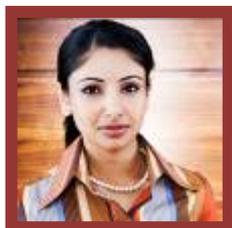
Michael looked at the woman sat opposite him, 'Miss Jarvis, until yesterday I didn't even know I had an aunt, dead or alive. I had never heard of Mavis Peeks, never seen a picture, nothing. I come here and a beautiful young woman posing as you told me I was the sole beneficiary in the will of Mavis Peeks.'



Michael took a sip of his tea, 'I was in shock Miss Jarvis, I can tell you. I went home and searched my late father's study for proof. I mean this sort of thing doesn't happen. Strange things have been happening Miss Jarvis. I left my findings spread across my father's desk last night. I was exhausted. When I got up this morning it was all neat and in order. Miss Jarvis, I live alone... I found some things, though what can I tell you? My Father was George Stone, my mother Mary Nash. I found out that Mavis was born on September 7th 1947...' Michael stopped, 'September 7th but that was the date yesterday... Wasn't it?'

Chapter 6

Michael looked at Miss Jarvis. 'Miss Jarvis, the young lady I spoke to yesterday, she was quite tall, with long dark hair, and she was very pretty. I came here today to ask her to dinner, but I'm not going to find her am I?



'No, Michael, I don't think you are.' said Miss Jarvis as she leant forward and turned the picture standing on her desk. It was a picture of a tall, dark haired woman in her twenties perhaps??

She had long dark hair and the kind of face that you would remember, honesty, kindness and love shone for all to see, Mavis was beautiful. Mavis was Miss Jarvis. Well, the Miss Jarvis Michael had spoken to yesterday.

'Miss Jarvis may I take you to lunch? I think we should talk. It seems that you knew my aunt better than I.' said Michael with a smile, 'Maybe later we could go to my home and I could show you all I found?'

Miss Jarvis smiled 'Yes Michael, lunch would be lovely and yes, I would like to see what was missing in poor Mavis's life. Thank you.'

Chapter 7

Michael escorted Miss Jarvis to his car and opening the door he made sure she was comfortable, before getting in and starting the engine. They soon arrived at a local restaurant that Michael knew. After an interesting lunch they made their way to Michael's home. 'This is the ancestral home.' stated Michael with a grin, 'I'm not sure how long it's been in the family Miss Jarvis but I know my grandparents lived here before my father took it over.'



Miss Jarvis smiled, 'So this was where Mavis grew up.' She said as she looked around the beautiful town house.

Michael led her into the study where just as he had found them that morning, were the papers and photographs he had discovered the previous night.

Miss Jarvis looked at Michael, 'Well Michael if we are going to work together I insist that you address me by my first name.' she said with a smile 'How do you do Michael, my name is Carol.'

Michael turned and looked at the woman beside him 'How do you do Carol, my name is Michael.' He said, returning the smile.

Chapter 8

'Carol? Could I ask a favour? I will pay for your time of course, but I could do with a hand if I am going to find out what happened? Why Mavis went away? How long did you know Mavis? The questions spewed out of Michael's mouth.

'Good grief! Michael, so many questions,' Carol replied with a smile, 'Firstly, it would be a pleasure to help you find out what happened to poor Mavis, she was my friend for a very long time. We went to Law School together. She had left her family by then and never spoke of the past at all. I know she was using some money left to her by her grandmother to get through Law School. I have nothing to do for the rest of the week, so I will phone my office in the morning and tell Sharon I am having a short holiday'

Michael and Carol set too, sorting out the old papers and photographs and even though they learnt Mavis's date of birth and that she was a beautiful child, they still hadn't found out why she left.

Stretching, Michael looked at Carol, "Would you like to stay here while we do our investigation Carol? I have lots of room. It would be nice to have someone to talk to.'

'Yes, that would be lovely Michael if you are sure I wouldn't be putting you out in any way.' Said Carol, 'But if I'm staying I will cook. I love cooking and it's no fun cooking for one.'

Chapter 9

It was some time since lunch and Michael and Carol had been looking through the papers from the study and found nothing so far to explain why Mavis had left home in disgrace all that time ago. 'Time for a rest,' thought Michael and, turning to Carol, he offered to make a drink and then show her around the house.

Carol followed Michael to the kitchen whilst he made coffee for the two of them, 'Such a big house for one person Michael, do you have no one you would like to share it with?'

Michael smiled 'You sound like my mother. Well I did think I had found a very pretty young lady called Miss Jarvis, but...'

Carol nodded 'Yes, Mavis was a very pretty young woman.'

With coffee in hand Michael showed Carol around downstairs. Then, making their way upstairs Michael turned to Carol and said, 'While we are up here you can choose a room you would like for your stay.'

Michael showed Carol the bathrooms and then skirting past his room started to show her the other bedrooms. They opened the door to a pretty, feminine room with a lovely view of the garden. It had a large bed with an old fashioned dressing table facing it and next to a chair in the window space was a small book shelf. 'Oh isn't it cold in here Michael? Whose room was this? ', asked Carol.

'You know, now that you mention it, yes it is cold! It seems to be colder here near the window. I have no idea whose room it was, I have no sisters. I guess it is a guest room,' he replied.



They left the room and went on to the next room. After looking around the beautiful house, Carol turned to Michael. 'You know, Michael, even though it was a little chilly could I stay in the first room we looked at?'

'Yes, of course you can.' said Michael, 'Now can I take you to your house to pick up a few things for your stay? Then we can have dinner and carry on our research tomorrow.'

'What a good idea.' said Carol.

So after going to Carol's home and packing a small case, they made dinner and sat down to chat about their discoveries so far. They had made a little more headway. They had found out that Mavis had liked to draw and write, after finding a couple of her books on nature in amongst the diaries. She also loved music and horse riding but that was it, her past still remained a closed book.

Chapter 10

It was getting late and for the first time in five years Michael said 'Goodnight' to someone as he entered his room.

'Goodnight Michael.' said Carol as she opened the door to her room. 'How strange, the room was much warmer now', thought Carol as she got ready for bed. Not feeling very sleepy she decided to read a little and making her way over to the small bookshelf she noticed how suddenly the temperature dropped. Right there next to the bookcase. Selecting a book she got into bed and read a bit before falling asleep.

Sobs broke into Carol's troubled sleep and she opened her eyes. Hadn't Michael said he lived alone? These sounded like the cries of a child but why would he lie?



Sitting up in bed she turned to the sounds and almost cried out loud as she saw a young Mavis sitting in her chair by the window. 'Was this a dream?' wondered Carol, for outside the window it was daytime. Carol watched in wonder as Mavis sat crying. She was writing in a book or diary of some kind as her tears splashing onto the pages.



Then an angry shout from downstairs made her look up. Mavis moved the bookcase and lifting a floorboard placed her book there. Then quickly she put the bookcase back before grabbing the cases on the floor and leaving the room. The room went dark and it was night. Carol turned on the light next to her bed and, looking at the clock, saw that it was 4 o'clock in the morning. Deciding to leave it until later Carol lay in the dark, drifting off into a quiet slumber until her alarm went off at 7 o'clock.

Going to her bathroom, she wondered if she had been dreaming, but after washing she was sure she had seen a vision from the past. That this was indeed Mavis's room. Carol quickly dressed and hearing sounds from across the hall, she made her way quietly down to the kitchen. Ever efficient she made coffee and started to make some breakfast for herself and Michael.

Michael entered the kitchen with a smile on his face, 'How nice!' he exclaimed 'I had forgotten how nice it was to come down to breakfast instead of making my own. Thank you.' 'You're welcome Michael, now sit down and eat. I have something to tell you.' said Carol.



Michael sat down at the table and as they ate, Carol told him of her night time visit. Michael wanted to go up there and then but Carol said 'No, we will eat our breakfast and tidy up, then we will go and investigate.'

Once again Michael smiled at Carol's words, so like a mother... He had forgotten how much he missed his mother.



So after they had finished tidying up, they made their way up the stairs. Opening the door, they peered around it as if expecting to see Mavis. Then laughing at their foolishness they went over to where Carol had seen Mavis. Michael moved the bookcase, then felt around until his fingers found the loose boards. Prising up the boards, they both stared into the dark hole at their feet.

Michael knelt and felt around in the dark hole in the floor. His fingers made contact with something. He flinched, then closing his fingers around the papers, he pulled them free. There were quite a few of these books and it took some time to bring them all into the light.

Chapter 11

Carol shook the books free of dust and took them downstairs into the study, whilst Michael returned the floorboards and bookcase. As he stood up something stroked his hair, he turned but yet again there was nobody there.

He made his way downstairs and on into the study where he found Carol, with a fresh pot of tea waiting and a neat pile of books on the table before her. He sat down in the chair, 'Well!' he exclaimed, 'Maybe we have found what we have been missing eh?'

'Looks like it!' said Carol, 'Should we look at them and see?'



Taking up two books Michael gave one to Carol, they started to read the words of the young Mavis Peeks. As they read the books, they read how Mavis's love of music had grown as she got older and she had started to go to concerts with friends from college. Her father had frowned on this, saying she was behaving like her working class friends.

Carol glanced at Michael, he looked confused. She explained that in the seventies there was still very much a class difference, far more than today. How upper class families tried to keep their children away from the bad influences of the lower classes. She explained that in some families this kind of behaviour still went on. Michael was amazed.

Mavis went on to tell her tale, as the pages turned, more was revealed. She had met a boy, Billy. He was wonderful, beautiful, the man of her dreams. She wrote of their love for one another. Then came the part that Michael was dreading, She told her diary about their night of passion. Michael, grown man that he was, blushed, he could read no more. Passing the diary to Carol with a sheepish grin, he waited until she finished reading. She looked at him, 'She got pregnant.' She told him. He looked at her bemused.



'Michael, in those days it was not a good thing to get pregnant when you were not married and from what I have read, Billy did not stick around. Her father was furious. She had brought shame on the family and she was sent to live with an aunt in the country until the child was born. She was told she could not possibly keep the child, no matter how much she begged and cried. She was never to come home and would never see the child again once it was born.' Carol explained, 'Michael. she left this house knowing she would never return.'

Chapter 12

Sitting there in silence, Michael looked at Carol, 'But she married didn't she? Surely she had other children?'

Carol looked up, 'I'm sorry Michael, married? No, Mavis never married. She changed her name as soon as we finished Law School, said she wanted nothing to do with her family ever again.'

'But what happened to the child?' asked Michael.

'I don't know Michael.' Carol replied, then almost as if compelled to speak she turned to Michael and asked 'Did you get the letter?'

'No? What letter?' Michael replied.

'Well, remember I told you, I wrote Mavis's will. Well, she gave me a letter to give to you. How silly of me not to have realised, I thought that since you had the will. Oh dear,' mumbled Carol.

Carol turned to Michael, 'Michael could you take me to my office I need to get something.'

'Yes, of course I can. Carol, are you alright? You look worried,' he replied.

'I'm fine Michael, can we go now?' she asked getting up from her chair.

Michael rose and getting his keys, he drove Carol to her offices. She opened the door and then going to her safe she took hold of the silver box kept there. She turned to Michael, 'This was supposed to have been given to you when you received the will,' she said, handing him the box.

She led Michael to the sofa and bid him sit down, 'Open the box, Michael. Inside is a letter from Mavis... I think it will explain everything to you.'

Chapter 13



Opening the box, Michael took out the letter, putting the box on the table in front of him. Carol looked on as he opened the letter and started to read. All was silent until Michael finished the letter, 'You knew, didn't you?' he asked as he turned to look at Carol.

'No Michael I didn't know, but when I was reading the diaries I guessed. You are Mavis's child aren't you?' whispered Carol.

'Yes. Yes I am Mavis's child. She explains in the letter that my father and mother were married and could not have children of their own. Her father arranged for them all to go and live in the country with their aunt, until I was born and then the father was to return with his wife and child in tow. She begged them Carol, but they wouldn't let her keep me. Carol how could they be so cruel? I never got to see my mother's face,' he told her as tears began to roll down his cheeks.

Carol looked at him, wondering if the tears were of the child or the man wronged, then, reaching up she wiped them away with a smile. 'But Michael!' she said, 'You did.'

With a tearful smile Michael looked at her 'Yes. Yes I did, didn't I?'

Taking the letter and box, Michael stood, and looking at Carol held out his hand, 'Carol, we have known each other for such a short time, but you feel like family. I hope you don't mind but when I took you home, I noticed the address. You lived with my mother didn't you? If you would like to, you could come and live in my home in Mother's room, I think my mother would have liked that.'

Carol looked up and smiled 'Yes, I lived with your Mother. And yes I would love to live in your home. I'm getting older and have been thinking of retiring, but dreading being alone without my best friend. Thank you, Michael.'

If they had both looked at the photograph on the desk they would have seen Mavis smile, a secret smile. Her plan had worked. Her loved ones would not be alone...





Read the sentences. Choose a word from the box to fill in the gaps so that each sentence makes sense.

Carol five picture long brain friend chair
woman mother Billy September secret

1. Michael's parents died years ago.
2. Question's scuttled through his like spiders.
3. Michael found a of a small child.
4. 'Miss Jarvis is a lovely, ' thought Michael.
5. Mavis was born on 7th 1947.
6. She had dark hair.
7. 'How do you do?' Michael, 'My name is, '.
8. Mavis was myfor a very long time.
9. Next to the was a small bookcase.
10. He had forgotten how much he missed his
11. Mavis met a boy, he was called
12. Mavis smiled a smile.



Now you pick six words out of the box and make them into sentences of your own.

Carol five picture long brain friend chair
woman mother Billy September secret

E.g. Carol made a cup of tea and sat down to read her book.



Find the following words in the dictionary and write their meaning

- A. Inheritance
- B. Solicitor
- C. Scandal
- D. Formal
- E. Peaky
- F. Ancestral
- G. Investigation
- H. Temperature
- I. Efficient
- J. Blush



**Answer the following questions with full sentences.
(Remember to put in all capital letters and punctuation.)**

E.g. **Where was Michael when he heard the noise in Chapter 3?**
Answer. *Michael was in the study when he heard the noise.*

1. What was the solicitor called (Chapter 1)?
2. What was did Michael do in his study in Chapter 2?
3. Why was September 7th important (Chapter 3)?
4. What was so unusual about Michael's second visit to the solicitors (Chapter 5)?
5. Where did Carol first meet Mavis (Chapter 8)?
6. What time was it when Carol first woke up (Chapter 10)?
7. What did Michael find under the floorboards (Chapter 10)?
8. Who do you think tidied Michaels study in Chapter 3?
9. What was the solicitor's secretary called (Chapter 5)?
10. Who did Michael miss (Chapter 10)?
11. What was in the silver box (Chapter 12)?
12. What were the names of Michael's parents (Chapter 5)?
13. Who was Mavis Peek's (Chapter 1)?
14. What was the scandal spoken of in Chapter 1?
15. Whose room do you think Carol slept in (Chapter 10)?



Look at the following extracts of the story and find the chapter they came from.

- A. For the woman behind the desk was a much older woman than the one he spoke to yesterday.
- B. Michael searched through the drawers and cupboards, piling old diaries, papers and photographs on the desk. It was getting late, with a yawn Michael looked at what he had found, his family's life on paper, laid out on the desk before him.
- C. They opened the door to a pretty feminine room with a lovely view of the garden. It had a large bed with an old fashioned dressing table facing it and next to a chair in the window space was a small book shelf.
- D. Her father was furious, she had brought shame on the family, she was sent to live with an aunt in the country until the child was born. She was told she could not possibly keep the child, no matter how much she begged and cried.
- E. How formal she sounded thought Michael as he stood, taking her hand. Michael found himself replying in a similar way. 'I can only say Miss Jarvis, this meeting has been a shock, but it has been a pleasure meeting you. Thank you for all your help. Good Bye.' he said, as he took the papers into his hand and headed for the door.
- F. Michael led her into the study where just as he had found them that morning, were the papers and photographs he had discovered the previous night.
- G. Her father arranged for them all to go and live in the country with their aunt, until I was born and then the father was to return with his wife and child in tow. She begged them Carol, but they wouldn't let her keep me.
- H. The room remained quiet until a knock broke the silence, the door opened and a young woman carrying a tray entered the room. Placing the tray on the desk Miss Jarvis told her that she was going to be busy and so didn't want to be disturbed.

A) Chapter.....

E) Chapter.....

B) Chapter.....

F) Chapter.....

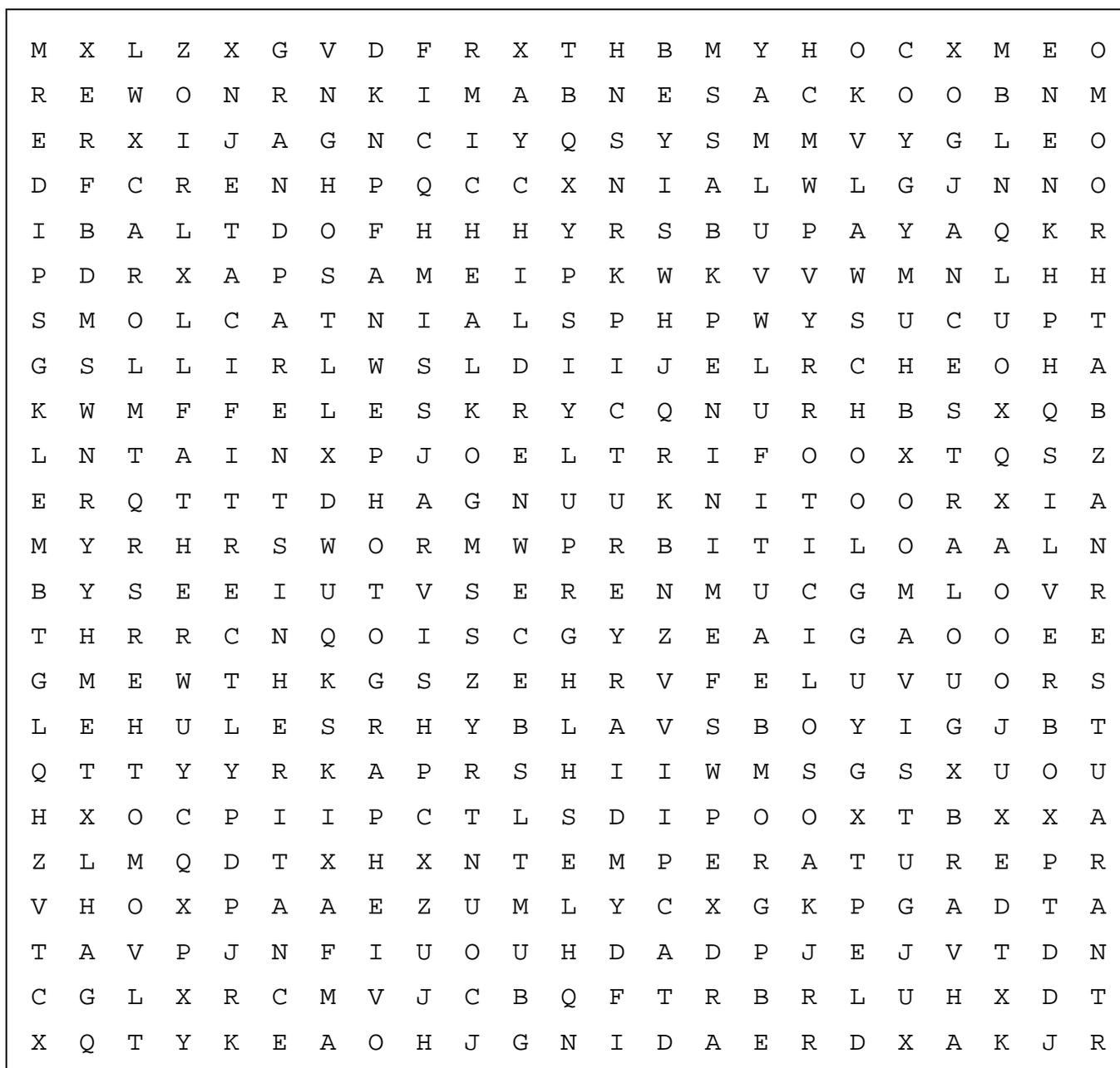
C) Chapter.....

G) Chapter.....

D) Chapter.....

H) Chapter.....

WORDSEARCH



ANCESTRAL

BATHROOM

BEAUTIFUL

BOOKCASE

CAROL

CERTIFICATE

CHILDREN

COUNTRY

DIARY

DREADING

FATHER

FEMININE

GHOST

GRANDPARENTS

INHERITANCE

LAW SCHOOL

MAVIS

MICHAEL

MOTHER

PHOTOGRAPH

PICTURE

RESTUARANT

SILVER BOX

SOLICITOR

SPIDER

TEMPERATURE

MISS JARVIS

TRUE, FALSE OR MAYBE



Answer the following questions with True, False or Maybe.

1. Carol met Mavis in church.
2. Carol loved to cook.
3. Michael rode a bicycle.
4. Carol had lived in the same house as Mavis.
5. Michael's father was called Simon.
6. Carol made toast for breakfast
7. The secretary was called Barbara.
8. Mavis's grandmother was called Mary.
9. Michael's parents died five years ago.
10. Mavis left a letter in a wooden box.
11. Michael searched the study.
12. Michael's room was a mess.

ANSWERS

Answers to find the chapter:

1. Chapter 4
2. Chapter 2
3. Chapter 9
4. Chapter 11
5. Chapter 1
6. Chapter 7
7. Chapter 13
8. Chapter 5

Answers to find the word:

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Five | 7. Carol |
| 2. Brain | 8. Friend |
| 3. Picture | 9. Chair |
| 4. Woman | 10. Mother |
| 5. September | 11. Billy |
| 6. Long | 12. Secret |

Answers to True, False or Maybe:

1. False
2. True
3. Maybe
4. True
5. False
6. Maybe
7. False
8. Maybe
9. True
10. False
11. True
12. Maybe