U10



EVIDENCE: STORY OF A CRIME

#### @elliottholt - EVIDENCE: STORY OF A CRIME

a tweet-book by u10

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Project - U10 (Michele Aquila, Valentina Carta, Valeria Di

Rosa, Rachele Storai, Giulia Fiorista) @udieci

Book Design - Martina Facco @rosemarinoo

Production - Manuele J Sarfatti @mjsarfatti

www.tweet-book.it

Wednesday, December 5 2012

1

Starting with the idea of a Twitter feed used as evidence, author Elliott Holt (@elliottholt) will tell the story of a crime. The audience will see that story unfold via three different perspectives, and then will have to weigh the presented evidence for themselves.

Next up in the #twitterfiction
Festival showcase is
"Evidence". Follow along by
following author
@elliottholt. - November 28

@TwitterBooks

## The Story

@elliottholt - On November 28 at 10:13 pm EST a woman identified as Miranda Brown, 44, of Brooklyn, fell to her death from the roof of a Manhattan hotel. - November 29

@elliottholt - Investigators are trying to determine whether Ms. Brown's death was an accident or if, as some speculate, she was pushed off that roof. - November 29

@elliottholt - At the time of her death, Ms. Brown was at a party. No one witnessed her fall, but three guests were tweeting from the party all evening. - November 29

@elliottholt - None of the tweeting guests appear to have known Ms. Brown, but all observed her at various times in the 2 hours leading up to her death. - November 29

@elliottholt - In an effort to reconstruct the night's events, investigators are analyzing the twitter feeds of those three party guests. - November 29

@elliottholt - The 3 tweeting guests were: 1)
@margotburnham, 31, a public relations executive
whose firm was hosting the party at which Ms.
Brown died. - November 29

@elliottholt - 2) @simonsmithmilla, 44, of London, who was on the guest list because as he put it, "he knows people." - November 29

@elliottholt - And 3) @elsajohanssen, 26, a self-described "Swedish fashion designer" though she is an American citizen who was born in San Francisco. - November 29

@elliottholt - What follows, in chronological order, are all the tweets sent from that party, which began at 7:30 pm EST... - November 29

@elliottholt - ...and concluded when police arrived on the scene at 10:17 pm EST. Was Ms. Brown's death a #homicide, a #suicide, or an #accident? -November 29 You decide. Read the evidence. - November 29



# The tweeting guests' point of view

- @ElsaJohanssen tonight's party for my bf's cookbook is going to be off the hook! November 29
- @MargotBurnham Our guest of honor isn't here yet! #stress November 29
- @MargotBurnham but the flowers look perfect! -November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla Had a drink at the Soho House, now en route to a party for a chef I've never heard of. Sasha says we have to make an appearance. -November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen I'm wearing @alexanderwangny, fyi - November 29
- @MargotBurnham Taste test: the chef's special cocktail is divine. November 29
- @MargotBurnham But where is the chef?
  #fashionablylate November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla Sasha is late, of course.
  Whenever I'm in New York, I'm waiting for her. November 29

- @SimonSmithMilla New York rooftop in November: not the most practical place to throw a party. I'm told they'll be heat lamps. - November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen Why is it so hard to get a cab? November 29
- SimonSmithMilla There will be heat lamps, that
   is. Can't bloody type on this thing. November 29
- @MargotBurnham This party is already packed! #ilovemyjob - November 29
- @MargotBurnham DJ's spinning Prince, the lamb meatballs are circulating, and our chef of honor has arrived. This shindig is officially in full swing. November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen omg i thought i'd never find a taxi #sixblocksaway - November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla What sort of party doesn't have Hendrick's? November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla Does this chef have something against good gin? November 29

- @SimonSmithMilla Drowning my #Arsenal sorrows. An uptight PR girl thrust some sort of whiskey cocktail at me. Not bad, I must say. November 29
- @MargotBurnham "Groove is in the Heart!" November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen what did I miss? November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen these cocktails go down easy -November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla The chef's arm candy is very young, very blonde. Sasha says she winked at me. She might have done.; November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen ummm a woman with red hair just sucked down three cocktails in a row. now she's dancing like a maniac. #wtf November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen and creepy British guy is checking me out. - November 29
- @MargotBurnham I didn't expect people to dance but there's a redhead shaking her booty! And people seem to be following her lead. - November 29

- ElsaJohanssen gotta say: the dancing redhead's leather mini-skirt is so not age appropriate. -November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen i mean, she's gotta be at least ten years older than me. - November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla Woman with ginger hair is doing a show. What is this, Flashdance? November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen but i gotta admit the redhead in the leather mini-skirt has perfectly toned arms. i should really hire a trainer. - November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen or maybe i just need to go to yoga more often. ashtanga gives you Madonna arms, right? - November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen Wait, does Madonna still do yoga? Or is she onto a new thing? November 29
- ElsaJohanssen I don't want really big arms, just more toned. - November 29
- @MargotBurnham I love it when I can tell my boss is proud of me. November 29

- @SimonSmithMilla Ginger has exited the dance floor. Apparently she doesn't like Joy Division. November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla But love will tear us apart. -November 29
- @MargotBurnham The sliders are a huge hit! November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen where's my boyfriend? -November 29
- SimonSmithMilla Where's Sasha got off to? November 29
- @MargotBurnham I can't wait to try these recipes at home. - November 29
- @MargotBurnham And I wore just the right shoes.#louboutinforever November 29
- MargotBurnham And the temperature is just right. I was worried we didn't have enough heat lamps. - November 29

@ElsaJohanssen - the woman with the perfect arms is crying in the bathroom. like serious mascararunning tears. do i say something?! - November 29

@SimonSmithMilla - Right, chef. Your girl goes off to the loo and you chat up another woman. -November 29

@MargotBurnham - I don't pay much attention to horoscopes, but @astrologyzone did say the 28th would be a special night. - November 29

@ElsaJohanssen - i asked the crying woman if she was okay & she said she just got some bad news. i told her I love her dress. its isabel marant, natch. - November 29

@MargotBurnham - This is one of those nightswhen I feel like anything could happen. - November

@ElsaJohanssen - she said, it's ruined. i said no, it's perfect. and she said, i'm not talking about the dress. - November 29

MargotBurnham - Like I could meet the love of my life or something. - November 29

- @ElsaJohanssen the weirdest stuff always happens in the ladies room November 29
- @MargotBurnham I mean, why not? Life is full of surprises. - November 29
- SimonSmithMilla Sasha is always working a room. November 29
- @MargotBurnham You can't plan everything. November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen I meant to ask her what she does to get those arms but she left the bathroom. November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen crying lady is back on the dance floor. so i guess she's okay. November 29
- @MargotBurnham I know I'm working, but I feel like dancing. - November 29
- @MargotBurnham I'd like to be the kind of person who can dance like no one's watching. Like that redhead. - November 29

SimonSmithMilla - Dancing Ginger is having a spat with a bloke in a horrid purple tie. - November 29

@SimonSmithMilla - He's shaking her by the shoulders like a rag doll. - November 29

@ElsaJohanssen - I'm starting to think the redhead is on something. #drugs - November 29

@SimonSmithMilla - I asked the bloke to leave it, but Ginger said, "Don't worry. This is our routine." -November 29

@ElsaJohanssen - OMG. the redhead is swatting at some guy. looks like he's trying to calm her down. lover's quarrel? - November 29

@SimonSmithMilla - Fucking odd routine if you ask me. - November 29

@MargotBurnham - My old boss used to say, "everything's performance art, darling." - November 29

- © ElsaJohanssen speaking of lovers quarreling, my bf has hardly acknowledged my presence all night. -November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla Sasha says Ginger's clearly enjoying it. Says she's probably one of those women who "likes it rough." November 29
- @MargotBurnham I try to remember that when people get drunk and act crazy. - November 29
- @MargotBurnham Case in point: the redhead is slapping a man. And he's shaking her. - November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen He's too busy schmoozing. November 29
- @MargotBurnham But it almost seems like they're fighting in time to the music. November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen If he keeps this up, he'll be going home alone. November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla Ginger's pissed. Can't stand up straight. Couldn't focus when she looked at me. -November 29

- @ElsaJohanssen I'm young, but i'm not stupid. -November 29
- @MargotBurnham And now they're kissing. November 29
- SimonSmithMilla I told uptight PR girl to make sure Ginger doesn't drink anything else. - November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen Unmm now the redhead is hugging him, trying to kiss him. He keeps saying, not here, not here. #getaroom November 29
- @MargotBurnham The part of my job I hate?
  Policing the guests. November 29
- @MargotBurnham Red haired woman has had way too much to drink. Those cocktails go down too easily. November 29
- MargotBurnham I offered to call a car to take her home. She assured me she has a ride. - November 29
- @MargotBurnham The man who was fighting with her is holding her up. He's got her by the arms. November 29

- SimonSmithMilla That bloke in the purple tie is gripping her too hard. November 29
- @MargotBurnham He says she just needs to splash some water on her face. - November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen the redhead stumbled off toward the bathroom. She'll probably throw up and feel better. - November 29
- @SimonSmithMilla How did this woman become my problem? - November 29
- @MargotBurnham The man in the purple tie says "she gets like this." He says he'll go find her, make sure she's okay. - November 29
- @ElsaJohanssen OMG OMG OMG November 29
- SimonSmithMilla A scream so infernal I wasn't sure it was human. November 29
- @MargotBurnham My boss just told me to call 911 because someone went off the roof. - November 29

@MargotBurnham - It was the redhead. People said they heard her hit the ground. - November 29

@ElsaJohanssen - she went off the roof. we heard her hit the pavement. she's dead I just heard someone die she's dead - November 29

@MargotBurnham - I told the bartender to stop serving her, I swear - November 29

@ElsaJohanssen - off the edge - November 29

SimonSmithMilla - just like that. Christ - November 29

#homicide, #suicide or
#accident?

Then tweet your verdict (tonight or tomorrow) using the appropriate hashtag: (#homicide #suicide or #accident) & #twitterfiction - November 29

@elliottholt

@cemsil - great crime story @elliottholt! I think
@ElsaJohanssen bf, a.k.a the chef is the killer, in my opinion it's a #homicide! #twitterfiction November 29

@marisabirns - @elliottholt Congrats on masterful twitter story! My verdict: #accident #twitterfiction -November 29

@LauraMcWriter - @elliottholt I'm so impressed with 'Evidence' - thanks for the cool #twitterfiction experiment. I'm going with #accident. - November 29

@RachelFersh - @elliottholt Okay, so! In real life,
I'd think #accident. She was tanked, right? But in
#twitterfiction, definitely #homicide. - November 29

@megan\_m - @elliottholt I've gotta go with
#suicide - she was not a happy person. #twitterfiction
- November 29

@koul\_k - @koul\_k: puzzling over the verdict @elliottholt - story for the #twitterfiction festival.
Thinking #homicide - London dude did it. November 29

@dannysc - @elliottholt #twitterfiction it was an
#accident. She was drunk enough to trip and fall over
the edge. Not ruling out #homicide though. November 29

@alanawhitman - @elliottholt "Red hair, sir, in my opinion, is dangerous." - P.G. Wodehouse. I'm leaning towards a #twitterfiction #homicide. - November 29

@ChrisEigeman - @elliottholt read in crush of jfk, so my vote pre-destined; #suicide. #twitterfiction -November 29

@ninawyo - @elliottholt Whew, what a story. I am going to say #homicide #twitterfiction. Never trust a purple tie. - November 29

@mszaghi - @elliottholt I'll go with #suicide but I'm unsure about it... I don't think it was an accident though. Can't wait to know! #TwitterFiction - November 29

@SweetBaline - I loved it @elliottholt! I definitely think it was #homicide #twitterfiction If only because I was weaned on Law & Order. - November 29

@penguinpress - @allisondlynn @jessicafkane
@elliottholt I think it was #suicide... #twitterfiction November 29

@PhilKlay - @elliottholt #accident #twitterfiction I like to believe the best of people. - November 29

@allisondlynn - So, I'm leaning toward #suicide in @elliottholt's #twitterfiction—more compelling than drunk #accident, I think. @JessicaFKane @penguinpress - November 29

@ms\_ahlborn - Concerning the murder mystery that @elliottholt has been tweeting, my verdict is that Miranda Brown's death was a #homicide. #twitterfiction - November 29

@marktrainer - @elliottholt I want it to be #homicide. Oh please, please, please #twitterfiction -November 29 @JoshRadnor - @elliottholt #suicide. She seems like the kind of person who would try to win an argument by throwing herself off a roof. #twitterfiction - November 29

@Jess\_Ghost - @elliottholt I think it was an
#accident, but I'm usually wrong! Enjoyed it though!
#twitterfiction - November 29

@richardgrant - @elliottholt #homicide
#twitterfiction - November 29

@fixitup2 - @elliottholt Best #twitterfiction idea!! It has to be #suicide - November 29

@JeremyAkers - @elliottholt I am going with #accident for your great #twitterfiction - November 29

@tonyturquoise - @elliottholt she cray--- #suicide.
real fun all the same #twitterfiction - November 29

@Matt\_Matros - @elliottholt Although accident is plausible, I'm going with #homicide. Miranda had something on the chef, and he tossed her.
#twitterfiction - November 29

@bookbent - I'm leaning toward #homicide of the
manslaughter variety for @elliottholt's
#twitterfiction: http://t.co/AWxrmo4p - November
29

@SharpSchuette - @ElliottHolt You ace it!
#TwitterFiction Story http://t.co/UNa2xEtT via
@Slate Oh yeah, #suicide - November 30

@DaiEllis - @ElliottHolt great stuff. #doublesuicide, sadly. purple tie dude hemlocked his espresso in williamsburg this AM. #twitterfiction -November 30

@bookgirlsb - @elliottholt I vote #suicide. But I feel
like I might change my vote after a second read!
#twitterfiction - November 30

@kelly\_lou\_smith - Check out @elliottholt's
#twitterfiction. Great stuff. I don't know how to call
it but I'm going to say #accident. - November 30

@richardgrant - @Matt\_Matros @elliottholt I think he slipped her a mickey. There seemed to be more than booze involved at the end. #twitterfiction #homicide - November 30 @TanyaRey - @elliottholt Casting my vote for #homicide in your excellently executed #twitterfiction. Thanks for the fun read! - November 30

#### @elesscom - #accident @elliottholt #twitterfiction

Perhaps dehydration caused by heat lamps & overconsumption? BTW, great pacing. Just read it all now. - November 30

@ElyoftheNorth - Really enjoyed reading the #twitterfiction by @elliottholt! I think it was a #homicide - November 30

#### @randerson - @elliottholt #homicide #twitterfiction

Where was the guy with the purple tie? Hadn't he just gone to look for her? #suspicious - November 30

@danimmediacy - #twitterfiction makes it all better!
@elliottholt I vote #homicide -- purple tie man's
wife/girlfriend murdered his mistress, the redhead. November 30

@dgwriter3 - Really enjoyed @elliottholt's
#twitterfiction. I think it was #homicide. - December

### The verdict



Many who voted for #homicide named suspects: the chef, @simonsmithmilla, @margotburnham, @elsajohanssen, and the man in the purple tie. - December 1

@elliottholt

THE END. #twitterfiction - November 29



And thanks for indulging me in this storytelling experiment. Good night. - November 29

@elliottholt

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