

Twenty Things I Must Not Do in Cabot Cove

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We all know what you should do when you visit Cabot Cove (try not to get killed), but what should you not do when you visit Cabot Cove? Here's a list of twenty things that should be avoided at all costs.

This fun list is based on the Harry Potter list "Things I Must Not Do At Hogwarts." I've done similar ones before for Star Trek TOS and Star Trek: The Next Generation, but I firmly believe that the list can have different meanings and things for every fandom. Here's hoping this gives my fellow Murder, She Wrote fans a good belly laugh!

1. Michael Haggerty is not after me Lucky Charms.
2. I will not, under any circumstances, ask Jessica Fletcher who died and made her the boss.
3. Starting a betting pool on who will die at the next party Jessica attends is tasteless and tacky, not a clever moneymaking concept.
4. When applying for a job, I should not cite "Sam Booth" as my greatest influence.
5. Putting down "Dennis Stanton" is probably not best either.
6. Cabot Cove is not "a wretched hive of scum and villainy."
7. I will not ask Jessica to tell me what Substitiary Locomotion is.
8. The proper response to one of Jessica's questions is "Yes, Mrs. Fletcher," not "I have it on good authority that you have no evidence."
9. Under no circumstances am I to ask Jessica Fletcher and Harry McGraw to burst into a chorus of "Be Our Guest."

10. I will not take out a life insurance policy on Jessica Fletcher.
11. I am not allowed to discuss my theory that Seth Hazlitt is an ancestor of Leonard McCoy.
12. It's a bad idea to tell Jessica she takes herself too seriously.
13. No matter how good a spy/detective J.B. Fletcher is, the J.B. stands for Jessica Beatrice. It does not stand for James Bond, Jason Bourne, or Jack Bauer.
14. I will not invite Michael Haggerty to a local performance of *Sweeney Todd*. That goes double for Jessica Fletcher.
15. I am not allowed to refer to Seth Hazlitt, Mort Metzger, and Jessica Fletcher as Harry Potter, Ron Weasley, and Hermione Granger.
16. I am not allowed to tape a sign saying "Free Hugs!" to Seth Hazlitt's back.
17. Asking "How do you keep J.B. Fletcher in suspense?" and walking away is only funny the first time.
18. Humming/referring in any way to the *Mission: Impossible* theme around Jessica is inappropriate. It's best not to bring up the James Bond theme, either.
19. It's not a good idea to teach Jessica pick-pocketing, lock-picking, or any similar thing.
20. I must not point at Jessica and say "I taught her everything she knows."