

The Butler Did It

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Difficulty: Medium

L	N-MM-N--N--MMM
W	- > -> - - >-X->---- >--X->X-XX--X-
E	-
O	-- > - -- -X- -- > >X ->>-X>>X--- XX>X-XXX-XXX>X
I	0--0-0--000-0-

You are presented a postcard that contains an odd grid containing letters, numbers, and symbols.

The trick here is to realize that the entire page must be rotated 90 degrees clockwise to produce meaningful character associations. This results in the following:

H	OM	E	R
0	XVII	VII	2
1	XXIII	I	1
1	V	IV	3
0	XI	XIV	3
1	IV	IX	1
0	XVI	VI	2
1	XIX	XV	1
1	XXIV	II	1
0	IV	XII	2
0	XV	XIV	1
0	XXI	I	1
1	XIII	II	3
0	VI	XI	3
1	XIV	III	3

We see the word “Homer” at the top and 4 columns of numbers.

Taking Butler’s (hint from the title) translation of Homer’s famous works: “The Iliad” and “The Odyssey”, we can use the numbers as follows:

Column 1: 0 = Odyssey, 1 = Iliad

Column 2: Book Number

Column 3: Word Number

Column 4: Letter Number

Decoding the data gives: ATTICAPARTMENT.

The answer is Attic Apartment.