SOLUTION

Tracks in the Snow

Aleksei was the only person alone with **Valentina** — **Fireplace lounge**. The killer is unmasked.

1. Clue: “Clara was beside a crate.” So Clara can only be in 2 cells; cross out the 48 that don't fit.
2. Clue: “Diego was in the ski room.” So Diego can only be in 5 cells; cross out the 45 that don't fit.
3. Clue: “Eitan was in column 4.” So Eitan can only be in 8 cells; cross out the 42 that don't fit.
4. Clue: “Fumio was beside a counter.” So Fumio can only be in 4 cells; cross out the 46 that don't fit.
5. Clue: “Gabriel was standing on a rug.” So Gabriel can only be in 6 cells; cross out the 44 that don't fit.
6. Clue: “Valentina was beside a stove.” So Valentina can only be in 2 cells; cross out the 48 that don't fit.
7. All of Eitan's possible cells are in column 4, so Eitan takes that line. Nobody else can be in column 4.
8. All of Fumio's possible cells are in column 3, so Fumio takes that line. Nobody else can be in column 3.
9. Gabriel and Bruno were in the same room. Cross out any room that one of them can't reach.
10. Aleksei was north of Valentina. Compare where each of them can still be and cross out the cells that would break this.
11. Diego was west of Clara. Compare where each of them can still be and cross out the cells that would break this.
12. Clara has only one possible cell left: row 7, column 2. Place Clara there and cross out the rest of that row and column.
13. All of Diego's possible cells are in column 1, so Diego takes that line. Nobody else can be in column 1.
14. If Aleksei stood at row 1, column 7, Gabriel would have no cell left (all of Gabriel's cells share that row or column). So Aleksei can't be there.
15. If Bruno stood at row 1, column 7, Gabriel would have no cell left (all of Gabriel's cells share that row or column). So Bruno can't be there.
16. If Bruno stood at row 6, column 7, Valentina would have no cell left (all of Valentina's cells share that row or column). So Bruno can't be there.
17. If Gabriel stood at row 6, column 7, Valentina would have no cell left (all of Valentina's cells share that row or column). So Gabriel can't be there.
18. Gabriel and Bruno were in the same room. Cross out any room that one of them can't reach.
19. Valentina is in the fireplace lounge and needs exactly one companion. Only Aleksei can still get there, so Aleksei must be in the fireplace lounge.
20. Aleksei has only one possible cell left: row 5, column 7. Place Aleksei there and cross out the rest of that row and column.
21. Fumio has only one possible cell left: row 8, column 3. Place Fumio there and cross out the rest of that row and column.
22. Gabriel has only one possible cell left: row 1, column 6. Place Gabriel there and cross out the rest of that row and column.
23. Diego has only one possible cell left: row 2, column 1. Place Diego there and cross out the rest of that row and column.
24. Bruno has only one possible cell left: row 3, column 5. Place Bruno there and cross out the rest of that row and column.
25. Valentina has only one possible cell left: row 6, column 8. Place Valentina there and cross out the rest of that row and column.
26. Eitan has only one possible cell left: row 4, column 4. Place Eitan there and cross out the rest of that row and column.
27. The only other person in Valentina's room was Aleksei. Aleksei is the murderer!

