

# Introduction

Eric Wilson novels excite the imagination of young readers in grades 4-6. Appealing to children's inherent keen interest in mystery, Eric Wilson has skilfully woven accurate Canadian geographic and historic information into his writing. He also touches on current Canadian social and political issues in many of the novels. As such, these novels lend themselves to the integrated study of the mystery genre with Canadian geography topics in social studies and investigation units in science.

Code Red at the Supermall provides rich material for the study of setting, characterization and plot development. It can be used independently or in combination with the other Eric Wilson novels. The varying levels of difficulty in the novels provide opportunity to accommodate individual student ability, experience and interests.

Students can supplement the package with meaningful research which will strengthen the impact of their work. They will take great delight in touring West Edmonton Mall via the internet. Their web site address is [www.westedmontonmall.com](http://www.westedmontonmall.com).

Please note: When the book was written, the amusement park was called Fantasyland. The name has since been changed to Galaxyland.

Through the internet, students can be introduced to the author, Eric Wilson. His website address is [www.ericwilson.com](http://www.ericwilson.com).

**Code Red at the Supermall**  
**Eric Wilson**

**Setting**

As you read through the story, identify what happened at each of the numbered locations.

**1. Waterpark**

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**2. Ice Palace**

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**3. Luggage Unlimited**

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**4. Cafe Orleans**

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**5. Indoor Sea**

**a) Undersea Wreck**

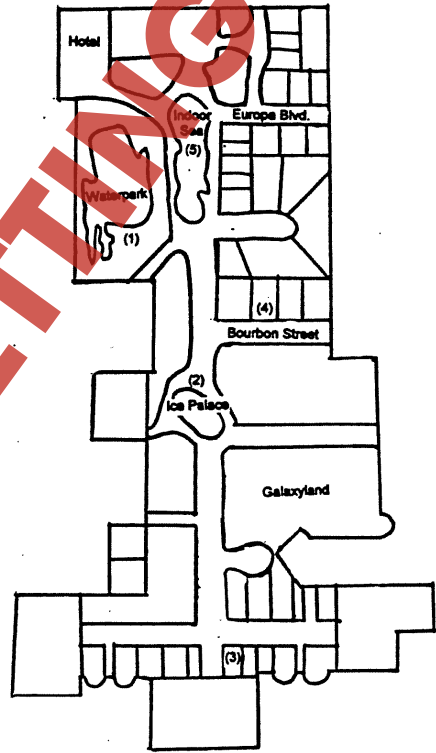
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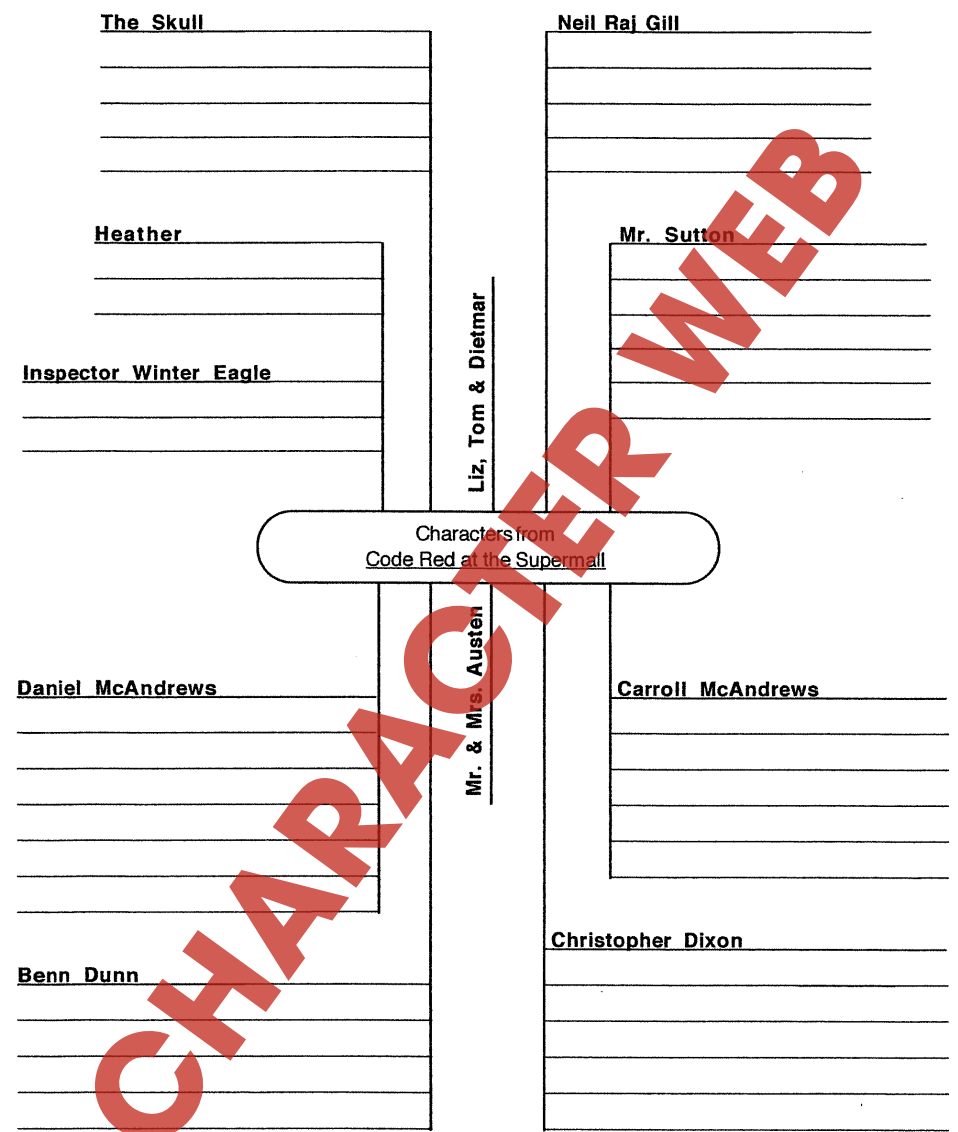
**b) Under the Santa Maria**

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As you read the story, add information about the characters identified in the character web.



**Character Summary of Tom Austen**

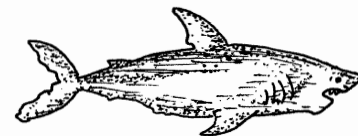
**APPEARANCE**

**ACTIONS, FEELINGS, THOUGHTS AND WORDS**

**CHARACTER TRAITS**


**Chapter Questions**

Answer in full sentences.



**Chapters 1 & 2**

1. What is the meaning of the title of the novel?

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2. What was found on the balcony of the cafe New Orleans?

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3. Why did this bomb not explode?

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4. a) What is unique about some of the hotel rooms at the supermall?

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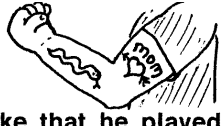
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### Chapter 3



1. Describe Dietmar's practical joke that he played on Liz.  
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2. West Edmonton Mall is a unique shopping mall. Name 5 interesting facts about W.E.M.  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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3. What information concerning *Luggage Unlimited* did Tom receive at the video arcade?  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Explain the *Rock the Mall* contest.  
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### Chapter 5



1. How did Carol McAndrews come to be the owner of *Full Fathom Down*?  
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2. Why were Tom and Liz not afraid of the sharks in the indoor sea?  
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### Final Projects

#### 1. Characterization

Use the items you have recorded on your character summary to write a one paragraph character sketch of Liz or Tom Austen. Your paragraph should include the following:

- a) a brief description of the character's appearance
- b) five (5) character traits, supported with information from the story
- c) a topic and concluding sentence.

#### 2. Letter

Write a letter to the editor of your local or school newspaper on the subject of racism. Be sure to include positive methods that you can use to combat racism in your community.

#### 3. Map Activity

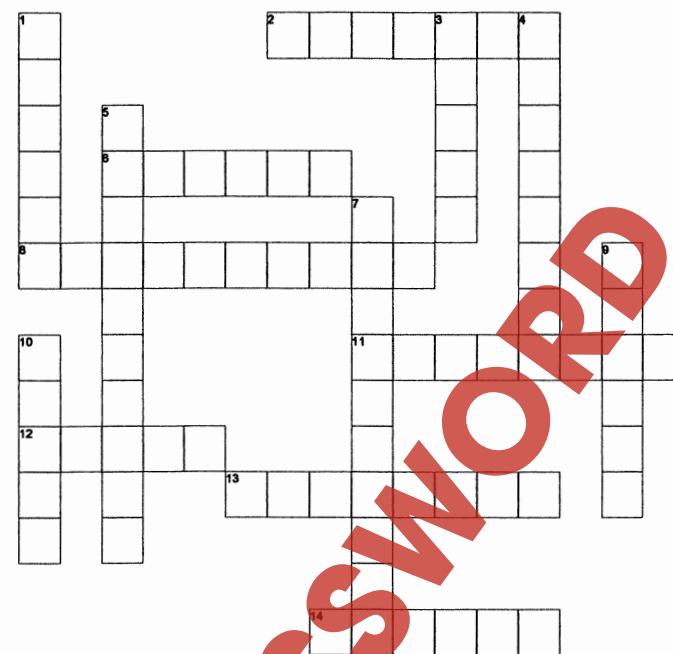
On your classroom map of Canada, mark and label the main setting of this novel.

#### 4. Illustration

On the front cover, illustrate your favourite scene from the story.

#### 5. Vocabulary

Complete the following crossword.



##### ACROSS

2. People who discriminate against others because of their ethnic background (p.12)
6. Home for birds (p.8)
8. Christopher Columbus' ship (p.10) (2 words)
11. Ignite an explosive (p.36)
12. A defence or excuse when accused of a wrongful act, "I was somewhere else." (p.101)
13. Fish with a long flexible tail able to inflict damage (p.96)
14. Bits of information (p.15)

##### DOWN

1. Scottish meal made from organs boiled in the stomach of a sheep or cow (p.107)
3. Underwater diving with a tank of compressed air (p.36)
4. Weapon used in deep-water fishing (p.97) (2 words)
5. Store dummies used for displays (p.50)
7. Large roller coaster at West Edmonton Mall (p.80)
9. Permanent ink drawings on the skin (p.13)
10. Large fish with a fin (p.1)

NOTE: Page numbers are from the 1996 edition of this novel.

**Chapter 6**



1. What happened to Chris during his dive?

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2. Describe Neil Raj's reaction to the Skull knocking him out of his chair.

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3. What 3 things did Liz say she looks for when trying to solve a crime? Explain how each is related to this case.

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**Chapter 6**

**What happened to Chris during his dive?**

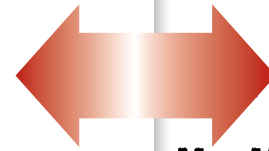
Someone slashed his air hose while he was under the water.

**Describe Neil Raj's reaction to the Skull knocking him out of his chair?**

Neil kept his cool, ignoring the Skull at first, then he asked Tom to go on the slides, thereby walking away from the problem. Neil believed that fights do not solve problems.

**What 3 things did Liz say she looks for when trying to solve a crime? Explain how each is related to this case.**

1. Means - the suspect would have to have something with which to cut the hose.
2. Motive - the suspect would have to have a reason for wanting to harm Christopher.
3. Opportunity - the suspect would have to have access to the indoor sea.



**Mr. McAndrews held a prominent place at the mall. State the evidence to support this statement.**

The young attendant in the naval uniform on the submarine saluted Mr. McAndrews. Each morning before the mall opened, Mr. McAndrews went on a solo submarine ride.

**Lisa stated that she believed the attack on the air hose was meant for her. Who do you think might have slashed the hose and why?**

Accept any plausible answers with support. For example - Carol rode the submarines and she was jealous of Lisa.

**ANSWER KEY**