

# The Mid-night Visitor

## MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

1. One should never judge a book by its cover.  
Explain with reference to Ausable and how he outwits Max with his presence of mind.

**Ans:** In "The Midnight Visitor," Ausable demonstrates the saying "One should never judge a book by its cover." Despite appearing fat and unassuming, Ausable's quick thinking and clever deception outwit the cunning Max. By creating an illusion of a balcony and arranging a fake police visit, Ausable shows his true intellect, proving that appearances can be deceiving.

2. Describe Max as a secret agent.

**Ans:** Max was a secret agent and a rival and enemy of Ausable. He was slender, a little less than tall. He appeared crafty and had pointed countenance of a fox. There was nothing especially menacing about him except his pistol.

3. State one likely reason the writer of The Midnight Visitor chose to characterise Ausable as short and fat.

**Ans:** The waiter of the hotel where Ausable was staying knocked at the door. Ausable had ordered some drinks when he arrived at the hotel for Fowler and himself. The waiter came with a bottle and two glasses. He was simply doing his duty of serving his customer staying in the hotel.

4. How is Ausable different from other secret agents?

**Ans:** Ausable was different from other secret agents because he lived in a small room in the musty corridor of a gloomy French hotel which was on the sixth and top floor. There was nothing thrilling or adventurous about it. On the top of that, he was extremely fat. Though he had been living in Paris for more than twenty years. He spoke French and German only passably with an American accent.

