



## South Carolina Mass Shooting

Former American football player, Phillip Adams, 32, left 5 five people dead and one person severely injured in a mass shooting that ended with a suicide by him after a standoff with the police on Wednesday evening, April 7th, at Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Robert Lesslie, 70, a well known local doctor, his wife, Barbara Lesslie, 69, and their two grandchildren, Adah Lesslie, 9, and Noah Lesslie, 5, were killed in this shooting. A fifth victim, James Lewis, 38, an air-conditioning technician who had been working outside of the home, was found dead outside. The sixth injured victim, Robert Shook, 38, a worker at the same company as James Lewis, was flown to a Charlotte hospital where he was in critical condition.

Alonzo Adams, Phillip Adams' father, said he believed that his son's NFL career led to the shooting.

"I can say he's a good kid," he told a local television station. "I think the football messed him up."

Phillip Adams was a former NFL pro and a college football star at South Carolina State. Throughout his football career, he suffered many injuries, including a severe ankle injury and two concussions. Lauren Adams, Phillip's sister, said he used to be laid back but then his personality changed abruptly a few years ago.

"His mental health degraded fast and terribly bad. There was unusual behavior," she said. "We definitely did notice signs of mental illness that were extremely concerning that were not like anything we had ever seen. And it was not the person that we knew."

She said that two weeks ago, her brother had started talking about his resentment toward the NFL in its handling of his disability claim.

"I think he got upset about that and that's kind of where it started, with him kind of feeling like the whole world was against him," she said. "We just started to notice a huge change and you could tell talking to him that something was not right."

The police have not yet figured out the motive for this mass shooting. The investigation is still ongoing.

*Update:* Sixth victim, Robert Shook, passed away due to his injuries on Saturday, April 10th.

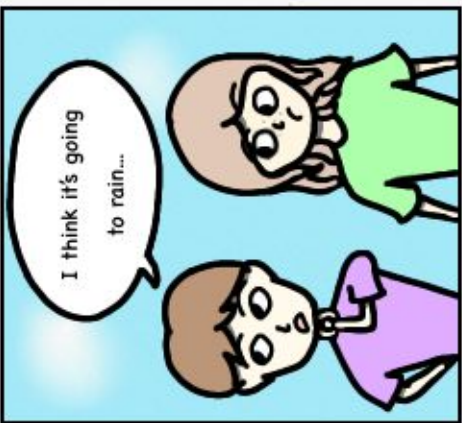
Lana T.  
4/13/2021

### Chapter One: Sarah the Gossip Queen, AKA My Loveable Bestie

"Make that 10 and you got a deal!", she grinned. "8!" "9" "Fine.," Sarah gave in, placing \$9 to Becky's open hand. Beck smirked to herself, and waved the bills as a goodbye to me as she dramatically bowed out of the room. I stared across the room, thinking over my life's decisions, when as if on cue, Sarah spoke. "Tiff, you got like, the coolest older sister EVER! My sister is, like, a TOTALLY schmuck and a pain in my beautiful, future model butt! She thinks I'm, like, 5! I can't even with her! ", she said, making a face. *Click!* The face was in my camera roll in an instant, and my lips turned upward and into the form of a smile. Sarah had no clue about this. Yet.

Lina K.

4/12/2021



# Earthships: Home of the Future

Earthships are incredible, innovative homes that are completely off the grid. They are environmentally friendly, producing their own electricity, harvesting rainwater, and they even have their own sewage systems! They are completely self-sustainable homes that are extremely environmentally friendly. If everyone lived in an earthship, pollution and deforestation would be much less of a problem. Now, what's so great about earthships?

**How are earthships built?** Earthships are built using recycled material and waste that can be found anywhere, like soda cans. Vehicle tires provide insulation, while glass bottles act as tinted windows. Earthships are also almost fireproof, since that risk of wildfires burning your home still exists. Concrete is used to stick cans together to form walls, and the tires are covered in stucco or adobe.

**What are some of the functions of an earthship?** Earthships don't use central heating or air-conditioning. Instead, the eco-friendly homes generate their electricity with solar panels, which can provide electricity for 30 years, helping to stop global warming. Earthships also use wind energy, and with both energy sources combined, it has enough to charge batteries that keep the homes running. Rainwater, on the other hand, is harvested by falling on the roof and running through filters, it is then fed into the building by gravity. Water is used four times in earthships, for washing, bathing, laundry, and is then given to the plants. Earthships are heated by the sun's rays, which they position the building very carefully to catch just at the right angle to heat up the house through the tire insulation.

**Earthship communities.** The architect Michael Reynolds created Earthships in the 1970s. On this day in age, there is a whole community of earthships in Taos, New Mexico called The Greater World Community. It's the first ever earthship community, and it has over 70 homes, some of them even rentable on Airbnb! This community also has a school for students and self-guided tours of the amazing eco-friendly society. Earthships really are some of the coolest homes out there.



Diya V. 4/16/2021



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## Riddlemaster

What has been around for millions of years,  
yet resides in homes all around us?

Water.

## Fun Facts

- Canadians say sorry so much that a law was passed in 2009 declaring that an apology can't be used as proof of admission to guilt.
- Daniel Radcliffe was allergic to his Harry Potter glasses.
- If you cut down a cactus in Arizona, you'll be penalized up to 25 years in jail.
- A single strand of Spaghetti is called a "Spaghetto".
- There's a company in Japan that has schools that teach you how to be funny.