

**THE DANGEROUS
DESPAIR OF B-LIST
SUPERHEROES**



**Charlie 'Hovering'
Newton**

Congratulations!

You are taking part in a murder mystery by Red Herring Games.

Firstly: *Don't Panic!*

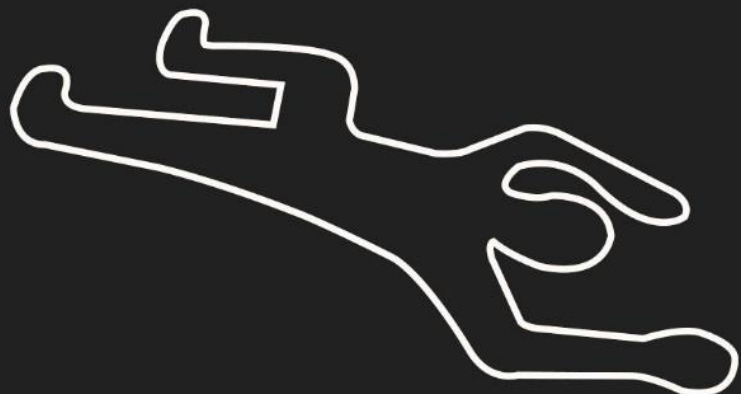
This booklet contains all the information you need to help you act your part throughout the murder mystery; background history, scripted dialogues, questions you should ask and scripted answers to questions you will be asked by the other guests.

You are encouraged to make the most of your part. Feel free to make up new lines and add to your back story or statements if you wish. However, make sure you always provide the information you need to within your answers. We have pre-scripted your statements to make things as simple for you as possible.

Make sure you listen to everyone else's questions and answers.

You won't be told if you're the killer – so feel free to guess yourself at the end – but don't tell anyone else you are! You must protest your innocence until the end!

Lastly: *Have fun!*



Charlie 'Hovering' Newton

Background Character Information

Keep this information to yourself, and use it to help you to act in character throughout the mystery:

You are a typical, distracted physics teacher of the old school, given to outbursts of “Cripes!” and “Jeepers!” whenever one of your classroom experiments goes wrong. Which they frequently do.

However, since discovering your special powers a couple of years ago, you have been much more interested in them than in teaching. You are now somewhat preoccupied with understanding what gives you the power of levitation, albeit for somewhat useless periods of ten seconds at a time and to a height of no more than 10mm.

You are permanently on the lookout for someone who can justify both what you can do AND Newton’s laws.

Charlie 'Hovering' Newton - Introductions

Use the following dialogue to introduce yourself to the other guests, speaking when indicated below.

Charlie 'Hovering' Newton speaks after Rome Hillton saying:

Golly gosh, Rome. You really shouldn't blame yourself. I'm sure that like most of us you're just a victim of circumstance and we're all jolly grateful for the exceptionally splendid spreads you provide us with. I'm Charlie 'Hovering' Newton and I'm a physics teacher. I'm most intrigued with the scientific aspects of our powers. For instance, I can levitate slightly at will. How can we explain that within the laws of physics? I can happily go through my fascinating research if anyone is interested...

After you have heard from everyone, please continue reading and begin round 1.

Scripted Dialogue - Round 1

- Egbert Hensbottom** Well, this doesn't surprise me at all. We superheroes are the chosen ones and not all of us are treating the honour with the respect it deserves. This is judgement.
- Charlie Newton** I'm not sure that dressing like an idiot is treating your powers with respect. I prefer proper scientific investigation.
- Steph Little** Frankly, I'm not sure that we qualify for being superheroes at all. If boiling an egg makes you a superhero then the world is full of them.
- Rome Hillton** Well, I don't think that bickering is going to help anything. Poor Bill is dead, let's not forget that.
- Egbert Hensbottom** Anyone got any eggs?
- Melanie Donovan** Poor Bill? What's the matter, Daisy? Are you covering your rear? I get the impression that Bill has been nothing but trouble for all of us.
- David Yates** Some of us have got more to worry about than Bill causing trouble. I certainly wouldn't spare the time to kill him.
- Egbert Hensbottom** Any eggs will do. I just want to practise.
- Rome Hillton** I'm sorry he's gone, but what about the publicity? I know they say that no publicity is bad publicity but frankly I don't see that right now.
- Egbert Hensbottom** Do you think I could go and look in the fridge?

Melanie Donovan

Egbert, will you shut up about eggs? I admire your dedication, but we're investigating a murder here.

Rome Hilton

Yes, and one thing is for certain. None of your special powers can help Bill Cody right now. Perhaps we should concentrate on that.

Charlie 'Hovering' Newton - First Round

Questions you should ask:

Rome Hilton, is it true that you took over the hotel ownership quite recently?

David, is it true that you've been offered a recording contract?

Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

When asked: Hovering Newton, have you had any success in developing your levitation skills?

Say: I'm afraid not. I've been trying to gain more control over my levitation skills. While I can levitate at will, I always rise exactly 10mm from the floor and only ever for precisely ten seconds. It is most frustrating.

When asked: Charlie, I heard you'd been away from school for quite some time. Where have you been?

Say: I've taken sabbatical leave for two terms to in order to research my powers with scientists in Switzerland. I've been intrigued with their precise research methods, but unfortunately, they've been unable to shed much light on how my powers actually work.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue - Round 2

- Charlie Newton** I have to say that death through asphyxiation can't have been a pleasant way to go.
- Rome Hillton** No, and not very timely either, leaving his kids alone like that. Um, Charlie, are you sitting on a cushion?
- Steph Little** Oh, Charlie, stop hovering! Look, can we all stop playing at superheroes and get on with solving this murder?
- Melanie Donovan** Coming from you, Steph, that's a bit rich. It's not like there's any wet paint in here for you to entertain us with while we watch it dry.
- David Yates** Come on, Melanie. You're lucky to have such a practical special talent. It can get pretty frustrating if you can't put your powers to good use.
- Rome Hillton** It can also get to be a bit of a bind clearing all the bread up after some of your gatherings. Not that we should be complaining. Your business is more than welcome!!
- Egbert Hensbottom** I wonder if there is some higher authority who bestows these superpowers upon us? Maybe they will be taken away now we've been mixed up in a murder.
- Charlie Newton** You speak for yourself. I am way above any such involvement. I am merely here to help.

Steph Little

Sorry to break it to you, but we're all involved right now. If we do lose our powers, it will happen in more ways than one.

Charlie 'Hovering' Newton - Second Round

Questions you should ask:

Flowerpower, were you aware of Bill Cody's severe allergy problem?

Eggman, I happen to know that you caused a bit of a rumpus in one of the Little Steph cafes a few weeks ago. Can you explain what that was all about?

Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

When asked: Charlie, is it true that you're Bill Cody's children's teacher?

Say: Yes, I am. The other teachers and I always found Mr Cody to be rather an annoyance. Although his kids were bright and able enough, nothing was ever good enough for Bill. Every week he would find something to complain about.

When asked: Hovering, are you planning to continue with the work to understand and explain your powers?

Say: I believe that everything in this material world is governed by the laws of science and that my powers - and indeed, all superhero powers - must be explicable. I have, therefore, applied for a further sabbatical in the forthcoming term in order to visit another research laboratory, this time in the US.

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Scripted Dialogue - Round 3

- David Yates** This investigation is getting a bit tiresome in my opinion. Anyone want to watch me move some rolls?
- Steph Little** No thanks, David. Flying bread really isn't my thing.
- Melanie Donovan** Steph, I'm sorry my psychological issues with handling friendship have been raised in all of this. I don't think it remains a problem to be frank. Do you, Steph? Do you?
- Steph Little** Well, you can be a bit over the top sometimes, Melanie.
- Melanie Donovan** Ok, Steph. I'm sure you're right. I'm sorry, Steph. What can I do to make it up to you, Steph?
- Egbert Hensbottom** For a start, I wouldn't cancel the treatment just yet! But getting back to the matter in hand, I'm starting to see why they've brought us together like this.
- David Yates** Me too. We all seem to have good reason to be pleased to see the back of Bill Cody. Perhaps we should have collaborated to get rid of him.
- Charlie Newton** Don't start putting ideas in their heads or we'll all end up under arrest!
- David Yates** We're already helping with enquiries in a murder case. I for one never imagined I would be doing even that.

Rome Hillton

I wonder if I can make marketing use of this afterwards? Perhaps Murder Mystery nights would be just that bit more realistic...

Steph Little

Oh dear, Rome! Surely that wouldn't be in very good taste, would it?

Egbert Hensbottom

I don't know. It seems that some people never stop trying to make money.

Rome Hillton

It's called earning a living, Egbert. Maybe you should look it up on Wikipedia.

Charlie Newton

Well, we all have to pay our way in life, but we need principles too. I'd suggest that a lack of them has put Bill Cody where he is now.

Charlie 'Hovering' Newton - Third Round

Questions you should ask:

Steph, how are things with the extended Little Steph cafe?

Rome, can you explain what a representative from a painting and decorating suppliers was doing here at the hotel recently?

Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

When asked: Hovering, I don't mean to be indiscreet, but I happen to know that Bill Cody submitted a formal complaint about you to the school governors. What can you tell us about this?

Say: Apparently, he was very annoyed that his sons were being taught by a succession of supply teachers during my recent absence. He also alleged that I'd become generally distracted and kept repeatedly hovering in class.

When asked: Charlie Hovering, why were you shouting at Bill Cody in the school car park recently?

Say: Mr Cody had heard that I'd applied for a second sabbatical. He was waiting for me two days ago in the school car park and he accused me - rather loudly - of not caring about the children's education. He screamed that he wouldn't rest until I was dismissed for incompetence.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Charlie 'Hovering' Newton - Concluding Statement

Use the following dialogue to summarise your position, speaking when indicated below.

Charlie 'Hovering' Newton speaks after Rome Hillton using the following dialogue:

Bill Cody was a man with a jolly short temper. He was also someone who was fiercely defensive of those he cared for, which is a bally dangerous combination. However, I have to confess that maybe he had a point about my standards of teaching. I may have to take some time out of teaching to investigate the science behind my powers without compromising young lives any further. Would I let Bill Cody prevent me from doing this research? No. I think this is my chance to make a significant scientific contribution to society. Did I kill him? No! I knew nothing of his asthma and besides, that research could not happen in prison.

After you have heard from all the guests make a prediction as to who the murderer is and why.

Tell the others.

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