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MURDER AT HOLD-IT CITY GENERAL



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

A few simple instructions to help you along:

Firstly: Don't Panic!

This booklet contains all the information you need as a guest to help you act your part throughout the murder mystery party.

The first page provides you with additional background information to help you get into character, however there are no special acting abilities required and you can make as much or as little of your character as you wish.

After that on each page you are given either something to read out (dialogue), questions to ask, or information to help you answer questions you will be asked. These questions and answers are not intended to be read out word for word. Instead read them, digest the information and then ask and answer any questions in your own words. You are encouraged to ad lib, but it is very important you do not lie, so please provide the information contained within your booklet when asked.

Your host for the evening will direct you where necessary and tell you when to move on to the next round when the time is right.

If you are the murderer you will not be told. When you finally come to guess who did it – it could easily be you and feel free to point the finger at yourself if you feel you must!

And lastly: Have fun!

Chelsea Bunn

Background Character Information:

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

As the head chef in the staff canteen you are familiar with all the members of the hospital and pride yourself on knowing all of their likes and dislikes.

However, you are not swayed from your strict regime. You are the "chef"; you make all the menu decisions and are totally dismissive of any and all complaints, shrugging them off as "fads and fancies".

You despise anybody with special diets particular vegetarians, for whom you grudgingly provide what you derisively call "an alternative to proper food".

Chelsea Bunn

Introductions:

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

Chelsea Bunn speaks first using the following dialogue:

Death is always a shock, but there won't be too many people sorry to see that old recluse dead and out of the way and I, Chelsea Bunn, that's double "n" am no exception. As head of the staff canteen I know from first hand what a pain in the proverbial backside he was, but then again, what can you expect from a blinkin' veggie? "I don't eat meat on principle" he says, or used to say. Principle! Ha! That must have been the only one he had! And that's a dead cert if you'll excuse the term!

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

Scripted Dialogue Round 1

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Chelsea Bunn | Well, what a turn-up this is! When I started my shift this morning I hardly expected to be part of a murder investigation! |
| Helen Highwater | That goes double for me! I know we are quite used to death in this place, but murder! That's something else! |
| Will Cuttem | Well, I have a confession to make. It was me that discovered him and called the police. |
| Phil Mabucket | Oh, that's nice I must say. You didn't think to tell us then? |
| Will Cuttem | Well, to tell you the truth, I was a bit stunned. |
| Di Agnosis | Stunned! We're all stunned but Roger is a bit more than stunned. He's dead! |
| Chelsea Bunn | Stating the obvious, aren't we dear? As a newly qualified doctor the thought of anyone dying must give you nightmares. |

Cont.

Ivor Gurney If you ask me, there ain't much worse than a nightmare about some bloke gettin' topped in 'is prime. In fact, I'd put a weeks wages on it that we'll all be 'avin' nightmares before this day is out.

Di Agnosis You do talk a load of rubbish Ivor. In order to have nightmares you need to be asleep and I don't see any of us getting any of that today.

Ivor Gurney Alright! Don't get picky! It was a figure of speech.

Helen Highwater No, Di is right. There's no chance of any sleep today and some of us, including me, have been on duty all night.

Di Agnosis You're not the only one. I was on call too. I did manage to grab a few zeds when things got quiet though.

Will Cuttem I say, I wouldn't let too many people hear you say that young lady.

Helen Highwater No! Not a good idea at all!

Phil Mabucket Well, bicker amongst yourselves, why don't you? I'm more concerned about being a murder suspect.

Chelsea Bunn - First Round

Questions you should ask:

According to Will Cuttem there was no point in asking Roger round for drinks. Could it be that Will had reasons of his own for not inviting him?

Ivor Gurney refers to Roger as "the old pill pusher". Is that just a nickname for a pharmacist or is there a deeper reason for the term? Perhaps you should ask him.

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You had reason recently to confront Roger during the lunch break because he was complaining loudly about the lack of a vegetarian option and trying to invoke discontent among the other diners. At one point he even implied that you were skimping on ingredients and skimming off the money. If that fell on the wrong ears you could lose your job. You called him a pain and a trouble maker, he didn't like that.

You think that Roger had few principles. You believe that Roger was abusing his position as the pharmacist by selling drugs to members of the staff and falsifying the records to cover his tracks. However, you were unable to prove it and now it's too late.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 2

Chelsea Bunn How awful! Who could have done this?

Helen Highwater Who indeed?! I for one am devastated! Roger was a bit of a chauvinist pig but to kill him in cold blood? Someone must have had a very strong reason for wanting him dead!

Will Cuttem Not necessarily my dear. It could have been an argument that got out of hand. Roger was, after all, inclined to rub people up the wrong way. There have been times when I could easily have killed him. Er, figuratively speaking that is.

Phil Mabucket I reckon that goes for most of us here. Helen's right. He was a pig. Chauvinistic or otherwise.

Di Agnosis I think you're being a bit unkind ... to pigs that is!

Will Cuttem Oh dear! We are bitter, aren't we?

Ivor Gurney Well, it's 'ardly surprisin' is it? The old sod went out of 'is way to alienate everyone. 'E deserved what 'e got if you ask me.

Cont.

Chelsea Bunn

Come come! It's a bit off speaking ill of the dead. I didn't like the man but nobody's *all* bad.

Di Agnosis

Take it from me, he was every bit as dislikeable as everyone here has said. I'm afraid to say that Roger was just one of life's detestable characters. But for all that, I wouldn't have wished him dead.

Ivor Gurney

I rest my case. Detestable is a perfick description.

Helen Highwater

You use a lot of strong words Ivor, but I don't believe you hated him that much. I think you are all talk.

Di Agnosis

I agree. I think deep down you are a bit sorry that he's gone.

Will Cuttem

I suppose we all are up to a point. After all, whatever you say about him, he was a colleague and we are supposed to be in the business of preserving life.

Phil Mabucket

Well, if you ask me, some lives are not worth preserving.

Chelsea Bunn - Second Round

Questions you should ask:

How did Di Agnosis know that Rogerr La Brat had failed his medical exam?

Ask Will Cuttem where he was last night. You heard him being paged. Why wasn't he in theatre?

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You are a woman of strong principles and beliefs. As a result, you mentioned your suspicions about Roger peddling drugs to a couple of people, including Phil Mabucket and Ivor Gurney, but nobody could come up with any real proof.

Whilst it is true that the canteen doesn't open till 9am, a great deal of preparation has to be done beforehand. You usually arrive at about 7am, give or take fifteen minutes. This means you might have been on the premises when Roger was killed, depending of course on when exactly he was killed.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 3

Chelsea Bunn	That's a blow! No pun intended. That removes any doubts about an accident.
Helen Highwater	Come on! Surely none of us actually believed it was accidental. Not for a minute!
Will Cuttem	If I might make a point. That narrows the field down to those who had access to syringes and morphine.
Phil Mabucket	That gets me off the hook then. I'm only a skivvy around here. Where would I get such stuff?
Di Agnosis	Well I have to say that if I wanted to render someone unconscious I would not have to resort to brute force.
Will Cuttem	That's very true, my dear. I, on the other hand, have every opportunity to acquire those things, so where does that leave me?
Ivor Gurney	Precisely! For once, the 'umble ancillary staff are outa the picture, eh Phil?!

Cont.

Di Agnosis	It would seem so, but it is not out of the question that anyone with a strong enough motive could lay their hands on these items.
Chelsea Bunn	That's true but there are those who wouldn't know one end of a syringe from the other.
Ivor Gurney	That's easy darlin'! The sharp end is the bit they stick in yer bum!
Di Agnosis	That's just the sort of remark I would expect from you, Ivor. You never take anything seriously.
Phil Mabucket	I think we'd all better start taking this seriously. We're all still under suspicion. And I for one don't much like being in the same room as a cold-blooded killer.
Will Cuttem	It still could've been an accident. An accidental killing, that is.
Helen Highwater	Come off it Will! Hit on the head <i>and</i> injected with morphine. Some accident!
Phil Mabucket	It certainly was a thorough job alright. So, what happens now?

Chelsea Bunn - Third Round

Questions you should ask:

Phil Mabucket's workshop was next door to the pharmacy. When he arrived this morning at 7 o'clock, did he see Roger in there?

Helen Highwater wanted Roger out of her life. Ask her if his death satisfies her wishes.

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

At 7am the hospital is usually quiet, except for the nurses starting their rounds and waking the patients. This morning, you were surprised to hear a bit of commotion from the floor below (the pharmacy is directly beneath the canteen). There were raised voices. You heard someone say something like "always looking for more money" and "if the board finds out". Then there was a crash, followed by a long silence and then the sound of a squeaky trolley being pushed along a corridor. Shortly after that you looked out of the window and saw Phil Mabucket walking across the car park.

You were very busy preparing breakfast and you were used to hearing strange noises, so you didn't consider the commotion important at the time. As a result you didn't bother to investigate the noise.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Chelsea Bunn

Concluding Statement

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

Chelsea Bunn speaks first using the following dialogue:

I have to say that the staff canteen, indeed the whole hospital, will be a better place without La Brat's constant complaining and his morose and bigoted attitude. But did he deserve to die? I don't know.

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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