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A photograph of several oil pumpjacks in silhouette against a bright, orange sunset sky. The pumpjacks are the central focus, with their long arms and counterweights clearly visible. The sky is filled with soft, glowing clouds.

Brock Ewein

**DEATH OF A
DALLAS
DYNASTY**

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!

Brock Ewein

Background Character Information:

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

You are a proud man and work very hard to sustain your wealth.

You dearly love your wife, Ms. Nellie, as she has been by your side through thick and thin.

You and Jay R. have never gotten on well together. You've figured out it's because you both have the same sort of temperment.

Brock Ewein

Introductions:

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

Brock Ewein speaks first, using the following dialogue:

Jay R., my first-born son...dead! I knew he'd made many enemies in his life, just as I, Brock Ewein, have. That's part of the business, I guess, making a few enemies along the way. But to resort to murdering him? That's something I can't bear to think about! I never would've guessed when I saw him earlier it would be the last game of billiards we'd ever play together.

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

Scripted Dialogue Round 1

Drake Darrington: This business of a death here at Southwether has gotten me in quite a state of anxiety. Chrystal, why *did* we decide to come here this weekend?

Chrystal Darrington: Drake, you know that I leave all of our comings and goings up to you. It was your decision for us to come on a visit to Southwether.

Ms. Nellie: Well, I for one am glad you did decide to visit and be here with us during this ordeal... family should stick together during rough times.

Brock Ewein: I agree, Nellie...and you're my little honey pot that keeps this family together.

Lou Ellen: Oh please, I think I could be sick from all of this family sweetness! (hiccups)

Mike Mulhaney: I doubt if that's the reason you feel sick, Lou Ellen. Could I get you a cup of coffee?

Ms. Nellie: Oh don't mind her...she's half snookered most of the time. We're all used to it.

Cont.

Drake Darrington: Nellie, don't compare Lou Ellen's condition to the fine competition of snooker pool. That's an insult to the game.

Mike Mulhaney: What would one call Lou Ellen's condition then?

Drake Darrington: Many words could describe her condition, but one word that could sum her up is...

Lou Ellen Ewein: Drake, are you trying to insinuate that you think I'm a lush?

Chrystal Darrington: Hush on the lush term...Lou Ellen, you've had a hard life with Jay R.

Brock Ewein: She isn't the only one, from what I've heard! I think it's time we got back to what happened here tonight...

Brock Ewein - First Round

Questions you should ask:

How did Drake Darrington come to own Dallas Oil?

You've heard Chrystal and Drake haven't been married very long. Ask her how they met.

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You and Jay R. have both made enemies over the years. Some of them were mutual business enemies. Once, it was even your own distant cousin, Drake Darrington, over an oil rig takeover, but that was resolved. You told Jay R. that blood was thicker than water and to drop the takeover of the oil rig. Jay R. resented it, but obliged your wishes.

You saw Jay R. earlier in the billiard room when you went up to play him in a practice game of billiards. He seemed a bit drunk and your suspicions were correct. When you went over to pour a drink you noticed the whiskey decanter was empty!

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 2

Ms. Nellie: Well, with all that has happened, I haven't been quite myself this evening. I hope you'll all forgive me for not being the greatest hostess tonight.

Brock Ewein: Nellie, everyone understands. You're probably in a state of shock.

Lou Ellen Ewein: I'd rather be in Ms. Nellie's state than mine...my glass is empty!

Chrystal Darrington: About as empty as your head... if it wasn't for that tiara you're wearing.

Drake Darrington: Oh shut up, Chrystal.... don't pick on Lou Ellen that way.

Mike Mulhaney: After all, Lou Ellen *was* a beauty queen. I'll oblige her and get some drinks for the rest of us.

Lou Ellen Ewein: I think we could all use a stiff one right now. I know I could!

Mike Mulhaney: I'm sure I could arrange another one for you later if you need it.

Cont.

Lou Ellen Ewein:

I'm sure you could, Mike. Some things should just be left on the back burner to simmer, ya know?

Brock Ewein:

Well, I know the food shouldn't be left in the chafing dishes too much longer. Perhaps we should eat...

Ms. Nellie:

By all means, I think we should eat. It might give us all time to calm down and think a bit more logically about what has happened tonight! Once we're finished, we'll continue.

Brock Ewein - Second Round

Questions you should ask:

Ask Lou Ellen if she can remember any more about the big business deal Jay R. mentioned before his death.

Ask Mike why he'd been a drifter doing odd jobs before taking this position at Southwether.

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You remember when you went into the billiard room it seemed unusually cool and decided to light a fire with the last log to take the chill out of the air. Jay R. was so drunk, he didn't seem to notice it was chilly.

The only person you saw going up into the billiard room was Drake Darrington, but that was hours ago!

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 3

- Ms. Nellie:** Oh my, I can see the headlines now... "Death in a Dallas Dynasty", and right here at Southwether!
- Lou Ellen Ewein:** I'm sure they'd probably add the byline, "Demise at a Denim and Diamonds Dinner Party", to make it real drama.
- Brock Ewein:** Leave it to the newspapers to exploit this thing to make a buck. Disgusting rags!
- Ms. Nellie:** Well, if they do print an article about this, I hope they leave out the fact that I was my own caterer. I wouldn't want any one to think that the food had anything to do with this.
- Brock Ewein:** After I tasted the shrimp, I'm surprised we're not all dead, Nellie!
- Drake Darrington:** I'm sure everyone will know the food didn't do Jay R. in. The question in their minds will be *who* did him in.
- Chrystal Darrington:** I agree. I think most people will be saying, "Who shot Jay R.?"
- Ms. Nellie:** Either way, what a scandal! How will our family ever hold our place in Dallas society after such a thing hits the papers?

Cont.

Mike Mulhaney: Ms. Nellie, you can handle a scandal like this with your usual level-headedness. I'm sure you're familiar with scandal...after all, Jay R. was your son. That's was a scandal in itself.

Brock Ewein: Young man, I don't think I like what you're insinuating!

Lou Ellen: Well I do! Jay R. was a scandalous scoundrel and I'd be the first to drink to that! (hiccups)

Drake Darrington: I have a feeling that we'll all find out very soon who killed Jay R.; how and why. In the meantime, I'll get us all a drink to calm our nerves until the Inspector is ready to tell us something more.

Brock Ewein - Third Round

Questions you should ask:

Did Ms. Nellie noticed anyone going upstairs before the gunshot was heard?

You seem to remember that Lou Ellen left the dining room right before the gunshot was heard. Ask her where she went.

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You left the dining room to go to the kitchen to get a cup of coffee, as there was none left in the pot. As you were filling your cup, you remember seeing Chrystal going up the servant's stairs to the second level. Probably changing her scarf again, you remember thinking.

You have always had suspicions that Jay R. could be underhanded in his business dealings, but you had decided to turn the family business over to him and trusted that his decisions would work out for the best.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Brock Ewein

Concluding Statement

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

Brock Ewein speaks first using the following dialogue:

Jay R., my first-born son is dead and for some reason I feel I am responsible for his death. Not because I did it, mind you, but because of the way I raised him. Maybe if I'd taken more time with him when he was younger, he wouldn't have grown up to be the low down dirty scoundrel he turned out to be.

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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