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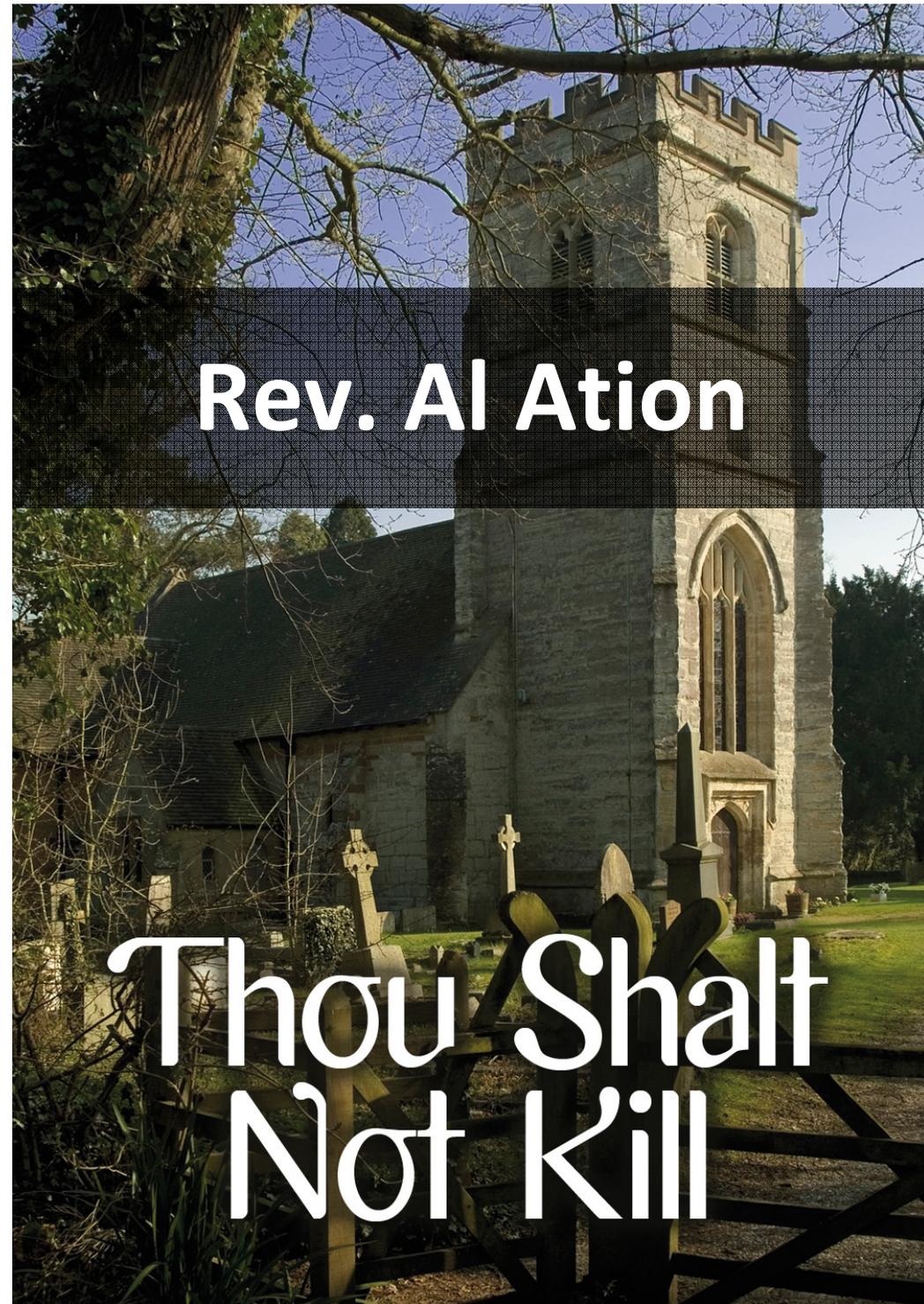
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Rev. Al Ation

**Thou Shalt
Not Kill**

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!

Rev. Al Ation

Background Character Information:

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

You are used to speaking loudly and love preaching. Quote scripture when you can, and wave your arms around expressively as you speak – loudly – to anyone.

Evangelism has always been your forte so make sure you swing conversation around to whether people are “saved” at some point.

You are a great speaker who loves jokes and stories and are often embarking on a tale or a joke to illustrate your point, any point. Sometimes your stories don't quite tie in to what you were trying to say, but you have never let that get in the way of a good punch line.

You aren't married and aren't particularly interested in being so as you have “married” the church and like to devote your time to its congregation.

Rev. Al Ation

Introductions:

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

Rev. Al Ation speaks first using the following dialogue:

Well, I suppose as the vicar here I should go first. Rev. Al Ation is my full name, but you can call me Al, most people do.

This really is terrible news. Not least because we now have a confirmed murderer amongst the congregation! I mean, it's not unheard of, but usually the ones in the building have repented. We don't normally have the "active kind"!

Oh dear. It really is dreadful news!

Don is dead! What will the Good Lord say?

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

Scripted Dialogue Round 1

Rev Al Ation	Do you think perhaps I should start by opening in prayer?
Ben Counting	What? To give thanks for the food, or to ask the Good Lord to find the murderer for us?
Alta Cleff	A little bit of both surely?
Lena Lesson	I'd say so, we always teach our kids Teaspoon or Acts.
Stew Ard	What?
Lena Lesson	Thanksgiving, Supplication, Petition that's TSP or Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication: ACTS. They are both good models to follow.
Ivora Keys	You mean we can't just all pray the "prayer that Jesus taught us to pray"?
Rev. Al Ation	I've always thought the Lord's Prayer is a good starting point.
Alta Cleff	It hardly covers murder though does it?
Lena Lesson	Forgive us our trespasses?

Cont.

Stew Ard Hardly the same thing surely. Don can't exactly forgive the person who's "trespassed against" him. He's dead!

Ivora Keys Amen!

Ben Counting Al hasn't said his prayer yet Ivora!

Ivora Keys I know. I thought Stew said "He's dead".

Stew Ard I did.

Ivora Keys Well amen to that! Shall we carry on?

Rev. Al Ation - First Round

Questions you should ask:

Stew Ard said he found the body. Did he recognise the implement that killed Don?

Lena Lesson is very strict in her teachings. Did her and Don Riting ever disagree about anything?

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You have keys to the church. You were given a set when you came to work here. However, you aren't usually asked to lock or unlock the building. The deacons usually have a rota to do that and don't ask you to do it out of courtesy so you are free to invite members of the congregation back to the manse for lunch or drinks if any need counselling etc. As it happens you can't remember where you saw them last. They are probably still hanging up in the under stairs cupboard.

You haven't been back to the church since leaving on Sunday after the evening service. There were the usual suspects left behind in the church when you departed, everyone here to be precise.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 2

- Ivora Keys** Has it gone awfully quiet or have my batteries run low again?
- Rev Al Ation** Well I can't hear your hearing aid whistling, so I suspect we've just hit a lull in conversation.
- Ben Counting** Not exactly surprising. Some of what we've been hearing is a little shocking.
- Ivora Keys** Yes! I thought the bird bath would last a little longer than it has.
- Stew Ard** Well if you ask me it was about time someone took that bird bath out of service. It's been a hazard now for some time.
- Ben Counting** Couldn't agree with you more. It was just a matter of time before someone got hurt.
- Lena Lesson** Strangely I don't recall murder being part of the risk assessment for the church garden.

Cont.

Alta Cleff

You can hardly predict everything Lena and personally I've always found doing a risk assessment for everything a little cumbersome. Just how many times do you have to write "they could trip and break something"?

Ben Counting

It's happened before Alta.

Alta Cleff

I know – but it's the exception rather than the rule, and we have a cupboard full of risk assessments and very few accidents in the church.

Stew Ard

Why don't you call the risk assessment paperwork a fire hazard and ditch the lot?

Rev. Al Ation

What a good idea! Shame it wouldn't stand up in court? Did we have murder in there somewhere?

Ben Counting

Not to the best of my knowledge. I have to sign them off as one of the executive and I don't remember seeing it. I suppose we'll have to update them all now.

Rev. Al Ation - Second Round

Questions you should ask:

Ask Ben Counting if he has church keys?

Ask Alta Cleff if Don Riting ever told anyone else about his desire to replace the organ with a band?

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You have never really seen eye to eye with Don Riting. He was a nice enough man, and you got on well enough on secular issues, but where the church is concerned there was always a little friction. The main problem came from the fact that Don was unwilling to part with any of his responsibilities and therefore, although the church was run by the executive committee, in reality Don held all the strings and he tended to pull everyone in what he thought was the right direction. Forget Theocracy (God in charge), this church was run as a dictatorship (Don in charge).

You were getting so annoyed about it you had decided to move on and have been sending for prospectuses from other churches.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 3

Stew Ard	Did Inspector Stan De'Sing say we were nearly finished?
Ivora Keys	I hope so. This has gone on longer than most of Al's sermons. I've nearly run out of mints!
Ben Counting	You have? Pity. I was just thinking of asking you for one.
Lena Lesson	Well, I think tonight has been most illuminating.
Stew Ard	How exactly?
Lena Lesson	Well, it just goes to show us all that we have things we should be asking forgiveness for. It is so easy to brush these small sins under the carpet and hold on to resentments.
Rev Al Ation	I agree Lena. There is only one murderer, but when you hear what we've all been saying most of us have killed Don in our hearts more than once.
Ben Counting	What are you proposing Al? An extraordinary prayer meeting?
Ivora Keys	Do you get such a thing?

Cont.

Rev Al Ation Well it certainly sounds like a good idea to me.

Stew Ard Just so long as no-one proposes fasting as well. I work hard all day, if I had nothing to eat I'd just faint.

Alta Cleff And we don't need people fainting in the gardens. By all accounts there are dangerous objects out there and we don't want another fatal accident!

Ben Counting It wasn't an accident remember Alta? It was a murder.

Alta Cleff Oh yeah. Sorry, I forgot.

Rev. Al Ation Let's just crack on shall we?

Rev. Al Ation - Third Round

Questions you should ask:

Was Ivora Keys the last person out of the building on Sunday?

Ask Ben Counting if he was the last person to leave the church on Sunday?

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

The church secretary elections were due at this weeks church meeting. You met with Don last week after the service to ask him to stand down from his role as secretary and take a "sabbatical". He became quite hurt, thinking it was a personal slight, which you suppose in a way it was. He refused to step down. He was quite upset with you and didn't speak to you after that.

You told Ben Counting of your intention to apply for a new job. Ben has been a good friend of yours for some time. He was saddened by the news, but said he understood the reasons for it and promised to keep it a secret.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Rev. Al Ation

Concluding Statement

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

Rev Al Ation speaks first using the following dialogue:

Well! I must say, that inspector chap takes things a little too seriously!

Me? Kill Don? Hardly!

I wanted the man to step down from being Church Secretary, yes, but I was hardly going to resort to violence to get what I wanted. I trust in the election process at this church. If God wanted to keep Don in place, who was I to stand in his way?

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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