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*There's something fishy going on*

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# MURDER IN THE ALPS



**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!

**Rich Bustard**

**Background Character Information:**

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

You are your father's favourite and will welcome the inheritance and title.

Feel free to look down on the rest of the ruffians Daddy deals with. After all, there's barely a gentleman among them!

## Rich Bustard

### Introductions:

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

Rich Bustard speaks first using the following dialogue:

What ho! Is there no one to announce us? Suppose we'll have to do it ourselves. Very well, I'll go first. My name is Rich Bustard, first son of Ed Bustard, the 15th Earl of Duffolk. How do you do?

Such a pity about poor Daddy. The old man's finally snuffed it. He's had a tremendous innings, even if it was cut short by some foul play. Cyanide, if I'm not mistaken! That's certainly not cricket.

I suppose with him gone, that makes me the Earl now.

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

## Scripted Dialogue Round 1

**Rich Bustard:** Damn poor show, I say. Daddy's bought the farm. And they say it's cyanide poisoning. Whoever heard of such a thing?

**Mike Rochip:** Maybe he ate some of your cooking, Madame.

**Madame Bain-Marie:** Pah!

**Gary Vinegar:** I heard he was loaded.

**Fifty Pence:** That's none of your business, man.

**Mike Rochip:** He certainly never used his money to help anyone. Charity began at home for him - that's where it ended too. I heard that of all the family, he was the meanest Bustard of all.

**Fifty Pence:** Sure wouldn't know about that.

**Clare Grylls:** Well, I'll say this. What a person does with their money is their concern alone.

**Rich Bustard:** I always thought the Earl was a very generous man.

**Cont.**

**Madame Bain-Marie:** Pah!

**Mike Rochip:** When do we get to go home? All this fresh air is bad for me.

**Clare Grylls:** What do you mean? Switzerland's got the great outdoors and some real mountains and...

**Madame Bain-Marie:** Pah!

**Clare Grylls:** Watch yourself, Madame Chef. I know things about you.

**Gary Vinegar:** Ooh, a girl fight! If there's a fight happening, I like a good scrap.

**Fifty Pence:** Get outa here, Gary! Pulling on someone's shirt then rolling on the floor clutching your face doesn't count as fighting, man. Not in the ghetto.

**Clare Grylls:** Unless you're playing dead, of course. That's how I deal with grizzly bears you know.

**Rich Bustard:** Silence you fools, or we'll have another victim to deal with! Perhaps we should try and work out who did this dreadful deed

## **Rich Bustard - First Round**

### **Questions you should ask:**

Does Madame Bain-Marie recognise anyone else here tonight?

Has Gary Vinegar ever been to confession with a priest?

### **Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.**

You have always got on well with your father. As a boy you didn't see much of him as you had a nanny. You can't remember her name. However, you do remember your twelfth birthday. That was when Daddy called you to his study, introduced himself, told you that you were a man now and gave you the family cufflinks. Since then he's always looked out for you, as his son and heir. In his cold, distant and repressed way he really loved you.

You had an important discussion with your father yesterday on the slopes. He told you that he was changing his will, so that all of his fortune went to you. To be honest, you thought you were due to inherit it all anyway, but it was sweet of Daddy to clear that up.

### **Do not read further until instructed by your host.**

## Scripted Dialogue Round 2

- Fifty Pence:** Killed by a nut! The dude shoulda bin more careful, man.
- Gary Vinegar:** So a macadamia is a nut! Who knew that?
- Mike Rochip:** I thought it was that dance craze from the 90s. You know. (SINGS) Aye, macadamia!
- Madame Bain-Marie:** Pah! You ignorant English! You know nothing about food!
- Clare Grylls:** I had a friend from the Highlands called MacAdamia. Big fella he was. We called him Big Mac.
- Gary Vinegar:** Now you're talking! I could murder a Big Mac! That's some proper food!
- Madame Bain-Marie:** Pah!
- Fifty Pence:** This ain't no surprise to me, bros. A lotta people are allergic to nuts. It's nature's way of telling you to stay clear of her precious seeds.
- Gary Vinegar:** What a load of rot! You can't beat a bag of Nobby's Nuts!
- Clare Grylls:** Nobby! That was his name! Nobby MacAdamia! Always wore a raincoat. Sometimes we called him MacIntosh.

- Rich Bustard:** Will you please stop being such fools? Don't you see a man is dead?
- Fifty Pence:** Perhaps it was just an accident.
- Clare Grylls:** A very deadly accident.
- Madame Bain-Marie:** Pah!
- Mike Rochip:** Accidents during skiing holidays are quite common, aren't they?
- Clare Grylls:** Yes, but he wasn't even on the slopes when it happened. The poor fool was indoors!
- Rich Bustard:** Then who on earth killed him? I'll be jiggered if I know. Perhaps we should question each other further.

## Rich Bustard - Second Round

### Questions you should ask:

Does Gary Vinegar have any connection to the Earl? Ask him about it.

Ask Clare Grylls what's the strangest thing she's ever eaten.

### Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

Of course you know about your father's macadamia allergy! In fact, you have the same gene yourself so you never touch macadamias either. Like father, like son.

You are quite the businessman, in your own eyes at least. Commodities are your game. Turkish strawberries, Madagascan vanilla and Ghanaian cocoa. All the flavours in Neapolitan ice cream! Unfortunately, a few bad harvests have hit you pretty hard, so you're now calling them long term investments. Thankfully Daddy's always there to bail you out if the losses get too great. That man was like a father to you!

**Do not read further until instructed by your host.**

## Scripted Dialogue Round 3

- Fifty Pence:** Fingerprints on the glass! Aw, man! I'd say someone's been caught red-handed, bro!
- Clare Grylls:** I had red hands once. Got stung two hundred times by a lionfish. Had the last laugh though. Ate him for my supper. Absolutely revolting!
- Mike Rochip:** But what about the fingerprints on the glass?
- Rich Bustard:** Now hold your horses! I'm sure there's an innocent explanation and I assure you I had nothing to do with it. A gentleman's word is his bond.
- Clare Grylls:** In Scotland we say, "Look after your family and they'll look after you".
- Rich Bustard:** I agree with Clare - family is everything!
- Clare Grylls:** Of course, for me it was a bit different. My father was a bear and my mother a wolf. That's why I have such ferocity and speed.

**Cont.**

**Gary Vinegar:** What? You lost me...

**Mike Rochip:** Never mind, Gary. Now, what about all the money then? When's that getting shared out? This house alone must be worth a fortune!

**Rich Bustard:** But this is a family home. The Earls of Duffolk have been here for centuries.

**Gary Vinegar:** Centuries? That's a long time. Perhaps he died of old age.

**Madame Bain-Marie:** Pah! He was poisoned you imbecile! Murder most foul!

**Gary Vinegar:** Oh yes! You mean with that nutty thing?

**Rich Bustard:** Yes, Gary. That nutty thing, as you so eloquently put it. And it's up to us to find out who did it.

**Clare Grylls:** I'll rustle up the killer, don't you worry! Shall we get started?

## **Rich Bustard - Third Round**

### **Questions you should ask:**

Clare Grylls acts tough but you've heard she's not quite as tough as she looks. Ask her about it.

Does Madame Bain-Marie have anything missing from her pantry?

### **Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.**

You passed a nightcap to your father after the après-ski drinks – but it certainly wasn't you who poisoned him! You don't know how he could have been poisoned. It's all very unfortunate, but you really had nothing to do with it.

When you were growing up you knew you had two other siblings. Although you grew up with Fifty Pence, you didn't see her all that much as she lived in the East Wing. She left the family home as soon as possible. Fifty Pence never really fitted in with the Bustard way of life. You also knew about Mike Rochip but Daddy always said that Mike didn't count. In fact, you think you were the only one that Daddy cared for at all.

**Do not read further until instructed by your host.**

**Rich Bustard**

**Concluding Statement**

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

**Rich Bustard speaks after Mike Rochip using the following dialogue:**

Vine? The only vines we'll be having are a fine Merlot or a Cabernet Sauvignon! How Daddy enjoyed popping a bottle of Chateau Lafite. I miss him terribly. Did you know I was the only one he really cared for? He was going to give the whole inheritance to me. He told me as much.

And now you think I might have poisoned him! What tosh! It's really ever so simple. I tell you I didn't do it and that's that. Surely the word of a gentleman still has some bearing on matters, doesn't it?

**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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