

A woman wearing a large, wide-brimmed straw hat with a dark green ribbon and a white dress with a colorful floral pattern is looking towards the camera. In the background, a grand, classical-style building with columns and a pediment is visible under a clear sky. The scene is set outdoors with some greenery and a stone staircase leading up to the building.

*The Latest*

**Diamond  
Bingerton**

*Scandal*

# 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.

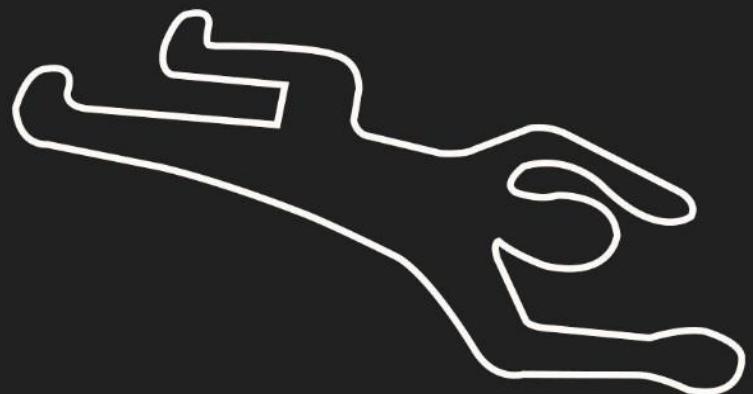


Make sure you listen to everyone else's questions and answers.



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!*



# Diamond Bingerton

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## Background Character Information

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

Your presentation at court was a huge success. The Queen called you the star of the season! Although thrilling, you know that this designation comes with its own expectations. You must make a brilliant marriage. Scandal - even the tiniest whiff of it - would be ruinous to your chances.

Smile meekly and politely but be sure to make your views known. You're not easily fooled and are more ambitious than you'd like people to know.

# Diamond Bingerton - Introductions

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

**Diamond Bingerton speaks after Zachary Bingerton using the following dialogue:**

Oh dear! How am I going to explain this to Mama? Zachary, you were supposed to guard my reputation and now here I am - a suspect in a murder! I didn't do it of course! I'd never do such a thing but... my reputation... oh, what a muddle! I do apologise. I'm Diamond Bingerton. I made my debut this season. Things were going so very well! My own ball is supposed to be next week, but now... who knows? I'll be an object of scandal! Oh dear. I thought I had worries before, but this is a worry of a completely different nature.

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

# Scripted Dialogue - Round 1

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**Alex Weatherstone:** Did I hear correctly?

**Freddie Rye:** I suggest that depends a great deal on what you believe you've heard.

**Alex Weatherstone:** That one of us is being accused of killing that dreadful person, Corrie Spondent.

**Freddie Rye:** In that case, yes, you heard correctly.

**Alex Weatherstone:** I must say I'm rather relieved. I was worried for a moment that I was becoming as hard of hearing as Princess Charlotte.

**Diamond Bingerton:** Princess Charlotte of Wales? Our heir to the throne?

**Alex Weatherstone:** The very one.

**Bernie Bingerton:** She's hard of hearing?

**Alex Weatherstone:** So I've heard. I thought everyone in society knew.

**Poppy Weatherstone:** One doesn't speak of it of course. One simply speaks loudly.

**Alex Weatherstone:** But in an unobtrusive way, naturally. Zachary has a dreadful habit of going red in the face.

**Zachary Bingerton:** I don't!

**Poppy Weatherstone:** You do!

**Diamond Bingerton:** Was she really so dreadful?

**Bernie Bingerton:** Princess Charlotte?

**Poppy Weatherstone:** Princess Charlotte is a perfect delight.

**Bernie Bingerton:** So charming.

**Diamond Bingerton:** But hard of hearing.

**Poppy Weatherstone:** So I've heard.

**Diamond Bingerton:** No! I was asking if Corrie Spondent was so dreadful. You said she was only a few moments ago.

**Alex Weatherstone:** Pay no attention to what I say. I can never account for what comes out of my mouth.

**Bernie Bingerton:** That must plague your Mama dreadfully.

**Alex Weatherstone:** My dear, the woman is positively grey.

**Zachary Bingerton:** And only 32!

**Diamond Bingerton:** But this Corrie Spondent. Was she really that awful?

**Zachary Bingerton:** She's been killed, my dear. I think that speaks for itself.

# Diamond Bingerton - First Round

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## Questions you should ask:

Zachary, how have you been enjoying the season?

Alex, did you know Corrie Spondent?

## Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

**When asked:** Diamond, did you know Corrie Spondent?

**Say:** Strangely enough, I did know her. She introduced herself to me at a ball several weeks ago and then asked me if I'd be willing to pass on any secrets I happened to hear. I found that most peculiar! I thought no one knew the faces of the authors of these scandal sheets and that they'd need to be anonymous so they could slip in and out of occasions and not cause comment. I've since learned that this is the way they gather their materials. People talk to them! Apparently, Corrie Spondent had contacts everywhere! Even in the gentlemen's clubs on Pall Mall! Naturally I refused her request, but I thought it prudent to describe her to a few people. I find it best to know one's opponents, as my dear Papa would say.

**When asked:** Diamond, who invited you to this outing in Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens?

**Say:** I've no idea who sent the invitation which I found rather enchanting! I'd never been to the Pleasure Gardens before and I was so eager to come! My brother promised to act as my chaperone and as he was invited as well, I thought all would be well.

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

## Scripted Dialogue - Round 2

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**Diamond Bingerton:** What a great deal of information! I'm rather regretting not writing it down.

**Poppy Weatherstone:** You didn't write it down?

**Diamond Bingerton:** No. I was entranced by the story. It didn't occur to me.

**Freddy Rye:** Of course it didn't. Who can think of such things when being confronted with such appalling information?

**Bernie Bingerton:** I can.

**Zachary Bingerton:** Are you a slave to your muse?

**Bernie Bingerton:** I'm not a slave to my muse. I'm a lover.

**Poppy Weatherstone:** Speaking of which...

**Zachary Bingerton:** A moment! Is Lady Thistledup listening?

**Freddy Rye:** One must assume so.

**Zachary Bingerton:** Then isn't this a time for discretion?

**Poppy Weatherstone:** My dear, I think the time for discretion has long passed us by.

**Freddie Rye:** Indeed. I believe it passed at approximately the same time as the orchestra began to play.

**Diamond Bingerton:** Such a lovely orchestra.

**Bernie Bingerton:** And such a talented violinist, wouldn't you agree?



**Freddie Rye:** I haven't much of an ear for music.

**Poppy Weatherstone:** Keeping time when you dance must be a terrible trial.

**Freddie Rye:** I admit to it being somewhat of an ordeal.

**Diamond Bingerton:** Well I think you dance splendidly!

**Alex Weatherstone:** You would say that.

**Diamond Bingerton:** What do you mean?

**Alex Weatherstone:** You're always the polite one.

**Zachary Bingerton:** I say!

**Alex Weatherstone:** You say what?

**Zachary Bingerton:** Er... nothing.

**Alex Weatherstone:** Yes. Perhaps that's for the best.

**Zachary Bingerton:** I say!

**Alex Bingerton:** Now what?

**Zachary Bingerton:** It just sounds as if you're accusing me of something.

**Freddie Rye:** Isn't that the point? Now, shall we get on?

## Diamond Bingerton - Second Round

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### Questions you should ask:

Freddie, did you bring a penknife with you?

Alex, do you own a penknife and did you bring it with you?

### Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

**When asked:** Diamond, you said that you described Corrie Spontent to various people. Who were these people?

**Say:** I told every person here. That's rather extraordinary, isn't it?

**When asked:** Diamond, do you own a penknife?

**Say:** Of course I own a penknife! I spend most mornings writing letters to my friends and thank you notes to my hostesses. I've attended so many teas and balls and writing my notes takes a great deal of time. One can't write exactly the same thing in each note, can one? What if one hostess were to compare her note with one I sent to someone else? Someone in my position has to be so very careful. Reputation is simply everything and I've already risked ruining mine - by no fault of my own! Oh dear. Please don't ask me about it. My Mama has sworn me to absolute secrecy.

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

## Scripted Dialogue - Round 3

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- Bernie Bingerton:** It's coming to an end?
- Freddie Rye:** So Lady Thistledup intimidated.
- Diamond Bingerton:** Oh dear! I've absolutely no idea who did it!
- Alex Weatherstone:** None?
- Diamond Bingerton:** Not the faintest glimmer.
- Alex Weatherstone:** I think any of us could have done it.
- Poppy Weatherstone:** Do you really?
- Alex Weatherstone:** Why else would we be considered suspects?
- Freddie Rye:** I rather think it has to do with Corrie Spondent being murdered under our supper table.
- Diamond Bingerton:** It's so utterly appalling!
- Bernie Bingerton:** It'll be in all the scandal sheets.
- Poppy Weatherstone:** Will our names be included, do you think?
- Zachary Bingerton:** I'd wager on it.
- Diamond Bingerton:** Oh, please don't. It makes this whole thing rather a game and it really isn't.
- Zachary Bingerton:** Isn't it? What if this is simply a ruse for all of us to ask each other questions and reveal our secrets?
- Diamond Bingerton:** Oh my!

**Bernie Bingerton:** You think so?

**Freddie Rye:** It's not a ruse. Corrie Spondent's dead body was found under our supper table and one of us killed her. It's a fact.

**Zachary Bingerton:** You're not very amusing, are you?

**Freddie Rye:** I'm amusing in the right circumstances. Now, shall we get on with the questions?

# Diamond Bingerton - Third Round

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## Questions you should ask:

Alex, how well did you know Corrie Spondent?

Freddie, did you bring a cloak with you?

## Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

**When asked:** Diamond, when did you arrive and what have you been doing since your arrival?

**Say:** I arrived with my family members just after 5 o'clock. As I'd never been here before I was very excited! We made our way through the entrance gate and strolled along the Grand Walk, passing the rotunda on our left and the orchestra pavilion on our right. Soon we came to the supper boxes and located the one where we were to gather. I was shocked that our host or hostess was not there to greet us, but Zachary explained that the Pleasure Gardens were a place of much informality and expected our host or hostess - he claimed ignorance of their personage as well - would show themselves presently. Several other members of the party arrived and I expressed a wish to hear the orchestra as they were scheduled to start very soon. On my way there, I turned back to see who in our party was joining me and noticed the cloth covering the table in our supper booth wriggle! I assumed it was a rat and decided not to tell my brother. I was sure he'd kill the poor thing. Soon, I was standing amongst the crowd, waiting for the orchestra to begin with not another family member in sight! It was most distressing! I was quite relieved not to see Corrie Spondent in the vicinity. My reputation could not withstand another scandal. After listening to the opening selection, I left to return to our supper booth.

**When asked:** Diamond, did you bring a cloak with you this evening?

**Say:** Yes, I did. One can never count on the weather, can one? I took it off when I arrived and left it in our supper booth.

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

# Diamond Bingerton - Concluding Statement

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

**Diamond Bingerton speaks after Zachary Bingerton using the following dialogue:**

This has all been very distressing! I'm sure I don't know what to do with all the information I've heard, but please be assured of my discretion, and I hope I can be assured of each of your's. I would never kill anyone! Why, I can't even kill the mouse which lives in our bedroom at home! Oh! Please don't tell Mama about the mouse. I'm rather fond of it.

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

**Tell the others.**

# Notes

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