

# *Murder* on the Dance Floor

The background of the entire image is a dark, moody scene of a dance floor. It is filled with out-of-focus, colorful bokeh lights in shades of purple, blue, and pink. In the center, the silhouettes of a man and a woman are shown in a dancing pose. The man's silhouette is black, and the woman's is a deep red. Scattered around them are several black footprints, suggesting a sequence of steps or a dance routine. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and festive.

**Doug  
Baron- Hardnose**

# Congratulations!

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

Firstly: *Don't Panic!*

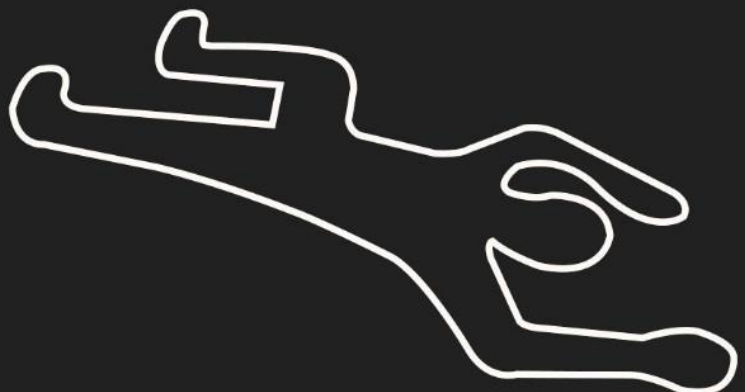
This booklet contains all the information you need to help you act your part throughout the murder mystery; background history, scripted dialogues, questions you should ask and scripted answers to questions you will be asked by the other guests.

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!*



## **Doug Baron- Hardnose**

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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:**

You are the judge that people love to hate, being frequently booed for your unsentimental comments and low marks. However, you do appreciate fab-u-lous dancing too, especially anything modern and theatrical.

Away from your professional judging persona, you are not as mean as everyone thinks. Apart from dance you also enjoy fine music and food.

# Doug Baron- Hardnose - Introductions

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

**Doug Baron- Hardnose speaks after Marcy Ballet using the following dialogue:**

Mmm, not too shocking, darling. I've seen worse. Quentin Wilson's cha cha cha for one. I think you all know who I am. Doug Baron-Hardnose, choreographer and judge. Ta ta for now!

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

# Scripted Dialogue - Round 1

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**Clara Wonderwoman** Ruby's dead!

**Angel de Flores** Gosh! What a loss! You two were so great together. I really thought you were going to win again this year, Colin.

**Doug Baron-Hardnose** Let's just agree that she was a beautiful dancer.

**Angel de Flores** She showed so much promise. I think she might have struggled with her gauchos on the tango though.

**Doug Baron-Hardnose** Darling! Gauchos? You must mean the *Argentine* tango!

**Angel de Flores** Yes of course. How silly of me.

**Marcy Ballet** I'm sure she would have gone on to do great things.

**Colin from Scunthorpe** Thank you, Marcy.

**Drew Marsh** What I liked about her was that every week she went out there and gave 150% effort. That's even more than I do!

**Marcy Ballet** Yah, but like, wow! She really surprised me by dying like that. She was always so good at taking on board comments from the judges, but no one suggested she'd get murdered.

**Doug Baron-Hardnose** I have to agree with my fellow judges here. It's a great loss. Almost as sad as when...

- Angel de Flores** ... I didn't win the last series. Or the one before. It's a tragedy really.
- Drew Marsh** I heard that she was killed by a piano falling on her head.
- Doug Baron-Hardnose** No, no, she was just exhausted.
- Colin from Scunthorpe** She'd been working too hard in training. It's my fault really. I'm lit-erally lost for words.
- Clara Wonderwoman** Thanks, everyone. Now let's get on with the show.

# Doug Baron- Hardnose - First Round

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## Questions you should ask:

Marcy Ballet, did Ruby Rada's grace remind you of yourself?

Drew Marsh, what can you tell us about the music that was planned for tonight's show?

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

**When asked:** Doug, how do you feel when you get booed by the audience while you're judging?

**Say:** Oh, I really don't mind getting booed by the audience. It's all part of the theatre, and I'll always be a performer at heart. Did anyone here see my unique take on the wicked stepmother in the Cinderella last panto season? Many said it was the definitive performance of one of the stage's greatest and most iconic roles.

**When asked:** Doug Baron-Hardnose, have you heard the rumours concerning a new judging panel for next season?

**Say:** I have to admit I have heard a whisper of a rumour about new judges for next season, but I can't imagine anyone would ever think of replacing me!

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

## Scripted Dialogue - Round 2

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<b>Marcy Ballet</b>	Sooo! She was poisoned!
<b>Drew Marsh</b>	Poison? Why would anyone want to drink that? Isn't it...
<b>Doug Baron-Hardnose</b>	...poisonous? I'm not sure they drank it deliberately though.
<b>Drew Marsh</b>	Maybe someone was upset that she was in the competition. Some might say she shouldn't have been allowed to perform because she was so good.
<b>Marcy Ballet</b>	Indeed. Did you see her waltz in the very first week? She reminded me of me sometimes.
<b>Drew Marsh</b>	Didn't that bother anyone? I mean, she did have quite a lot of dancing background.
<b>Colin from Scunthorpe</b>	I had no idea that Ruby had dance school training. In fact, I didn't think anyone knew that.
<b>Angel de Flores</b>	Except for Ruby, obviously. She would know as it happened to her.
<b>Drew Marsh</b>	You know what I heard? Three years of dance school.
<b>Clara Wonderwoman</b>	I heard it was the <i>Curse of Seriously</i> that killed her.
<b>Drew Marsh</b>	The <i>Curse of Seriously</i> ? What's that? Something about Halloween?



**Doug Baron-Hardnose** Oh no, darling. You've got that all mixed up. I believe the *Curse of Seriously* refers to something else entirely.

**Angel de Flores** I am the one that is cursed. When will I ever win this show? Is my dancing not beautiful?

**Doug Baron-Hardnose** Magnificent, darling.

**Clara Wonderwoman** But we still don't know who killed Ruby Rada! At least, I don't.

## Doug Baron- Hardnose - Second Round

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### Questions you should ask:

Clara Wonderwoman, what was that rather awkward conversation you had with Ruby Rada about?

Colin, can you explain what happened to Ruby Rada last week during training?

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

**When asked:** Doug, when did you meet with Ruby Rada today?

**Say:** I met with Ruby Rada twice today. The first time was at the judges' briefing, where I remember she was drinking some sort of healthy green juice as she'd just come from the canteen. Ruby was always swigging that stuff - dis-gust-ing! I saw her again later in hair and make-up. Apparently, it was the second time that she'd been in.

**When asked:** Doug Baron-Hardnose, are you as mean to the other judges as you are to the contestants?

**Say:** I'm always nice to the other judges, mainly because they're all fabulous! Did you know that Marcy and I go way back? We were often at the same parties in London in the 90s back when she was a prima ballerina and I was performing in the West End.

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

## Scripted Dialogue - Round 3

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**Colin from Scunthorpe** I think I'm still in shock. Ruby should be here with me right now.

**Angel de Flores** I suppose that means the competition is wide open now.

**Doug Baron-Hardnose** Yes. Anyone could win.

**Angel de Flores** I'm just so glad Ruby's feeling better.

**Drew Marsh** Better? I thought she was dead!

**Angel de Flores** No! I mean I'm glad she was feeling better after her injury last week.

**Colin from Scunthorpe** Yes, she was looking quite good out there tonight. Until she wasn't, of course.

**Marcy Ballet** It was a spider that got her, wasn't it? Nasty little things. That's why I never work with children or animals.

**Colin from Scunthorpe** You should add dancers to that list. Never work with children, animals or dancers. A tough lot to get along with.

**Angel de Flores** And what do you mean by that?

**Clara Wonderwoman** He doesn't mean anything I'm sure. We all loved it. Let's see what the judges make of it. Marcy.

**Marcy Ballet** She was nearly as graceful as... well, me! When she moved her arms like this, and her feet like this, I think she really is one of the best we've ever had.

**Doug Baron-Hardnose** And you can boo me if you like, but let's not get too worried about who earns what. We're all well paid for what we do.

**Marcy Ballet** Easy for you to say.

**Drew Marsh** I'd be happy to get paid at all. But Miss Ballet, is your salary complaint perhaps the reason you were looking to make a little extra, if you know what I mean?

**Marcy Ballet** Ah! I'm sure I don't know what you're talking about.

**Drew Marsh** I'll tell you one thing. I certainly won't be wasting my texts voting for Ruby again.

**Clara Wonderwoman** Nor me! Er, not that I vote of course. That would be highly unethical.

**Colin from Scunthorpe** Makes me think though. After losing Ruby, I wonder if anyone else going to be eliminated this week?

**Clara Wonderwoman** Eliminated?

**Drew Marsh** Sorry. Unfortunate choice of words...

# Doug Baron- Hardnose - Third Round

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## Questions you should ask:

Marcy Ballet, please don't take offense, but has your judging always been honest?

Drew Marsh, do you know anything about missing jewellery?

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

**When asked:** Doug Baron-Hardnose, would you say that you're happy with your salary?

**Say:** I'm very happy with my salary, darling. Why wouldn't I be? Of course, money means nothing to me, but it's nice to be valued.

**When asked:** Doug, where were you at the time of the murder?

**Say:** I was with the other judges at the time of the murder so I can't have done it. Much as I'm sure you'd all love to, you can't cast me as the murderer - sorry, darlings!

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

## **Doug Baron- Hardnose - Concluding Statement**

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

**Doug Baron-Hardnose speaks after Clara Wonderwoman using the following dialogue:**

Darling, you're too hard on yourself! You play a vital role in the show. And can I say you look quite fab-u-lous tonight. That visit to the costume department earlier has done wonders for you. I for one am convinced of your innocence.

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

**Tell the others.**

## Notes

[illegible]

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