



## 8-12 Guests, Electronic Version

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## SYNOPSIS

It is time again for the annual Pumpkin Palooza Costume Party! Skull Manor is an old estate in the heart of Spider City known for its captivating architecture, mysterious ambiance, and unspeakable history. The townspeople have been scurrying about the streets to get ready for the big night of great food and outrageous gossip.

This has been a daunting year of dissension and discord among many of the Spider City residents. Rumors of blackmail, thievery, and outrageous controversies have been circulating throughout the town's grapevines. We all hope everybody can put aside their differences for a night of fun. If not, there may be misfortune on the horizon. This is where your story begins.

# HOST CHARACTER LIST

**8 REQUIRED, 4 OPTIONAL (6F, 6 EITHER)**

The costume suggestions are only suggestions – they can wear any costume they wish and simply wear their name tag.

SUSPECT NAME & OCCUPATION	SUSPECT BIO	SUGGESTED ATTIRE
<b>THE CRAZY HATTER</b> <i>Hat Designer</i>  <b>REQUIRED</b> either	The Crazy Hatter is a world-renowned hat designer known for eccentric fashion pieces and for being the source of spilled secrets in Spider City. This unconventional hat maker has mastered the art of eavesdropping, so if you have skeletons in your cupboard, it is best not to breathe a word of them.	<i>Large hat, velvet suit.                      Red wig and crazy makeup with a cane as an optional accessory.</i>
<b>LANE CROFT</b> <i>Archeologist-Adventurer</i>  <b>REQUIRED</b> either	Lane Croft is one of the most interesting people you will ever have the pleasure of meeting. Lane travels the world in search of ancient artifacts and hidden treasures. With enraged foes around the globe, Lane is forced to live in a secret location in Spider City.	<i>Black leather (vinyl okay) attire with a large toy gun(s) &amp;/or bow &amp; arrow.</i>
<b>SAM STABLES</b> <i>Horse Groomer</i>  <b>REQUIRED</b> either	Sam Stables is the obnoxious horse groomer at the <i>Spider City Downs</i> – home of the <i>Pumpkin Cup Thoroughbred Horse Races</i> . Sam is currently under investigation for a scandal at the track, and the Spider City rumor mill reports Sam may not have a job for long!	<i>Ranch hand / western costume.</i>
<b>KAI EVERGREEN</b> <i>Archery Instructor</i>  <b>REQUIRED</b> either	Kai Evergreen is the boisterous archery instructor from Mississippi. Kai speaks with a charming southern accent and follows the rules of southern hospitality. However, Kai has a hidden dark side, so avoid enraging Kai at all costs.	<i>Archer costume. Toy bow and arrow as a prop.</i>
<b>KATY STARRY</b> <i>Pop Star</i>  <b>REQUIRED</b> female	Katy's super-stardom has afforded her never-ending cash flow and high-level connections, but she cannot stay out of the trash tabloids to save her life! Katy is uber-famous for her talent, but her recent troubles have darkened her reputation.	<i>Very trendy pop star attire.</i>
<b>ELLA FROST</b> <i>Amusement Park Character</i>  <b>REQUIRED</b> female	Ella Frost is employed as a character actress at <i>Dark Shadow Amusement Park</i> . She plays the role of a fairy tale ice princess named Emma and hopes to use her acting skills to make it to the Hollywood big screen.	<i>Ice princess costume.</i>
<b>HARLEQUIN</b> <i>Vigilante - Villain</i>  <b>REQUIRED</b> female	Harlequin is an enigma to most people of Spider City. On the one hand, she has been seen fighting crime on the streets at night. Others report that she is the criminal mastermind of the underground. Nonetheless, she doesn't have a day job but can afford expensive things.	<i>Jester costume, theatrical makeup and a crazy wig of any kind.</i>
<b>BETTY ARCHER</b> <i>Cupcake Chef</i> <b>REQUIRED</b> female	Betty Archer is a talented cupcake chef. She made her television debut on Cooking Network's <i>Cupcake Battles</i> where she placed in a disappointing second place. Betty doesn't take the blame for the loss, however.	<i>Quirky 1950's attire &amp;/or a cupcake costume.</i>

<b>MITZI MINX</b> <i>National Football League Cheerleader</i>  <i>Optional character</i> female	Mitzi Minx is genuinely fun to be around because she was born for comedy. She's a knee-slapping amateur comedian during the off-season and is ready to put her pompoms away and become a professional standup, but she hasn't mustered the courage.	<i>Cheerleader costume. Optional: bring some jokes with you to perform for others...why not?</i>
<b>DARK VADON</b> <i>Movie Memorabilia Collector</i>  <i>Optional character</i> either	Dark Vadon makes a living as a movie memorabilia collector and auctioneer. Dark is known for wearing head-to-toe movie costumes, and some find this behavior to be quite strange. Dark is very blunt and to the point, but most people find this off-putting.	<i>Darth Vader costume or any other movie costume.</i>
<b>DARBY YONTZ</b> <i>Viking Tough Runs, Founder / Coordinator</i>  <i>Optional character</i> either	Darby is the founder of the <i>Viking Tough Runs</i> —five-mile obstacle courses that challenge racers with mud, barbed-wire, heights, and small spaces. Darby's races are not for the weak of heart.  <i>*This character may be expanded to include up to 10-15 members of the Viking Tough Run staff.</i>	<i>All players on this team are to wear Viking costumes.</i>
<b>VICTORIA GLAMINTON</b> <i>Lounge Singer</i>  <i>Optional character</i> female	Victoria Glaminton is the insufferable lounge singer at the <i>Witching Hour Lounge</i> . Lacking manners and decorum, offensive words flow from her mouth like a full-blast fire hose. Victoria isn't known for being friendly, so tread with caution around this diva.	<i>Glamorous evening gown.</i>



**THERE ARE NAME TAGS FOR EACH PLAYER IN THE GAME.**

# HOST INSTRUCTIONS

**GENERAL HOSTING:** during the party, your job as the host is to make sure the rounds flow correctly. As the host, you may choose to play any character you wish. You will pass out the clue cards to the guests at the appropriate times. As the mystery progresses, check on your guests to see if they are discussing the clues and implementing tasks on their clue cards (some players may have tasks). Encourage them to mingle with the other

**THERE WILL BE FULL HOST INSTRUCTIONS IN THE PURCHASED GAME.**

**GAME STRUCTURE:** the game is organized into four rounds and is structured as follows:

**OPTIONAL PRE-GAME STARTER:** these optional pre-game tasks are to be delivered to each guest before the party or give them to the guests as they arrive. All pre-game materials are optional. They are intended to enhance the build-up for the event. These tasks are not vital to solving the mystery. Also, encourage your guests to view the Your Mystery Party guest pre-game website to get them excited about your game (this is highly encouraged).

**ROUND ONE:** Deliver the round one clue card envelopes as your guests arrive. Serving cocktails for adults and appetizers is optional.

**ROUND TWO:** Deliver the round two clue card envelopes. Breaking for dinner before or after this round is optional.

**SOLUTION ROUND THREE:** Deliver the round three solutions. Serving coffee/cocoa and dessert is optional. Don't host a party without a food/beverage offering - hungry guests are not happy guests.

For further questions, check out our FAQ webpage at <http://mymysteryparty.com/how-to-host-faq/> or our author's blog for more DIY and hosting help: <http://mymysteryparty.com/murder-mystery-blog/>

If your question is still not addressed in the FAQ/blog or these instructions, contact us via email: [support@mymysteryparty.com](mailto:support@mymysteryparty.com) Responses are guaranteed within 24 hours. For further questions, check out our FAQ web page at <http://mymysteryparty.com/how-to-host-faq/>

If your question is not listed in our FAQ, contact us at the email addresses below.

Mystery Questions: [author@mymysteryparty.com](mailto:author@mymysteryparty.com)

Web based Questions: [support@mymysteryparty.com](mailto:support@mymysteryparty.com)

## EXAMPLE TIMELINE

*The game can be shortened by excluding the optional activities or lengthened by adding more bonus games.*

7:00 PM: **Guests arrive**, have their pictures made (optional) and receive a refreshment / cocktail for adults. The guests will view the guest instructions and character list while they wait for everybody to arrive. The host should build in at least a 10-minute cushion for guests to arrive late. Hey, it happens.

7:10 PM: The **host reads the guest instructions** to the group. It is optional to have each guest introduce their character in front of the group. Play the video game trailer on Your Mystery Party for your game &/or read the game synopsis from Your Mystery Party to the group to give the premise.

7:20 PM: The **Round One envelopes** are handed out and the game begins. The guests mingle and reveal the clues on their clue cards. It's just like a normal party, but the guests remain in character and gossip about each other's characters. The motives & story lines will start to unveil.

7:50 PM: An **optional bonus game is played**. Bonus activities keep the energy flowing and the guests have a blast. They are optional, but highly suggested. The players must remain in character.

8:05 PM: **Optional to serve dinner**. Dinner can be sit down or buffet – or even as simple as a pizza that's delivered! You can also just serve appetizers/snacks during the party.

8:35 PM: The **Round Two envelopes are handed out** to the guests and pre-thievery reveal clues are discussed.

8:50 PM: Lane makes her announcement and the host passes out the investigation sheets to the players. The guests interrogate each other to determine whodunit. The full story is in the player clue cards, but the guests will have to be skilled at asking the right questions of each other, etc.

9:05 PM: The **forensic analysis report is revealed** and within ~5-10 minutes, **everybody submits their formal guess of whodunit**.

9:10 PM: **Optional accusation round** – the guests can take turns formally accusing who they think did it, and why. You'll be surprised at how everybody's inner actor will surface during this activity.

9:25 PM: Dessert and coffee (**optional**) are served and the **Round Three envelopes are handed out** to the guests. The guests sit in a circle and one-by-one, the solutions are revealed by each of the guests and the thief will confess at the conclusion of the round. The thief is notified in their round three solution card that they are the thief. They will not know or have any advantage over anybody of knowing whodunit before this round.

***\*If you do not opt to have the optional players read their final solutions in front of the group, give them a few minutes to mingle and share their solutions.***

9:50 PM: An **optional bonus game is played**.

10:10 PM: An **optional award ceremony**. [My Mystery Party](#) has award certificates of all kinds that you can choose from in the [Prop Emporium](#). The host can determine who receives the awards while the bonus game is being played. Some awards are traditional, and some are snarky but hilarious!

10:30 PM: **Game over!**

**Please don't forget to share your pics on our Facebook page (My Mystery Party) to receive a discount on your next party!**



**EVERYONE WILL HAVE AN OPTIONAL PRE-GAME TASK CARD IN THE PURCHASED VERSION OF THE GAME. NAMES AND GENDER REMOVED TO MINIMIZE SPOILERS**

**CHARACTER S**

**For some pre-party fun, you can contact (email, phone, etc.) the following guests in the week leading up to the party:**

**Contact** the guest playing Character G and say that if you get around to it, you'll pay Character G for the South African Shadow Stone. However, if Character G bothers you too much—you will not pay for it, so s/he needs to leave you alone.

**(Contact info :** \_\_\_\_\_ **)**

**Contact** the guest playing Character U and say you are not sorry for revealing his/her identity to everybody in Spider City with your social media post. It was dishonest to allow others to believe s/he was famous in order to make more money at his/her auction house.

**(Contact info :** \_\_\_\_\_ **)**

**Contact** the guest playing Character C and say that you dropped off a free hat for the jockey of Drink of Nightshade. He should wear it during the race tomorrow—the hat is to die for!

**(Contact info :** \_\_\_\_\_ **)**

**Please note: either contacting the guests above or deciding to skip these tasks will not alter the mystery or anyone's ability to solve the mystery in anyway. However, contacting other guests will lead to excitement about the party and will encourage other guests to read about the other characters and be prepared for some completely mysterious fun!**

**EVERYONE WILL HAVE A ROUND TWO CARD IN THE PURCHASED VERSION OF THE GAME. NAMES AND GENDER REMOVED TO MINIMIZE SPOILERS**

## **CHARACTER N - ROUND ONE**

### **CLUES TO REVEAL DURING THIS ROUND**

**During this round, mingle with other guests to discuss the following information:**

- Talk about all of the hats you have designed for movies lately (*list any recent movies*). Brag about how many connections you have in Hollywood because of your fashions.
- Tell Character M she didn't pay your blackmail this week, so you let the Coalition of Artifact Finders (CAF) know where she lives (*next door to you*). You know she's aware you did this, but you wanted to tell her face-to-face. Your advice: next time Lane is blackmailed, s/he should keep up with the payments.
- Admit to someone you trust (you choose) that you never intended to pay for the Shadow Stone you agreed to purchase from Character A. It's difficult for you to hand over a large sum of money to someone who simply 'found' a rock in a cave or an old tomb. She should fight it out with Character I to get it back, not come to you.

### **PERSONAL CLUES TO CONCEAL**

- Clues removed to minimize spoilers

## EVERYONE WILL HAVE A ROUND TWO CARD IN THE PURCHASED VERSION OF THE GAME. NAMES AND GENDER REMOVED TO MINIMIZE SPOILERS

### CHARACTER L - ROUND TWO

#### CLUES TO REVEAL & TASKS TO PERFORM:

- Admit to a few others that your billionaire client in Indonesia requested a custom hat that is so rare, nobody in the world could ever recreate it. You heard Character G found the rarest item in the world, the skeleton key of the Forbidden Island that supposedly will unlock treasures beyond comprehension. You have to have this key as decoration on the brim of this custom hat because you're customer is willing to pay 25 million for this piece. You will do whatever you have to do to get that skeleton key. Find out where it is!
- Remind Character J that she still owes you 2K for the costume you purchased, and you've hired people to ensure that she pays you back. It's nothing personal, just business.
- Tell Character Q s/he should just forget about the South African Shadow Stone that you never paid for. It's not like s/he paid for it—s/he found it during a dig. You sold it to Character H, so there's nothing you can do.

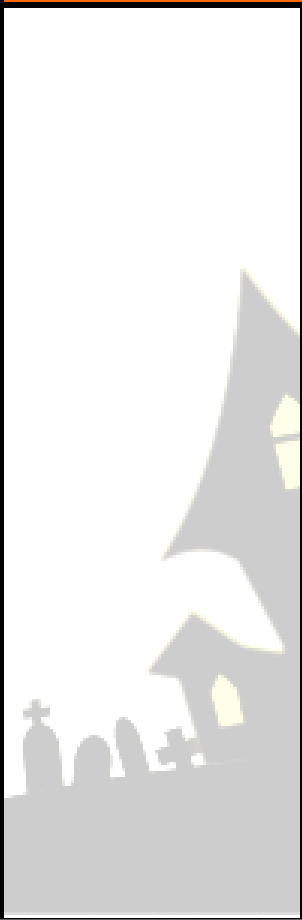
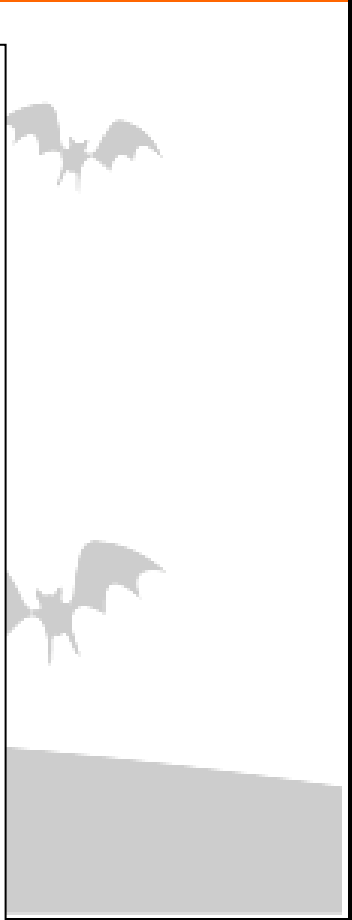
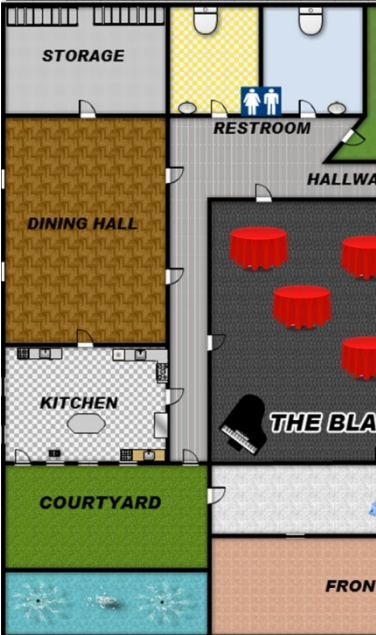
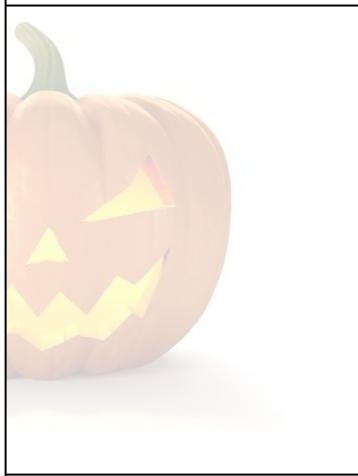
#### JUST THE FACTS: POST-THEFT CLUES – YOU'LL BE INSTRUCTED WHEN TO USE THESE:

- Clue removed to minimize spoilers
- Clue removed to minimize spoilers
- Clue removed to minimize spoilers
- When you returned from the Library, you noticed Character B was returning to the Black Ballroom at the same time. You're not sure where she had been, however, but she returned from the northern doors by the Billiard Hall.
- When you returned from the Library, Character V was not in the Black Ballroom. When you returned from the restroom, you noticed she was in the Black Ballroom.



# MYSTERY INVESTIGATION

INVESTIGATED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

SUSPECT	MOTIVE	CLUES
	<p><b>EACH PLAYER WILL HAVE AN INVESTIGATION SHEET IN THE PURCHASED VERSION.</b></p> <p><b>THIS IS THE INSTANT DOWNLOAD VERSION. THE PARTY READY PACK HAS 6" BY 9" TRADITIONAL DETECTIVE CARDS.</b></p>	
		<p><b>gram to determine dy was when the occurred.</b></p> 
<b>YOUR BEST GUESS OF</b>		<b>Y DID IT:</b>

## **CHARACTER G**

### **FINAL SOLUTION ROUND THREE**

**When it is your turn, say the following:**

The solution for this player will be given here. Names and solution has been removed to prevent spoilers.

**CHARACTER K IS NEXT**

**EVERYONE WILL HAVE A ROUND THREE SOLUTION CARD IN THE PURCHASED VERSION OF THE GAME.**

## **MENU SUGGESTIONS**

DELICIOUSLY DEVEILED EGG-EYES  
SNACKIN' SURPRISE PUMPKIN SEEDS  
SPOOKTACULAR 7-LAYER DIP  
MOUSY MEATBALLS  
STUFFED JACK-O-LANTERN BELL PEPPERS  
THE CRAZY HATTER'S HOMEMADE CARROT CAKE  
CANDY CORN ICE CREAM TREATS  
BLOOD ORANGE MARTINI - SKIP FOR TEENS

**THE PURCHASED GAME WILL HAVE RECIPES. THESE ARE THE INSTANT DOWNLOAD RECIPES. THE PARTY READY PACK WILL HAVE A MORE STANDARD MENU.**

## **BONUS ACTIVITIES!**

**FOR 100 MORE PARTY GAMES AND MORE PARTY ADVICE, RECIPES, THEMES, ETIQUETTE AND MORE, PURCHASE THE OFFICIAL PARTY HOST HANDBOOK BY DR. BONNIE.**



**NOW AVAILABLE AT MY MYSTERY PARTY'S PROP EMPORIUM, BARNES & NOBLE AND AMAZON.COM AS WELL AS OTHER ONLINE BOOK RETAILERS.**

*This page does not need to be printed with the kit – it is additional information.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR GAME:

- Head over to the Your Mystery Party guest invite site at <https://yourmysteryparty.com/palooza> *\*if you are playing with an expansion pack, you will go to the Your Mystery Party site that includes the expansion players. These web addresses are given in each expansion pack.*
- Pinterest page: <https://www.pinterest.com/mymysteryparty/pumpkin-palooza-costume-ball-mystery-party-game/>
- Social media posts: #PumpkinPaloozaMystery #MyMysteryParty – no spoilers, please!
- YouTube Game Trailer is located on the game page and Your Mystery Party page.

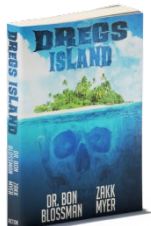
## THIS GAME WAS CREATED BY DR. BON BLOSSMAN – AWARD WINNING AUTHOR

**Please check out our author's line of Young Adult (YA) award-winning mystery novels!**

**For a discount, use: FF15BB**

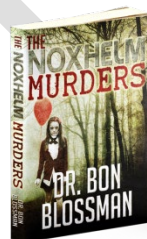


### 2017 RELEASES:



**Dregs Island -  
YA Thriller**

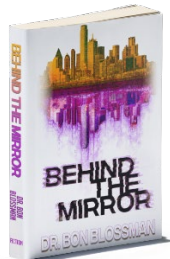
*This book won a silver medal at Reader's Favorite, won the Beverly Hills Young Adult category, and was a solo medalist winner for New Apple Book Awards for the YA Mystery/Thriller category.*



**The Noxhelm  
Murders - YA  
Mystery  
Thriller**

*This book won the Indie Brag Medallion, and two gold medals with Literary Classics Book Awards in Young Adult Mystery and Supernatural*

### 2019 RELEASE:



**Behind the Mirror (Book One) – YA Fantasy**

*A four-part series about a teen girl who thought she was ordinary.*

Don't forget to like our Facebook page and leave a photo (no spoilers of the thief please) and testimonial and receive a loyalty code for your next party! [www.Facebook.com/mymysteryparty](http://www.Facebook.com/mymysteryparty)