SYNOPSIS

It is time for the annual Skull Manor Costume Ball! The 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 wonderful night of great food, inspiring conversations, and outrageous gossip.

This has been a daunting year of dissension and discord among many of the residents of Spider City. Rumors of scandalous controversies, such as blackmail and thievery, have been circulating throughout the town’s grapevines. We all hope everybody can put aside their differences for a night of fun. If not, misfortune might be on the horizon. This is where your story begins.
# List of Character Roles for the Host

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Suspect Bio</th>
<th>Suggested Attire</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Crazy Hatter</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Large hat, velvet suit. Red wig and crazy makeup with a cane as an optional accessory.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hat Designer</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lane Croft</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Black leather (vinyl okay) attire with a large toy gun(s) &amp;/or bow &amp; arrow.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archeologist-Adventurer</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sam Stables</strong></td>
<td>Sam Stables is the obnoxious horse groomer at the Spider City Downs – home of the Pumpkin Cup Thoroughbred Horse Races. Sam is currently under investigation for scandals at the track, and the Spider City rumor mill reports Sam may not have a job for long!</td>
<td>Ranch hand / western costume.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horse Groomer</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kai Evergreen</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Archer costume. Toy bow and arrow as a prop.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archery Instructor</td>
<td></td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Katy Starry</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Very trendy pop star attire.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pop Star</td>
<td></td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ella Frost</strong></td>
<td>Ella Frost is employed as a character actress at Dark Shadow Amusement Park. She plays the role of a fairy tale ice princess named Emma—and hopes to one day use her acting skills to make it to the Hollywood big screen.</td>
<td>Ice princess costume.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amusement Park Character</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Harlequin</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Jester costume, theatrical makeup and a crazy wig of any kind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vigilante - Villain</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Betty Archer</strong></td>
<td>Betty Archer is a talented cupcake chef. She made her television debut on Cooking Network’s Cupcake Battles where she placed in a disappointing second place. Betty doesn’t take the blame for the loss, however.</td>
<td>Quirky 1950’s attire &amp;/or a cupcake costume.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cupcake Chef</td>
<td></td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mitzi Minx</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Cheerleader costume. Optional: bring some jokes with you to perform for others... why not?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Football League Cheerleader</td>
<td></td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional character</td>
<td></td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **DARK VADON**  
*Movie Memorabilia Collector*  
**Optional character**  
*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. | Darth Vader costume or any other movie costume. |
|---|---|---|
| **DARBY YONTZ**  
*Viking Tough Runs, Founder / Coordinator*  
**Optional character**  
*either* | Darby is the founder of the Viking Tough Runs—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.  
*This character may be expanded to include up to 10-15 members of the Viking Tough Run staff.* | All players on this team are to wear Viking costumes. |
| **VICTORIA GLAMINTON**  
*Lounge Singer*  
**Optional character**  
*female* | Victoria Glaminton is the insufferable lounge singer at the Witching Hour Lounge. 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. | Glamorous evening gown. |

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**THE CRAZY HATTER**  
*Hat Designer*

**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.
EXAMPLE TIMELINE

7:00 PM: Guests arrive. Take guest photos and serve refreshments. Have the invited guest list available for the guests to view as they trickle into the party. Once everybody has arrived, snap a group photo!

7:10 PM: The host goes over the guest instructions for the mystery game. It is optional to have each character stand up and introduce themselves to the group. You can play the game trailer video for an introduction.

7:20 PM: The round one clue cards are handed out, and the game begins. The guests mingle and discuss the clues on their clue cards. Motives will start to unfold during this round.

7:50 PM: An optional bonus game is played.

8:05 PM: An optional dinner is served. Snacks can be served throughout the party instead.

8:35 PM: The round two envelopes are handed out, and the guests mingle about and discuss their pre-murder clues.

9:00 PM: The victim is revealed, and the investigation of the crime begins. The mystery investigation sheets are handed out, and the guests interrogate each other (using the post-murder clues). Each guest should interview every player in the game and share and discuss all clues.

9:15 PM: The forensic report is revealed.

9:30 PM: The investigation sheets (guesses of whodunit) are turned in to the host. After the sheets are collected, the guests may take turns accusing who they believe did it.

9:45 PM: Dessert and coffee may be served at this time. The round three solutions are handed out to the guests. Each player presents their solution, and the murderer confesses at the end. Allow a few minutes for the guests to mingle at the end to discuss the mystery.

10:00 PM: Another optional bonus game may be played &/or host an optional awards ceremony!

To shorten the mystery party, omit the bonus games, don’t stop for dinner, omit the accusation round, and don’t host an awards ceremony. Also, you can shorten the game even further by only having the required players read their solutions (or even just the murderer). If you wish to extend the length of the party, add more bonus games!
OPTIONAL: FOR PRE-PARTY FUN, CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

Contact the guest playing Character B and say that if you get around to it, you’ll pay her for the South African Shadow Stone. However, if she 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 D 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 just to make more money at the auction house.
Contact info: ______________________________________

Contact the guest playing Character T 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: ______________________________________

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

**CLUES TO REVEAL:**
- Talk about how you are here in town (*Spider City*) to visit your elderly grandparents. You were shocked to see your grandmother had recently purchased a custom hat from The Crazy Hatter. It is the ugliest creation you’ve ever seen, but even worse, she paid half of her life savings for it (i.e. 20K).
- You founded the *Viking Tough Run*, which are five-mile obstacle course races held across the country that involve mud, barbed-wire, daring heights, and constrictive spaces. You are a busy person and do not have time for nonsense. Your team hosts races 350 days per year, and you barely have time off! You need The Crazy Hatter to refund your grandmother immediately, and you don’t have time to fight about it.
- Talk about how you heard a rumor that Character B signed a contract with Character G. You don’t know why, however. Character G is probably the least trustworthy or credible person you know.

**PERSONAL CLUES TO CONCEAL**
- Talk about how Character N has the best cupcakes in town. You go to her bakery every day you are in town! Plus, you are a fan of the show *Cupcake Battles*, and she was on the show and came in second with the competition. She is amazing. You were upset she didn’t win. She clearly produced the best cupcake. You think the show is fake – it has to be!
- Tell everybody you heard a rumor that Character N blackmails people all over town. Everybody should be cautious of what they say around him/her because she eavesdrops.
- You believe Character R took advantage of your grandmother (*she is 90-years-old*). She looks like a fool when she wears the silly hat she purchased from him/her. It has peacock plumage on it that rises four feet above her head! You demanded she refund the cash and take the hat back, but your grandmother and Character R both refused. You are furious!

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**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

### PRE-MURDER CLUES TO DISCUSS:

- Admit to a few people that you blackmailed character K into paying 15% of all future income when she becomes famous. You know everybody in Hollywood and can make-or-break a future star. It's business, not personal. Plus, she is in debt with you for over 2K, anyway, and the interest is accruing!

- Admit to Character G you designed a hat for Character B's racehorse jockey to shield his vision on the third turn. It's just business, it's not personal. The owner of the horse who won, Thunder Thighs, paid big bucks for you to design the jockey hat like that. It's not like you charged her for the hat; it was a gift. She shouldn't be so angry. It was very stylish, by the way!

- Tell Character B s/he should forget about the South African Shadow Stone you never paid for. She didn't pay for it, either. She found during a dig.

- After Character M talks to you, tell Character M you lied about it being her brownies that made you violently ill at the bake sale eighteen months ago. You confess that it was Character V's cupcakes. You're sorry for going along with her lie.

### POST MURDER:

There will be post-murder clues here. They will deal with timeline, the murder weapon, and suspect location during the time of the murder.

- Remind Character S she is on contract with you and part of the agreement is that she cannot speak ill of you in any manner. Breaching the deal could mean she will never even get an audition in Hollywood.

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

**INVESTIGATED BY: ___________________**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUSPECT</th>
<th>MOTIVE</th>
<th>CLUES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**EACH PLAYER WILL HAVE AN INVESTIGATION SHEET IN THE PURCHASED VERSION.**

**THIS IS THE INSTANT DOWNLOAD VERSION. THE PARTY READY PACK HAS 6” BY 9” TRADITIONAL DETECTIVE CARDS.**

YOUR BEST GUESS OF WHODUNIT – INCLUDE MOTIVE AND HOW THEY DID IT:

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YOUR BEST GUESS OF HOW THE MURDER OCCURRED:

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Diagram to determine where everybody was when the murder occurred.

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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 DEVILED 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

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**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.

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**THERE WILL BE BONUS GAMES IN BOTH VERSIONS OF THE GAME.**
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/skull](https://yourmysteryparty.com/skull) *if you are playing with an expansion pack, you will go to [https://yourmysteryparty.com/skullmanor](https://yourmysteryparty.com/skullmanor)*
- Pinterest page: [https://www.pinterest.com/mymysteryparty/halloween-party-decor/](https://www.pinterest.com/mymysteryparty/halloween-party-decor/)
- Social media posts: #SkullManorMurder, #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**

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**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.

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**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 victim/murderer please) and testimonial and receive a loyalty code for your next party! [www.Facebook.com/mymysteryparty](http://www.Facebook.com/mymysteryparty)