



8-12 PLAYERS, AGES 14+.

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SYNOPSIS

In a sprawling manor in the town of Mayflower Falls, the Dread family is hosting their yearly Thanksgiving dinner for their neighbors. The Dreads plan to serve delectable food catered from none other than Dread Steakhouse. To pass the time until the feast is ready, the guests will catch up on the latest neighborhood gossip and play hilarious party games.

Alas, the last year has been filled with treachery, scandal, and deceit. Many of the neighbors may not get along. The Dreads hope everyone can exist in harmony – at least until dessert hits the table.

You have received your invitation to the dinner. This is where your story begins.

LIST OF CHARACTERS FOR THE HOST

12 characters. 8 required and 4 optional - all with flexible gender.

CHARACTER	BRIEF BIO	SUGGESTED ATTIRE <i>this is given to your players on the Your Mystery Party Site.</i>
ALEX DREAD Owner, Dread Steakhouse REQUIRED either	Alex Dread is a workaholic owner of the most popular restaurant in town, <i>Dread Steakhouse</i> . Always late for everything, Alex rushes around like a chicken with no head. Known for being untidy, you can always deduce when Alex has been somewhere, as Alex leaves a path of clutter and debris. Alex and Dakota are siblings who often go through phases of rivalry.	<i>You are one of the hosts of the party, so dress in semi-formal party attire. Wear an apron over your clothes, if you wish, as you prepared the feast.</i>
DAKOTA DREAD Acupuncturist REQUIRED either	Dakota Dread is the polite and friendly acupuncturist and sibling of Alex Dread. A true introvert, Dakota uses stored up courage and energy to attend social events but always manages to conjure a friendly smile and engage in pleasant chats. Dakota worries about Alex daily, as Alex is impulsive and doesn't have Dakota's best interests at heart.	<i>You had appointments the day of the gathering, so you'll still be wearing your scrubs. Throw on a lab jacket, if you wish.</i>
LONDON DREAD Head Chef, Dread Steakhouse REQUIRED either	London Dread is the bumbling chef at <i>Dread Steakhouse</i> and a cousin of the owner, Alex Dread. Family ties landed London the job. The restaurant already had an established following when London started in the kitchen six months ago, but London claims it's the recently added culinary delights that keep the dining room's seats filled. Food bloggers disagree. London lacks a sense of humor, and it is impossible to make London smile, much less laugh. London is the cousin of Alex and Dakota and sibling of Lumi Dread.	<i>You will still have on your chef's uniform, as the Dread Steakhouse served a Thanksgiving breakfast that morning. In the story, you also have assisted Alex in preparing the Thanksgiving feast.</i>
LUMI DREAD Meteorologist REQUIRED either	Lumi is the judgmental meteorologist for RBC TV. Short-tempered, especially when irritated, you should help keep Lumi happy if you want to keep the peace. Obsessed with food, Lumi is adventurous enough to taste anything offered, but expect negative commentary during the morning news about anything that Lumi dislikes. It is no secret as to why Lumi doesn't have many friends. Lumi is the cousin of Alex and Dakota, and the sibling of London.	<i>Wear an autumn-colored plaid polyester leisure suit. Don't want to do that? That's okay! Just wear a business casual suit worthy of a news reporter. Want to make it fun? Make a snazzy weather-inspired costume.</i>
NEVADA FAWKES Food Critic REQUIRED either	Nevada is the youngest child of two local farmers. Nevada is a self-proclaimed foodie who works for the website <i>You Serve It, We Rate It</i> . Nevada has critiqued every restaurant in the town of Mayflower Falls. Some restaurant owners are not happy about their reviews, but what can they do about them? Nothing! Nevada is the sibling of River, Roux, and Scout.	<i>Casual attire. Or, if you wish to be funny, wear a food-inspired costume, such as a fork, pepper, a hot dog, etc. Or, even a turkey hat to be fun for Thanksgiving.</i>
RIVER FAWKES Robotics Engineer REQUIRED either	River Fawkes is an overachiever who loves to work more than relax at home. Stoic and detached from society, River spends the daylight building robots which will soon replace many jobs held by humans such as waiters, cooks, clerks, and more. The product launch is right around the corner, and many are said to be staging protests against the unveiling. River is the oldest of four siblings, Roux, Scout, and Nevada.	<i>Nerdy casual attire. Or, if you want to be funny, wear a robot costume or mask and support what you love!</i>

ROUX FAWKES Event Planner REQUIRED either	A video gamer in a grandparents' basement at night and event planner by day, Roux Fawkes never sleeps – unless it's during work hours. Roux is a wildcard whose behavior is unpredictable, even to best friends. Roux is brutally honest and super stubborn, so don't expect Roux ever to admit fault. Roux is the second oldest of four siblings, River, Scout, and Nevada.	<i>Casual attire that's a bit slouchy - shirt un-tucked, wrinkled. You are a lazy person.</i>
SCOUT FAWKES Film Producer REQUIRED either	Rumored to be a ghostwriter for many top-selling fiction books, Scout Fawkes is a hardworking film producer for <i>Dream World Entertainment</i> . Many neighbors ask Scout to hand them movie roles, so Scout avoids most people of Mayflower Falls like the plague. Scout has agreed to come to the Dread's feast as long as nobody asks for an audition. Scout is the second youngest of four siblings – River, Roux, and Nevada.	<i>Trendy, fashionable attire. Or a director's costume (because producers look like everyday people) and a clapboard as an optional prop.</i>
SAGE BLAINE Ethical Hacker OPTIONAL either	Always patient, even when frustrated, Sage Blaine is known as the great mediator. Sage is an ethical hacker for the federal government. Sage sits in a tiny cubicle each day, attempting to hack into websites, networks, and security systems to find weaknesses before the criminals do. Sage is an excellent person to know, but don't double-cross Sage unless you want to be erased online. Sage knows how to digitally make you disappear.	<i>A dark hoodie. If you want to be spooky, bring a mask with you.</i>
REAGAN BLAINE Private Detective OPTIONAL either	Reagan Blaine is the sibling of Sage Blaine. A private detective who always gets lost – even when given specific directions, Reagan continually complains about everything. Reagan can be employed to investigate anything from a kitty kidnapping to murder. Reagan has been hired to investigate many people in the neighborhood. Therefore, many folks don't trust Reagan.	<i>Sherlock or Dick Tracy costume. You are a PI, so own it.</i>
FLYNN SLATER Travel Blogger OPTIONAL either	Flynn Slater is a charismatic manipulator. Flynn has five deceased spouses, all who have died by mysterious circumstances. Flynn was considered a suspect in each death, but no evidence was ever found. After building a massive bank account from late spouses' amassed fortunes, Flynn set out to travel the world. Flynn documents every detail for <i>Flynn's Diary</i> – a travel blog with over a million subscribers.	<i>Casual attire or a tourist costume (Hawaiian shirt, shorts, camera strapped around your neck, floppy hat.)</i>
ROLLY SLATER Storm Chaser OPTIONAL either	Rolly Slater is the first cousin of Flynn Slater and an avid storm chaser. Rolly will navigate and live-stream report from the eye of any storm, and then sell the footage to the highest bidder. Outside of storm chasing, Rolly is cautious, careful, and rarely leaves home.	<i>Casual attire with a survivalist spin, as you never know when you'll be caught in a storm and have to ride it out. Wear cargo pants with gadgets and survival gear, a vest, a poncho folded up as an optional prop, etc.)</i>

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 players, and not to rush anything. It's all about gossiping during each round. Your guests are playing and motives. With that said, if you opt to secrets for money (see the bonus activity

**Full
instructions are
given in the
purchased
version.**

**The party pack
version (boxed
set) has a
bound booklet.**

GAME STRUCTURE: the game is organized 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). There is more information about each character, links to costumes (and suggestions for each character), the game trailer, and more.

ROUND ONE Deliver the round one clue card envelopes as your guests arrive. It is optional to serve cocktails for adults and appetizers.

ROUND TWO Deliver the round two clue card envelopes. It is optional to break for dinner either before or after this round.

SOLUTION ROUND THREE Deliver the round three solutions. It is optional to serve coffee/hot cocoa and dessert. Don't host a party without some type of food/beverage offering - hungry guests are not happy guests.

For further questions, check out our FAQ webpage at <https://mymysteryparty.com/how-to-host-faq/> or our author's blog for more DIY and hosting help: <https://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 Responses are guaranteed within 24 hours.

EXAMPLE TIMELINE

7:00 PM: Guests arrive. Take guest photos and serve refreshments. Have the invited guest list (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 with 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. Encourage them to spill secrets and discuss all storylines.

9:15 PM: The forensic report is revealed.

9:25 PM: The guests are given a few minutes before 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.

9:40 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!

NAME TAGS

DAKOTA DREAD
ACUPUNCTURIST



**Each player will
have a name
tag in the
purchased
game.**

**The name tags
in the party
pack (boxed set
version) will be
printed on
adhesive
sheets.**

OPTIONAL PRE-GAME TASKS:

CHARACTER Y

OPTIONAL: FOR SOME PRE-PARTY FUN, CONTACT THE FOLLOWING GUESTS:

Contact the guest playing Character S and say the following: For the Thanksgiving party, please try to be at the house on time and help us get ready for company. We need all of the family to help – including you.

CONTACT INFO:

Contact the guest playing Character F and say the following: I hope you can come to our Thanksgiving feast. I haven't spoken to you in over six months and would be thrilled to catch up.

CONTACT INFO:

Contact the guest playing Character M and say the following: I know you don't get along with many folks in town, but I've invited the neighborhood over for Thanksgiving again. Please get along with everyone.

CONTACT INFO:

Each player will have a round one clue card.

Names removed to minimize spoilers.

Do not read if you wish to keep all story lines a surprise.

The clue cards of the party pack version will be printed on double-sided, parchment-style paper with a traditional detective theme.

ROUND ONE CLUE CARDS – cut out, slip into envelopes and label with the character and round.

Character Y- ROUND ONE

DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING WITH OTHERS:

- Discuss that your Gran made Character L (your sibling who owns Dread Steakhouse) hire Character S (your cousin) as a chef. Character S is a terrible chef and is ruining the business, but Character L can't do anything about it.
- Character P filed a ridiculous lawsuit against you last month. S/he claimed your acupuncture needles caused a skin infection. Claim that it's all lies.
- Ever since Character P filed the lawsuit against you, you've lost half of your acupuncture patients.
- Discuss how anyone who creates robots to replace human workers is insensitive. Character R will put hardworking servers, chefs, hosts, clerks, teachers, policemen, etc. out of work! River must be stopped!
- Character B is often wrong about the weather.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

- Social gatherings make you miserable. You only wanted Character E to invite family this year.
- You did not want to be around Character H. S/he is blackmailing you, and probably many other business owners. S/he makes you pay 100 per week not to give your business negative reviews online.
- You are dealing with three malpractice suits right now for skin infections from your acupuncture sessions.

Each player will have a round one clue card.

Names removed to minimize spoilers.

Do not read if you wish to keep all story lines a surprise.

ROUND TWO CLUE CARDS

CHARACTER T– ROUND TWO

DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING BEFORE THE MURDER:

- You have just overheard that some people here are being blackmailed. You don't know who or how many, but you must investigate this.
- Ask around to see if anyone is hiring at their place of employment. You are looking for an easy job with flexible hours, and it must allow for breaks.
- Tell character Y s/he should quit the Dread Steakhouse and do his/her family a favor.
- Tell character S s/he needs to stop bad-mouthing people, places and things during the weather forecast. It should be about the weather only.

POST-MURDER FACTS TO DISCUSS:

- Clue removed to prevent spoilers.
-
- The murderer will lie. Only believe the facts.
- Your friend once had you apply for jobs posted on the dark web before. Nobody hired you. You didn't even get interviews, so you believe it was a scam to get your information.
- The victim sat at a table of eight people. You sat next to Character N and Character M. You did not want to sit by Character G. Character T had agreed to separate you, but the place cards were put next to each other. You didn't want to cause a scene.

Each player will have a round two clue card.

Names removed to minimize spoilers.

Do not read if you wish to keep all story lines a surprise.

MURDER INVESTIGATION

Investigated by: _____

SUSPECT	MOTIVE	EVIDENCE

Each player will have a mystery investigation sheet.

The party pack has 6 by 9, double-sided detective themed cards.

This is the download version.

WHODUNIT

ROUND 3 SOLUTION CARDS

C h a r a c t e r H

Solution Round

READ AFTER CHARACTER K

**The solution that they present
will be given here.**

CHARACTER G IS NEXT

**Each player will have a round three
solution card. Names and solution removed
to prevent spoilers.**

MENU SUGGESTIONS

Always ask for nutritional requirements of your guests with the RSVPs to determine if they have any allergies or objections to particular ingredients.

Suggested menu will vary between the downloadable game and party pack and may be updated at any time. The party pack has a standard murder mystery menu.

APPETIZERS:

DARING THANKSGIVING DIP

7 LAYERS OF SECRETS DIP

FIRST COURSE:

PUMPKIN SOUP

ENTREE:

TERRIFIC DREAD FAMILY TURKEY

CHECKMATE CHICKEN (IF YOU'RE NOT DOING A TURKEY, OF COURSE)

SIDES:

ALEX'S GRAVY

CRAZY CRANBERRY SAUCE

ASTOUNDING ASPARAGUS

MYSTERY MACKIN' CHEESE CASSEROLE

DESSERTS:

CARROT CAKE

BRAINY FRUIT SALAD

COCKTAILS FOR ADULTS:

GHOSTLY REVENGE (omit for minors)

MINT-FLAVORED MAYHEM (omit for minors)

THE BLOODY MARY (omit for minors)

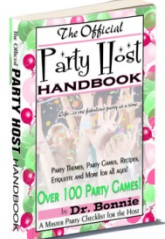
BLOODY BRAIN SHOT (omit for minors)

BLEEDING SUN (omit for minors)

Ingredients for 1 cocktail:

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.



**FOR 200+ PARTY GAMES, HALLOWEEN DIY COSTUMES, PARTY ADVICE AND MORE, SNAG YOUR COPY OF THE HALLOWEEN PARTY HOST HANDBOOK BY DR. BONNIE
BOTH AVAILABLE AT MY MYSTERY PARTY'S PROP EMPORIUM AND MOST ONLINE BOOK RETAILERS.**

Bonus games are available in the purchased game. Bonus games will vary between the downloadable game and party pack and may be updated at any time.

[Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR GAME:

- Send your guests to the Your Mystery Party guest pre-game site at <https://yourmysteryparty.com/dread>
- Pinterest page: <https://www.pinterest.com/mymysteryparty/the-thanksgiving-thievery-mystery-party-non-murder/> We have created a board for all of our games that includes theme-specific DIY party food and décor. To find the direct link to the Pinterest page, go back to the webpage where you purchased the game and scroll to the bottom of the page – you'll see the Pinterest board there. Click on it to enlarge and view the pins.
- Social media posts: #MyMysteryParty – no spoilers, please! Spoilers include any pictures or text of who the victim/murderer is, such as a decorated victim wearing their name tag in the photo – or any other spoilers in the game. Please do not ruin the game for others.
- The game trailer video is located on the Your Mystery Party page.

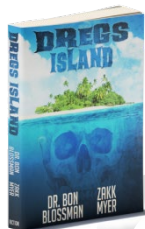
THIS GAME WAS CREATED BY DR. BON BLOSSMAN – AWARD WINNING AUTHOR

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

For a discount, use: FF15BB

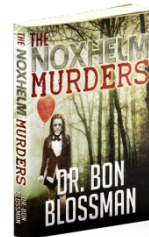


2017 RELEASES:



**Dregs Island -
YA Thriller**

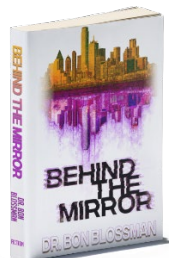
This book won a silver medal at Reader's Favorite, won the Beverly Hills Young Adult category, and was a solo medalist winner for New Apple Book Awards for the YA Mystery/Thriller category.



**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 trilogy about a teen girl who thought she was ordinary.