



SLAUGHTER AT THE CIRCUS

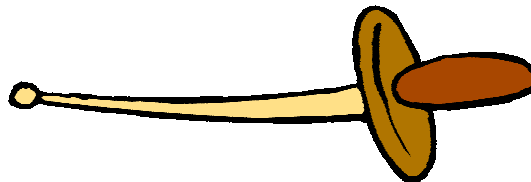
GAME BOOKLET

KEY FACTS

No of People ¹	13-18
% of Successful Solvers	27%
Adult Content Rating	5/10
Price	£19.95

FILES

Instructions PDF File – 1 MB
Invitations PDF File – 13 MB
Character Booklets PDF Files – 11 MB
Clues, Questions, Mystery Witness & Confession PDF File – 5 MB



¹ This game can be played with more people by enlarging the Investigation Panel. However this will result in each Investigator having fewer questions to ask. But everyone can still attempt to solve the murder.



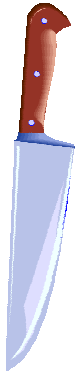
You are invited to help unravel the mysterious events which have led to...

SLAUGHTER AT THE CIRCUS



On: _____
 Location: _____
 Time: _____
 Tel: _____ Email: _____

RSVP



Jacques, knife throwing assistant at Slaughter's Circus, has been found murdered, skewered to the wheel of death by a knife through his heart! Ten circus performers are deemed to be particularly suspicious!

Lulubelle, 21,
Vain, Fiery, Beautiful, French Trapeze Star

Stud Strong, 36,
Jealous, Slow-Witted, Impotent Strongman

The Great Leonardo, 50,
Blunt, Temperamental, German Lion Tamer

Madam Titian, 36,
Intelligent, Professional, Secretive Illusionist

Gigi Giddiup, 25,
Alluring, Oversexed, Manipulative Bareback Rider

Ermintrude, 28,
Cheerful, Smiling, Too good to be true Clown

Coco, 39,
Womanising, Cowardly, Illiterate Clown

Ma Potter, 62,
Maternal, Opportunistic, Death Predicting Fortune Teller

Jade Edge, 38,
Frustrated, Careworn, Heavy Drinking Knife Thrower

Herman, 42,
Gambling, Brooding, Butter-Fingered Trapeze Catcher

One or more of the above suspects murdered Jacques. You are invited to help



Sam Slaughter, 45,
Owner and Ring Master of Slaughter's Circus

Discover Whodunit!



SLAUGHTER AT THE CIRCUS

Skewered to the wheel of death! That is how knife throwing assistant Jacques was found this morning in the Big Top at Slaughter's Circus. While in front of his spread eagled corpse lay Jade Edge, the knife thrower herself. Unconscious, and with her breath smelling of gin. Has a practice session gone terribly wrong? Or is there a more sinister explanation!

Sam Slaughter, owner and ring master of Slaughter's circus, believes the latter. Sam has summoned the circus performers to an impromptu enquiry. Among the assembled stars are:

Lulubelle	Vivacious young star of the flying trapeze.
Herman	Her fiancée and catcher
The Great Leonardo	Lion Tamer Extraordinaire
Gigi Giddiup	Beautiful bareback rider
Coco	A womanising clown
Ermintrude	His "butter won't melt in my mouth" co-star
Stud Strong	"Muscle Mountain" Strongman
Ma Potter	Tarot and Crystal Ball Reader
Jade Edge	Tipple enjoying knife thrower
Madam Titian	Immensely intelligent Illusionist

BACKGROUND

Last night Jade Edge and Jacques were supposed to be the sixth act in the ring. However Jacques unaccountably failed to turn up, and Ermintrude the clown had to stand in as Jade's assistant. Jacques also failed to turn up to act as assistant to Mistress of illusion, Madam Titian, and for the end of show parade.

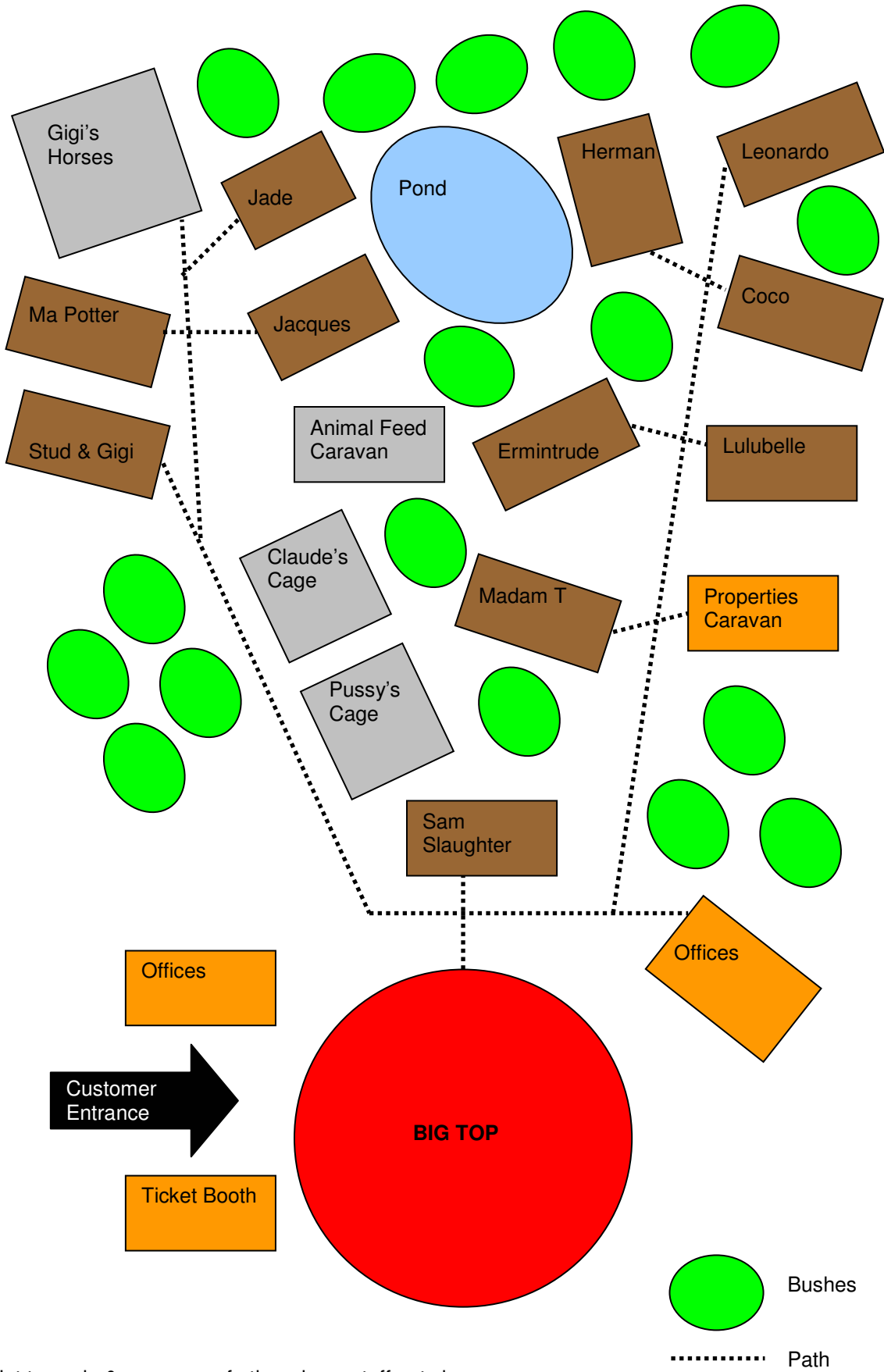
He was found this morning, gruesomely pinned to the wheel of death, by one of Jade's knives. How he got there remains a mystery. A mystery that Sam is determined to solve.

As owner of and ringmaster of the circus, Sam has summoned the ten circus stars to an impromptu enquiry. Sam is being assisted in the investigation by an investigation panel, made up of other circus members. Together, by questioning the ten suspects, discovering clues and interviewing outside witnesses, the panel and Sam are determined to discover how Jacques met his death.

TIMETABLE OF YESTERDAY EVENING'S PERFORMANCE

7.30	"Welcome to the show" & Opening Parade	Sam Slaughter & All Performers	
7.45	Flying Trapeze	Herman & Lulubelle	
8.00	Equestrian Extravaganza	Gigi Giddiup	
8.15	Leonardo & his Lions	The Great Leonardo	
8.30	Clowning Around	Coco & Ermintrude	
8.45	Magnificent Muscles	Stud Strong	
9.00	Knife Throwing	Jade Edge & Jacques	
9.15	Madam Titian's World of Mystery	Madam Titian	
9.35	End of Show Parade	All	
10.30	After Show Debriefing (around the camp fire)	All	

MAP OF SLAUGHTER'S CIRCUS CAMP



Not to scale & caravans of other circus staff not shown.

CHARACTERS

The final page of each invitation will inform the recipient of the character that you would like them to play, along with a detailed description of that character's background. So you know the kind of roles that you will have to assign to your guests, copies of those backgrounds are reproduced here. Although no one will play the part of the victim, Jacques, I have also included his background for completeness.

JACQUES, 28,

The Victim

Despite his French sounding name, the murdered man was a cockney lad from London. A pupil at the East End School of Performing Arts, he was at Slaughter's Circus for his summer placement. During this time he was to spend a week with each of the main circus acts, learning their arts. This week he had been learning clowning skills with Coco and Ermintrude. Each night he has been going into the circus ring acting as assistant to both knife thrower Jade Edge and Illusionist Madam Titian.

LULUBELLE, 21,

Vain, Fiery, Beautiful, French Trapeze Star

You are a very beautiful, dark haired, dedicated French girl, who is one of the star turns at Slaughter's circus. You are a trapeze artist, renowned for your breath taking performances and dare devil skills. You can perform the amazingly difficult quadruple camel flip with ease, and your neck spins on the rope are a wonder to behold. You are intensely vain and your aim is to become the best trapeze artist in the world. For the last year you have been engaged to be married to your catcher, Herman.

HERMAN, 42,

Gambling, Brooding, Butter-Fingered Trapeze Catcher

You are the catcher on the flying trapeze, where you work with your fiancée, the dazzlingly beautiful Lulubelle. You are very strong, and agile, and an excellent acrobat and gymnast. However a circus performer's career can only last so long, and you are entering your twilight years.

You have been with the circus all your life. Your mother, also a circus performer, died at a young age, leaving you to be responsible for your younger brother, Coco the clown. You can have a considerable temper when roused.

COCO THE CLOWN, 39,

Womanising, Cowardly, Illiterate Clown

You are a very experienced clown who over the years has received hundreds of custard pies in the face. You are one half of the Coco and Ermintrude partnership. This is a relatively new partnership as Ermintrude has only recently joined Slaughter's circus. You are often to be found chasing the ladies, although you are too canny to have ever married one of them. You like to think of yourself as a bit of a lad, but actually you are quite a coward. Herman, the catcher on the flying trapeze, is your older brother.

ERMINTRUDE, 28,

Cheerful, Smiling, Too good to be true Clown

You are a relative newcomer to Slaughter's circus, having been poached from Slaughter's arch rivals, "Gallipiano's Travelling Players". Although, during your act with Coco, you play a lady clown, you are in fact a very handsome young man. Normally you are cheerful and good natured, with a ready tongue and a winning smile. However when annoyed you have a tendency to sulk, and your comments can become sharp and waspish.

MA POTTER, 62,

Maternal, Opportunistic, Death Predicting Fortune Teller

A lifelong member of the circus, your days of performing in the ring are now over and you are content to tell the fortunes of those people waiting to see the show. In between your wheezing breaths, you tell them what destiny has in store. Although proficient with the tea leaves and tarot, your favourite medium for foretelling the future is with your crystal ball.

Getting on in years, you have long experience of circus life and you are responsible for looking after all the circus costumes. You are devoted to your son, the simple minded Stud Strong. Unfortunately you do not get on well with his wife, the bareback rider Gigi Giddiup. You feel that she is a manipulative little strumpet.

STUD STRONG, 36,

Jealous, Slow-Witted, Impotent Strongman

You are the circus strong man, an incredible mass of brawn, muscle, tattoos and piercings. Strength is your strong suit. Brains are not, and it has to be said that you are a bit simple. You have a very jealous nature, and an explosive temper. You were brought up in the circus and the fortune teller, Ma Potter, is your mother. You are married to the beautiful bare back rider Gigi Giddiup. You are also the circus handy man, helping to set up the show in new towns. Your immense strength is very helpful when hammering in stakes for the circus tent.

You recently took part in Gemini TV's televised competition "Britain's Strongest Man". Unfortunately you came last.

GIGI GIDDIUP, 25,

Alluring, Oversexed, Manipulative Bareback Rider

You are an incredibly alluring and highly sexed bareback rider who performs incredible feats of equestrian daring in the ring. You like to wear very glittery and revealing costumes. You have several horses, but your favourite is a pure white stallion called "Strider". Despite the fact that you are currently the wife of Stud Strong, the circus strongman, your breath taking beauty attracts many men and you are not hesitant in enjoying yourself with them. It is rumoured that Stud does not live up to his name and that you have to seek satisfaction elsewhere.

Until the arrival of Jacques at the circus, you also acted as glamorous assistant to Madam Titian during her conjuring tricks.

JADE EDGE, 38,

Frustrated, Careworn, Heavy Drinking Knife Thrower

Formerly a trapeze star, you are now a knife thrower. In your act you use knives, axes and meat cleavers. However you have problems recruiting assistants. Your aim is not as reliable as it once was and there is often the perfume of gin on your breath. You star in the ring wearing thigh high leather boots and tight cut costumes. Although not looking as ravishing as you once did, you seem to have impressed the German lion tamer, Herr Leo Munchausen. He has been paying you a lot of attention lately.

Some time ago you did a brief stint with Slaughter's arch rivals, "Gallipiano's Travelling Players". However it was an unhappy experience and you have now returned to Slaughter's Circus.

THE GREAT LEONARDO, 50,

Blunt, Temperamental, German Lion Tamer

You are Herr Leonardo Munchausen, the lion tamer at Slaughter's circus. You perform in the ring with your two ferocious lions, Pussy and Claude. You also hire them out for television commercials. Normally you perform in the state of Munchstein in your native country of Germany, and you speak with a heavy German accent. However this season you offered your services to Sam Slaughter and, knowing how good your act is, Sam willingly accepted them. Although everyone is puzzled as to why you have come to England, you have no intention of explaining your motives. You can be very temperamental, and suffer from violent mood swings. It is rumoured that you are enamoured with the knife thrower, Jade Edge.

MADAM TITIAN, 36,

Intelligent, Professional, Secretive Illusionist

You are a female magician who has a photographic memory and an acutely logical, but very cunning brain. You are extremely intelligent and fantastic with figures. Because of this you tend to be a little aloof from the other circus folk. You like to cultivate an air of mystery around yourself and no one knows what your background is. You are a consummate professional, who takes endless time over your rehearsals and your performances always run without a hitch. Your professional vanity would not allow anything less.

SAM SLAUGHTER, 45,

Ethical, Competent, Fair-Minded Circus Owner

You are the owner and ring master at Slaughter's circus. You inherited the circus from your grandfather, Montgomery Slaughter. You are passionately devoted to the business, and try to ensure that your troupe are one big happy family. This is sometimes difficult. Circus performers can be very temperamental, and you have to strike a fine balance between buttering their egos and being a heavy handed boss.

You also have to keep an eye on the competition. Your main rivals in business are "Gallipiano's Travelling Players", another circus, managed by eighty year old Maxwell Gallipiano. Maxwell and your grandfather Montgomery were arch enemies, and this rivalry has been handed down to the present day. Each circus would like to see the other circus closed down.

THE INVESTIGATION PANEL

You are a member of Slaughter's Circus, although you are not a suspect in this murder. Instead you will form part of the Investigation Panel, trying to discover the truth about Jacques' death. Assisting your boss, circus owner Sam Slaughter, you will be asking questions of the ten circus suspects to try and discover Jacques' killer. You will be probing them, trying to discover their secret histories, verify their alibis and also discover what relationships they had with the murdered man. You will also discover clue objects, which could help to throw light on Jacques' tragic demise.

You may also be required to take on the role of a "mystery witness". These characters pop up throughout the game and offer unexpected and dramatic evidence to the enquiry, usually to the discomfort of the suspects!

MYSTERY WITNESSES

Mystery Witnesses are characters who pop up for one round only. Played by members of the Investigation Panel, they usually offer unexpected (and often unwelcome) evidence! The mystery witnesses in this game are:

Chief Inspector Trevor Nabbem – a policeman with an interest in diamonds

Rosie the Roustabout – an early rising circus helper

Paul Van Buren – Junior partner in the Van Buren Diamond Company

STAGES OF GAME

- Opening Speech
- Introductions
- Re-enactment of previous night's Aftershow Debriefing
- Round 1 Preparations, Investigation & Summary
- Round 2 Preparations, Investigation & Summary
- Round 3 Preparations, Investigation & Summary
- Protestations of Innocence
- Accusations
- Denouement
- Confession

The game should take approximately 2½ to 3½ hours to play.

PURCHASE INFORMATION

All merrymurder games can be purchased online with a credit card. Alternatively you can place your order online and then post a cheque.

DELIVERY INFORMATION

I aim to upload your game files to the merrymurder website and email you the link so that you can download them within 48 hours of receiving your order. Usually it is within 24 hours.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM WWW.MERRYMURDER.COM

<p>CARDS ON THE TABLE 4-5 players Slaughtering spades, homicidal hearts, death dealing diamonds and killer clubs.</p>	<p>THE PUNGENT PUMPKIN POISONER 8-10 players An impromptu murder mystery. DOWNLOADABLE FREE</p>
<p>THE MURDER OF MRS WHYTE 8-13 players A horticultural murder mystery, inspired by a famous board game.</p>	<p>NATURAL PORN KILLERS 9-12 players A murder mystery set in the world of blue movies - Adults only.</p>
<p>TEN LITTLE VAMPIRES 10 players Ten little vampires going out to dine, one choked his little self and then there were nine</p>	<p>RANDY BUTT – RIP 10-13 players A fantastic gay murder mystery – Lechery, lust, and copping off – Adults only.</p>
<p>AN EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA 11-15 players An egg inspired murder. Who cracked open Sergei Shell's head at his Easter Fair?</p>	<p>DEATH BY DEPRECIATION 11-16 players An accountancy murder. Fatal finance, crooked accountants & murderous money.</p>
<p>SING A LONG A SOUND OF MURDER 11-17 players A murder mystery crossed with a musical. Who killed Herr Zealot, head of the Nazis?</p>	<p>THE WOMAN IN THE IRON MASK 12-16 players A French Revolution mystery. Louis XV's mistresses & musketeers solve a beheading.</p>
<p>THE WAKE FOR HUMPTY DUMPTY 12-16 players Did Humpty fall? Or was he pushed? No one in Nursery Rhyme Town is shedding tears.</p>	<p>THE MERRYMURDER PANTOCRIME 12-18 players A murder mystery crossed with a pantomime. Good magic, bad jokes and ugly sisters.</p>
<p>THE CUTTING IT KILLER 13-16 players Sexing up the salon. Hollywood hair styles. Drugs with the dyes. And much, much more!</p>	<p>SLAUGHTER AT THE CIRCUS 13-18 players A tale of sabotage, diamonds, insatiable passion, lions, red noses, tarot and carcasses.</p>
<p>MURDER AT THE NORTH POLE 14-18 players Father Christmas? Mrs Christmas? Rudolph? One North Pole resident is a heartless killer...</p>	<p>ORGY OF DEATH 16-20 players A Roman murder mystery – Has a sex game gone wrong or is it murder. Adults only.</p>

www.merrymurder.com

The other merrymurder games