



# THE MURDER OF MRS WHYTE

## GAME BOOKLET

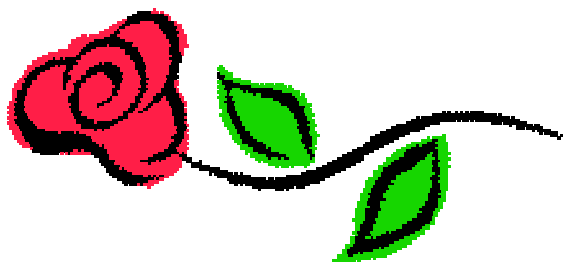
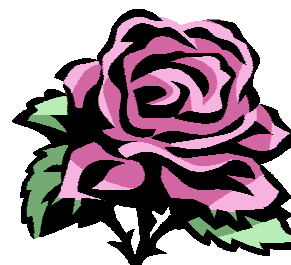
### KEY FACTS

No of People <sup>1</sup>	8-13
% of Successful Solvers	17%
Adult Content Rating	6/10
Price	£19.95



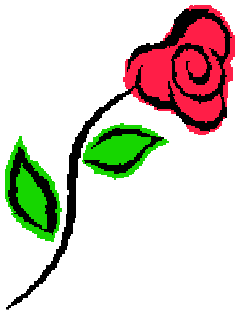
### FILES

Instructions PDF File – 2 MB  
Invitations PDF File – 12 MB  
Character Booklets PDF File – 6 MB  
Clues, Questions & Confession PDF File – 2 MB



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<sup>1</sup> This game can be played with more people by enlarging the panel of Investigating Journalists. However this will result in each Investigating Journalist having fewer questions to ask. But everyone can still attempt to solve the murder.



You are invited to help solve

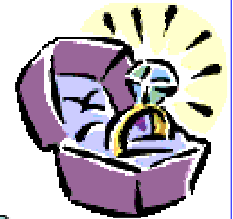
## THE MURDER OF MRS WHYTE

On: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



### RSVP



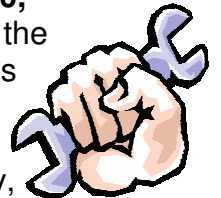
Professor Bloom, universally celebrated botanist, has called the world's press to Lancaster Grange to announce the results of his latest research. Research which he declares will revolutionise the world of crime investigation. But moments before the press conference starts, a body is found! Housekeeper Hilda Whyte has been found murdered. Bludgeoned to death in the kitchen with the candlestick. Which one of six suspicious characters is guilty...?

**Laura Woodcock, 46,**  
Horticultural expert and owner of  
Lancaster Grange

**Reverend Lidius P Beane, 50,**  
American Clergyman. Head of the  
Church of Christian Ecologists

**Professor Eric Bloom, 55,**  
Eminent English Botanist

**Fleur Rouge, 21,**  
Lidius's niece. A bright, lively,  
headstrong girl



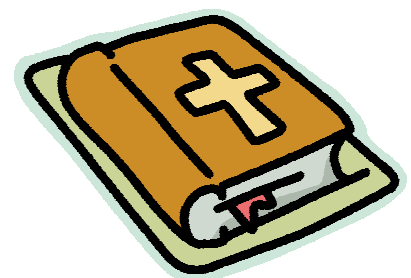
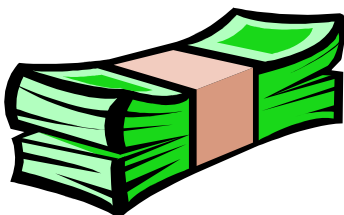
**Dr Charlotte Black, 39,**  
Successful Harley Street  
Psychotherapist

**Captain Richard Tarragon, 35,**  
Ex-Army. Horseman and adventurer

You are invited to assist

**Casey "Catch'em" Trent, 38,**  
The Great American Undercover News Reporter

## Discover Whodunit!



## CRIME DETAILS



Mrs Woodcock's official house party guests arrived on Friday night. They were due to leave first thing on Monday morning. Journalists of various criminal, horticultural and other magazines, including Casey "Catch'em" Trent, the great American undercover reporter, had been invited for Sunday lunch and then to attend Professor Bloom's briefing. This briefing was due to take place in the ballroom at 3.00pm. Lunch finished at 2.00pm when Mrs Whyte cleared the dining room. She then retired to the kitchen to wash up. At this point the journalists went en masse to look round Mrs Woodcock's conservatory of rare shrubs.

Mrs Whyte was last seen alive by both Laura Woodcock and Reverend Lidius Beane at 2.10pm. Mrs Woodcock had gone to the kitchen to speak to Mrs Whyte about the evening meal. While she was there Reverend Beane also came to see Mrs Whyte. Mrs Woodcock left the pair together.



Reverend Beane states that Mrs Whyte had invited him to take a look at her herb garden. He left her in the garden at approximately 2.20pm and when he saw her last she was heading back to the kitchen.

Mrs Whyte's body was found by Richard Tarragon shortly before 3.00pm. He immediately raised the alarm.

## SUSPECT STATEMENTS

However, during the crucial time between 2.10pm and 3.00pm, all suspects declare themselves to be in places other than the kitchen.

**Laura Woodcock** states that after leaving Mrs Whyte, she went outside to prune her roses in the rose garden.

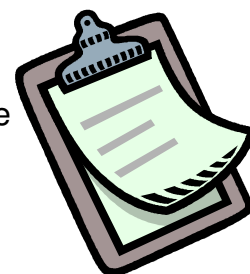
**Lidius Beane** declares that after leaving Mrs Whyte in the herb garden, he went to the library to read the "News of the World"

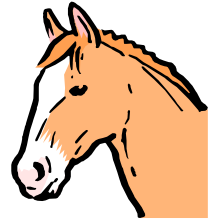
**Fleur Rouge** says that immediately after lunch she retired to the lounge to watch television.

**Eric Bloom** declares that during the crucial time he was in the ballroom, making last minute preparations for his briefing.

**Dr Charlotte Black** states that she went to the study where she wrote up some notes concerning medical research she is conducting.

**Richard Tarragon** says that after lunch he went to the stables, saddled one of Mrs Woodcock's horses, and went for a ride.





Returning, he entered the kitchen for a glass of water and discovered Mrs Whyte's body.

The assembled journalists spent the crucial time together in Mrs Woodcock's conservatory, and so can be eliminated as suspects.

### CRIME SCENE

Mrs Whyte, aged 54, was found lying face down in the kitchen. There was a wound to the back of her head, obviously caused by a heavy blow. Lying by her body was a blood-stained candlestick.

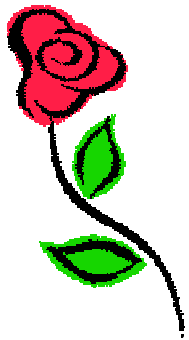
On the kitchen units was a bottle of "Natracalm Tea". By it was an empty cup and saucer. The cup contained dregs of "Natracalm Tea"

The washing machine had been pulled away from the wall. The bolt holding the washing machine drum in place had been loosened.

### PLAN OF ACTION

It is now 4.00pm on Sunday, an hour after the crime was discovered. As some of the finest investigative journalists are assembled at the Grange, the six suspects have decided to delay calling in the police. With the talented Casey Trent leading the investigation, they, and the other assembled journalists, are going to have a try at solving the crime themselves. If they are successful, they can then hand over the guilty party to the police, and leave without a stain on their character.

So far Casey has instructed them to fingerprint the candlestick using the flour shaker from the kitchen. Fingerprints have been discovered on it. And, having taken the fingerprints of the six suspects, it has been proved that the last person to hold the candlestick was Dr Charlotte Black.



## **THE 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, Mrs Whyte, I have also included her background for completeness.

### **HILDA WHYTE, 54,**

#### **The Victim**

An extremely good cook and housekeeper, Mrs Whyte had been employed by Laura Woodcock at Lancaster Grange for two years. Originally from Barnsley in Yorkshire, Mrs Whyte had never married, although there were rumours of an unhappy love affair in her younger days. One of Mrs Whyte's main pleasures in life was tending her herb garden. However recently, for some unknown reason, she had seemed morose and depressed. Mrs Woodcock had been so concerned by Mrs Whyte's mental condition that she had paid for her housekeeper to have a consultation in Harley Street with Dr Charlotte Black.

### **LAURA WOODCOCK, 46,**

#### **Horticultural Expert and Owner of Lancaster Grange**

After divorcing your husband seven years ago, you went to live in obscurity in the south of France. However you returned to England two years ago and leased Lancaster Grange. An enthusiastic gardener, you spend many hours attending the lush grounds attached to the Grange. You prefer plants to people.

This preference shows in your attitude to others. People tend to find you distant and a little aloof. You hold house parties perhaps four times a year at most. Due to your mutual interest in plants, the botanist Professor Eric Bloom is a regular attendee. He enjoys looking at the rare plants that you have in your conservatory. Knowing that he wanted to hold a press briefing about his research into the African Crocus Bean, you suggested that he hold it in the ballroom of the Grange. He gratefully accepted.

**REVEREND LIDIUS P BEANE, 50,**

**American Clergyman. Head of the Church of Christian Ecologists.**

You are an American clergyman, head of the Church of Christian Ecologists. The church, based in New York, has the slogan “Working with God and working with nature.” The church has really taken off in America and you hope to spread the word in Europe.

You are visiting England with your niece, Fleur Rouge. She and her twin sister Esme became your wards when their parents, your sister and brother in law, died in an aeroplane accident seventeen years ago. Unfortunately Esme also died in an accident a little over a year ago.

You are a great believer in Natracalm Tea, a herbal tea that promotes tranquillity in the drinker. You recommend it to everybody.

**FLEUR ROUGE, 21,**

**A Bright, Lively, Headstrong American Girl**

You are a bright, lively, headstrong young American girl. You are very attractive. Your parents died in an aeroplane accident when you were very young and you and your twin sister Esme were brought up in New York by your Uncle, the Rev Lidius P Beane. You were not identical twins either in looks or personality. Esme was quiet and meek whereas you tend to be more of a firebrand. But you could both be obstinate and headstrong, and you were heartbroken when she died in an accident just over a year ago.

Preferring older men, you have developed a relationship with the celebrated botanist, Professor Eric Bloom. It is possible that a happy announcement may be made soon.

**PROFESSOR ERIC BLOOM, 55,**

**Eminent English Botanist**

You are an eminent botanist who leapt to fame with your discovery of the fig leaf cure for impotence. Since achieving fame and fortune you have been travelling to obscure, tropical countries to examine the plant life of their forests. Your most recent trip has been to Africa where you have been studying the Crocus Bean. Your findings are likely to have a big impact on how criminal investigations are performed, and you were intending to announce the results of your research at the press briefing this afternoon.

You have also been developing a relationship with young Fleur Rouge. You hope that very soon she may be changing the name of Rouge to Bloom. Invited to Lancaster Grange by Mrs Woodcock, you asked if the Beane entourage could come as well. As Laura Woodcock was already slightly acquainted with Fleur's uncle, the Rev Lidius P Beane, she was happy to oblige.

You were also an old friend of the late Dr Claudius Black. The two of you used to do research together. Charlotte Black, the doctor's daughter, was also a member of the house party.

**CAPTAIN RICHARD TARRAGON, 35,**

**Ex-Army. Horseman and Adventurer.**

Abandoned by your parents at a young age, you were brought up in an orphanage. It was a tough childhood. You learnt to fight for yourself and not care very much for other people's feelings.

You trained as an engineer and joined the army where you rose to the rank of Captain. It was here you learnt your love of horsemanship. However seven years ago your career took a setback when you were dismissed from the service in disgrace.

Since then you have been something of an adventurer, touring the world and living by your wits. Your adventuring has led to you becoming very rich. Most of your jobs have been with horses. You have a reputation as a fearless rider, pushing your horses to the limit. It is also said that you treat your women like your horses. You ride them hard and you treat them mean!

You belong to the same club in town as Dr Charlotte Black and have struck up a casual friendship with her. Like all women she seems to find you very attractive. The pair of you have been horse riding together a few times.

**DR CHARLOTTE BLACK, 39,**

**Successful Harley Street Psychotherapist**

Daughter of the late Dr Claudius Black, you followed in your father's footsteps, also becoming a doctor. However where as he was a gynaecologist, you became a psychotherapist. You now have your own rooms in Harley Street where people come to your for consultation about their problems. As well as this you also engage in research.

You are dark, stylish, and very attractive. However you find most men very tedious and have never married. You much prefer the charms of money. It is for this reason you have struck up a casual friendship with Richard Tarragon, who belongs to the same club as you in town. Although you judge him to be a bit of a twerp, he appears to have more money than sense and this appeals to you. The pair of you have been horse riding together a few times.

**CASEY "CATCH 'EM" TRENT**

**The Great American Undercover News Reporter**

You are America's finest undercover reporter, and a legend in your own right. Earlier this year you were awarded the title of "Investigative Journalist of the Decade", in recognition of some of the sensational scandals that you have exposed. These include the mass embezzlement being perpetrated at International American Conglomerates and the notorious conduct of some of Hollywood's finest at "Madam Floosies horizontal dancing club". You also managed to stow yourself away on the maiden flight of the army's new nuclear powered helicopter.

You are particularly interested in crime, and it is said that your "news nose" is so sensitive, you can smell a story. That "news nose" went into overdrive when you heard about Professor Bloom's briefing, and you journeyed across the Atlantic to attend. Your instinct has not let you down. Already you have been rewarded by a particular juicy murder, and you are sure that you and your journalist friends will reveal more gossip, intrigue and scandal before finally unmasking Mrs Whyte's killer.

## **STAGES OF GAME**

- Opening Speech
- Introductions
- Round 1 Preparations, Investigation & Summary
- Round 2 Preparations, Investigation & Summary
- Round 3 Preparations, Investigation & Summary
- Round 4 Preparations, Investigation & Summary
- Protestations of Innocence
- Accusations
- Denouement
- Confession

The game should take approximately 2 1/2 – 3 1/2 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><b>CARDS ON THE TABLE</b> 4-5 players Slaughtering spades, homicidal hearts, death dealing diamonds and killer clubs.</p>	<p><b>THE PUNGENT PUMPKIN POISONER</b> 8-10 players An impromptu murder mystery. <b>DOWNLOADABLE FREE</b></p>
<p><b>THE MURDER OF MRS WHYTE</b> 8-13 players A horticultural murder mystery, inspired by a famous board game.</p>	<p><b>NATURAL PORN KILLERS</b> 9-12 players A murder mystery set in the world of blue movies - Adults only.</p>
<p><b>TEN LITTLE VAMPIRES</b> 10 players Ten little vampires going out to dine, one choked his little self and then there were nine</p>	<p><b>RANDY BUTT – RIP</b> 10-13 players A fantastic gay murder mystery – Lechery, lust, and copping off – Adults only.</p>
<p><b>AN EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA</b> 11-15 players An egg inspired murder. Who cracked open Sergei Shell's head at his Easter Fair?</p>	<p><b>DEATH BY DEPRECIATION</b> 11-16 players An accountancy murder. Fatal finance, crooked accountants &amp; murderous money.</p>
<p><b>SING A LONG A SOUND OF MURDER</b> 11-17 players A murder mystery crossed with a musical. Who killed Herr Zealot, head of the Nazis?</p>	<p><b>THE WOMAN IN THE IRON MASK</b> 12-16 players A French Revolution mystery. Louis XV's mistresses &amp; musketeers solve a beheading.</p>
<p><b>THE WAKE FOR HUMPTY DUMPTY</b> 12-16 players Did Humpty fall? Or was he pushed? No one in Nursery Rhyme Town is shedding tears.</p>	<p><b>THE MERRYMURDER PANTOCRIME</b> 12-18 players A murder mystery crossed with a pantomime. Good magic, bad jokes and ugly sisters.</p>
<p><b>THE CUTTING IT KILLER</b> 13-16 players Sexing up the salon. Hollywood hair styles. Drugs with the dyes. And much, much more!</p>	<p><b>SLAUGHTER AT THE CIRCUS</b> 13-18 players A tale of sabotage, diamonds, insatiable passion, lions, red noses, tarot and carcasses.</p>
<p><b>MURDER AT THE NORTH POLE</b> 14-18 players Father Christmas? Mrs Christmas? Rudolph? One North Pole resident is a heartless killer...</p>	<p><b>ORGY OF DEATH</b> 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