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The Suspects

Hawaii Island (nicknamed "The Big Island") – is the island with an active volcano called "Kilauea". A number of people live there. They claim it is safe because volcano emits lava and ash in the other direction. It is also the home of Pele – the "Goddess of Fire" or "Goddess Of The Volcano" as she is known. The rainfall on the island is extremely high and there are lots of lava tubes, butterflies and rainbows.

Before the Polynesians came to Hawaii, it was inhabited by little people known as Menehune [pronounced meh-neh-HOO-neh]. Some say Molowa had some Menehune blood in him and that was why he was only four foot tall. He originally came from Maui but he had been on the island for a number of years. Recently, however, he had been causing so much mischief that people were starting to complain.

Today it was discovered that he has mysteriously disappeared. Perhaps he has moved to another island or back to Maui. Your task is to work out who rid the island of Molowa.

The suspects are:

Beachie – I'm a female world championship surfer. I've won it so many times, I've almost lost count. I have a holiday house on the Big Island. I am a pretty tough woman. You have to be to surf as you have to fight for each wave with a bunch of guys. *Dress suggestion:* Dress in your swimsuit and carry a towel, a leg rope, surfboard wax, sunscreen, a surfboard or any other similar props you can find.

Brad – I'm a lifeguard at the beach. In my spare time, I go bike riding and play the ukulele. I like the fact that the ukulele was invented in Hawaii and that it means "jumping fleas" and people called it that because the musician's fingers flew about like fleas on it. *Dress suggestion:* Dress like a lifeguard. Perhaps carry a CPR chart. If you want you can also carry a bicycle helmet and and/or a ukulele.

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Kainoa – (pronounced *Ki-no-uh*) I have a macadamia nut farm in Kona. I also grow some coffee beans on it. Although macadamias are native to Australia, most people mistakenly believe they are native to Hawaii. I don't mind because we sell a lot at the airport. I have a stand near the highway so I also sell to tourists. The tour buses stop at it. I lay on my Hawaiian accent for the tourists and I try to be as much of a character as I can be by calling everyone sista, bro, auntie or uncle. *Dress suggestion:* Khaki shirt and shorts. Carry some macadamia nuts to offer people you meet. Ideally ones in their shells and also carry a nutcracker.

Tanya – I'm a seismologist and I'm proud of it. People sometimes get a tremor when I'm around – only joking. I spend a lot of time monitoring the volcano we have here. I'm from mainland USA but I have made Hawaii my base. *Dress suggestion:* Wear an old T-shirt and write things on it like "Seis the day", "Seis Wise". You can also wear fatigue pants and carry a compass, flashlight and hiking boots.

Penny – I climb coconut palms and de-nut them so they don't drop on tourists' heads when they go to the beach. At the markets I sell fresh green coconuts for people to drink. *Dress suggestion:* Wear a sarong and carry a coconut.

Mango Man – I'm well-known identity and I live in the rainforest. No one knows exactly where. I walk to town most days. I live off the land, but sometimes when the fruit isn't ripe I go to the Church soup kitchen. Some people think I have eaten their dog, but that isn't true. *Dress suggestions:* Carry a hand woven bag over your shoulder with mangos and water in it and come barefoot and darkly tanned. Only wear old dirty shorts and no shirt (if possible). Speak softly, dreamily.

Pua (pronounced *poo' ah*) – My name means "flower". I am a descendent of the royal family that used to run Hawaii. The last few leaders didn't have any children, but I am a cousin of an earlier leader. I believe in taking back Hawaii for Hawaiians and separating from the US. I am passionate about this cause. After all the land was taken away from Hawaiians and they broke all their promises. I love children and good uke (ukulele) music. Some people say I have a sharp tongue. *Dress suggestions:* Wear an Hawaiian print sarong and a head lei made of ferns or other greenery. Carry the Hawaiian independence flag.

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Ernie – I am a vermin exterminator. I remove cockroaches and other pests that are common in this tropical climate. I am into bugs especially the kinds that make some people scream and run. *Dress suggestion:* Wear grey work shorts and a white shirt. If possible, bring along some plastic cockroaches or other pests.

Nani (pronounced *nah' nee*) – My name means "beautiful". I sing at one of the best resorts. I've recorded a few CDs and am still waiting for my big break. Jazz is my favorite thing to sing besides Hawaiian tunes. I love sharing my culture with the tourists, except when they are culturally insensitive. *Dress suggestion:* Wear a sarong, a tightly fitting top and make up. Have your hair down and put a lei or flower in your hair. Go barefoot.

Don – I design tropical houses that are suited to this climate. It's a shame that isn't what most people want to live in. I am also into bicycling and planting trees. *Dress suggestion:* Wear business clothes and carry some house plans. Maybe carry a bicycle helmet.

Lana (pronounced *lah nah*) – My name means "calm as still waters". Maybe that is why I try to be the opposite. I take tourists sky-diving, bungee jumping, rafting or on any other adventurous activity they want to do besides visiting the volcano. *Dress suggestion:* Wear sports clothes and carry some props like an oar from a raft and so on.

Keanu – I fish both from the land and in my boat. My father was a fisherman and his father was before him. So I carry on the tradition. I also play guitar and write songs. *Dress suggestion:* Wear old clothes and carry a fishing line and/or some fish lures. Carry a guitar.

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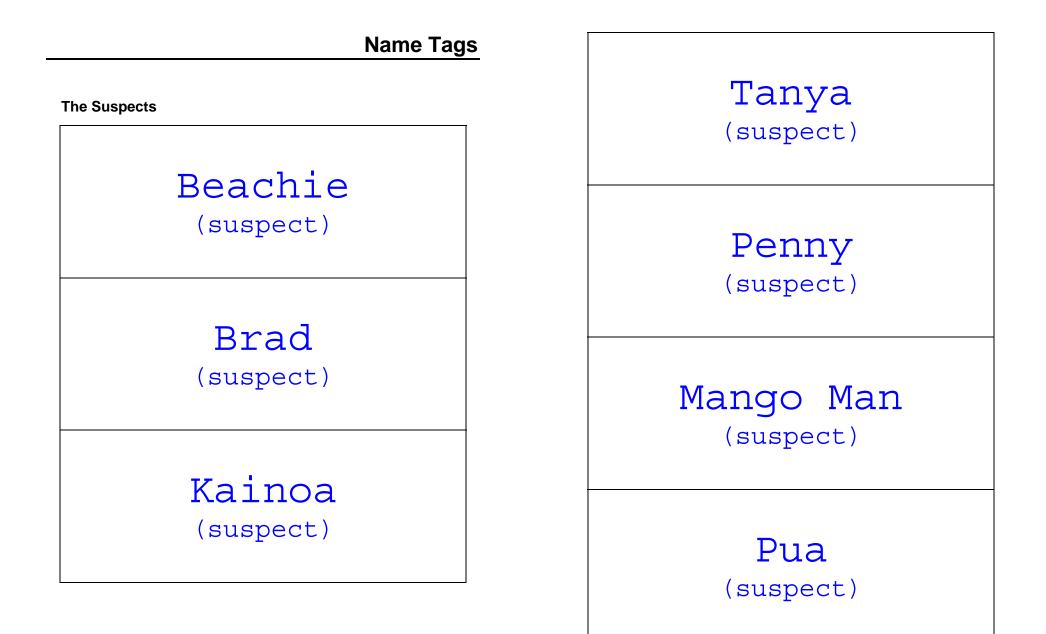
Kerry Hastings (male or female) – Ever since I watch Hawaii Five-O as a child on TV, I have wanted to be a cop in Hawaii. So as soon as I was old enough to join the force, I did. *Dress suggestions:* Dress in a police uniform but maybe add a lei to it. Or dress in a suit like they did in Hawaii Five-O (although it is ridiculous given the climate).

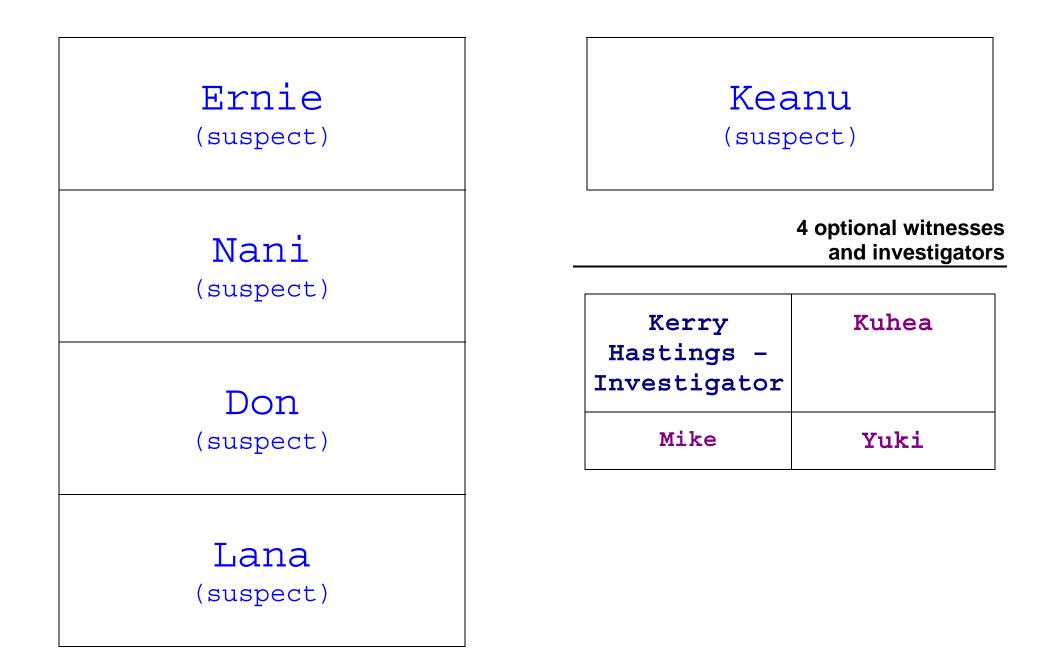
3 Witnesses (optional roles)

Kuhea – I am a lei maker. I have a stall at the airport and I sell leis to locals and tourists. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a mumu or a brightly colored dress, flip flops and have a flower behind your ear. Use 12 inch (30cm) lei needles to make your leis. Bring a box of flowers (or fake ones), sit on the floor and start stringing them together to make a lei.

Mike – I am a pig hunter. I live in Fern Forest and I live off the land. I am hapa Hawaiian (half-Hawaiian) and my wife is full Hawaiian. In my spare time, I coach a soccer team. *Dress suggestions:* Put on some fake tattoos, wear a sleeveless T-shirt and cut off pants and flip flops. Carry a machete.

Yuki - I am Japanese and a bird researcher. My specialty is Nene – the endangered Hawaiian goose. I am passionate about my work. In my spare time, I talk at schools. *Dress suggestions:* Dress very neatly and carry a bird book and some binoculars.





presents...

"Hawaiian Lunacy"

by Stephanie Chambers

These are the clues for:

Beachie

During this act, you must reveal the following points:

- 1 The ocean was very calm this morning. Calmer than normal. Yet a tremor normally stirs things up makes the surf a bit more exciting.
- 2 Molowa thought the big waves were too dangerous so he'd do things like hide my leg rope. He didn't realize that riding the fifty-foot waves was how I gained my fame and how I can keep it too.
- 3 A repeat of the Gulliver's Travels mini-series was on TV recently. Maybe watching those little Lilliputians gave someone an idea of how to rid the island of Molowa.

During this act, you must reveal the following points:

- 1 Because the royalty used to surf and actually played a part in the creation of the sport, I thought I'd give my support to Pua's campaign to bring back the royalty. When I talked to her she was crying because all her new brochures about it had been ruined. They'd been moved out in the rain which is a tell-tale sign of Molowa mischief.
- 2 (say after Penny says about the banana peels) A tourist probably left the banana peels on my board. It was no big deal really. It didn't even take any wax off the board.
- Molowa was so tiny, he was almost invisible. It's hard to do battle with someone like that. Maybe he hasn't gone for good. Maybe he's just being hard to find for a while. One time I found him on my surfboard with me just for a few seconds.

During this act, you must reveal the following points:

- 1 (say after Brad says he and Keanu have been buddies for years) But later on I saw you guys putting rocks on top of the net to weigh it down. It was just below where Molowa often is said to have dived from the rocks into the ocean.
- 2 (say after Brad says he also saw you injecting the bananas with garlic) I was just trying to stop them from getting fruit fly. It's a well known organic gardening method. I like to eat bananas too you know.
- 3 (say this after Brad says about how you missed a crucial wave) I saw at the beach that a coconut hit a tourist in the head yesterday. It must have been one that Penny missed.

www.merrimysteries.com

3

presents...

"Hawaiian Lunacy"

by Stephanie Chambers

These are the clues for:

Brad

During this act, you must reveal the following points:

- 1 I didn't hear Molowa making any splashes last night. I think he's gone away.
- 2 I heard Molowa calling you something strange Ernie. What was he calling you?
- 3 Molowa loved eating bananas. But he'd always leave peels near my lifeguard tower so it made me look like a messy eater. I'm glad he's gone.

During this act, you must reveal the following points:

- While I'd be minding the beach I'd get distracted by the sound 1 of splashes from the rocks. It was Molowa diving. I was worried that I'd miss some emergency because of the distraction. It made me so angry, I'd feel like cracking coconuts with my bare hands like you try to do sometimes Penny.
- (say after someone says about you having nightmares) Just 2 because I had a few dreams about Molowa, doesn't mean I did anything to make him leave.
- (after someone says about how Molowa could disappear) I was 3 in the middle of resuscitating a little girl who had drowned and he appeared next to me. Talk about a distraction when you don't need one. He probably meant well and thought he was giving support.

During this act, you must reveal the following points:

- (say after Keanu explains why he was taking the net into the 1 ocean) Keanu and I are friends. So sometimes I help him with his nets. For me, it's good to have a break and to chat with a really cool dude like Keanu. We've been buddies for years.
- (say after Ernie says he saw Beachie injecting the bananas) Yes. 2 I saw you doing that too Beachie and when I went up to the bananas later they smelled really strongly of garlic. Maybe you were trying to stop Molowa from eating bananas. Maybe you thought that if he had nothing much to eat, he would leave the island.
- I was life guarding at the beach when I noticed Beachie missed a 3 crucial wave in a competition tryout yesterday.

2

presents...

"Hawaiian Lunacy"

by Stephanie Chambers

These are the clues for:

Kainoa

During this act, you must reveal the following points:

- 1 You don't really believe all those myths do you? People who believe that sort of thing are nuts and believe me I know as I'm a nut man myself.
- 2 Molowa thought he'd help me by shaking my trees so they'd drop their nuts. But he didn't realize that now we have mechanical harvesters and because he just shook them, we had to get down on our hands and knees to pick up each nut. It took weeks of extra work and cost me all of this year's profit.
- 3 Sometimes I wished I could eat him. But I knew he wouldn't taste too good.

During this act, you must reveal the following points:

- Last weekend I went to my local restaurant and Nani was performing. I noticed that when she made the small talk between songs that her voice was hoarse and she didn't sing as many high notes. She sang a song about the Menehune and dedicated it to Molowa. Maybe she was trying to appease him so she would get her voice back.
- 2 *(say after Lana says about your electric fences)* Those electric fences I installed were to stop fruit bats not Molowa. But I admit Molowa was a nuisance and I'm not unhappy that he has gone. The cruelty to animal people are taking me to court about the electric fences so I may have to take them down.
- 3 (say after Beachie says about Molowa being able to disappear) Yes I agree about him disappearing. One minute I'd see him in amongst my nut trees and then a minute or so later I'd see him on the other side of the fence pretending to be asleep.

During this act, you must reveal the following points:

- 1 (*say after someone asks you if you were using nut shells as mulch*) Yes. I often use the discarded nut shells as extra mulch.
- 2 I noticed yesterday that you were scattering dried sage leaves outside your house Penny.
- 3 (*say this after Nani says about Don building something*) Don was building a fish pond. This is what Molowa often built. Were you trying to make Molowa annoyed by building a better one than he has ever built?

presents...

"Hawaiian Lunacy"

by Stephanie Chambers

These are the clues for:

Clue page for the witnesses or investigator Print as many copies as you need of these four pages. Staple a copy of their name tag here During this act, you must reveal the following points: *Staple their clues here.*

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Merri Mysteries	You should divide these 12 clues amongst the witnesses and investigator (if you have one). Please make sure they are all given out. If you don't have many witnesses, you may like to also share them with the investigator and suspects.
presents	A psychic has confirmed that Molowa has gone. These omens that you have witnessed also confirm that.
	Molowa had been on the Big Island for many years and he is an old man. As such, his hearing and sight were not the greatest.
"Hawaiian Lunacy"	Molowa has no sense of smell. Legend has it is because he stuck his nose in a wasp's nest and they took revenge on his nose in particular.
by Stephanie Chambers These are the clues for:	Molowa would just pop up anywhere he wanted. He didn't have any respect for other people's privacy and he didn't care if he was trespassing on private property.
	Some of the longest and most vertically extensive lava tubes in the world are on the Big Island of Hawaii. They have carried molten lava 50 miles or more. The one most people visit is called Thurston Lava Tube or "Nahuku" which refers to the small protuberances on the walls of the tube.
	Molowa was a very small man. He was only four foot tall. But he acted as if he was a giant in terms of his ego.
	Molowa left a note saying he had left "due to the influence of a certain person who shall remain unnamed".
	I have found little tiny piles of broken mirrors in the lava tubes. I think Molowa loved them and collected them.
Extra Clues	Lana fell out of a raft recently and the tourists on it had to help rescue her.

_____ The green leaves, which are called la'i, were used in cleansing rituals and to remove evil by the kahuna pule heiau – the temple priests. These leaves have a spiritual affect. It isn't because they have a particular smell. 1,

Pua has a wide variety of native green leaves growing in her backyard. She only has fruit trees and bananas in her front yard.

A lot of macadamia nuts have been returned to farmers lately because they say they have been picked when they weren't ripe enough.