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Party games for 8 to 100 guests

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# “The Chick Flick Murder”

Play version  
for 8 to 16 girls

by Stephanie Chambers

First edition  
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## The Suspects

A bunch of girls went to the movies to see a romantic comedy and when the lights came up – Josephine was found dead in her seat. Was it poisoned popcorn? Find out what's really been going on.

**Marisa** – I'm a chemistry and biology teacher. I've set up a lab at home. I'm hoping my side business will bring in some extra income. I'm trying to develop a brain-enhancing herbal supplement. I've been experimenting on myself. **Dress suggestions:** Wear casual clothes but carry a capped test tube or a plastic bag full of special ingredients.

**Decima** – I run a really cool bar on the west side of town. It looks like a pinball parlor but when you release the balls on the old-fashioned pinball machine, you find that a secret door opens to an invite-only nightclub. I've called it "Slapsies". **Dress suggestions:** Wear cool clothes & dark shades. Carry a Slapsies promo.

**Monji** – I'm an African heiress. I'm a bit like a famous celebrity you all know except my parents owned a diamond mine rather than a chain of hotels. I'm dealing with various parties to get back my own money. It's complex and involves various currencies and foreign banks. I thought I could trust these girlfriends, but now I am not so sure. **Dress suggestions:** Wear colorful African inspired clothing and, if possible, a matching material scarf worn as a hat.

**Vitoria** – I'm not sure who I am. I'm suffering from amnesia. Odd things keep coming back to me... snippets of foreign languages, martial arts moves, memories of intense romantic encounters and so on. I'm trying to piece together the details. **Dress suggestions:** Wear cool casual clothes.

**Cora** – I'm a personal trainer at a gym near here. That's how I met most of these fantastic ladies. We train hard but we have fun. And we also party together, when our men let us. **Dress suggestions:** Wear a tracksuit and, if possible, a heart monitor and/or pedometer. If you want, you can add some fake muscles.

**Bernadette** – I'm the projectionist and also the ticket seller during the daytime when I am often the only one here. To be honest, I just put the movie on and then I left. I don't like romantic comedies anyway because the plots are always so weak and they're usually tear jerkers too. This movie's been on for a while, so there were just the seven women watching it. **Dress suggestions:** Wear a uniform.

**Georgia** – Although, I am creative, I'm not a painter like "O'Keeffe". I'm a renovation expert and an interior designer. I specialize in warehouse loft renovations. **Dress suggestions:** Wear workman clothes like overalls.

**Mei** – (pronounced "May") I create wearable robot technologies for a living. Sometimes I try out the suits on myself, but I never wear them in public, because I don't like being stared at. I'm Asian-American. **Dress suggestions:** Wear nerd-type clothes like big glasses and a check shirt. Wear a straight-haired black wig.

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## Optional Investigator

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**Sergeant Lexie Leonard** – I’m the kind of cop you don’t want to mess with if you know what’s good for you. On the good cop bad cop scale, I’m off the charts in the wrong direction. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a fake Police uniform or a blue shirt and trousers and carry a notebook and pen. Or don’t wear a uniform and wear tough clothes. Wear cool sunglasses.

## Optional witnesses

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**Fanchon** – I’m a journalist. Because I ride a really fast motorbike, I often get here before the police do. I’ve seen a lot of really messed up stuff. But I’m cool. Nothing fazes me. *Dress suggestions:* Wear motorbike rider clothes and carry a helmet and a pen and notepad or a digital tablet.

**Gazella** – I’m a medical examiner. I’m young because I was a gifted child. I graduated from med school before I turned twenty-one. I’ll probably go back and do a PhD, but I wanted to see some action first. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a white lab coat and carry a doctor’s black bag.

**Thea** – I sell newspapers at a stand on the corner near the theater. When I saw these girls walk by today, I knew there was going to be trouble. Maybe I’m psychic. *Dress suggestions:* Carry some newspapers.

**Liz** – I wish my parents never named me that because on top of it all, I have a lisp. I was handing out discount flyers for a local restaurant outside the theater. I managed to give a few of them flyers. *Dress suggestions:* Wear neat clothes. Carry some flyers.

**Edrea** – I’m a CSI – a crime scene investigator. In this case, I’m taking everyone’s fingerprints and analyzing the popcorn and so on. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a uniform and carry some evidence bags and an inkpad to use for fingerprint taking. Or use a digital tablet for this.

**Rowena** – I’m what some people call a modern day sorcerer. I revive the dead or make them walk at least. One of the suspects – I’m sworn to secrecy as to which one, but one of them asked me to come here after they found Josephine had died. I heard from her that Josephine always said she wanted to be a zombie. *Dress suggestions:* Wear weird hippy clothes and carry a tiny voodoo doll and stick pins in it.

**Wenda** – I’m Josephine’s mother. I’m in a state of shock. I can’t believe she’s dead. But that’s her. No doubt about it. She’s been a bad kid, but didn’t deserve this. *Dress suggestions:* Wear conservative clothes.

## Name Tags

Marisa  
(suspect)

Decima  
(suspect)

Monji  
(suspect)

Vitoria  
(suspect)

Cora  
(suspect)

Bernadette  
(suspect)

Georgia  
(suspect)

Mei  
(suspect)

**Investigator**

Sergeant Lexie  
Leonard  
(investigator)

**Witnesses**

Fanchon  
(witness)

Gazella  
(witness)

Thea  
(witness)

Liz  
(witness)

Edrea  
(witness)

Rowena  
(witness)

Wenda  
(witness)

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## The Play

**Note:** *Although this is in play format, you do not have to take to a stage and act it out. You can just sit around a dining table and read out your lines or sit in a circle on sofas etc.*

**Note:** *If it says the line may be said by “Anyone”, we recommend that one of the optional detectives and witnesses take a turn to say the line. If there are no optional witnesses or detectives, then everyone should take a turn saying one of these lines, however, the person the clue is about should not say it. You may like to work out beforehand who will say each of these 24 “Anyone” clues and write their character’s name next to each one.*

- Anyone: Why did you girls decide to come to a Friday matinee?
- Cora: They’ve all been doing my boot camp course. We got to talking about movies during one of the lifting breaks. Monji said “The Wedding Anniversary Gift” was so good that she’d be prepared to see it again and the rest of us hadn’t seen it.
- Marisa: I’m lucky. I don’t teach any classes on a Friday. Sometimes we do lunch together. This time it was a popcorn lunch or at least it was for those that wanted it.
- Vitoria: I’m between jobs at the moment. And there’s a bunch of money in my bank account. Still trying to work out where the money came from. All I remember is catching a plane overseas.
- Georgia: I run my own renovation and interior design business. I always take Fridays off. That’s the perk of having your own business.

Anyone: So you didn't eat any lunch before the one pm matinee?

Mei: We bought some shakes from Cora at the gym. She put a bunch of protein powder in, so we were good to go.

Monji: I always pack my lunch and snacks. So I had that. I don't like the shakes as they always put bananas in them. I hate bananas. I had too many as a child growing up in Africa.

Decima: This class really suits me because it doesn't start till ten thirty. The nightclub closes at two on Thursdays, so that's how I can make it.

Anyone: What about you Bernadette? What were you up to this morning?

Bernadette: Sleeping. I often don't get home from work till midnight. And I walk a few dogs for some extra income.

Marisa: That's where I've seen you before. You must walk some dogs in my neighborhood.

Anyone: Did Josephine have a shake or did she bring or buy her lunch?

Cora: I think she had a berry shake. But I didn't poison her if that's what you're thinking. Some of the others shared the berry shake.

Vitoria: Three of us shared a giant tub of popcorn – Decima, Josephine and I.

Decima: I'm big compared to Josephine. I hope it isn't just that the poison hasn't hit me yet. Sometimes we turn people away from Slapsies when we're packed. I hope you're not one of the disgruntled ones Bernadette?

Bernadette: No. I'm not into nightclubs. They're not my scene. I'm more into nature than clubs. My grandfather has a ranch.

Anyone: Did any of you know each other before you took the boot camp?

Mei: Marisa and I have known each other since college. And I told you that you needed to tone that belly of yours, didn't I Marti?

Marisa: Yeah. Teaching biology and chemistry doesn't keep you fit – that's for sure. And having a boyfriend that's really into cooking doesn't help.

Monji: I'd been coming to the gym for over a year and Georgia and I are workout buddies. We met at the gym didn't we Georgia?

Georgia: Yeah. You dropped a weight and it rolled on to my toe. I had to become your buddy to stop you doing stupid things like that.

Anyone: Did any of you know Josephine outside of the gym?

Vitoria: She lives in my apartment building. She says I've lived there for a few years, but most of the time I've been away. Since we've gotten to know each other at the gym, we've hung out a bit together. We sometimes double date men we've met online.

Decima: Yeah. I've seen you both at the club a bit. But I've known Josephine for years. She and I were bartenders at a club before I inherited money and could set up my own place.

Anyone: Did Josephine still work as a bartender?



Georgia: No. He worked as a part-time receptionist. But she dressed and acted as if she'd got a better job than that. She must have had another source of income. I tried to ask her about it, but she just said she'd had some luck at the casino.

Marisa: Her younger brother is in my class. I think they both have this attitude that they don't need to work – that their rich parents will take care of them.

Anyone: What they both don't know is that their parents aren't as rich as it looks. Their house and car are mortgaged to the hilt and if her mother ever has to stop working as an attorney, their house of cards will fall down. Her father's business has never made much and it is close to bankruptcy especially now that he is ill.

Anyone: Yeah. Josephine's grandparents made money renting out porta potties, but they were frugal and invested every cent they made. Josephine's mother got a good education but she didn't inherit their frugality and she's blown her inheritance.

Monji: Josephine's mother has been acting as my attorney. I met Josephine at one of her mother's parties. Josephine was thinking of studying geology. She liked to be physical.

Cora: Yeah. That's for sure. But she just didn't get that all the late nights and the junk food was depleting her energy levels. She wouldn't even drink a shake without putting heaps of Agave into it. She was so addicted to sugar.

Mei: Josephine and I went to high school together. I finished a masters and Josephine dropped out after two years of college. I think she was afraid that she didn't have the brains for it. She was too used to the party life. My husband was always having a go at her about it.

Anyone: I'm sure I saw you and Josephine having a coffee together Bernadette.

Bernadette: Yeah. We met at an acting class and we've been extras a few times in some TV ads. And she often comes to the movies.

Anyone: Marisa's experiments on herself haven't always worked out. Her hair thinned out a lot because of her previous batch of the herbal supplement. She found out afterwards that she has a rare allergy to lemongrass.

Anyone: But she said her new batch looks like being a winner.

Anyone: People say that Vitoria used to be a real snob. She didn't even say hello back if you greeted her. But she's been different since she came back this time.

Anyone: Josephine's father has early onset Alzheimer's. She loved her father, so she's been really upset about it.

Anyone: Mei is one of the partners in a high-tech start-up. They are about to sell their technologies to a major company.

Anyone: Some of the people Monji has been negotiating with to get her hands on her money are on the wanted list by the international war crimes tribunal.

Anyone: Vitoria did work in Africa and Monji knows what she did, but she hasn't told Vitoria this.

Anyone: Before Cora became a personal trainer she was actually convicted for being a hacker.

Anyone: She spent two years in prison but was released early for good behavior.

Anyone: Georgia renovated the old factory next door to the factory where Mei works.

Anyone: Josephine was a part-time receptionist at a complex owned by Bernadette's father.

Anyone: Decima didn't inherit the money she used to set up her nightclub. That's just what she tells people.

Anyone: There were no marks found on Josephine's body. Her fingers are purple and swollen. So she must have touched the poison with her fingers.

Anyone: There was a weird bad smell in the cinema. And it wasn't just because it had been occupied by a bunch of girls eating popcorn.