

presents...

"The Hunt"

Meet and mingle version for 6 to 18 guests

by Laurel Long, Janet Umlauf and Stephanie Chambers



The Overview

A worker in the laundry that washes the linen from a nursing home found a letter amongst the dirty sheets. The letter described where the person had hidden each part of their vast fortune.

The fortune included cash, gold bars, a famous original artwork, the title deed to a building, a precious jewel, a very old violin, and a very valuable coin.

Some investigations have been made at the nursing home and, from the handwriting it appears that the letter was left in the sheets of the recently deceased Sasha Thomas.

We are now in the home of Sasha Thomas. Your job is to un-riddle the clues and to find the treasures.

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Party games for 8 to 100 guests

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12 Participants (Optional but you need some)

Note: These names are deliberately unisex, so they can be played by either gender.

Tate Gurney – I am the Head Nurse at Winterflood Elderly Care Home. I'm truly concerned about all my residents. I try to encourage them to be more health conscious and to take food supplements and vitamins. I am here today to make sure that the other employees – the ones that are greedy and dishonest – don't try to take over this search. **Dress suggestion:** Wear a nurse uniform. Carry a thermometer and/or a vitamin bottle.

Casey Sweeper – I am the janitor at the Winterflood Elderly Care Home. When I was younger, I wanted to be a stand-up comedian, but unfortunately I could never remember the punch lines. I'm not very happy cleaning up after everyone at the nursing home but…hey – it's a job and … tomorrow is another day in which to go "knock knock". **Dress suggestion:** Wear overalls or scruffy clothing. Wear a bandana on your head. Carry a whisk broom and a dust pan or feather duster.

Kendra Drier – I work in the laundry at the Winterflood Elderly Care Home. This joint may have "Happy Days" as its motto, but it doesn't make me very happy. The pay isn't great and I have the hardest job at the nursing home. I deserve any little "extras" that come my way. You should all be patting me on the back – I was the one who found Sasha's letter. **Dress suggestion:** Wear all white. Have your hair tied back or in a hair net.

Sidney Nurd – I am Sasha's former student and star pupil, if I do say so myself. My IQ is off the page. But some say that my social skills are lacking and being a researcher can be pretty lonely. If I had some of Sasha's wealth, then maybe more people would want to be my friend. *Dress suggestion:* Avoid eye contact. Have messy hair and mismatched clothing. Wear glasses. Carry a technical book.

Jaden Reaction – I am Sasha's former lab assistant. I helped test all of Sasha's inventions. It was dangerous work because some of them failed and sometimes they exploded. I really think Sasha owes me for my years of loyalty and I know he would want to reward me if he were here today. *Dress suggestion:* Wear a lab coat. Carry a couple of test tubes. Use makeup to draw a scar on your face.

Vic Pacino – My dad was Sasha's roommate at Winterflood Elderly Care Home. I am here to represent my father. My dad was born in Italy and he's worked hard to support us but he's never gotten the wealth he deserves. My dad had to put up with Sasha going on and on about his wealth and his inventions. I am here for dear old dad. **Dress suggestion:** Wear a black leather jacket and look as tough as you can. Add a few tattoos.

Gene Casket – I am a funeral director and Sasha had been paying for many years into a funeral plan with us. He's going to get the best send off we can possibly give him. My dad, bless his soul, went to school with Sasha so I've known the family for many years. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a black suit. Maybe hand out fake business cards as there are a few potential customers here (ie elderly people).

Francis Shuffle – I've been living across the hall from Sasha at Winterflood for a while now. It is sad to see him go. I've always tried to be a true friend for him. And even though a couple of times he told me I drove him crazy...I know deep down that he appreciated me and that he would want me to find some of his treasure. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a gray wig, casual slacks, a shirt and a cardigan sweater and bedroom slippers. If you can, bring a cane or a walker.

Lane Nosey – I am Sasha's next-door neighbor, not at the elderly home, but here in the street where he used to live. I have lived next door to him for 42 years. I KNOW things...I HEAR things...but I only speak the truth. He was a danger to the entire neighborhood – what with his experiments and all. So I really want to know what is hidden inside this house. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a gray crazy wig and old-fashioned clothes that don't match each other. Carry a cell phone.

Shae O'Neil – I am a lay preacher at Sasha's church. Now he certainly wasn't the most faithful person in our church. But I always tried to keep in touch with him and to encourage him to do right. He had a good heart and I feel that I need to be here for the reading of the will to be sure everything is handled appropriately. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a collared shirt and a sweater vest. Carry a Bible.

Fallon Edison – I am a fellow inventor...actually Sasha was my nemesis, my chief rival. I always wanted to be like my famous ancestor. When we were younger we were always racing to be the first to the patent office with our inventions. I am here because I was cheated out of fame and fortune – I was always a day late and dollar short. I deserve to find some of this treasure. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a lab coat and outlandish glasses. Carry a book containing drawings of your inventions.

Reese Pette – Sasha was my uncle. I am a veterinarian. I love animals. I don't want Uncle Sasha's money for myself. I need the money to help fund my orphanage for homeless animals. Someone needs to care for them. *Dress suggestions:* Wear dressy casual. Carry some toy animals or dog toys.

6 Experts (Optional but recommended)

Note: These names are deliberately unisex, so they can be played by either gender.

Art Hoffer – I am Sasha's lawyer. My parents were penny pinchers growing up, because they watched their parents struggle during the Great Depression. Therefore, I developed a fascination with both wealth and poverty. As a lawyer, I am quite well off, and I like to make sure others know it. Rich clients such as Sasha are the mainstay of my business. **Dress suggestions:** Wear expensive and fancy clothes. Carry a wad of money in your pocket and have it peeking out.

Corrie McDougal – I am a gem expert. I am from Scotland and thus have a thick accent. I earned a B.Sc. in geology with a minor in fine arts from Edinburgh University and a Graduate Gemologist Diploma from Idar-Oberstein in Germany. I am a member of many jewelry, geology and historical societies. I especially like stones that have been formed in exquisite shapes. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a broach and a tartan kilt. If possible carry a magnifying glass. Bring some cheap gemstones if you can.

Drew Cohen – I am a building expert. As a young child, I loved building with Lincoln logs. This love never subsided. After becoming an architect; I went to law school, becoming a consultant on building construction and defects. I have also studied history extensively. I am especially interested in period architecture. I have a terrible time stopping myself from noticing the building faults, even when I am out walking. **Dress suggestions:** Dress in a suit. Carry a briefcase. If possible carry a model of a building.

Marty Bloom – I am an art appraiser, advisor, and writer. I also personally resell the valuable art I collect. I have written columns for magazines over the years regarding the collection of art. I have also acted as a consultant for art museums around the U.S. However, my knowledge of art covers up the fact that I wish someone would pay me something for the art I create in my spare time to show they appreciate it. *Dress suggestions:* Wear an apron over your clothes that have been scattered with paint. Also don a beret and carry a paint palette or color chart. And/or carry art books.

Mel Gerber – I am a violin expert. I am from the New England area of the United States. As a teenager, I apprenticed with an Italian neighbor who taught me the craft of violin making. I later went to college to study music and history, eventually becoming a consultant to musical instrument designers. I have given lectures on violins extensively throughout the world. The highlight of my career was serving as a craftsmanship judge for the Violin Society of America competitions. *Dress suggestions:* If possible carry a violin or violin case. If not carry a pitchfork or similar and/or a small woodworking tool of some kind.

Avery Smidt – I am a coin expert. I am from Berlin in Germany and have been fascinated by coins ever since I was a child and used to collect them from neighbors. I eventually went on to study math and to subsequently learn the science of numismatics (the study of money). Today I have my own coin valuation firm and keep an updated website regarding coin collection around the globe. I keep my skills in coin grading by using the strike (imprinting) method as well as by examining a coin's surface. **Dress suggestions:** Wear eyeglasses and a pocket protector if you can. Carry a calculator and a magnifying glass. Carry some coins.

The Participants (all are optional)

Tate Gurney
Casey Sweeper
Kendra Drier
Sidney Nurd
Jaden Reaction
Vic Pacino
Gene Casket
Francis Shuffle

Lane Nosey

Shae O'Neil

Fallon Edison

Reese Pette

Experts (all are optional)

Art Hoffer Lawyer

Corrie McDougal
Gem Expert

Drew Cohen Building Expert

Marty Bloom
Art Expert

Mel Gerber Violin Expert

Avery Smidt Coin Expert

"The Hunt"

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These are the:

Clues

"The Hunt"

Clue page for the participants or experts

Print as many copies as you need. Staple a copy of their name tag here

What I know

Staple their questions and/or answers here

What I need to do

1 Talk to everyone, not just the experts and tell them what you know and find out what they know.

"The Hunt"

Special Item A:

Questions and Answers

Give each participant or expert either one question or an answer (or more). During the party, they must find the person with the matching question or answer. They can do this by mingling or you can gather everyone in a circle and go around have each person say their question or answer and then have those listening say if they have the corresponding question or answer. You may like to give a prize to the first people who find their match.

No.	Question	Answer
1	What was one invention of Sasha's that wasn't popular?	Sasha invented an alarm clock that bangs a person on the head to wake them up.
2	What was one of Sasha's first inventions? It could have caused people to drown.	Earlier in his career Sasha created a Ferris wheel that partly went underwater. This was taken off the market after several riders became stuck underwater.
3	What was Sasha's most important invention?	Sasha invented a machine for older people or those injured/ill that allows one to bite down and a tube will place more food either in their stomach or their mouth, depending on what type it is. This was Sasha's main invention.
4	I heard Sasha's family was somehow involved with slavery in the U.S. Can you tell me more about this?	Sasha's English ancestors made money by shipping slaves from Africa to the US.
5	What were Sasha's favorite munchies growing up?	Sasha's had a favorite secret snack; it was squid balls and black rice cake.
6	Did Sasha have any brothers and sisters?	Sasha had a brother and sister.
7	What was Sasha's favorite book?	Sasha liked to read many things, but his all-time favorite books are "The Where's Waldo?" collection. He also really liked mysteries, especially by such authors as Mary Higgins Clark and Stephen King, to name a couple.
8	How did Sasha promote his inventions?	Sasha was a bit shy about talking with strangers, but as he needed to promote his inventions, he really didn't have a choice. He was on television several times promoting them on infomercials, and even went on tour on one occasion promoting his main invention, the on-demand feeding tube.

9	Why didn't Sasha leave all his money to his children?	Sasha was no longer speaking to either of them, and besides, he wanted to create a way that he would be remembered after his death.
10	What did Sasha spend his money on after he started earning it?	Sasha was careful to spend as little as possible of his money as it rolled in from his inventions. He even went for periods of time eating only oatmeal heated on his radiator.
11	What was Sasha's odd dinner ritual?	Sasha preferred to eat dessert before dinner "meal" food.
12	What item did Sasha spend two days and nights looking around his home for?	Sasha once spent two days and nights searching his home for a 32 cent stamp he misplaced.
13	Find out what disposophobia and how it relates to Sasha.	Sasha had a fear of getting rid of items, even useless ones, from his house.
14	What happened when Sasha once got pulled over for speeding?	Sasha once got pulled over for speeding when he was late for an invention show. He was driving without any shoes, because he said his feet were overheated.
15	Was Sasha ever married?	Sasha was married for a few years to his good childhood friend.
16	Did Sasha have any children?	Sasha's wife, Kim, gave birth to two children, but Sasha no longer keeps in touch with them.
17	As a child, what did Sasha want to be when he "grew up"?	Sasha dreamed of becoming a pirate as a child.
18	What happened to Sasha's children?	Sasha's son, Lucas, went on to become a surfer and owns a surf shop near a Delaware, USA beach. Sasha's daughter, Marie acts as a fairy in an amusement park.
19	Why did Sasha not keep in touch with his son, Lucas?	Sasha got in a fight with his son Lucas over his career choice. Lucas became a professional surfer. Sasha thought he should have studied more.
20	How wealthy was the family Sasha grew up in?	Sasha's parents were both quite poor; indeed, his mother did not make much money working as a tattoo artist, and his father only barely covered his expenses as a farmer.
21	Who was Sasha's closest friend growing up? What was their relationship?	Sasha was close with a girl named Kim growing up. He and Kim hung out all the time, even eventually marrying for a few years.
22	Describe Sasha's first date with Kim – the woman who later became his wife.	On Sasha's first date with Kim, he picked her up borrowing a friend's car. He accidentally ran a red light and he received a huge fine.
23	Why did Sasha not keep in touch with his daughter, Marie?	Sasha threatened to stop speaking to his daughter if she got her belly button pierced, which she went ahead and did, seeing as it would fit in with her job as a fairy.
24	What happened to Sasha's brother and sister?	Sasha's brother, Joel, went on to become a chimney sweeper, while his sister, Kate, became a professional wrestler. Sasha didn't get on with them.

25	Where did Sasha live most of his life?	Sasha was raised in West Texas but he moved to Chicago as an adult.
26	What did Sasha help invent at college?	Sasha helped invent a game called "Humans vs. Zombies", where students would run around "tagging" each other with nerf guns (foam balls) to turn all the "humans" into "zombies." Sasha's college put a hiatus on the game after the president of Liberia came to speak at the school, and the Secret Service had to deal with students running around shooting nerf guns at one another.
27	What did Sasha think of Winterflood Elderly Care?	Sasha didn't have a high opinion of Winterflood Elderly Care, because they were one of the last places to employ use of his feeding tube invention.
28	What did Sasha study in college?	Sasha went to university to study plant biology. From there he got a job teaching high school biology.
29	What is one secret Sasha refused to share with anyone until the day he died?	Sasha refused to tell anyone just how rich he was until the day of his passing, when he breathed out the words, "400 million" under his breath to the nurse.
30	What is one secret Sasha took with him to his grave?	Sasha never told anyone that up until the day he died he was afraid to sleep in the dark. At Winterflood Elderly Care, there was a small fluorescent light in his room that was never turned off.
31	What was Sasha's best vacation experience?	Sasha once went to Ireland. He loved swapping stories with the locals. He also ended up seeing the comedian Dave Allen perform, which was hugely exciting for him.
32	What was the most daring thing Sasha ever did?	When Sasha was in Ireland, he decided he would attempt to perform stand-up comedy himself. He made up material on the spot about both plant biology and being an inventor.
33	What was Sasha's favorite game to play in the nursing home?	Sasha liked to roll his wheelchair down the halls, and play hide-and-seek with the staff and visitors.
34	How did Sasha die?	Sasha died of a heart attack at the stroke of midnight.
35	Why did Sasha leave the letter describing where his money was left?	Sasha loved mysteries like those written by Stephen King, and he wanted to leave his Will in a mysterious form so it would provide a good mystery for whoever found it. He thought the nurses would see his letter, but they didn't so it ended up in the laundry.
36	What was Sasha's favorite holiday?	Sasha's favorite holiday was April Fool's Day. He both enjoyed tricking others and having pranks played on him. His best trick was probably sticking a realistic looking cardboard hand in the classroom door of the high school he taught at, which definitely made students shriek as they passed.
37	What did the high school students that Sasha taught think of him?	Most of them thought he was a tad eccentric, but they also liked that about him. They liked it when he attended the school dances, because he loved to do the electric slide.

38	What was Sasha's favorite part of being in the Winterflood Elderly Care?	The one thing Sasha really liked about Winterflood was that he got to use his own tubing device during his final days.
39	Why did Sasha opt to go to Winterflood Elderly Care rather than some other nursing home?	Sasha chose Winterflood not because he believed they would take the best care of him, but because they were the cheapest of all the homes he researched.
40	What was Sasha's favorite animal and why?	Sasha's favorite animal was the giraffe because its long neck reminded him of his tubing device.
41	What happened at Sasha's fortieth birthday party?	Sasha's friends decided to throw him a surprise party for his fortieth birthday. Unfortunately, they were in such a rush making the preparations that they baked one of his precious jewels into a piece of birthday cake.
42	What did Sasha once draw a picture of at the nursing home?	Once, when Sasha was bored, he doodled a drawing of an octopus. This drawing was hung up in his room by one of the staff members. Sasha was proud of it the way a young child would be.
43	What did Sasha do after he retired?	Sasha spent his retirement time looking through all the stuff he was keeping in his house, especially reading through old, dusty newspapers and books. He was also reading up on famous and not-so-famous inventors, and attempting to invent a cake decorating machine.
44	What was Sasha's favorite piece of clothing and why?	Sasha has always held onto a cardigan sweater of a woman he dated briefly after his divorce named Patty. He never wore it, but did like to smell its strong vanilla-ish whiff.
45	What was Sasha's favorite breakfast food and how was it cooked in the nursing home?	Sasha liked to eat six scrambled eggs for breakfast. Although he never got high cholesterol due to his family heritage, the nursing home staff worried he would, so they cooked him egg whites and added turmeric as coloring.
46	What was Sasha's favorite dinner meal?	Sasha most enjoyed a hearty meal of fried rabbit liver.
47	What were some of Sasha's favorite ways to spend time?	Sasha liked decorating cakes and riding his bike to flea markets and yard sales, attempting to get good deals.
48	Are Sasha's brother and sister still alive?	Sasha's brother got stuck in a chimney and died. Sasha's sister died only a few weeks before Sasha's death. She had been wrestling with the other nursing home patients and accidentally broke her neck.
49	What was Sasha's relationship to animals?	When Sasha was in his thirties, he befriended a pit-bull he named Misery (after the Stephen King novel), eventually saving him from having to go to the pound and adopting him as his own. He was the inspiration for an invention of Sasha's where he created a feeding dish that plays music as the animal eats.

50	Why did Sasha and his wife get	Kim didn't want to brush her teeth one night before going to
	divorced?	bed. Sasha told her he could still see a piece of spinach in her
		teeth, but she still refused to brush and he thought this was
		outrageous so he divorced her.

"The Hunt"

Special Item B: Sasha Thomas' Letter

To be read out by Sasha's the host.

- 1. I am now going to read out each section of Sasha's letter. Here is the first part, this will help you to find where Sasha hid some cash: "Water, water, every where, Nor any drop to drink". This is a line from the Samuel Taylor Coleridge poem "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner. If necessary, write this down. "But, what you are looking for is not hidden in water". (Host, see "The Location Answers" section at the back of this kit.)
- 2. Here is the second clue. This will help you find where Sasha hid his gold bars: "Everything but the..... (dot, dot, dot)" Or "You won't drown, but you might (dot, dot, dot). If necessary, write this down. (Host, see "The Location Answers" section at the back of this kit.)
- 3. I am handing out *Special Item D*. Read it carefully. This will help you work out which original artwork Sasha owned. (If there is an art expert present, you may ask him or her to read the report to the group.) The third clue is written at the top of the report: The painting that is different from the others is not related to The Netherlands. (Host, see "The Answers" section at the back of this kit.)
 - Give whoever works this out this additional clue to find where the title deed to this particular building is hidden: "Paintings get hung but not in this". Tell them to write this down. If they can't work it out, the others can help them. Later on, if they need a hint, say "Think about where you hang other things". (Host, see "The Location Answers" section at the back of this kit.)
- 4. I am handing out *Special Item E*. Read it carefully. This will help you to work out the building for which Sasha had a title deed. (*If there is a building expert present, you may ask him or her to read the report to the group.*) The forth clue is written at the top of the report: "One of its kind and an alloy of carbon and iron". (Host, see "The Answers" section at the back of this kit.)
 - Give whoever works this out this additional clue to find where the title deed to this particular building is hidden: "Round, oblong or square". Tell them to write this down. If they can't work it out, the others can help them Later on, if they need a hint, say "You buy something to put on top of them in these shapes". (Host, see "The Location Answers" section at the back of this kit.)
- 5. I am handing out *Special Item F*. Read it carefully. This will help you work out which valuable jewel Sasha owned. (*If there is a jewel expert present, you may ask him or her to read the report to the group.*) The fifth clue is written at the top of the report: "Sans boutenoire". (Host, see "*The Answers*" section at the back of this kit.)
 - Give whoever works this out this additional clue to find where this particular valuable jewel is hidden: "in with the cubes that are sometimes colorful". Tell them to write this down. If they can't work it out, the others can help them. (Host, see "*The Location Answers*" section at the back of this kit.)

- 6. I am handing out *Special Item G*. Read it carefully. This will help you work out which valuable violin Sasha owned. (If there is a violin expert present, you may ask him or her to read the report to the group.) The sixth clue is written at the top of the report: "Greek letters". (Host, see "The Answers" section at the back of this kit.)
 - Give whoever works this out this additional clue to find where this particular valuable violin is hidden: "Easy on the body like the violin is easy on the ear". Tell them to write this down. If they can't work it out, the others can help them. (Host, see "The Location Answers" section at the back of this kit.)
- 7. I am handing out *Special Item H*. Read it carefully. This will help you work out which valuable coin Sasha owned. (*If there is a coin expert present, you may ask him or her to read the report to the group.*) The seventh clue is written at the top of the report: "A comet has a similar name". (Host, see "*The Answers*" section at the back of this kit.)

Give whoever works this out this additional clue to find where this particular valuable coin is hidden: "Fornax". Tell them to write this down. If they can't work it out, the others can help them. (Host, see "The Location Answers" section at the back of this kit.)

"The Hunt"

Special Item C:

Last Will and Testament of Sasha Thomas

To be read out by Sasha's lawyer if present. If he/she is not present, someone else must read it out.

This Will dated August 26 1999 is made by me, Sasha Thomas of 2560 Ashland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, United States of America.

I revoke all previous wills and codicils made by me.

I appoint my friend Phillip Adams, 4067 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, USA to be the executor of my will.

I give one million dollars to my son Lucas. He runs a surf store. However, he is to receive the money as a yearly stipend of twenty-five thousand dollars through a trust fund administered by my accountant Garrison Garnet. I give one million dollars to my daughter Marie. She acts as a fairy. However, she is to receive the money as a yearly stipend of twenty-five thousand dollars through a trust fund administered by my accountant Garrison Garnet.

I leave the rest of my estate to whoever finds it.

"The Hunt"

Special Item D:

Art Expert's Report

To be read out by an art expert (or someone else). This is optional. You can just have everyone read it for themselves if you prefer.

The clue relates to a painting: What makes this painting different from the others is not related to the artist being from The Netherlands. Here are the details of four paintings. Which one of these paintings matches the clue?

Painting 1: Estimated value: \$45 million



Name: Old Man With A Gold Chain (1631)

Artist: Rembrandt Harmensz van Rijn, Dutch 1606 – 1669 He is one of the greatest painters in European art history.

Painting 2: Estimated value: \$30 million



Name: Woman At Her Toilette (1875/80)

Artist: Berthe Morisot, French 1841 – 1895

She was an Impressionist. Her family was supportive of her artistic endeavors even though she was a woman.

Painting 3:

Estimated value: \$20 million



Name: Equestrienne (At The Circus Fernando) (1887 – 88)

Artist: Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, French 1864 – 1901

He made use of colorful themes and theatrical life in his artwork and he had a talent for unsentimentally capturing people in their environment.

Painting 4:

Estimated value: \$100 million



Name: Woman At The Piano (1875/76)

Artist: Pierre-Auguste Renoir, French, 1841 – 1919

He was a French artist and a leading painter in the development of the Impressionist style. He was able to paint quite quickly, one summer creating 15 paintings in a month.

Extra take-home information not needed to solve the clue:

Rembrandt: Having achieved youthful success as a portrait painter, his later years were marked by personal tragedy and financial hardship. For 20 years he taught nearly every important Dutch painter. His self-portraits were without vanity. Because of his empathy for the human condition, he's been called "one of the great prophets of civilization."

Morisot: She had her first piece of work shown at the Salon de Paris at the age of 23. She became good friends with the painter Édouard Manet. The subjects of Morisot's work, were, of course, influenced by the restrictions Morisot experienced as a woman in her time period. For example, she focused on domestic life and nursery trends, while avoiding urban street design and nude figures.

Toulouse-Lautrec: He inherited a condition that predisposed him to break many bones. Because of this, he ended up immersing himself in his art. He was influenced by Japanese art.

Renoir: He also painted the portrait of the well-known composer Richard Wagner in just 35 minutes! Renior proclaimed himself to be one of the great worshippers of the female form. He also often painted children in unspecific settings.