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# Merri Mysteries

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Party games for 8 to 100 guests

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*presents...*

## “Mystery In The Library”

Standard version  
for 10 males

*by Stephanie Chambers*

Second edition

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## The Suspects

The other night in the library, when many characters were out of their books enjoying a sojourn in the night air, a crime was committed, grim and grave, right in our own library. As a result his Majesty Henry VIII – that famous monarch from the English history books – has disappeared. Gathered are the characters who were present in the library at the time of the nasty deed. Fortunately Master Sherlock Holmes is here to investigate, so the perpetrator of this heinous crime will no doubt be revealed as the night proceeds.

**Master Sherlock Holmes** (from *Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle) I am a man with such superior detective skills that I have become world famous. Nothing goes unnoticed by me. I already know a lot about each of the suspects, just from looking at their appearance. I am not a great reader of fiction. I prefer to do chemical experiments and I also play the violin. Did any of you happen to steal my lighter from me? I seem to be missing it ever since my visit to the library last night. Was the King a thief? Do you think he stole my lighter? I am really missing my pipe. I can't use it without my lighter. This certainly does not seem like a normal case. Things are not what they seem. It is more like the Mr Angel case. You may like to read about it in my diary, if you get time. *Dress suggestions:* Dress in old-fashioned clothes, carry a magnifying glass and a pipe.

**Huck Finn** (from *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain) I'm a good boy – honest. Me Pap – he kidnapped me and kept me in a cabin. I escaped. But before I left, I killed me a pig and made it look like I'd been murdered. Then I hid on Jackson Island, but I found out I wasn't alone – Miss Watson's, Jim, had run away. So we floated down the river on a raft at night and slept and fished all day. I got separated from Jim and I stayed with a family that was feuding with them neighbors. But Jim found me and we escaped from them thank God. Then we got mixed up with some con artists – the Duke and the King we called 'em cause they pretended to be royals so we'd wait on them. But King Henry was a worse King than the one in my book. "He used to marry a new wife every day, and chop off her head next morning. And he would do it just liken he was ordering eggs." "Fetch up Nell Glynn", he says. They fetch her up. Next morning, "Chop off her head!" And they chop it off. "Fetch up Jane.." and so on. King Henry kept trying to latch on to me and Oliver, said we could be his sons, but we wouldn't have a part of it. *Dress suggestions:* As a country bumpkin with bits of hay sticking out of your clothes & a beaten up old hat. Wear old rags, made out of bags.

**Pinocchio** (from *Pinocchio* by Carlo Lorenzini - penname Carlo Collodi retold by James Riordan) When I was a puppet I lied a lot, but the Good Fairy taught me not to and to be good. 'How stupid I was as a puppet. And how glad I am to be a real live boy.' When I lied my nose became so long I 'could not move without banging it against the walls or door.' Geppetto sold his coat to buy me a spelling book for school. I sold it to go to the puppet theatre. Then I saved a puppet from being burnt by the showman and the showman gave me coins for my father. A fox and a cat told me they could multiply my money in "The Field of Miracles". A bird and the ghost of the cricket tried to warn me not to. The evil fox and cat hung me in a tree to die, but the Good Fairy saved me. But I still let them fool me into burying my money so it would grow. They stole it. Later I became a donkey and ended up rescuing Geppetto from the belly of a whale with the help of the Good Fairy. King Henry thought that I was a silly puppet and he tried to fool me into being his slave. But the Good Fairy warned me that he was an evil man. *Dress suggestions:* A red jacket with a white frill-necked shirt. Make a pencil nose out of cardboard.

**Peter Pan** (from *Peter and Wendy* by Sir James Matthew Barry) I live on an island inhabited by pirates, mermaids, fairies and Indians. On the island there are lots of fairies like Tinkerbell. "When the first baby laughed for the very first time, the laugh broke into a thousand pieces and they all went skipping about and that was the beginning of the fairies." I taught the three children of the Darling family to fly so they could return with me to the island. We were trying to stop the evil pirate Captain Hook from going about his wicked ways. Then Captain Hook plotted to do away with me and he captured Wendy Darling, but I was able to save her. There is also a crocodile that follows us about that has a clock inside his belly going tick, tick, tick. King Henry was impressed with my victory over Captain Hook. *Dress suggestions:* A green cap, a green outfit and a toy sword.

**Wizard of Oz** (from *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L Frank Baum) To get to my place you follow the yellow brick road. People think that I can accomplish anything. Dorothy and her friends came to see me. The Scarecrow was amongst them. He was in search of a brain. They all expected me to wave a magic wand and to solve their problems for them. Instead I told them that they must first prove themselves worthy by bringing me the broomstick of the Wicked Witch before I would grant their requests. They succeeded and I pointed out to them that they already possessed what they sought. They just had to start using their abilities. King Henry was jealous of my supposed abilities. He wanted to be able to do anything himself. *Dress suggestions:* A wizard's outfit with stars and the moon on it and with a long pointy hat.

**Robin Hood** (from *Robin Hood* by various authors) I am a wealthy man who has been forced to become a thief. I steal from the rich and give to the poor. The poor of England were being asked for too many taxes. The taxes were required to fund various political battles overseas. I simply gave back to the poor the money that they had had unfairly taken away from them in the first place. Little John and I met on a plank across a river. But he would not let me pass. He is a very portly but strong. He did not see why he should make way for me and so we did battle. He used his staff, but I was victorious in our skirmish. Afterwards, he came to know me and to be one of my main supporters.

*Dress suggestions:* Dress in period clothes, a cape and a mask.

**Frankenstein's Monster** (from *Frankenstein* by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley) Frankenstein gathered various body parts from graveyards and the like in his quest to create me as a living being. Even though he had spent so much time and effort creating me, he found me so horrible he ran in revolt. The night he gave me life, he said "I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature open; it breathed hard, and a convulsive motion agitated its limbs". I reeked of the dead that had been used to create me. I met King Henry in the library. It was by no means a pleasure. King Henry was not a civilized man. In all of my interactions with him, I found him detestable – almost as detestable as people found me as a monster. *Dress suggestions:* Wear clothes that look stitched together and draw some stitches on your brow.

**Aladdin** (from *The Adventures of Aladdin* by various authors) I met a 'mysterious stranger who said he would pay me a silver penny if I went down a manhole for him'. I found myself in a 'large chamber... (filled with) pots of gold.' '...bring me the lamp!' he said. When I hesitated, he left me in there, dropping his ring in the chamber as he did so. Terrified, I put the ring on my finger and 'twisted it round and round'. 'Suddenly a great genie...appeared', and said he was at my command. I told the genie I wanted 'to go home' and immediately I found myself there. I told my mother of my adventures. She was a little disappointed I had returned with only the old oil lamp. But she started to polish it and 'out shot another genie'. He said that we had set him 'free after centuries' and that he would be our servant. Things went pretty well after that and I married a beautiful princess. King Henry was jealous of my having a genie and even though he was already wealthy, he ordered me to give me to him but I refused. *Dress suggestions:* Wear middle eastern clothes (eg baggy trousers). Add sequins and jewels.

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**Oliver Twist** (from *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens) At the workhouse, I lived on "the smallest portion of the weakest food possible." Then I was apprenticed to the undertaker. One of his workers taunted me about my dead mother, so I ran away to London. The people I lodged with turned out to be none other than a gang of thieves, but I did not realize it till later. I saw them picking the pocket of a gentleman, but I ended up being taken as the culprit of the crime. Fortunately, a witness spoke in my favor. The gentleman who was robbed treated me kindly. But then, I was kidnapped by the thieves and held their prisoner. Another kind family came to my aid and, it was discovered... Let's just say that with "gratitude to that Being whose code is Mercy" I am now the adopted son of the gentleman. But people say I am "still the same gentle, attached, affectionate creature". King Henry was a bloodthirsty tyrant who always got what he wanted, but "thinking it might be dangerous to express (my) feelings more openly", I said nothing. He said he wished he'd had a son like me rather than the delicate Prince Edward, but how could I trust a man who killed not only his enemies, but his wives as well. *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a pauper with lots of holes in your clothes and grime. A bit of soot on your face would not go astray.

**Don Quixote** (from *Don Quixote of the Mancha* by Miguel de Cervantes) I am a knight-errant. I go throughout the land "offering... (myself) to occasions and dangers, which, being once happily achieved, might gain ...(me) eternal renown". I am also fulfilling my duty to mankind. I do it all for my "Dulcinea de Toboso" "O lady of all beauty! courage and vigor of my weakened heart!" "Mine office and exercise is, to go throughout the world righting of wrongs and undoing of injuries". In one adventure I came upon some men carrying the image of a "beautiful lady, whose tears and pitiful semblance clearly denote(d) that ... (they) carry her away against her will." I lay my hand upon my sword and "assaulted the image carriers; one whereof... came to encounter... (me) with a wooden fork" and I was "overthrown to the ground and extremely bruised." King Henry failed to appreciate the velour of a knight such as I. He had the audacity to tell me to "get out of his way and go attack a windmill". *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a knight with swords and armor and the like. Make it over the top as you can.

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Name Tags



Master Sherlock  
Holmes

Huck  
Finn

Pinocchio

Peter  
Pan

Wizard  
of Oz

Robin  
Hood

Frankenstein's  
Monster

Aladdin

Oliver  
Twist

Don  
Quixote

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

## **'Mystery in the Library'**

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the clues for:*

# *Master Sherlock Holmes*

During this act you must ask the characters these questions:

<b>Huck Finn</b>	So the King wanted you as a son did he? Didn't he know what a rascal you are?
<b>Pinocchio</b>	So how did you stop King Henry from making you his slave?
<b>Peter Pan</b>	So you and King Henry used to discuss war strategies?
<b>Wizard of Oz</b>	So King Henry was jealous of you Wizard?
<b>Robin Hood</b>	So it was a political battle between you and King Henry?
<b>Frankenstein's Monster</b>	How did you get on with the King?
<b>Aladdin</b>	So you refused to give the King your genie. How did he take that news?
<b>Oliver Twist</b>	So you came to Pinocchio's assistance?
<b>Don Quixote</b>	What did you do when King Henry rebuked your friendship?

## Master Sherlock Holmes - Act Two

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During this act you must ask the characters these questions:

- Huck Finn** And what did King Henry want you to do for him?
- Pinocchio** So did you get to turn King Henry into a donkey?
- Peter Pan** How did you plan to defeat King Henry?
- Wizard of Oz** What did you do when King Henry asked you to create a new role in his book for him?
- Robin Hood** King Henry disliked you, but did you really want to be rid of him?
- Frankenstein's Monster** And how did you stop the King from annoying you?
- Aladdin** So why did you let yourself be robbed of the lamp when the Wizard had warned you?
- Oliver Twist** So how did you deal with King Henry if you were afraid of him?
- Don Quixote** When did the duel take place? And what happened leading up to the duel?

## Master Sherlock Holmes - Act Three

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During this act you must ask the characters these questions:

- Huck Finn** So did King Henry get his wishes granted?
- Pinocchio** How come we haven't found a donkey in place of the King?
- Peter Pan** Which skill did you use against King Henry?
- Wizard of Oz** What did you find out about King Henry?
- Robin Hood** So did you and your men slay Henry?
- Frankenstein's Monster** So what happened when you met the King to show him what you had made?
- Aladdin** Did you banish the King to a dungeon? I overheard the librarians saying that the sprinklers had come on in the library today. They had to blow dry the books. Was your genie the cause of that?
- Oliver Twist** What happened when you led King Henry into the narrow room?
- Don Quixote** And what happened during the duel?

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

# “Mystery in the Library”

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the clues for:*

# *Huck Finn*

During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 I don't know. 'The widow said I was coming along slow but sure and doing very satisfactory. She said she warn't ashamed of me.'
- 2 I didn't want to cause no trouble, so at first I 'always called him 'Your Majesty' and ... didn't set down in his presence till he asked..' me to.
- 3 'This done him heaps of good, and so he got cheerful and comfortable' and it made me feel 'mighty good over it, because it would have been a miserable business to have any unfriendliness'.
- 4 I admire Robin Hood and we are friends. He told me what he thought of King Henry and I started to agree with him.
- 5 The King asked me if I would like to do a little fencing with him, so we clanged our swords about a bit and seeing as I was angry with him, I was determined to win.
- 6 The King, being round in the belly like a pig, was pretty easy to beat, so I ended up whacking the sword into his middle. But it was a blunt sword, so it didn't draw blood or anything.
- 7 Now the King thought that he should always win. So when I whipped him, he became hotter than a piece of chili.
- 8 I thought he was going to kill me. 'And me a shaking all over and ready to sink down in my tracks I was that scared'. Anyway, he made me promise to help him.



## Huck Finn - Act Two

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During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 King Henry said he wanted me to get Aladdin to play a game of billiards.
- 2 I guessed it was so that Aladdin would have to put down his lamp in order to play.
- 3 The King wanted Aladdin's genie, so he came up from behind a bookcase where we were playing and stole the lamp.
- 4 I didn't like helping the King with his mischief, but I knew that Aladdin could rub the ring on his finger and ask his other genie to get his lamp back.
- 5 But as soon as the King got the lamp he rubbed it and asked the genie for his wishes, even before Aladdin had realized it was gone.
- 6 The King asked the genie for three wishes and all three of them were as evil as could be.
- 7 I was sick to death of doing the King's evil deeds for him, so I came up with a plan to stop the King being able to come out of his book. It involved using the tools in the library repair room in a way which would have horrified the librarians.

## Huck Finn - Act Three

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During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 I'm not sure. As it turned out, I got an opportunity to sort the King out myself.
- 2 The King was so pleased that he'd stolen Aladdin's lamp, so he said he'd let me rub the lamp and make a wish.
- 3 I told the King I wanted to make a wish in private, so he blocked his ears while I wished.
- 4 I told the genie to turn King Henry into a really delicious meat pie so that I could eat him for my dinner. I was hungry and I was trying to get two wishes out of one.
- 5 The genie said that he would see to it, but that it wouldn't happen immediately.
- 6 The next night Robin Hood turned up with a meat pie he'd made for me. I ate every little drop of that pie. It tasted mighty good. We've never seen King Henry from that day on, so who knows, maybe I really did eat him.

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

# **'Mystery in the Library'**

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the clues for:*

# *Pinocchio*

During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 I told him that if he wasn't careful, I would ask the Good Fairy to turn him into a donkey so he could carry my loads.
- 2 The King kept giving me things to carry for him. I said that lazy people were often turned into donkeys, but he just laughed.
- 3 The other thing the King did which annoyed me was that he kept on pulling my nose. Just because it's long, it doesn't mean people should pull on it. When I told him to stop doing that, he told me little boys should be seen and not heard. Fortunately you came to my aid, didn't you Oliver and you told King Henry to stop pulling my nose.
- 4 My father Geppetto had sold the coat from his back to help me out, but I knew that the King wasn't like that. He was a very selfish man. Very selfish indeed.
- 5 Frankenstein's Monster and I were friends and we used to play together in the library. The King kept scowling at us and telling us not to make so much noise.

## Pinocchio - Act Two

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During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 I asked the Good Fairy if she could help me to turn King Henry into a donkey.
- 2 She said that it was true that you can do this to people ‘who spend their time only in games and idleness.’
- 3 But Frankenstein’s Monster said he had an even better plan.
- 4 I didn’t think I should leave you to do all the work to others, so I started work on my donkey plan.
- 5 Early in the evening, I went in search of the lady with the blue hair again because she is my Good Fairy.
- 6 I know that others think that by locking up King Henry they have removed him, but a man like the King would evade such minor chains.

## Pinocchio - Act Three

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During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 It doesn’t happen all at once. It takes time to turn someone into a donkey.
- 2 At first just their ears turn into donkey ears. It is very embarrassing.
- 3 In the process of becoming a donkey, a few hours later your hands and feet become hoofs and then your face changes to a long donkey’s head and your back grows thick gray-black hair.
- 4 Sometimes if you’re good, the Good Fairy changes you back into what you were in the first place.
- 5 Later in the evening, I saw the King and he had the donkey ears but he was hiding them with his woolen cap. He said that he would kill the person who had turned him into a donkey.
- 6 You laughed, didn’t you Peter Pan, when I told you I was going to turn the King into a donkey?
- 7 *(after the Wizard of Oz speaks to you)* I don’t know why the donkey King isn’t still around. I thought you would believe me Wizard, but obviously you don’t.