

CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIME



www.merrimysteries.com



Party games for 8 to 100 guests

CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIME

*presents...*

# “Mystery In The Library”

Play version  
for 10 to 16 guests

*by Stephanie Chambers*

Second edition

Copyright © Acture Pty Ltd 2005

Merri Mysteries is a subsidiary of Acture Pty Ltd.

For further details on **Merri Mysteries** or to order another mystery dinner party kit, see [www.merrimysteries.com](http://www.merrimysteries.com).

See the host's guide for further details on the copyright requirements for this kit.

## 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.

**Alice** (from *Alice's Adventures In Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll) “Wonderland was not my imagination. It was a wonderful dream – a dream filled with strange creatures.” I saw a White Rabbit looking at its watch and I followed it down a rabbit hole. I fell down a deep well, but I fell slowly so I had plenty of time to look at the jars of “Orange Marmalade” and such. I came to a bottle saying “Drink Me”, but “the bottle was not marked poison”, so I drank it. I “shut up like a telescope” till I was only “ten inches high”. Then I found a cake marked “Eat Me” and I ate it and grew very tall. My feet were so far away. *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a little girl with pig tails in your hair and rosy cheeks.

**Huck Finn** (*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain) I'm a good boy – honest. Me Pap – he kidnapped me, but 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 – Jim had run away. So we floated down the river on a raft at night and slept and fished all day. On the way I got mixed up with some con artists – “the Duke and the King” I called 'em cause they pretended to be royals so I'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, why he was a plain villain. He kept trying to latch on to me, said I could be his son, but I wouldn't have a bar of it. *Dress suggestions:* A country bumpkin with bits of hay sticking out of your old clothes and a beaten up old hat.

**Cinderella** (from *Cinderella*) I am a merchant's daughter. Then my mother died and my father remarried a widow with two grown daughters. Alas, when I met them, they treated me as a slave rather than as a step-sister. My step-sisters saw me covered in cinders after cleaning the fireplace and, my name being Ella, they gave me the nickname of “Cinderella”. After working all day on my chores, I often wondered if I would ever be happy again. The ladies of my household were invited to the Duke's ball. But my step-mother said I could not go unless my chores were done.

Fortunately, my Fairy Godmother came to my aid and – well, you all know the rest of the story. King Henry was fascinated by my glass slippers. I think he thought that if I had no slippers, that the Duke's son would not find me in my fairytale and then I would be free to marry him instead.

*Dress suggestions:* Dress like a princess with tinsel/glitter or as a servant covered in cinders.

**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.

**Snow White** (from *Snow White* by The Brothers Grimm) My step-mother was jealous of my beauty and asked a huntsman to do away with me. He took pity on me and let me run away into the forest and I came to the house of the dwarfs. I ate their porridge. They found me later asleep and asked me to stay and take care of them. But I am not a porridge thief like you Goldilocks, I only took a little from each bowl as I was fainting from hunger. And since then I have kept house for them, so I have repaid my debt to them. My step-mother asked her looking-glass ‘Who is the fairest of us all?’ and it told her I was living in the glen. Then my stepmother, plotted to get rid of me. She dressed as an ‘old pedlar woman’ and sold me some lace for my waist. Then she laced me up so tight, I ‘lost ... (my) breath, and fell down as dead.’ Fortunately, the seven dwarfs soon returned and cut the lace in two, so that I could draw breath. The Queen knew I wasn't dead because her mirror told her so, so she came again with a poisoned apple. The dwarfs thought I was dead. A prince saw me and carried me away. Then the apple fell out of my mouth and I came back to life and we married. King Henry kept trying to get me to marry him, but I refused. *Dress suggestions:* Old-fashioned clothes such as a drawstring sash at the waist, puffy sleeves, flouncy skirt. Black hair, red lips, white skin.

**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 Tinkerbelle. “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.

**Little Red Riding Hood** (from *Little Red Riding Hood* by various authors) I was on the way to visit my Grandmother when I met the wolf. We chatted about how I was visiting my Grandmother and I told him where she lived. Then he left me and I went to my Grandmother’s cottage. When I came inside my Grandmother’s cottage, I found that she looked very different from her usual self. The Big Bad Wolf locked my Grandmother in the cupboard. So I said to the Wolf who was sitting in bed dressed in my Grandmother’s nightgown, ‘Why, Granny...what big eyes you have got.’ And the wolf said, ‘The better to see you with, my child,’ imitating her voice. I won’t bore you with the rest as you have probably all heard the story. Most versions of the story end happily with my being saved from the wolf’s clutches by my father and the woodcutters. King Henry and the Big Bad Wolf had a lot in common. They were both men that little girls should stay away from. *Dress suggestions:* A red hooded cape with a dress beneath (possibly also in red). Carry some little cakes or cookies to take to your grandmother.

**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 was a large man. 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.

**Goldilocks** (from *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by various authors) I ate porridge at the bears’ house. The bears hadn’t locked their front door, so that’s permission to eat their porridge, isn’t it? I didn’t get much porridge anyway. Great Big Bear’s porridge was too hot, Middle-sized Bear’s bowl was too cold. So I had to eat Tiny Little Bear’s and his bowl is so small. Then I tried to find a comfortable chair to sit on, but Great Big Bear’s chair

© copyright Acture Pty Ltd 2005

Page 3 of 4

was too hard, Middle-sized Bear’s chair was too soft and Tiny Little Bear’s chair collapsed on me. I was getting tired after all this, so I went upstairs to find a bed to rest on. Great Big Bear’s bed and Middle-sized Bear’s bed both weren’t right for me. But Baby Bear’s tiny bed was perfect, so I got in. I didn’t even take my shoes off. King Henry kept saying I was a spoiled little girl and that if I was his child, he would lock me in the tower. The King had a chair in the library that he liked to sit on. It was large and I suppose it reminded him of his throne. Whenever he found me sitting in it, he got very angry. *Dress suggestions:* Cute little-girl clothes. Tie a ribbon in your golden hair and don a blue dress, a frilly white apron, red shoes and yellow socks.

**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.’ ‘Put out the flame and 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 the room was flooded with a rosy light and a great genie with clasped hands appeared on a cloud’, 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 him my genie but I refused. *Dress suggestions:* Wear middle eastern clothes (eg baggy trousers). Add sequins and jewels.

© copyright Acture Pty Ltd 2005

Page 4 of 4

CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIME

**Merrimysteries**

www.merrimysteries.com



Party games for 8 to 100 guests

CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIMSCENE CRIME

---

## 2 Investigators (optional extra roles)

---

**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. I already know a lot about each of the suspects, just from looking at their appearance. For example, I can tell Alice is a little girl with a very fanciful imagination and Aladdin is from the Far East. But, I am not a great reader of fiction, I prefer to do chemical experiments and I also play the violin. This certainly does not seem like a normal case. 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.

**Dr Watson** (from *Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle) I am a skilled doctor but I am also a bit of a cynic and a non-believer until something is proved true. I have great respect for Sherlock Holmes. *Dress suggestions:* Dress in old-fashioned clothes.

---

## 4 Witnesses (optional extra roles) (but 10 to choose from)

---

**Queen of Hearts** (from *Alice's Adventures In Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll) Oh there is so much to tell – all about the tea cups and my shouting “Off with his head! or “Off with her head” and all the other people Alice met in Wonderland, but it would take too long. Alice comes into the library and looks at the children’s books. *Dress suggestions:* Wear white & stick big red cardboard hearts on your clothes.

**White Rabbit** (from *Alice's Adventures In Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll) ‘Silence in the court!’ I am a very busy rabbit. “Oh dear! Oh dear! I shall be late!” *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a white rabbit. Wear a waistcoat and have a pocket-watch hanging out of it. Consult it often. Also wear spectacles. Add a white fluffy bottom and some rabbit ears.

**Mad Hatter** (from *Alice's Adventures In Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll) ‘If you knew Time as well as I do,’ you wouldn't talk about wasting IT. It's HIM.’ ‘It's always tea-time, and we've no time to wash the things between whiles.’ *Dress suggestions:* Wear a very large hat. Also carry a pocket watch in your waistcoat and a tea cup. Dunk the watch in the cup from time to time. Ask riddles you don't know the answer to.

---

---

**The Fairy Godmother** (from *Cinderella*) After working all day on her chores, Cinderella often wondered if she would ever be happy again. The ladies of her household were invited to the Duke’s ball. But Cinderella’s step-mother said she could not go unless her chores were done. Fortunately, I came to Cinderella’s aid and – well, you all know the rest of the story. *Dress suggestions:* Dress like a fairy complete with wings and a wand with which to grant wishes.

---

**The Queen** (from *Snow White* by The Brothers Grimm) I dressed as an ‘old pedlar woman’ and sold Snow White some lace for her waist. Then I laced her up so tight, she ‘lost ... (her) breath, and fell down as dead.’ Unfortunately, the seven dwarfs soon returned and cut the lace in two, so that she could draw breath. I knew she wasn’t dead because my mirror told me so, so I came again with a poisoned apple. The dwarfs thought Snow White was dead. A prince saw her and carried her away. Then the apple fell out of her mouth and she came back to life and they married. *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a queen with a crown and a long gown. Add a nasty face mask.

---

**Tinkerbell** (from *Peter and Wendy* by Sir James Matthew Barry) There is also a crocodile that follows us about that has a clock inside his belly going tick, tick, tick. I used my magic fairy dust to help Peter Pan and Wendy and the others to fly. On the island there are lots of fairies. “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.” *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a golden fairy with a little bell you always ring as you move about.

---

**Maid Marian** (from *Robin Hood*) Although I am a lady, I am also able to fight like a man. I love Robin dearly. *Dress suggestions:* Although you are a lady when you want to be, you should don trousers, a frilly shirt and carry a bow and arrow or a sword.

---

**The Grandmother** (from *Little Red Riding Hood*) The Big Bad Wolf locked me in the cupboard. So Little Red Riding Hood, said to the Wolf who was sitting in bed dressed in my nightgown, ‘Why, Granny...what big eyes you have got.’ And the wolf said, ‘The better to see you with, my child,’ imitating my voice. I won’t bore you with the rest as you have probably all heard the story. Most versions of the story end happily with Little Red Riding Hood being saved from the wolf’s clutches by her father and the woodcutters. *Dress suggestions:* A long nightgown with a bed-jacket and a bonnet on your head.

---

**The Wolf** (from *Little Red Riding Hood*) When Little Red Riding Hood saw me dressed in her Grandmother’s bonnet, she said "O, Granny, what great--big--teeth--you've--got!" And I said, "The better to eat you up!" *Dress suggestions:* Dress in a bed-jacket with a bonnet on your head but add some ears and large teeth so everyone knows you are a wolf.

---

**The Genie** (from *The Adventures of Aladdin*) I helped Aladdin to become a prince. I live in Aladdin's magic lamp. *Dress suggestions:* Wear middle eastern clothes (eg baggy trousers) and a turban. Carry the lamp in which you live.

---

---

## Name Tags

---

### *Suspects*

Alice  
(suspect)

Huck Finn  
(suspect)

Cinderella  
(suspect)

**Pinocchio**  
(suspect)

**Snow  
White**  
(suspect)

**Peter  
Pan**  
(suspect)

**Little Red  
Riding Hood**  
(suspect)

**Robin  
Hood**  
(suspect)

**Goldilocks**  
(suspect)

**Aladdin**  
(suspect)

*Optional witnesses and investigators*

Master Sherlock Holmes	Dr Watson
Queen of Hearts	White Rabbit
Mad Hatter	Cinderella's Fairy Godmother

The Queen (in Snow White)	Tinkerbell
Maid Marian	Little Red Riding Hood's Grandmother
The Wolf	The Genie

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

### **“Mystery In The Library”**

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the:*

# *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 witnesses take a turn to say the line. If there are no optional witnesses, then everyone should take a turn saying one of these lines, however, the person to whom the line is addressed should not say it (generally this is the person who speaks next). You may like to work out beforehand who will say each of these “Anyone” clues and write their character’s name next to each one.*

Sherlock Holmes *(or anyone if he isn’t present):*  
Let’s go around the group and I would like each of you to tell me how you got on with King Henry. Did King Henry like you Alice?

Alice: King Henry said he didn’t like little girls. He said his wives had too many of them and not enough boys – only one boy in fact.

Anyone: How did the fact that King Henry didn’t like little girls affect you Alice?

Alice: One time I was hiding and the King came along with Snow White when the King caught sight of me. I’d forgotten that I’d come out of my book when I was ‘nine feet high’ and hiding wasn’t easy. He called me a spy, made me bend down and pulled my pig tails till tears I cried. I was still ‘nine feet tall’. Thankfully Pinocchio stopped me in time so that my tears didn’t cause any flood damage.



Huck Finn: When the King made poor little Alice cry. 'Seeing her setting there.. with her eyes... and the tears in them, and I wished I could do something for her.'

Anyone: Did King Henry treat you badly after that incident Alice?

Alice: At night, I liked to skip around the library, singing tunes to amuse myself. The King yelled at me and said I gave him a headache. I told him to not be angry about it. I offered to show him some of the comic books. I was sure they would make him smile. To this he replied gruffly, that Kings had more important things to think about than comic books.

Anyone: And how did you get on with King Henry Huck?

Huck Finn: I didn't want to cause no trouble, so at first I 'always called King Henry 'Your Majesty' and ... didn't set down in his presence till he asked..' me to. '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'.

Sherlock Holmes *(or anyone if he isn't present):*  
So the King wanted you as a son did he? Didn't he know what a rascal you are?

Huck Finn: Some people think I'm a rascal. But I don't know if that's true. 'The widow said I was coming along slow but sure and doing very satisfactory. She said she warn't ashamed of me.' King Henry 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.

Anyone: So what did you and the King do as friends?

Huck Finn: The King asked me 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. 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.

Anyone: How did the King take to being beaten?

Huck Finn: Now the King thought that he should always win. So when I whipped him, he became hotter than a piece of chilli. 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', so he made me promise to help him.

Anyone: And how did you find the King Cinderella?

Cinderella: King Henry was fascinated by my glass slippers and he kept chasing me trying to get them off me. I think he thought that if I had no slippers, that the Duke's son would not find me in my fairytale and then I would be free to marry him instead.

Pinocchio: Cinderella and I became friends because the writers of our books are from Italy, so I suppose that makes us Italians. Cinderella told me how the King kept bothering her. I was determined to save her from him.

Cinderella: The King said if I continued to avoid him, he would see to it that I would be made to clean and scrub the library floors. He left me so distraught that when I returned to my book, the other characters kept asking me if I was ill.

Sherlock Holmes *(or anyone if he isn't present):*  
 You do look a bit distraught Cinderella. I can well understand that it was no fun being chased by King Henry. Someone please give the lady your handkerchief if you would be so kind, so she can wipe her brow. How did you stop the King from stealing your slippers?

Cinderella: I admit that as I am quite petite and he is such a large man, it was not always easy to avoid him. I ran away as quickly as I could. He, being portly, was not very fit and he never caught up with me. If by chance he caught hold of me before I ran, I yelled and Aladdin would come to my assistance. I am lucky to have such friends. On other occasions, my tears would bring my Fairy-Godmother to my aid. She often brought with her a pumpkin which she turned into a chariot and carried me away.

Anyone: How did King Henry behave towards you Pinocchio?

Pinocchio: King Henry thought that I was a silly puppet and he tried to fool me into being his slave. But my Good Fairy warned me that he was an evil man. The King kept giving me things to carry for him. I said that lazy people were often turned into donkeys, but he just laughed. 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.

Anyone: So you didn't like King Henry?

Pinocchio: 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.

Sherlock Holmes *(or anyone if he isn't present):*  
 So how did you stop King Henry from making you his slave?

Pinocchio: 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.

Alice: Pinocchio and I often team up for a game of hide and seek. It's lots of fun, isn't it Pinocchio?

Pinocchio: I like playing games in the library with you Alice. But whenever we did this, the King kept scowling at us and telling us to behave.

Anyone: How did you find King Henry Snow White?

Snow White: The King really was a nuisance. I felt someone should teach him some manners. I respect other people and I treat everyone kindly. The King thought he could treat people any way he wanted. Sometimes the King would ask me to dine with him, but I always refused because he eats like a pig and pigs belong on a farm not at a dinner table. King Henry kept trying to get me to marry him, but I refused.

Little Red Riding Hood: The King told me he was thinking of enacting a law whereby any woman he selects must divorce her husband and marry him. He told me in particular that he wanted to marry you Snow White. What do you think of that?

Snow White: I knew he had some evil plan in mind. I certainly didn't want to marry him. That's why I came up with a plan to remove the King from the library so we could all spend time in peace.