

CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIMESCENE CRIME

# Merri Mysteries

www.merrimysteries.com



Party games for 8 to 100 guests

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*presents...*

## “Who Killed Santa?”

Standard version  
for 7 females  
and 7 males

*by Stephanie Chambers*

Second edition

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## The Suspects

The portly gent who dresses in red won't be going down any chimneys this year. He is dead – possibly murdered – yes it's scandalous but true. It happened just before the Christmas party began. Did someone not want him to be here? Was it revenge for an unwanted present from Santa last year? Or was it just old age catching up with him?

We're here at Chatties Restaurant to find out the real juicy truth. The media are also here. But this time they aren't just reporting what happened. They are suspects too. The people present at the party are:

**Martina Finn** – My husband and I run the business. In my spare time, I like to do sign language. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a modern stylish suit and carry a mobile phone and an organizer. Add long colored nails.

**Nick Finn** – I'm also a partner in the business and I help Martina run it. I'm a bit edgy because I've just given up smoking. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a suit and a jazzy tie. Add some pillows to make you look plump. Don a gray beard.

**Winnie Bailey** – I'm the office manager, a mother and a softball player. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a softball player's outfit. Carry a softball bat.

**Glenda Drake** – I'm a graphic artist. I'm one of the most creative people alive today. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a modern t-shirt and jeans. Carry a laptop computer (or a cut-out of one in cardboard) and a pen with which to doodle on your paper napkins.

**Ebony Sutherland** – I'm the production manager. I have an eye for detail. I love animals. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a t-shirt with an animal on the front and jeans.

**Josh Fraser** – I am an account executive and I'm a cool dude that the ladies love. I take care of the client liaison for the organization. *Dress suggestions:* Wear black clothes. Carry some weights. Add some extra padding to create fake muscles. And make sure you wear your sunglasses all the time.

**Barret Norcott** – I'm the "fix it" man who repairs the company's computers and backs up all the data. I spend most of my time indoors and could do with a bit more exercise. I'm in love with Mrs Claus. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a t-shirt and add some pillows to make you look plump. Carry tools or a screwdriver.

**Regina Wells** – I'm the President of Gas Plus More convenience stores and gas stations. I like flying planes. I've been friends of Martina and Nick's for years and their company gets their gas from us. *Dress suggestions:* Wear some overalls as if you have dashed in from the gas station. Carry a mobile phone. © copyright Acture Pty Ltd 2004 **Page 1 of 2**

**Freya Walker** – I'm a sales rep for SDX TV station and a new mother. The company advertises on our TV station. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a modern suit. Carry some diapers.

**Rosemary Piper** – I'm Freya's boss at the TV station. I'm into natural remedies. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a stylish modern suit and carry a mobile phone. Carry a small portable TV (or a TV guide) and some herbal tablets.

**Grant Lowe** – I am a disc-jockey with Radio ZZZ. I'm mad about sports. The company advertises on our radio station. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a t shirt for a new band. Wear head phones and carry a football.

**Jack Fielder** – I'm a sales manager for Radio ZZZ. I love fishing. *Dress suggestions:* Expensive jeans & a shirt. Carry a radio &/or a fishing line.

**Gibson Downs** – I am the sales rep from the local newspaper. The company advertises with us. I love to play golf. I just want all you women to know that I'm happily married to my beautiful wife. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a suit and carry a mobile phone and a golf club and/or golf balls.

**Lorenzo Giueni** – I am the owner of Chatties Restaurant and I am one of the world's finest chefs. *Dress suggestions:* Wear chef's check pants, a white shirts and a chef's hat.

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## Name tags

### *Suspects*

Martina

Finn  
(suspect)

Nick

Finn  
(suspect)

Winnie

Bailey  
(suspect)

Glenda

Drake  
(suspect)

Ebony

Sutherland  
(suspect)

Josh

Fraser  
(suspect)

Barret

Norcott  
(suspect)

Regina  
Wells  
(suspect)

Freya  
Walker  
(suspect)

Rosemary  
Piper  
(suspect)

Grant  
Lowe  
(suspect)

Jack  
Fielder  
(suspect)

Gibson  
Downs  
(suspect)

Lorenzo  
Giueni  
(suspect)

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

## **Who Killed Santa?**

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the clues for:*

*Martina  
Finn*

During this act, you must say:

- 1 My husband Nick and I run this business and believe me it keeps us as busy as tinsel makers around Christmas.
- 2 Why can't we have celebrations all year round instead of everyone wanting everything at the same time? It's crazy. By the time Santa comes to my house, I'm too tired to put out any milk and cookies for him.
- 3 The Police said we should tell you all about our hobbies so that you get to know us a bit more. My hobbies are learning sign language and Spanish.
- 4 I have pretty finger nails – see. It is my one luxury. I get them done.

## Martina Finn - Act Two

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During this act, you must say:

- 1 Another reason I have never liked Santa is that he never listens to your prayers or reads the letters you send. I asked Santa for a Barbie doll like this one (*show everyone your Barbie*) for years & years and did I get one? No. I had to buy this one myself.
- 2 Nick and I had a meeting to discuss Santa Claus and the direction of the business as a whole.
- 3 Nick said that if he became Santa, that we could use the business to do all the merchandising and promotion.
- 4 He said that we would become so rich from the spin-offs that we would be able to spend most of the year sailing and playing games.
- 5 I saw Glenda Drake writing an email. It looked like she was paying a computer hacker to take some funds from a bank account in the name of S Claus. She was also sending Jack Fielder a copy of the letter.
- 6 Rosemary Piper told me at the party how a friend of hers had recently come back from India with some really powerful herbs.
- 7 I admit that I had thought about bashing Santa with this Barbie. But as the Police said, Santa had a few bruises but he certainly hadn't been beaten up.

## Martina Finn - Act Three

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During this act, you must say:

- 1 Of course, I told Nick that his idea of becoming Santa was ridiculous.
- 2 There was no way I was going to spend time wrapping endless presents.
- 3 Nick gave me the silent treatment for a few days and then he got over it. I was just as surprised as everyone else when Santa died just before our party.
- 4 I can reassure you that Nick and I didn't have anything at all to do with it.
- 5 At the time of Santa's collapse, I was chatting to Rosemary Piper and Lorenzo Giueni about what we hoped Santa would bring us this Christmas.
- 6 Those cookies I was buying were just ordinary cookies. They just fell off the back of a truck, so they were cheap, that's all. Trying to save the company a few dollars – I should be given an award, not be treated like a serial killer.

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

## **Who Killed Santa?**

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the clues for:*

*Nick  
Finn*

During this act, you must say:

- 1 Martina gets stressed out by Christmas. I just go greyer (*pointing to your beard*).
- 2 Santa had such a great job – playing with toys all year and delivering them at Christmas. I want his job! Why not? The position's vacant now, isn't it?
- 3 I read a lot. That's my main hobby.
- 4 I don't exercise a lot, but the good news is that I have given up smoking. So I won't be contributing to any smoke going up our chimney this year.

## Nick Finn - Act Two

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During this act, you must say:

- 1 I have been eating a lot more cake in preparation for my new job. Better than boring old sandwiches any day. I'm starting to develop a taste for it.
- 2 I told Martina that there had to be a way to make money out of Santa's job.
- 3 Just because something is free for a while doesn't mean it will be forever – like browsers and search engines – we all know that you will have to pay for them some day either directly or via advertising.
- 4 Martina is very hardworking and creative, but she isn't a visionary like me. She just can't see the possibilities of a true Santa business.
- 5 It would be such an easy job, especially after I contract out all the delivery side of the business. Then all I will have to do is make the odd personal appearance at a shopping centre and sit for a few photos with kids. Talk about being paid to have a good time.

## Nick Finn - Act Three

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During this act, you must say:

- 1 Eventually I realized that you aren't allowed to trademark the name "Santa" and red isn't really my color, so I gave up on the whole idea of taking over Santa's job.
- 2 The fact that Santa was killed shortly after I put together a detailed business plan for a "Santa company" is purely coincidence.
- 3 When Jim overheard Martina and I talking to the travel agency, he must have misheard the dates. We are planning a trip to the Bahamas but it is for February not December.
- 4 I saw Glenda Drake and Jack Fielder talking to Santa. I heard Jack saying that because they couldn't go to court, they had taken the matter into their own hands. Santa looked very pale when he heard this.
- 5 I also saw the email message that Glenda Drake was sending the computer hacker. She had also asked the hacker to scramble Santa's clock and electronic diary so that he thought today was Christmas. She had said everyone would just blame it on a computer virus.
- 6 During the party preparation, to be honest I was goofing off out the back. I hate doing menial tasks. I am a thinker not a doer.

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

## **Who Killed Santa?**

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the clues for:*

*Winnie  
Bailey*

During this act, you must say:

- 1 I run the office by day and at night I run my husband and two children.
- 2 Sometimes I tie them all to the running machine and I just go and have a well-deserved lie down.
- 3 Santa doesn't have any kids of his own, so he doesn't know what it's like to be a parent. He just dumps the toys for the kids to fight over and clears out before dawn.
- 4 This should be a real celebration now that Santa isn't around to bother us.
- 5 My main hobby is softball. It keeps me fit. Sometimes I also kick boxes. No – I mean I do kick-boxing. But the birth of my second child has slowed me down a bit.

## Winnie Bailey - Act Two

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During this act, you must say:

- 1 Now my name is Winnie Bailey, not “nosy parker”, but even so, I couldn’t help but notice that Ebony has gone around cutting Santa out of all of the Christmas cards the company received.
- 2 I don’t mean to harp on it, but when Ebony Sutherland joined the company, in the psychological profile she completed she scored very highly in the “risk taking” category.
- 3 That’s why she likes to travel. Traveling is a very risky business.
- 4 Surely murdering someone is also one of those risky things that high risk people do, eh Ebony?
- 5 Last year Santa gave the most ridiculous presents. I couldn’t help but think that he was really buying them for himself. I mean who would ever give a two-year-old girl a full-sized boxing bag as a present? Santa, like all men, is totally incompetent.

## Winnie Bailey - Act Three

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During this act, you must say:

- 1 When we arrived earlier on to help set up for this party, I saw that Santa was in his usual spot amongst the presents.
- 2 I was busy writing out name tags. I offered Santa a name tag but he just played with his yo-yo. So I left him tag-less – useless man that he “is” or rather “was”.
- 3 I had a name tag to give to Barret, but he wasn’t anywhere to be seen.
- 4 When I was walking by the kitchen earlier, I heard Lorenzo saying that he hoped Santa got mad cow disease.
- 5 At the party, Grant Lowe and I were talking about all the usual office gossip. That was all.