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Party games for 8 to 100 guests

presents...

"The Superhero Mystery"

Play version for 10 to 16 guests

by Stephanie Chambers

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"Merri Mysteries" was formerly known as "Tailor Made Mysteries".

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The Suspects

Cron and his evil team of villains have been captured in the downtown area of this city. The Police Chief says they found details of a diabolical plan in their hands.

Humble as they are, no superhero has come forth to receive the praise for this, so it is our job to work out which one is responsible for this marvellous deed.

Web Man – I'm like those eight-legged creatures, except I am only feared by those on the wrong side of the law. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a webbed costume and a mask.

Wing Woman – I am a very practical lady. I do all my own mechanics and I am a technological genius. Sometimes I get myself in sticky situations, but I always end up the winner. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a feathered cape, a long dress and a mask.

Nightflier – With the aid of my infrared vehicle, I can see things at night that others can't see. I crusade for goodness. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a cape and a mask and tights.

Zada the Zombie slayer – I stop those who should be resting in their graves from prowling our streets and wrecking havoc on the undead. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a dazzling costume.

Squawk – I'm Nightflier's associate. I'm a technological whiz kid. Without my help, he wouldn't be as famous as his is. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a cape and a mask and tights.

Samurai Sally – I'm a Japanese warrior of great renown. I own seven very special blades and sometimes I have them all going at the same time and it's just like a fan. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a martial arts outfit and carry a large plastic blade of some sort.

Morrow – I'm the masked man from Monaco. I'm known throughout the world as the defeater of the evil-souled ones. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a suit with a black mask.

Geisha Warrior – I am Samurai Sally's constant assistant and friend. Don't let my demure looks fool you as to my abilities. *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a geisha in a long dress with a cumberbund. If you want, you can carry a parasol or a hand-fan.

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Steel Man – I am a possessor of incredible strength. I am the defeater of all who choose to do the wrong thing. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a flamboyant cape and tights and a mask. Add padding to give yourself lots of muscles.

Mighty Ms – I glide through the night sky with grace, elegance and skill, defeating all who dare to do wrong. I'm always the first to arrive at any crime scene. I'm a serious lady that no one is able to defeat.

Dress suggestions: Wear a cape and tights and a mask.

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Investigator

Police Chief – I'm in charge of the Police in this city. Sometimes I admit I do call upon the superheros for help, but not very often. And I didn't call them about this particular case. One of my guys was on his morning beat when he came upon the captured villains. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a floral shirt, casual trousers and carry a notebook and pen.

Optional witnesses

Wally – I run a cable store downtown. All of my clients are electricians and contractors. I know it sounds a bit boring, but I'm a people person so I enjoy it. But I am a bit overweight, so recently I have been taking some classes in an effort to get fitter and to lose some pounds. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a blue shirt and shorts like an ordinary working guy. Carry some electrical wire or tape.

Cron – I'm the leader of the captured criminals. I'm the mastermind behind our wonderful plan, which unfortunately was prematurely nipped in its bud. I'm a boilermaker by trade. *Dress suggestions:*Wear the kind of clothes that guys wear when they go to play cards with their friends. If you want, you can wear a welder's mask.

Louie – I'm the one who had the skills to put the plan into action. I'm a detonator and explosives expert by trade. *Dress suggestions:* Wear the kind of clothes that guys wear when they go to play cards with their friends. If you want, you can carry a black round thing that has fuse wire coming out of it.

Byron – I'm the financial expert in this team of villains. I know all these is to know about money and how to get your hands on it. *Dress suggestions:* Wear the kind of clothes that guys wear when they go to play cards with their friends. If you want, carry a wad of fake money.

Taz – I'm the technology and security wizard in the team. Working out a password is as easy as putting a key in a lock for me. *Dress suggestions:* Wear the kind of clothes that guys wear when they go to play cards with their friends. If you want, you can carry a computer tablet or small laptop.

Name Tags

Web Man (suspect)

Wing Woman (suspect)

Nightflier (suspect)

Zada - the Zombie slayer (suspect)

Squawk (suspect)

Samurai Sally (suspect)

Morrow - the
Masked Man from
Monaco
(suspect)

Geisha Warrior (suspect)

Steel Man (suspect)

Mighty Ms (suspect)

Investigator

Police Chief (investigator)

Witnesses

Wally (witness)

Cron (witness)

Louie (witness)

Byron (witness)

Taz (witness)

Merri Mysteries presents...

"The Superhero Mystery"

by Stephanie Chambers

The Play

The Superhero Mystery - Act One

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 "Anyone" clues and write their character's name next to each one.

Anyone: I heard that a few months ago, things were really

quiet on the crime scene and all the superheros

were taking their vacations.

Web Man: Yeah. Because I am often use my web as a

trampoline, I decided to compete in a world

trampolining competition.

Nightflier: I was just doing my usual boring day job and

watching action movies at night.

Squawk: There are only so many times you can check and

re-check the equipment.

Morrow: I sent all my masks in for drycleaning and I just

stayed in my basement watching movies.

Zada: Even the zombies were staying put in their

graves where they belong, so I went skiing in

New Zealand.

Mighty Ms: I went for a few glides over the Antarctic. I love

watching the penguins play.

Steel Man: I went climbing in the Himalayas.

Samurai Sally: I just kept teaching my martial arts classes. At

night, I polished my blades.

Geisha Warrior: I went back to Japan to see my parents. They

live in a quiet fishing village.

Wing Woman: I just did my day job and I built myself a new

high-speed vehicle in my garage.

Anyone: The Police said these villains came to the city a

few years ago but they've been lying low.

Morrow: The lack of crime shows that we've all been

doing our jobs so well that most villains wouldn't have even dared to hatch any more

plans, let alone enact them.

Mighty Ms: Yes. Some of the villains I sent to jail years ago

have now totally changed their ways and they send me thank you notes and holiday cards.

Nightflier: The villains were in the city but they didn't

register on my radar. That means they didn't

even get any parking fines.

Zada: I'm very intuitive, so I knew something was up,

but as I knew it didn't involve zombies, I didn't

worry about it.

Squawk: We have a register of villains and we know all

their locations. But this group were all new villains. They've never done anything in the

past.

Geisha Warrior: Because of our Zen beliefs, we aren't attached to

our successes or our failures. If criminals are present, we deal with them as that is our purpose

in life.

Wing Woman: I have a pretty close ear to the ground and I had

never heard about this set of villains either.

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Steel Man: I mainly deal with the really serious criminals that no one else can stop. So when they are

captured they stay there for a really long time.

Web Man: We normally each managed crime in different

cities, but the last few years all the major criminals seemd to cluster in this city so the authorities begged us to relocate to here.

Samurai Sally: A wise Zen master told me recently to beware

because like the darkness is darkest before the dawn, often crime is quietest before the worst

villains emerge.

Anyone: Mighty Ms – I know you can fly but would you

be strong enough to lift a heavy net like the one

brought down on the criminals?

Mighty Ms: I'm not just a pretty face. Most people who try

to arm wrestle with me, end up in surgery.

Anyone: Morrow – because you're a masked man, we

don't know anything about your family background. How did your family make the money to allow you to roam around just doing

good deeds?

Morrow: They invested in gold and goldmines at just the

right time.

Anyone: Zada – have you ever dealt with any criminals?

Or do you just deal with zombies?

Zada: Well zombies mainly. But lately I've been

thinking I might need to diversify because the zombies seem to prefer to stay in their graves.

Anyone: Web Man – webs and nets are similar. Maybe

you were the one to throw the net to catch these

villains?

Web Man: Yes. They are similar in appearance, but webs

are far more dynamic. Webs are sticky and so they can bind whatever it is they seek to

entangle.

Anyone: Samurai Sally – normally when you meet with

villains you use your fancy blade-work to your advantage. Has this ever not been the case?

Samurai Sally: Well one time they had the audacity to steel my

blade collection. But I know enough other martial arts. The blades are really just

accessories.

Anyone: Nightflier – this was a daytime capture.

Normally you operate more at night when your ability to see in the dark gives you an advantage.

Nightflier: That's true. I prefer night to day. But I think the

villains said the net came down on them late last night but they weren't found till this morning.

Anyone: Wing Woman – you said you just built yourself

a high-speed vehicle. So you must be a technology and mechanical whiz. Does your

expertise extend to nets?

Wing Woman: I'm sure I could advance the net technology if I

applied my skills to it. But I can't say it's an area

that really interests me.

Anyone: Steel Man – would you say that your strength is

your main asset?

Steel Man: As I'm sure all the superheros would agree,

brute force is pretty useless without intelligence

behind it.

Anyone: Geisha Warrior – as Samurai Sally's associate,

you are often more of an organizer and observer rather than a participant. Do you sometimes get

jealous of Samurai Sally?

Geisha Warrior: It is not in my Zen character to experience such

a useless emotion. Sally and I work as a team whenever our skills complement one anothers.

Anyone: Squawk – what about you? Are you jealous of

Nightflier? Do you wish sometimes you could

catch the villains on your own?

Squawk: Nightflier gives me enough autonomy and

respect, so I never feel jealous. We're a team.

Anyone: Cron – the lead villain they apprehended – is

employed as a boilermaker at the city's sewerage works. They'll have to get a replacement for him now that he's heading to

jail.

Anyone: Cron's helper Louie is a bomb squad

demolitionist. Maybe he got to know too much about how bombs work for his own good.

Anyone: Another one of the villains – Byron – is a bank

worker. He'd recently been involved in

preparing the marked notes for a ransom payout. Maybe that made him want the big bundles of

cash himself.

Anyone: The fourth member of the villain team - Taz -

was a tech whiz. I suppose he was going to deal with overcoming security and passwords and so

on.

Anyone: The villains had been meeting once a week

ostensibly to play cards together. They rotated

their meetings to each other's places.

Anyone: The wives and the girlfriends of the villains

didn't get on with each other all that well. Only

two of them were friends.

Anyone: The partners of the villains were never allowed

to stay at home when they met to play cards.

Anyone: Cron's wife accidentally left her baby cam

running even though she had taken the baby with her when she left to visit her mother during one of their card games. On her cell phone, she heard them yelling about how it had to be bigger so that it looked like it could do some real

damage.