

1.1 **Anyone** _____: I want you each to tell me how you came to know Jerry and to be at this party. During our discussion I would also like you to tell us more about yourselves and your relationship with Jerry.

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1.3 **Judy Garland:** Last month, at a charity ball, I saw Jerry look in my direction and say “Stupid old cow”. I found his remark offensive, as I’m not stupid. I came to this party because I wanted to give him some of his own cheek back – the bully. But I certainly didn’t come here to murder him.

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1.5 **Janis Joplin:** Jerry crashed into my car recently. That’s how I met him. He was refusing to pay me fully for the repairs. Then he had the hide to invite me to this party as if everything was fine between us. I had planned to give him an earful at the party. But I hadn’t planned to kill him.

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1.7 **Elvis Presley:** I’m all shook up over Jerry Oilman’s death. God gave us our lives and our lives are precious. I’ve learned a lot about death. My precious Ma’s been taken from me and I’ve served my time in the army where death is talked about a lot. I don’t have a wooden heart.

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1.9 **Groucho Marx:** I came to this party because I knew some lovely young ladies would be here. My last wife was 44 years younger than I was. And I wanted to give Jerry a taste of my humor. I didn’t come expecting to find a corpse.

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1.11 **Anyone** _____: Jerry’s arm was bruised, possibly by the fall to the ground after he was hit on the head.

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1.2 **Fred Astaire:** I’m still being cast for movies. Only Jerry thought I was past it. He kept trying to talk people out of casting me in parts. That’s what my friends in the movie business have been telling me lately. So I’m not sorry to see the last of the slimy bloodsucker, not sorry at all. He was too pushy.

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1.4 **John Wayne:** I never killed anybody. That was all just acting. Jerry and I didn’t see eye to eye. He was always hassling me about how I didn’t go to war. I begged them to let me fight, but they wouldn’t on account of an old football injury and an ear infection I had.

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1.6 **Marilyn Monroe:** Jerry was a fan of mine. Most men are. They can’t help themselves. But I don’t want to just be an “hour glass shape”. I’m sick of being a sex symbol. I want to be taken seriously as an actress. Believe me, I’m not acting when I say I had nothing to do with Jerry’s death.

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1.8 **Judy Garland:** Jerry was my husband’s friend, not mine. Sometimes he came to our house. I didn’t invite my husband to this party, because he’s in my bad books at the moment.

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1.10 **Anyone** _____: Judging from the bump on Jerry’s head, it appears Jerry’s killer came at him from behind.

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1.12 **Anyone** _____: Jerry’s wife Emma died under suspicious circumstances three years ago. She was found dead, possibly poisoned, but the type of poison was never fully identified and nor was her murderer.

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CELEBRITY CELEBRATIONS

1.13 **Anyone** _____: Jerry Oilman only invited us because he liked everyone to think that he was popular and had many famous friends. But that certainly wasn't the case. He was as popular as cod liver oil. But people will go anywhere for caviar.

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1.15 **Fred Astaire**: I dance a bit and sing a bit, but besides that I'm a pretty ordinary guy – not a murderer.

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1.17 **Marilyn Monroe**: Jerry was a blabbermouth. I came to this party to try to get him to keep quiet about my private life. But I didn't intend to shut him up forever. I didn't kill him.

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1.19 **Janis Joplin**: Some people in this group just don't appreciate rock music. They kept complaining just because I played a few rock records when I arrived. They've got to get with it, man.

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1.21 **Patsy Cline**: Jerry kept asking me sing. He offered to pay me, but I turned him down. He didn't like the same songs I liked and he was a creep – what with all those bats everywhere. I think he probably killed his wife. I came close to death when I had my car accident. But I recorded a song straight after it. You've got to get back on the saddle.

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1.23 **Janis Joplin**: Judy, just because I didn't pretend to be a child like you did, and because I don't always comb my hair and look pretty doesn't mean I'm a cheat. Now I have to go to the bathroom because I'm ill.

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ACT ONE CONTINUED

1.14 **Janis Joplin**: The famous all mix with the famous and the poor with the poor. Birds of a feather and "all my friends drive Porsches" kind of stuff. That's why we're here. But we didn't come here expecting someone to be killed.

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1.16 **Anyone** _____: I'm not really enjoying this party. Having your host murdered tends to put a dampener on proceedings.

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1.18 **Elvis Presley**: Groucho Marx is a bit of a worry. Weird guy. Maybe he killed Jerry. Or is it just my suspicious mind?

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1.20 **Fred Astaire**: I work hard. Young men get away with too much these days. They need discipline. The music these days – the lines don't rhyme and the beat's all wonky. I'm not surprised Jerry's been murdered. He wasn't at all like-able. But if someone put on some decent music, I could dance. I'd love that.

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1.22 **Judy Garland**: Janis – you're cheating. But I suppose you can't help being a cheat at cards. You're just gutter material and cheating is part of your makeup. I just can't see how anyone like you – with a raspy barb-wire voice and all – could possibly have become famous as a singer.

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1.24 **Patsy Cline**: Can't we put on some country music? Wouldn't everyone like me to sing "Lovesick Blues"?

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CELEBRITY CELEBRATIONS

1.25 **Judy Garland:** I sing and dance and try and put on a good show, but I am definitely not a murderer. Jerry was a big fan of mine. He liked “Somewhere Over The Rainbow”. Would you like to hear me sing it?

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1.27 **Anyone _____:** Jerry Oilman didn’t like animals. Jerry’s son Lorne had a cat. He is away in the army at the moment. Jerry used to kick Lorne’s cat whenever he saw it.

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1.29 **Anyone _____(except Elvis):** Hey Elvis. Or should I say “Hound-dog”?

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1.31 **Anyone _____(except Elvis, Jimi or Groucho):** Elvis is a bit flashy, but he does have a good voice. But that Groucho Marx – he’s the one I don’t trust. He looks like a murderer to me.

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1.33 **Groucho Marx:** Elvis – so you’re the King of Rock ‘n Roll? What is the currency in your Kingdom? Records? How many records does it cost for a loaf of bread?

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1.35 **Groucho Marx:** Well, anyone who says they want to be a teddy bear surely isn’t a genius. But aren’t you the one that said, “Don’t be cruel”? I just wanted to check you weren’t going to return me to my maker like you did Jerry?

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ACT ONE CONTINUED

1.26 **Anyone _____(except Patsy, Judy or Fred):** Did you hear Patsy, the cowgirl, offering to sing? And Judy too? And Fred offering to dance? Sounds like they still think everyone’s still “Crazy” about them. Their egos are as big as John Wayne’s ten-gallon hat. People with egos like theirs think they can get away with anything – even murder.

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1.28 **Elvis Presley:** *(take around the appetizers and say)* Would any of you like an appetizer?

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1.30 **Elvis Presley:** Stop calling me “Hound-dog”. That’s a nickname I can’t stand. I don’t know what I ever did to you? I think Jerry thought he was doing the right thing, but sometimes, he’d poked into other people’s private affairs when it was none of his business to do so.

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1.32 **Judy Garland:** I had hoped to use this party as an opportunity to speak to Jerry about the financial nightmare he has created for my husband and I. But I suppose I won’t get to talk to him now. I’ve missed my opportunity. I guess I’ll just have to carry on singing for my supper.

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1.34 **Elvis Presley:** What sort of questions are those? Are you also making fun of me?

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1.36 **Elvis Presley:** *(getting angry say)* I find that remark offensive. Please apologize. With all due respects, I think you’ve got a screw loose and if you keep on saying things like that to people you’ll end up in a fiery backwater of a place called “Hell”.

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CELEBRITY CELEBRATIONS

1.37 **Janis Joplin:** Hey – peace man. Not death. Rock ‘n Roll, not Patsy Cline. Love not war. That’s what it’s all about. Shame about Jerry dying at his own party. Not that I had any time for the man. He liked to appear hip but then he said nasty things about you later. He was a hip-o-crit – quite the opposite to a hip-critter. I ‘spect he only invited me so he’d look hip.

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1.39 **Host _____:** I’m sick of all this morbid talk. Why don’t we pretend we’re around a campfire and have a sing-a-long? *(Get all the famous singers to sing a few bars from one of their songs. If there isn’t time, just get them to sing their song to their immediate neighbors. Play the compilation tape (optional).)*

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1.41 **John Wayne:** If you pardners don’t quit your yodelling, there’s gunna be a show-down.

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ACT ONE CONTINUED

1.38 **Patsy Cline:** I don’t condone violence of any sort and I am not the kind of woman that murders. I’m just a sweet God-fearing country gal at heart.

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1.40 **Groucho Marx:** On behalf of all the non-singers, I’d hereby like you all to quit before I put duck in my soup. I’d rather spend a night at the opera or a day at the races than listen to you lot.

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