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This kit is for 8 to 30 guests.

There are 3 different endings, each with a different person who did it.

Most of the cards support Version A, but there are additions to the report and Who Did It cards for Versions B and C.

See both sides of all cards, including this one...

5 Host Guide Cards: Invitations, Décor suggestions, Preparing props (optional), Menu suggestions, Preparing prizes (optional), Running the party, “The Rules” (4 sides).

30 Nametags / Descriptions and Dress Suggestions

96 Clue Cards: A1, A2, and A3

3 Special Investigator’s Report Cards

7 Who Did It Cards: Don’t let anyone read these before the end of the party.

HOST GUIDE

Invitations

Send this email link to your guests with their invitation:

merrimysteries.com/XXXXXX

Tell your guests to read the suspect descriptions before the party as sometimes clues are hidden in them. Include the date, time, and place where your party is to be held and the name of the character you want them to play.

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Décor suggestions

To make your place look like a library:

- Bookcases filled with books and / or books on the table (if possible, at least one copy of each suspect's book) or make cakes look like their books
- Placemats printed on paper to look like open books
- Play a variety of music suited to some of the characters. For example, the soundtracks to *Aladdin*, *Peter Pan*, etc.

Preparing props (optional)

Goldilocks – A bowl of porridge/oatmeal. A large chair the king used as his throne. If you want, put a whoopee cushion on it.

Alice – A cake marked “Eat Me” and a drink labeled “Drink Me”.

Cinderella – A glass slipper (or one delicate shoe you can pretend is made of glass).

Aladdin – A brass oil lamp and/or a ring.

Menu suggestions

You can serve whatever you want. You might aim for an olden day feel (e.g., you could serve meat or vegetable pies, a roast and Yorkshire pudding for main course, and bread and butter pudding for dessert). Search for recipes on the Internet. If it is a children's party, it is best to serve normal children's party food, as that is what they are familiar with. For small parties, you may like to serve a course between each act. © merrimysteries.com

Preparing prizes (optional)

You may like to have some prizes available to give to the people:

- who guess who did it (can be more than one)
- with the best costume.

Ask for details as to who, how, and why the person did it. Have a prize you can divide up or lots of small gift cards. See: **merrimysteries.com/murder-mystery-prizes** for suggestions.

Running the party

Decide if you are using Version A, B or C. Put each nametag card (with description on the back) in a lanyard badge holder and give it to each person as they arrive. Read out the **Rules Cards** (then leave them on the table for late arrivals) and have the suspects read out their descriptions to the group (but not dress suggestions). Then hand out the clue cards. Note who it is to be said by (i.e., either a character or “anyone” **except** the suspects it mentions).

The Rules — 1 of 4 (host to read out)

“Welcome to ‘Mystery In The Library.’ The other night, 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 King Henry VIII — that famous monarch from the English history books — has disappeared. Gathered are the characters that were present at the time of the nasty deed. The perpetrator of this heinous crime will no doubt be revealed as the party proceeds. I will introduce you to all the suspects shortly.”

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The Rules — 2 of 4

“Most clues are statements. If you have a question for a suspect, they will have a response on one of their cards. You can say the clue in your own words as long as you don't change the meaning. You might like to speak in slang or with an accent or reveal your clues in between sobs. Act it out to the fullest. This is your chance to be dramatic! Later, a report will be read out. If you work out who did it, please keep it to yourself. [There are prizes for the people who guess who did it and for the best costume.]”

The Rules — 3 of 4

[For small parties of 16 or less guests say:]

“There are 3 acts (A1, A2, A3). I will divide up the clues as equally as I can. Anyone can go first as long as it is a card that isn't a response to someone else's question. We will keep going around the group and each saying a clue until all the clues for an act are read. Responding to a question will count as your turn for that round. We will take a break between each act.”

The Rules — 4 of 4

[For larger parties of more than 16 guests say:]
“Ignore the fact that your clue cards are marked A1, A2, or A3. You must mingle and tell as many people as you can what you know from your clue cards. If you find out new information, pass that on to the people you meet. Word will spread about anything that sounds important. Don’t panic if you don’t get to talk to everyone. You will still receive enough information so you can work out who did it.”