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# The Chinese Take-out



Ding Aling  
Character Booklet

**Congratulations! You are taking part in a murder mystery by Red Herring Games.**

A few simple instructions to help you along:

Firstly: Don't Panic!

This booklet contains all the information you need as a guest to help you act your part throughout the murder mystery party.

The first page provides you with additional background information to help you get into character, however there are no special acting abilities required and you can make as much or as little of your character as you wish.

After that on each page you are given either something to read out (dialogue), questions to ask, or information to help you answer questions you will be asked. These questions and answers are not intended to be read out word for word. Instead read them, digest the information and then ask and answer any questions in your own words. You are encouraged to ad lib, but it is very important you do not lie, so please provide the information contained within your booklet when asked.

Your host for the evening will direct you where necessary and tell you when to move on to the next round when the time is right.

If you are the murderer you will not be told. When you finally come to guess who did it – it could easily be you and feel free to point the finger at yourself if you feel you must!

And lastly: Have fun!

1 2

**Ding Aling**

**Background Character Information:**

**Keep this information to yourself, and use it to help you to act in character throughout the mystery:**

Thanks to your husband's hard work you are very well off, but rather bored. Take an interest in anything novel and flirt with any men who look vaguely exciting. Who cares if you are the grieving widow! There is plenty of life left in you yet!

Take a real interest in anything that might be sordid in another person's answers, especially if they happen to be male.

You have a particular interest in Fan See Man, who has called numerous times at the Washem Kwik laundry to sell products.

During the evening it will be revealed that you are having an affair with Fan See Man. Keep things platonic until word gets out – then turn all mushy with each other.

You dislike Tai Ming Soff and you know she dislikes you. Act catty around her.

You are Chinese – so feel free to use a Chinese accent, drop words and rearrange sentences to make it sound correct.

## Ding Aling

### Introductions:

Use the following dialogue to introduce yourself to the other guests, speaking when indicated below.

### Ding Aling speaks first using the following dialogue:

As the honourable inspector say,, then I go first. My name is Ding Aling. I am the wife of Ting and I just can't believe it! Ting Aling – my orange blossom in the spring – my husband of the last 7 years – dead! And in the laundry too. It's just too much for words...

After you have heard from everyone, please continue reading and begin round 1.

## Scripted Dialogue Round 1

- Man Do Lin** Well – I don't know about any of you – but this is the first time I've been called in by the police for a death.
- Ching Ching Boom** Yes – no one would dare do that normally, would they Mannie?
- Mai Ling List** Not if they valued their life.
- Won Kee Nee** So does that mean we'll be involved in another murder enquiry once this one's over?
- Ding Aling** I hope not. One is plenty enough for me.
- Man Do Lin** Give me a little credit. If Hoo Dun Wot should drop dead, I'd be nowhere around. In fact, I wouldn't even be on the suspect list. I have goons for taking falls like that.
- Won Kee Nee** Who said anything about murder anyway? I thought Hoo Dun Wot said Ting Aling might just have died suddenly.
- Fan See Man** They always say that, at least, at first. Then they look at the body and say 'death by person or persons unknown'.
- Ding Aling** Have you been involved in these types of investigations before then Fan See?

**Cont.**

- Fan See Man** No. I've just watched a lot of Agatha Christie.
- Tai Ming Soff** Well – you're hardly an expert then! A death in Chinatown is a lot different from a death in the literary cosies.
- Fan See Man** Oh – I don't know about that. You are just as dead however you get killed.
- Man Do Lin** Unfortunately we don't have a servant to blame.
- Ding Aling** Well don't look at me! I was his wife, not a servant... not that he treated me any differently.
- Won Kee Nee** But what relationship did the rest of us have with Ting – that's what I want to know. Why does Hoo Dun Wot think we all need to be involved?
- Man Do Lin** I don't know – but shall we all find out? That is what he wanted us to do. I'm sure I can think of a question for someone.

## **Ding Aling**

### **First Round**

#### **Questions you should ask:**

Ask Ching Ching Boom if she knows any local gossip about any of the suspects.

Won Kee Nee runs a herbal shop. What kind of things does he supply? Does he sell any poison for example?

#### **Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.**

Your marriage was arranged by your family. Ting Aling was considerably older than you and had already established himself as a reputable business man when you first met. Your family approved of the match, but you didn't. However, you were young (just 17) and your feelings weren't taken into account. You have never been happy in your marriage to Ting. He was far too old and crusty for your tastes.

Your husband was something of a workaholic and was rarely home until very late. This worked out well for you as he also had a much reduced libido and all he really wanted when he got home was a good meal and to sleep in front of the television at night.

**Do not read further until instructed by your host.**

## Scripted Dialogue Round 2

- Fan See Man** Winding people up? Is that what he's doing? It hardly seems fair to wind up the grieving widow.
- Mai Ling List** She isn't grieving that much Fan See, in fact, I think she's secretly pleased.
- Ding Aling** Leave me alone. I know it isn't just me who didn't like him.
- Man Do Lin** No. Half of Chinatown didn't like him.
- Ching Ching Boom** And the other half didn't know him.
- Won Kee Nee** Well, I knew him and I didn't think he was all that bad. A little stressed, a bit of a workaholic, high blood pressure, but nothing a good herbal remedy wouldn't help.
- Mai Ling List** I agree. Ting Aling was just misunderstood.
- Ding Aling** Misunderstood? I always thought he was just a mistake. I wish I'd never married him!
- Ching Ching Boom** Well – it looks like you've had lucky break then Ding – perhaps your fortune cookies have finally brought you some good luck.

**Cont.**

7 8

- Won Kee Nee** Lucky for you, but not so lucky for Ting Aling I think.
- Man Do Lin** I don't see anyone weeping, Won Kee.
- Fan See Man** I never trust fortune cookies.
- Man Do Lin** I never trust anything.
- Ching Ching Boom** Not even me?
- Man Do Lin** Especially not you. And if we are going to get this murder solved before the night is through, then I have a question for someone here I think.

**Ding Aling****Second Round****Questions you should ask:**

As Mai Ling List works next door to Washem Kwik, has she seen anyone visiting Ting Aling this afternoon? Ask her.

Ask Fan See Man whether he visited Washem Kwik this afternoon and why.

**Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.**

Ting Aling made you a partner in Washem Kwik, not because he wanted you to have any power, or any say in the business, but for the tax breaks it gave. Ting Aling told you in no uncertain terms that he wanted you to have nothing to do with the running of the business and left you to your own devices at home. You got bored.

It didn't take you long, however, to find something (or someone) to relieve your boredom: Fan See Man. You find him very interesting as he has a lot of passion and energy (something Ting Aling was sadly lacking). Ting Aling found out about your affair and just this morning caused a real scene in front of some customers and most of the street shouting at you. You were embarrassed, but defiant.

**Do not read further until instructed by your host.**

**Scripted Dialogue Round 3**

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Fan See Man</b>      | No murders in Chinatown? Who is he trying to kid?   |
| <b>Man Do Lin</b>       | He's absolutely right Fan See – you never dirty your own bed.   |
| <b>Ching Ching Boom</b> | Does that mean it can't be you that did it Mannie?  |
| <b>Man Do Lin</b>       | Do you really think I would be so stupid as to get caught?  |
| <b>Ding Aling</b>       | Maybe it's a double bluff.  |
| <b>Mai Ling List</b>    | You be careful what you say Mrs. Aling, men have disappeared from Chinatown for saying less than that.                                    |
| <b>Won Kee Nee</b>      | Yes – but I am sure Man Do Lin will be a little lenient, it is her husband that's dead.   |
| <b>Man Do Lin</b>       | I would have thought she would have been grateful.  |
| <b>Man Do Lin</b>       | Like everyone else is you mean?   |
| <b>Ding Aling</b>       | What I want to know is how the strychnine got into his body. There isn't any in the shop that I know about.. We don't have a rat problem. |

**Cont.**

**Man Do Lin** Not the small variety anyway. And anyway, there's no guarantee he ingested enough for him to have died from it. Maybe he was killed by the jug.

**Ding Aling** Or maybe he died of natural causes?

**Fan See Man** I don't really think there is any chance of that Ding, the inspector thinks one of us killed him so it has to be the strychnine or the jug. The question is, who visited the shop last.

**Man Do Lin** In that case, let's carry on with the questioning and find out.

**Ding Aling**

**Third Round**

**Questions you should ask:**

You saw Man Do Lin visiting Won Kee Nee's herbal shop the other day. Does he have a medical condition?

Ask Mai Ling List if she also visited Washem Kwik today. If so, did Ting Aling seem OK to her?

**Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.**

Ting Aling threatened to castrate Fan See Man if he ever found him anywhere near you again. He said he had 'friends', and would soon put a stop to your relationship (you suspect he meant he would ask Man Do Lin to do something). He also threatened to kill you if he ever found out you had slept with another man again.

After your row you immediately went to find Fan See Man. You found him in Won Kee Nee's herbal shop. You told Fan See all that Ting had said and he told you he would protect you. He took you back to his flat and you stayed there all the day, although Fan See left you this afternoon as he said he had a business appointment. You came back to the shop only to pick up some clothes. You were surprised to find Ting dead.

**Do not read further until instructed by your host.**

## **Ding Aling**

### **Concluding Statement**

**Use the following dialogue to summarise your position, speaking when indicated below.**

**Ding Aling speaks first using the following dialogue:**

Well. – like the inspector says – I didn't want Ting around, but I didn't want him dead either – although it does help. Now I have his money and the freedom to marry Fan See Man!

**After you have heard from all the guests make a prediction as to who the murderer is and why.**

**Tell the others.**

13 14

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