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The Redbud Garden Club Murder!



Violet Shureen King
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, questions to ask, or answers to questions you may be asked. Although you are encouraged to ad lib, it is very important you do not lie, so provide the information contained within your booklet when it is asked of you.

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!

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Violet Shureen King

Background Character Information:

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

You talk only when spoken to and you have a shrill, nervous voice when you respond. You are a very shy person who would rather be told what to do than to volunteer. You are the classic, mousy, shrinking violet, but you have always felt sorry for Pansy Doolittle, because she had to buy her way into the Garden Club.

You have lived alone since your parents died, as you have never married. Your violets are your life and you look forward to showing them every year at the Garden Club event.

You and Ivy are the ones who led Seymour to the conservatory to see all of the flowers while the members arrived and when you both returned to fetch him, you both found him dead! You and Ivy are the ones who announce this to the group. Get with Ivy and shout out the news that you have found Seymour DEAD in the conservatory, when you feel the guests are ready to begin.

Violet Shureen King

Introductions:

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

Violet speaks 1st using this dialogue:

Yes, it's true, ladies, I, Violet King along with Ivy, found poor Seymour Diggen dead! And only 15 minutes earlier, we had walked him down to the conservatory to see the flowers for the show. When we returned to fetch him, we found him in a crumpled heap on the floor! When he fell, he must have hit my pot of violets, because they were lying right beside him on the floor, all shattered. I wonder if it was a heart attack or something similar that has caused his death. Why I have known Seymour for years, and I always thought him to be in the best of physical health. What a horrible day this is. Seymour and my poor violets both dead on the conservatory floor...and a horrible stormy night, to boot!

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 1

Violet King: This is certainly the most unusual flower show we've ever had! Who would have thought that Seymour would end up dead - pushing up the daisies, as they say?

Pansy Doolittle: Unusual is right, Violet! It will be interesting to find out if it was from natural causes or, hum...the other cause. Don't the police call that homicide?

Delilah DeHart: Oh my, I just had a humorous thought. I can see the headlines now in the papers, "Redbud Garden Club hosts their annual Horticulture Homicide"!

Flora Fondly: Delilah, I don't think that this situation is humorous. It is actually horrendous. How can you joke about something like this?

Iris Wong: I agree with Flora. This incident is no laughing matter. Why, if it is homicide that means we could all be suspects!

Ivy Verde: Suspects? Do you think the officials actually think that one of us could have done Seymour in? If so none of us will be allowed to leave until this mess is straightened out.

Cont.

Violet King: Well, as long as this hotel is well supplied with food drinks, I won't mind the detainment. I've stayed in a lot worse places than this!

Flora Fondly: I've never been out of Redbud, so I don't have anything to compare the Old Grand Hotel to. All I know is that it has been here for as long as I can remember and it has always been "grand".

Ivy Verde: Yes, it is quite grand. They used to hold formal dress galas here when I was a girl. We used to watch all the ladies and gentlemen go in, all dressed in their fine clothes. It was a sight to see!

Pansy Doolittle: I remember those days, too. My father was the conductor for the orchestra here when I was growing up. I used to be able to watch the people dancing from the orchestra pit.

Flora Fondly: Speaking of pits, I think this is the pits. I don't like being kept here.

Violet King: Oh, get over it, Flora. It's not like any of us have a choice!

Violet Shureen King

First Round

Questions you should ask:

Pansy seems to have a dislike or jealousy about higher education. Ask her about this.

Delilah mentioned that she attended college. Ask her which college she attended.

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You have known Seymour for years, as you went to grammar school and high school with him. You have fond memories of your time with him. However you lost touch with him after he went away to college.

When you and Ivy went back into the conservatory to fetch Seymour, you noticed your violets were smashed on the floor, next to Seymour. You also noticed that in the dirt on the floor, there seemed to be the faint letters RX inscribed in it.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 2

- Delilah DeHart:** Who is catering our affair this evening? I don't believe I ever heard. Was it in the program?
- Pansy Doolittle:** Well, Delilah, if you would serve on more committees, you would know who is doing the food. Violet took it upon herself to prepare the food for tonight, didn't you Violet.
- Violet King:** Yes, I thought it would give me something to do for our club, and you all know how I love to do these types of things. I thought it was a well-rounded menu for this evening. Something for everyone is my motto.
- Flora Fondly:** Oh Violet, you always do a fantastic job on the refreshments. It is beyond me how you have learned so many clever napkin-folding techniques. If there were a National Prize in Napkin Folding, you would surely win!
- Ivy Verde:** Yes, Violet always does put out quite a spread for our meetings. She should author a cookbook.
- Iris Wong:** If Violet ever wants to add some origami folds to her napkins, I would be happy to oblige. I know a lot about origami...and I have a wonderful recipe for egg rolls.

Cont.

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- Flora Fondly:** Egg Rolls! Ugh! Why does everyone always dish up egg rolls?
- Ivy Verde:** Oh come, now, Flora, be nice. Since we are all here for the meeting and camaraderie, we might as well be civil tonight!
- Iris Wong:** Yes, Ivy is right. After all, we are all members of this group because of our common interest in gardening and fellowship.
- Violet King:** Seems to me like we all have something else in common too.
- Pansy Doolittle:** What's that?
- Violet King:** We're all suspects!

Violet Shureen King

Second Round

Questions you should ask:

Flora made mention that all members took their own plants to the conservatory to be displayed on arrival. Did she notice anything else?

When Iris spoke earlier, she said she had heard Seymour speak back in her college days at Local University. Did she know Seymour personally? Ask her about this.

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You have very fond memories of Seymour from your school days. You used to date when you were in your teens, but that was over long ago.

There was a cheque in Seymour's jacket pocket when you found him. You noticed it when you rolled him over. You looked at it and it was made out to him and signed by Ivy Verde. You couldn't imagine why Ivy was giving him money.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 3

Pansy Doolittle: For never having met Seymour Digger, I feel like I know him quite well, after all of the facts that have been brought out about him this evening.

Delilah DeHart: He was a "one of a kind" individual... but not kind as in "nice".

Violet King: Back when I knew him well, he did have a "kind" streak or two in him. That was many years ago. I suppose people change.

Flora Fondly: He did try to do what he could to improve things on my family's farm, except...he didn't think it through very well.

Ivy Verde: I never thought of him as a kind man. Only out for himself. Rather a selfish man, in my opinion.

Iris Wong: Ivy is right, he could be very selfish. It is a pity that he could not change his ways.

Delilah DeHart: Yes – someone really should have taken Seymour to task long before now.

Violet King: Well someone certainly gave him more than a piece of their mind tonight – that's for certain.

Cont.

- Ivy Verde:** Yes. He is a little, how shall I put it...
- Violet King:** Dead, Ivy, is the word you are looking for. Anyway – shall we all crack on and get this questioning over with.
- Pansy Doolittle:** Do you think we could persuade Rosie to finish off the judging for us?
- Flora Fondly:** Yes – I'd like to have know how my flowers did.
- Violet King:** I'm sorry ladies – it looks like the only type of judging Rosie's going to be doing is the criminal kind.

Violet Shureen King - Third Round

Questions you should ask:

It was mentioned earlier that Seymour had a cheque from Ivy Verde in his pocket. Ask Ivy what the cheque was for.

It seems that Flora's family had a terrible devastation on their farm. You should ask her for more information.

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

There was deep love during your courtship with Seymour; at least it was love on your part. He broke it off with you when he decided to go away to Local University to become a horticulturalist. You never married, as you could never trust another man after that. He broke your heart, and never tried to amend the relationship after all of this time. You resigned yourself to the fact that it was love lost.

You vividly remember the events of the evening. All of the members were responsible for taking their plants to the conservatory for display. You and Ivy escorted Seymour to the conservatory to see the display of plants, while waiting for Rosie Chapeau to arrive. You knew she was running late because of the storm. Ivy gave the plants a last minute misting of water, you remember. After about 15 minutes, it was decided to go ahead and start the meeting without Rosie, and that is when you and Ivy went back to fetch Seymour and found him collapsed.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Violet Shureen King

Concluding Statement

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

Violet is the first to speak using this dialogue:

My friends, although it is now out in the open about my past experience with Seymour, you can't think that something that happened so long ago would cause me to commit this crime! I did love him, but that is water under the bridge. I have made a life for myself, a celibate life, but a happy one. Yes, I did engage in conversation with Seymour in the conservatory when we escorted him down to wait there. I hadn't talked to the man in years and he can be quite engaging in conversation. I have told you all everything I know about the events of this evening!

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

Tell the others.

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