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# Murder in the Dark



Tex Rebates  
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!

1 2

**Tex Rebates**

**Background Character Information:**

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

You are a British spy working for MI6. Your real name is Roger Moroften. You are a master of disguise and accent – so feel free to use any accent you wish.

You are smart, sophisticated and have that certain charm that women can't resist. You have the ability to make witty quips and can get an innuendo into many sentences, especially when speaking to attractive women.

You specialised in foreign languages but you have dabbled a bit in a wide variety of subjects and can hold forth knowledgeably on just about anything from poker to the local flora and fauna, and of course females!

Feel free to chat up any of the guests, using as much innuendo as you dare.

Around you, normal every day objects could kill, e.g. your pen could be a grenade. Keep people from touching things you find suspicious.

You recently visited Penny Counter in your spying capacity; you called yourself John Mortimer that time. Whether she will reveal it or not depends on how good you are at paying her attention! Try and keep her sweet and on your side.

## Tex Rebates

### Introductions:

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

### Tex Rebates speaks first using the following dialogue:

Well - Tex Rebates everyone [SHAKE HANDS WITH AS MANY PEOPLE AS YOU CAN REACH]. Like Al Bright said, I may as well make a start. I own Rebates Incorporated. You might have heard of us? We produce the Miniscule Chip – not the microchip you understand, that’s old news, this one is tiny, a miniature version based on what we’ve learned recently with neuron research. Works faster than the old Pentium processor – or it will when we’ve finished with it – Plentium we’re thinking of calling it. Catchy eh?

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

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## Scripted Dialogue Round 1

- Tex Rebates** Look – I know the police never like us to touch anything, but surely they could do something about the lights?
- Franny Fascinator** Why? Do you not find these candles atmospheric? I know I certainly do.
- Dr Lisa Ning** Well, candle light is certainly more flattering.
- Miles High** You look good in any light Doctor.
- Penny Counter** Seems it isn’t just the candle light that is flattering then.
- Dickie Bow** Well I agree with Tex. I’m used to working with spotlights and I find this all very dark.
- Miles High** Still, it was probably better for Franny that it was dark. You wouldn’t want to catch something like that in full lighting.
- Franny Fascinator** It was bad enough by candle light.
- Dr. Lisa Ning** Well, I find it quite interesting. It isn’t every day you end up in the centre of a criminal investigation! It beats staying home and watching CSI anyway!

**Cont.**

- Miles High** Personally I'd rather watch it.
- Franny Fascinator** Well, I'd rather watch anything than be here. This has put years on me, years I tell you.
- Penny Counter** Nothing that a good plastic surgeon couldn't take off again I'm sure.
- Dickie Bow** Now is hardly the moment to get catty ladies. Can't we have a little respect for the dead. To think, Honor Slab is heading off to the mortuary as we speak.
- Tex Rebates** Honor Slab on a slab. I suppose there is a little symmetry there.
- Miles High** I think perhaps we should begin the investigation before this conversation plummets any lower. I volunteer to be first guinea pig. Does anyone have any questions for me?

## **Tex Rebates**

### **First Round**

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

When did Honor Slab invite Miles High to her party? Surely he's only recently come on leave?

Who welcomed Dr Lisa Ning into the house this evening, Honor Slab or one of her guests?

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

You aren't one of Honor's neighbours. She invited you for her neighbourly get together this evening after meeting you last weekend in a restaurant in town. You got chatting and ended up sitting together at a table as you were both dining alone. You suspect she was attracted to you – who wouldn't be? When she asked you up here for her little party this weekend you couldn't say no. You were hoping the relationship might lead somewhere eventually.

You originally came from the UK, a little town called Oxford, England. You have been in the States for nearly 3 years now helping to develop the Miniscule Chip.

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

## Scripted Dialogue Round 2

- Dickie Bow** Knifed in the back eh? So which one of us here is the coward?
- Dr Lisa Ning** Not necessarily Dickie, when you bring psychology into it, there could be a great many reasons why the preferred option was to attack from the rear.
- Miles High** Well – I wouldn't know about that Dr Lisa, I prefer the direct approach.
- Penny Counter** And doesn't she know it. Look – we don't need to go into sexual mores right now. What we need to find is the killer.
- Tex Rebates** It was someone with a sense of self preservation if you ask me. She was a strong woman.
- Franny Fascinator** I can be strong – when life circumstances call for it.
- Tex Rebates** I'm sure you can Franny, but we aren't talking about melodrama here, we are talking about physical strength.
- Dickie Bow** Well – don't all look at me. I don't know the first thing about stabbing people.

Cont.

7 8

- Miles High** It can't be that hard surely? We all know where the heart is.
- Dr. Lisa Ning** I know where mine is.
- Dickie Bow** Yeauck – you two make me sick. Go and flirt somewhere else.
- Franny Fascinator** I'm sure there is something in our psychology that makes us more interested in the opposite sex at times of crises – wouldn't you agree Dr Lisa?
- Dr Lisa Ning** Sex and death are very closely linked on a deep psychological level.
- Miles High** Does this mean all you women are just gagging for a bit of action right now?
- Tex Rebates** Don't tell me – you are offering your services? Free of charge I'm sure. Look – can't we just get on with solving this case? Then you can get up to anything you want – assuming of course you are innocent.

## Tex Rebates

### Second Round

#### Questions you should ask:

Has there ever been a romantic liaison between Dickie Bow and Honor Slab?

Penny Counter said she thought Miles High was flirting with Honor Slab. Was she jealous?

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

You got here early tonight, earlier than the rest of the neighbours anyway as Honor Slab asked you to come before everyone else. You shared a glass of champagne and then she asked you pointedly what you REALLY did for a living.

Apparently she hadn't been fooled by your cover story. You suspect a few other people here tonight won't be either. It was a little lame (you'll have to take that up with M when you get back to HQ). Anyway – if anyone asks you might as well own up and tell them who you really are: a spy working for MI6 – of course, if they tell anyone else you might just have to kill them! If anyone asks why M tasked you out here, tell them you were investigating a suspicious series of computer related deaths.

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

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## Scripted Dialogue Round 3

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Dickie Bow</b>        | The fuse is missing. I said there was something wrong.  |
| <b>Tex Rebates</b>       | Well, we all knew something was wrong Dickie when the lights outside were still working.  |
| <b>Penny Counter</b>     | He meant with the fuse box Tex. I think we all knew the power cut was a local thing.  |
| <b>Dr Lisa Ning</b>      | It was still very scary   |
| <b>Franny Fascinator</b> | You aren't scared of the dark are you? A good psychologist like you? Surely you could have hypnotised yourself out of that already?                                   |
| <b>Miles High</b>        | Leave her alone. Sometimes fight or flight responses are a good thing. If Honor had been a little scared maybe she wouldn't have been found with a knife in her back. |
| <b>Tex Rebates</b>       | She'd have been better prepared you mean? Goodness, I wouldn't have wanted to try knifing her if she had been. She was a formidable woman.                            |
| <b>Penny Counter</b>     | Are you saying you would have tried to knife her if she wasn't?   |
| <b>Tex Rebates</b>       | I never said that!  |

**Cont.**

**Dickie Bow** Well, someone here did. Someone that knew she was more than able to defend herself if not caught unawares.

**Dr. Lisa Ning** Well it wasn't me.

**Dickie Bow** Nor me.

**Franny Fascinator** Or me.

**Penny Counter** Oh can it the lot of you! There is no point in heading down that route. The killer is hardly likely to say "yes I did it" are they?

**Miles High** I don't know. Maybe they might.

**Tex Rebates** Did you?

**Miles High** No. Did you?

**Tex Rebates** You were right Penny – it is a total waste of time.

**Penny Counter** In that case shall we go back to the other version of questions and answers?

**Tex Rebates** That sounds fine to me!

### **Tex Rebates - Third Round**

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

You know Honor Slab was a keen photographer. Did Franny Fascinator find any compromising photographs while she was poking around the house?

Dickie went to the electricity box with Penny Counter when the lights went out. What did he find there? Why had the power gone off?

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

Honor Slab worked as the secretary for Mike Rosoft, Managing Director of DataSux computer company. You were asked by M to look into the firm and were employed as a honey trap to try and extract information from Honor.

The problem was, it turned out Honor Slab was actually not the secretary, but the henchwoman of Mike Rosoft! She knew who you were from the moment she first saw you and was hoping to get you alone to "eliminate you". Just before everyone arrived at the party she had cornered you in the kitchen and was trying to kill you with her kitchen knives, you fended her off with the food processor and a hand blender before making a dash for the lounge just as the first party guest arrived. You showed them in. Having witnesses gave you time to think. Honor would have had to wait a bit longer to kill you and you hoped to seduce her before the last guest left this evening.

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

## **Tex Rebates**

### **Concluding Statement**

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

**Tex Rebates speaks first using the following dialogue:**

Well all I can say is: it wasn't me. Yes – I put my hands up to being an MI6 spy and yes, I may have had one or two different identities, but that doesn't make me a killer, at least, not right now. Admittedly I have a license to kill, but I wasn't asked to kill Honor, merely get close. The honey trap would have worked eventually. Believe me, it usually does. Nobody does it better than me.

**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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