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Murder on the Ghost Train



Counting
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.

If you have been given an additional clue packet/envelope you will be directed as to when to open it within the booklet.

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

Count Ing

Background Character Information:

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

You come from Transylvania, and have a fabulously rich and elegant accent.

You are charming but have a terrible habit of bringing numbers into every conversation. For example, you might like to compliment someone on their costume and for the fabulous 5 buttons on their jacket with their 5 matching button holes, not forgetting the 2 on either side of their 2 coat sleeve cuffs.

You have a tendency to sweep about the place, taking long strides and getting close to people when you talk.

You love maths and simply cannot help but see numbers in everything. You just adore counting, punctuating this of course with vampirish “ah ah ah’s”.

You might want to loudly count guests, people’s buttons, the room’s windows, in fact anything you can think of.

You are also madly in love with Cassie Spells the witch, you show your attraction by continually commenting on her numerical beauty, for example her TWO lovely eyes, her moles, her delicate 8 fingers and two thumbs...

Count Ing

Introductions:

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

Count Ing speaks first using the following dialogue:

As if I need to introduce myself! But, the inspector says I must – so I will. My name is Count Ing (ah ah ah). I come from Transylvania, a fact you may have guessed from my accent (ah ah ah). As many of you know I have worked for Don Breathin on his ghost train ever since it opened. Not one, two, three, four, five six, or seven, but eight years ago now (ah ah ah)? You could say I was almost a fixture (ah ah ah).

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 1

Count Ing On the mathematical side of things I suppose we have a one in twelve chance of catching the murderer ourselves. That’s better odds than the lottery.

Ed Less Or of being hit by a meteorite. I suppose with odds like that it could even be me?

Cassie Spells Are you saying you did it?

Ed Less No; I was just thinking of the odds if it’s one in twelve and I’m one of the twelve then it stands to reason it could be me.

Dee Composed You can’t take all odds that literally, Ed, I mean it’s like saying one in four people are Chinese, it’s not me, it’s not you and it’s certainly not the Count he comes from Transylvania – so it must be Frank.

Frank Enstein But I’m not!

Dee Composed I know that Frank, it’s just a saying.

Flo Ting So is “Thou shalt not murder”. And it looks like someone paid that saying about as much attention as your example.

Cont.

Dee Composed	Thanks for that insightful comment Flo; I am sure we all <i>forgot</i> murder was against the law in the excitement!
Cassie Spells	No need to be catty Dee. She was just making a point.
Ed Less	Looks like someone already made one of those as well. Don Breathin has breathed his last.
Flo Ting	More like gurgled I would say.
Frank Enstein	And I did so enjoy working here, and with all of you. It will be such a shame to be forced to move on.

Count Ing**First Round****Questions you should ask:**

What does Cassie Spells think of Count Ing?

Does Frank enjoy his work on the Ghost Train, and does he like being the monster?

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You found yourself attracted to Cassie Spells almost as soon as she joined the Ghost Train, three years ago. She is numerically perfect, and there is something nice as pi about her. You asked her out after 103 days, it seemed like a good prime number on which to begin a relationship.

You have a thing for prime numbers, which is why, when Don Breathing changed the ticket price from \$2 down to \$1.51 to try and encourage more people to go on the train, you hauled him up. 151 is a prime number and you felt using it in such a fashion devalued it beyond words.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 2

- Dee Composed** Two puncture wounds in the neck eh? A nasty way to go.
- Count Ing** Yes, it does sound rather horrible, and messy too. Not my kind of thing.
- Flo Ting** Even though, being a vampire, it's the sort of thing you are supposed to get up to all the time...
- Cassie Spells** Leave the poor Count alone. It's bad enough the Inspector suspects him without us all ganging up on him too. Anyway – he's much too nice a chap for anything unpleasant like that.
- Dee Composed** And I suppose we'll just have to take your word for that – though a word of caution – don't let him give you a love bite any time soon.
- Frank Enstein** Come on Carrie – even you must know it's just a pair of costume teeth! I mean, we are all actors – you didn't think these bolts were real did you?
- Cassie Spells** They aren't? Only joking!

Cont.

7 8

Flo Ting

Still Frank has a point. We are all actors, so finding the murderer will be difficult. We are all used to being something we are not, so the murderer will probably not give himself away too easily.

Count Ing

Or herself – let's not forget!

Count Ing**Second Round****Questions you should ask:**

You think you saw Ed Less with a real scythe the other day. Why did he have one, and was he using it on the ride today?

Does Flo Ting enjoy her work at “The frightening fair”?

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You and Don Breathing argued nearly every day. Your fixation with numbers was always the instigating factor, you couldn't help but try and perfect the ghost train's numerical qualities, and Don never seemed to value your input. For example, you told him the tracks were one centimetre out of alignment. You explained that altering them would make a cost saving on fuel efficiency but he wasn't interested. Nor was he interested in rounding up the number of sleepers, or the fact that the number of cast on the train was always divisible by two – which it is again today!

He got so mad with you recently he threatened to sack you. You took one look at his proposed date for ceasing your employment and balked. You began work on a prime day in the month, and you couldn't even consider finishing on a number divisible by three of all things. Instead you said you would resign as of the thirteenth. He agreed.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue Round 3

Ed Less Well, I don't know about any of you – but I haven't a clue what is going on. Not that I care really, the odds are I didn't do it apparently.

Count Ing Actually Ed, that wasn't exactly what I said, but if it helps matters there is only an 8.3 re-occurring % chance you did it.

Cassie Spells That sounds quite reasonable.

Flo Ting But even a percentage like that won't help the Inspector. You need hard evidence to convince a jury, not a higher percentage rate.

Frank Enstein Well something hard was used as a murder weapon anyway. You don't puncture skin with something soft and fluffy.

Dee Composed You're right. I suppose we ought to be keeping to the facts. We need means and motive to find the killer.

Cont.

Dee Composed

Yes, and it stands to reason one of us either saw or knows something critical to solving this case otherwise we wouldn't be here.

Flo Ting

Added to that - as we were all rounded up by Inspector Hal O'Ween, it stands to reason he thinks all of us have either the means or the motive, otherwise we would have been discounted at the outset!

Count Ing**Third Round****Questions you should ask:**

Flo Ting always has a notebook and a couple of pens to hand under her costume robes. Why is this?

Did Frank Einstein go to the funeral of the boy who was killed?

Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.

You are pescetarian (that's a vegetarian that eats fish). It may seem a little odd, when you have teeth as long as you do, but there you go. Vegetables and oily fish do a lot more for your brain than red meat.

The only problem you have with eating fruit and veg is your teeth; they are really problematic, especially when it comes to eating things like apples as they get stuck in the flesh. You had grabbed a bite to eat just before the train on which Don Breathing was coming arrived. As you didn't think a vampire with an apple stuck in his mouth would be very scary, you stayed out of the way in the wings.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Count Ing**Concluding Statement**

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

Count Ing speaks first using the following dialogue:

And so, I suppose it falls to me first to say I didn't do it. I know what you are all thinking, those puncture wounds were obviously made by vampire teeth – but I can tell you this: it wasn't me (ah ah ah).

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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Cassie Spells**Concluding Statement**

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

Cassie Spells speaks after Count Ing using the following dialogue:

And I for one believe you Count, and I hope you believe me too when I say it wasn't me either. I admit, if we hadn't any other plans, then killing off Don would have kept us together, but we did have plans. Big plans. So why would either of us want Don dead?

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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