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Murdernight

**An evening's entertainment your
audience will be dying to see.**

CATALOGUE
Spring 2008





Welcome to Murdernight!

Hello!

We are Paul Falcone and Gary Simpson, and as you can see from our mug shots we don't always agree about everything...

However, outwith the realms of football there is one fact we do both agree on...*Murdernights* are great fun.

But what are they, we hear you ask. Well, Paul created the first *Murdernight* back in 1997. He was looking for a fund-raising idea for his local drama group and struck on the idea of creating an interactive murder mystery evening.

It was a great success, repeated by Gary's drama group some months later. Since then, together with some friends, we have written a number of murder mystery evenings. Each *Murdernight* has it's own setting, be it a wedding reception, a backstage party, a fashion show... each generating its' own special atmosphere.

The object of the evening is to challenge the audience to solve the murder of one of the principal characters. To do this, they must observe the clues within the text of a brief play and decipher clues from handouts distributed during the evening.

But even more importantly, they face the challenge of questioning the suspects themselves to obtain that extra vital piece of evidence. And if someone at the next table asks the right question for you but doesn't realise it, all the better...

To aid the actors, *Murdernight* packs come with comprehensive character sheets. Although the prospect of improvisation before an audience may seem initially daunting, most of our friends couldn't wait to have another go!

Most *Murdernights* come with multiple endings, so that groups can perform

them again and again. We can guarantee, because of the interactive nature of the evening and the differing nature of your audiences, that no two *Murdernights* will ever be the same!

Each has plenty of scope for comedy and drama, and we have chosen the scenarios to be as varied as possible. Each *Murdernight* is tried and tested ~~by ourselves on audiences in the North-West~~ of England before general release.

Since 1999 we have publicised *Murdernights* on the internet and they have been performed the length and breadth of Britain as well as overseas. We have had enquiries from the USA, New Zealand, South Africa, South Korea, Norway, Germany and Sweden.

Within this catalogue you'll find full details of each of the *Murdernights* currently available. Simply choose from the list below. New *Murdernights* are being developed all the time; for up-to-the-minute details, have a look at our website, www.murdernight.co.uk.

For details of how to order a Murder Pack, CD-ROM or sample script, turn to Page 40

Paul and Gary

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A BLOW TO THE HEAD

William Masterson, headmaster of Old Town Grammar School, is retiring after 20 years. To mark the occasion, the school has prepared a special retirement dinner to which all former pupils are invited...

Dramatis Personae

William Masterson, 60: The retiring headmaster, a strict disciplinarian who has made a few enemies over the years...

Rosemary Masterson, 55: His long-suffering wife, who always knew that her husband had an eye for the ladies...

Joyce Williams, 46: The loyal school secretary who has long since admired the headmaster from afar...

Robert Stephens, 50: The deputy head who is yet again about to lose out on the headmaster's post to an outsider...

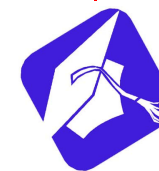
Murray Evans, 19: The ex-head boy whose career has been ruined by the headmaster...

Janice Evans, 19: The ex-head girl, whose relationship to the head may have been more than platonic...

Geoffrey Anderson, 40: The sports master who makes no effort to conceal his dislike of the headmaster and his dictatorial ways...

Inspector Foot of the Yard, Class of '73, bronze medal in lifesaving and first aid certificate - the detective who finds himself in the middle of a perplexing murder mystery...

by Gary Simpson



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

The first half of the script is played relatively straight, although there is an increasingly comic element in the latter stages.

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

There are currently 3 alternative scenarios for *A Blow to the Head*, which involve only minor changes to the script

SETTING

A school hall. The present

CAST

5M 3F (see left)

COSTUME

No special costumes are essential, though the atmosphere of the Murdernight can be enhanced by the addition of one or two items - for example, a couple of teacher's gowns for the retiring headmaster and the deputy headmaster; a track suit for the sports master.

PROPS

Easily located items: a set of photographic prints, a retirement card, a ballpoint pen

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

The plot of *A Blow to the Head* involves reference to an affair between the retiring headmaster and the ex-head girl. Whilst the script is by no means graphic, groups may wish to take the subject matter into account when considering this *Murdernight* and their target audience. We would regard it suitable for ages 11 and over.

THE MAFIA WEDDING

by Paul Falcone



In modern day New York, the Fresco and Calada families are about to put aside their years of feuding and unite with the arranged marriage of Don Fresco's son to Don Colada's daughter. But not everyone is happy with the arrangements...

Dramatis Personae

Don Fresco, 56: Brought up in the ghettos of New York after his parents emigrated from Sicily, over the years he has ruthlessly worked his way up to become one of the most dangerous men in New York

Don Calada, 56: Ruthless head of the Colada family who sees the forthcoming marriage as a way of consolidating his position of dominance amongst the families...

Pina Calada, 55: Mother of the bride, there may be more to her past than meets the eye...

Maria Calada, 34: The spoilt bride-to-be so desperate she would stop at nothing to get her man...

Al Fresco, 36: Heir presumptive to the Fresco family, the groom is not exactly the marrying kind...

Paulo Supina: The best man and Fresco family lawyer. A man who likes to keep his professional options open...

Bella Donna: Maria's life-long friend, the bridesmaid who has an eye for the groom...

Father Figure: The local parish priest, the Italian cousin of Inspector Foot of the Yard...



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

The script boasts some fine comic moments and is rich in atmosphere. Ideal for large companies who can provide extras willing to dress up

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

There are currently 2 alternative scenarios for *The Mafia Wedding*. The script is unaltered.

SETTING

A wedding reception. Current.

HANDOUT

Newspaper article (add your own wedding photo)

CAST

5M 3F (see left)

COSTUME

As the scene revolves around a wedding reception, costumes suitable for the occasion are essential - in particular a wedding dress for Maria Calada and a bridesmaid's dress for Bella Donna. A priest's costume is also essential for Father Figure. The male members of the cast should be in dinner jackets or morning suits. The odd trilby and pair of sunglasses wouldn't go amiss either!

PROPS

No complicated items

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

The Mafia Wedding is suitable for all ages.

THE MYSTERY OF TALBOT MANOR

by Gary Simpson



What is the dreaded secret of Marcus Talbot's laboratory in the basement of the dark foreboding edifice that is Talbot Manor? And what is the dreaded secret of the Talbot family curse?

Dramatis Personae

Cringe, 63: The butler - is he really brain-damaged or does he know more than he admits to?

Frau Schmidt, late 40s: The sinister housekeeper. What dreadful experiment has she been party to in the basement?

Lawrence Wetherby, late 40s: The family solicitor, has arrived to read the will of Mason Talbot, the elder brother who went mysteriously missing several years ago...

Ruby Cookson, 40: The new maid. Is her terror genuine or is she still recovering from that unfortunate nervous breakdown which led to her committal to the local asylum?

Marcus Talbot, 44: The sinister scientist who owns Talbot Manor

Liberty Talbot, 42: His younger sister who has returned from America to claim her inheritance...

Thaddeus Kent, early 20s: Liberty's American toy boy. Is there more to him that at first seems?

Dr Harriet Ffinch, late 50s: Tourist and amateur detective who stumbles on Talbot Manor, just in time for murder...



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A send up of the every horror film cliché you have ever heard, with the emphasis strongly on comedy.

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

There are currently 3 alternative scenarios for *Talbot Manor*. The script is unaltered.

HANDOUTS

Marcus Talbot's laboratory journal
Harriet Ffinch's notes

SETTING

A haunted house in the 1930s.

CAST

4M 4F (see left)

COSTUME

Thaddeus Kent should be easily identifiable from his costume as American. Cringe and Ruby should similarly be appropriately dressed as a butler and maid respectively. Other characters should wear dark colours, appropriate to the period.

PROPS

A suitcase, a briefcase and a candelabra complete with lit candles.

SPECIAL EFFECTS

Screams, thunder and lightning flashes.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

The Mystery of Talbot Manor is suitable for all ages.

THE FINAL ACT

by Andy Hawkes



It's the final night of the run of *The Final Act*, and the Shadow Drama Players are meeting the audience at their after-show party.

But all is not well... someone has been lining his or her pockets with company funds... and who *is* the mysterious benefactor who has been keeping the company afloat all this time?

Dramatis Personae

Gresham Laud: the director with an eye for the ladies who is not averse to a little blackmail...

Gloria Raymond: an ageing actress who is a little past her best; cast aside by the notorious Gresham for a newer model...

Suzy Adams: the rising star who is the new object of Gresham's affections...

Dominic Devalera: Suzy's boyfriend, he is not above a little jealousy...

Alphonse Rubric: An ageing alcoholic old queen who has difficulty learning his lines...

Betty Adams: the wardrobe mistress, she is Suzy's mother and would do anything to protect her daughter from Gresham's advances...

Fred Howard: the odd-job man with more to him than meets the eye...

Inspector Foot of the Yard, the detective who finds himself in the middle of a perplexing murder mystery...



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

Relatively straight murder mystery set in a familiar setting (at least for those of us in the trade!)

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

There are currently 2 alternative scenarios for *The Final Act*. There are some minor script changes.

HANDOUTS

Inspector Foot's Notes (pts 1&2)
Alphonse's letter

SETTING

A backstage party

CAST

5M 3F (see left)

COSTUME

Modern dress. Fred is dressed as an odd-job man, but that can take whatever form you wish, from overalls down to old scruffy clothes.

PROPS

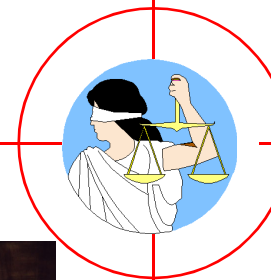
Everyday items only.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

The Final Act is suitable for all ages.

A BRIEF'S ENCOUNTER

by Sue Morris



Within the majestic splendour of the Civic Hall Chambers, anyone who is anyone is gathering to mark the joint celebration of the appointment of Stuart Weatherby as judge and Gareth Annerlie as the new replacement head of Chambers. But taking up the silk carries a whole new meaning when the silk is a stocking wound around the neck of the victim...

Dramatis Personae

Stuart Weatherby: The retiring head of chambers with an eye for the ladies...

Anne Weatherby: His long-suffering wife, the only lady Stuart doesn't seem to have an eye for...

Gareth Annerlie QC: The new head of chambers, he has always been second-best to Stuart since school days...

William Oldsmith: The senior chambers clerk, he has watched Anne suffer all these years...

Aloysius 'Ginny' Gynnsticke: a member of chambers with one eye on the ladies and another firmly on the bottle...

Jessica Raymond: A local solicitor, the new subject of Stuart's affections, she has a dark secret...

Brenda Bolton: The Weatherby's housekeeper. What is the secret regarding that tragic accident all those years ago?

Inspector Foot of the Yard: An Officer of the Law, with his work cut out for him, solving another intriguing mystery...



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A straightforward murder mystery packed with venomous dialogue, with many comic opportunities during the questioning

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

There are currently 2 alternative scenarios for *Brief's Encounter*. The script is unaltered.

HANDOUTS

Inspector Foot's Notes
Post-mortem Report

SETTING

A celebration dinner.

CAST

5M 3F (see left)

COSTUME

Smart modern costume.

PROPS

Everyday items.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

A Brief's Encounter is suitable for all ages.

THE CATWALK KILLER

by Paul Falcone



A local charity fashion show by the world famous François DuDrop. However, things don't go according to design...

Dramatis Personae

Donna Christine 43: (Best played by a man) Used to be a fashion model but stopped being successful. Started her own modelling agency which has not been too successful either. She was asked to provide models for this evening's event.

Trixabelle Finch 17: Pretty young model for Donna Christine. You wouldn't want to try and start an intellectual conversation with her.

Monsieur DuDrop 50: François is a world famous fashion designer. However, he doesn't want to be here as it's beneath him.

Danny 'Snapper' Martin 50: Well known photographer in the fashion industry. Despite being an excellent photographer he cannot find much work because of his 'problem'.

Julian Norton-Smythe 40-ish: DuDrop's hairstylist. He is becoming very famous in his own right and wants to become freelance.

Paulo Vincenzo 17: Handsome young male model for Donna Christine. Watch him ladies.

Camara Fortesque 17: Local reporter who has her eyes on something bigger.

Inspector Foot of the Yard: - Our favourite detective finds himself in the middle of another perplexing murder mystery...



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A fun murdernight in which the audience are asked to participate by modelling the fashion designs!

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

None at the present time.

HANDOUTS

Single handout.

SETTING

A fashion show.

CAST

6M 2F or 5M 3F(see left)

COSTUME

Modern costumes, with a variety of fashion items: the stranger the better

PROPS

Everyday items.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

The Catwalk Killer is suitable for all ages.

THE CURSE OF THE WILLOUGHBY DIAMOND

by Gary Simpson



In the 1920s, An ancient Egyptian curse returns to haunt the jinxed Willoughby family, holders of the famed Willoughby Diamond...

Dramatis Personae

Lady Constance Willoughby, 65: Widow of the famous explorer Sir Royston Willoughby, who recently died in mysterious circumstances...

Daphne Willoughby, 46: Flighty, scatter-brained daughter of Lady Constance. Unable to cope psychologically with her father's death, she faints every time his name is mentioned...

Colonel Montgomery Willoughby, 60: Younger brother of Sir Royston, he shared many of his experiences, including his wife...

Alice Boardman, 15: The maid who hides more than her share of disgraceful secrets...

Potts, 70: The faithful gardener. His devotion through the years to the Willoughby family is only matched by his deafness...

Abdul el-Jahaj, 50: The mysterious Egyptian manservant whose life was saved by Sir Royston during a fated Egyptian expedition...

Rupert Bonnington-Smythe, 20: The young man who wins the heart of Daphne Willoughby, but can't find her brains...

Inspector Foot of the Yard, a keen enthusiast who comes to the auction of the famed Willoughby Diamond and ends up investigating not one murder, but three...



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

The emphasis is strongly on comedy in this more complex murdernight, which revolves around an ancient Egyptian artefact... and involves not one murder - but three!

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

There is 1 alternative ending.

SETTING

A 1920s manor house

CAST

5M 3F(see left)

COSTUME

One Egyptian manservant; a gardener; a maid; a young man's 1920s style blazer and boater; evening wear. The character playing the part of Monty may optionally be dressed in an army uniform.

PROPS

Everyday items.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

The Curse of the Willoughby Diamond is suitable for all ages.

DEATH BY RADIO

Due to an unexploded bomb at the BBC studios the live broadcast of an episode of the popular drama series “The Mystery of the Mummy’s Curse” is being broadcast from the Chington Floral Hall.

Dramatis Personae

Sydney Matthews (Writer, Producer & Narrator) 48. Outwardly charming, yet ruthless and determined. What would he do to further his ambitions?

Malcolm Gibbons (Professor Thompson) 50. Famous radio actor. Very quiet and unimposing. But what is the secret that he seems to be hiding?

Lisbeth Matthews (Veronica Yearsley) 18. Daughter of Sydney. Given a part on the show. Obviously nepotism. Will do anything to get her own way.

Violet Sitforth (Lady Bullivant) 50. Drunken Actress. She used to be quite famous. Her career is about to get worse!

Rodney Foxley (Daniel McKenzie) 20. Bit of a ‘spiv’. From the rough end of town. But how far would he go for the love of Lisbeth?

Jane Crowsford (Barbara Breslin) 21. Forces sweetheart. Very attractive. She was brought into the show in order to boost morale on the ‘Home Front’. But she’s angry!

Lord Nigel Falconhurst (Basil Beedon) 43. Journalist who for some strange reason has been given a part in the show. You suspect he’s up to no good but you’re not sure what...

Inspector Foot of the Yard
The Good Guy.

Plus a non-speaking extra to help with directing the audience during the recording of the radio play

by Paul Falcone



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A World War II murder night with the emphasis highly comedy, with audience participation when the sound effects crew don’t turn up!

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

None at the present time.

HANDOUTS

Page from newspaper
Amended copy of radio script
Newspaper puzzle page
Page of wartime recipes
WWII singalong words

SETTING

The recording of a radio play in 1943

CAST

5M 3F + 1 extra (see left)

COSTUME

Evening dress. Encourage the audience to dress in wartime clothes, or if available dress some extras in WWII uniform to enhance the atmosphere

PROPS

Radio microphones on stands. A number of items to produce sound effects; a dummy pistol

SPECIAL EFFECTS

Sound effects of an air raid, possibly with the use of a camera flash gun.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

Death by Radio is suitable for all ages.

RETURN TO TALBOT MANOR

Five years after Marcus Talbot's death, Liberty Talbot plans to sell Talbot Manor. Unknown to her, Marcus's twin brother Mason, locked for years in the West Wing, is about to be released from the asylum and return to claim his rightful inheritance...

Suitable for all ages, *The Return to Talbot Manor* takes a decidedly comic slant on the old haunted house scenario!

Dramatis Personae

Cringe, 68: The butler - is he really brain-damaged or does he know more than he admits to?

Frau Schmidt, early 50s: The sinister housekeeper. About to be thrown out on to the street...

Ruby Cookson, 45: The neurotic maid. Will her past return to haunt her?

Liberty Talbot, 47: The hostess of Talbot Manor is about to sell the family home and return to America, casting everyone aside...

Mason Talbot, 49: Locked for 5 years in the asylum, has he really been cured?

Dr Stringer, 50: The head of the local asylum, he has eyes on Talbot Manor for himself...

Truscott, 40s: An orderly from the asylum, a figure from Ruby's past who has come to deliver Mason and remove Cringe to his tender care...

Dr Harriet Ffinch, 60s: Tourist and amateur detective who comes back to retrieve her broolly, just in time for murder...

by Gary Simpson



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A send up of the every horror film cliché you have ever heard, with the emphasis strongly on comedy.

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

There are 3 scenarios for *Return to Talbot Manor*

HANDOUTS

Scene of the Crime report
Harriet Ffinch's notes

SETTING

A haunted house

CAST

4M 4F (see left)

COSTUME

A maid's costume; a butler's uniform; a nursing assistant (white coat).

PROPS

Everyday items

SPECIAL EFFECTS

Thunder

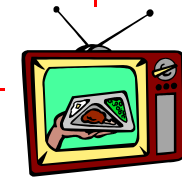
SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

Return to Talbot Manor is suitable for all ages.

Although a sequel to *The Mystery of Talbot Manor*, *Return to Talbot Manor* is a stand-alone murder mystery, and no knowledge of the first *Talbot Manor* is necessary.

SOAPSUDS

by Sue Morris



Melissa Dacy is not a woman to be trifled with. Over the years she has become a household name as the mainstay of the daytime soap opera, *Diamond Road*. But falling ratings call for drastic measures...

Dramatis Personae

Melissa Daly, an ambitious actress who allows no-one to stand in her way...

Martin Maxwell, her husband and co-star

Dacy Maxwell, their daughter who longs to stretch her wings and fly to pastures new...

Roly Tanner, a 'luvvie' director

Paul Stanford, a film producer who has eyes for Dacy in his new film...

Cis Streeter, Melissa's sister and dresser who hides a dark secret...

Sally Kramer, a journalist unafraid to unearth a few nuggets of scandal...

Inspector Foot of the Yard, an officer of the law, married to the world's greatest fan of *Diamond Road* - and so just happens to be in the studio audience...



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A straightforward murder mystery based around the cast of a TV soap opera - with a plot to match

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

There are currently 2 alternative scenarios for *Soapsuds*. The script is unaltered.

HANDOUTS

Inspector Foot's notes
Post-mortem report
Birth certificate

SETTING

The recording of a daytime soap

CAST

4M 4F + 1 extra (see left)

COSTUME

Everyday clothes

PROPS

No elaborate props required.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

Soapsuds is suitable for all ages.

OVER MY DEAD BODY

by Pat Baker



Lord Earnest Grabbit is not a man without enemies. His reputation as a skinflint, watching every penny knows no bounds and affects all those around him; from Daphne, his daughter who wishes a new dress for the ball, to Cook, who has numerous bills to pay. With more than a few skeletons in the kitchen cupboards to unearth, the scene is set for an evening of intrigue, blackmail... and murder.

Dramatis Personae

Lord Earnest Grabbit, a tight-fisted old codger

Lady Grabbit, his long-suffering wife

Daphnia Grabbit, their daughter - dim, flighty. Has been on the shelf for a long time, and no wonder

Curt, the butler

Dotty, the Cook who has a secret or two in the kitchen cupboard

Roger Courtney, Daphnia's fiance, who may not be all that he seems

Inspector Foot of the Yard, an officer of the law,



SETTING

A 1920s manor house

CAST

4M 3F (see above)

COSTUME

Period dress

PROPS

No elaborate props required.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

May be unsuitable for very young children.

WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A wonderful pastiche of the county house period murder mystery, perfect for fans of Agatha Christie novels. Rich in comic moments and hammy overacting.

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

There are currently 2 alternative scenarios for *Over My Dead Body*. The script is unaltered.

HANDOUTS

Inspector Foot's notes
Post-mortem report

A NASTY CASE OF BURNS

In the Highlands of Scotland, the Auchenshoogle Estate has had a traditional Burns night supper every January 25th for years, under the watchful eye of ghillie Jock McPherson. But the untimely arrival of the new estate owners, Mr & Mrs Nigel Cholmondley-Beauchamp and their brusque butler Baines causes unexpected fireworks during the evening's celebrations...

Dramatis Personae

Nigel Cholmondley-Beauchamp, the new owner of the Auchenshoogle estate

Nigella Cholmondley-Beauchamp, his wife

Baines, Their butler

Jock McPherson, the estate ghillie, a staunch keeper of the Burns tradition

Anne McAllister, the estate housekeeper

Dougal Burns, the expected heir to the estate

Patricia McPatrick, the family solicitor

Inspector Foot of the Yard, an officer of the law

by Andy Hawkes



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A murdernight with a fiercely Scottish theme, it encompasses some of the features of a traditional Burns night

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS
None at the present time.

HANDOUTS

Scene of the crime report
Forensic report
Post-mortem report

SETTING

The Auchenshoogle Country Estate, the present day

CAST

5M 3F (see left)

COSTUME

Present day, but fit for a Burns supper. The more tartan, the better. Jock should be in highland dress.

PROPS

A skean dhu.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

A Nasty Case of Burns is suitable for all ages.

A TASTE FOR MURDER

At the local wine tasting society funds are short. But it's 1978 and disco is all the rage. In a flash of inspiration, the society hires Fabian Devine, resident D.J. from the Kinks discotheque to provide an evening's fundraising entertainment. But amongst the platform shoes and dodgy dance steps a local cub reporter is about to discover a wine that delivers the type of hangover which involves sleeping it off... permanently.

Dramatis Personae

Maximillian Gainford-Brown, opinionated property developer, wine connoisseur and chairman of the wine club. What is building in his mind?

Jessica Gainford-Brown, the attention-seeking wife of Maximillian, but has she exposed herself too much?

Fabian Devine, the exuberant colourful DJ. Our detective for the evening, can he dance his way out of trouble?

Jonathan Richer, an ambitious lawyer. He is hoping to become the local M.P.—what's stopping him?

William Green, owns a local garden centre and makes his own wine. However—the garden centre is not as green as he thinks...

Amelia Phoebe-Wellborn, a frivolous filly with a flair for flamboyance.

Thomas Allman, local builder and CB-radio enthusiast. Nobody has told him he is middle aged. What if he finds out?

Rachael Hunter, ambitious cub reporter. Wants to launch her own celebrity gossip magazine. If only she had the scoop...

by *Lynda Yearsley*



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

Get those flares out of the cupboard and your platforms on! We're back in the world of 1970s disco fever!

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

None at the present time.

HANDOUTS

A list of wine terms
A list of CB Radio terms
The Local Rag Newspaper
A guide to Groovy Disco dancing

SETTING

A 1970s discotheque

CAST

4M 3F (see above)

COSTUME

Period dress

PROPS

No elaborate props required.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

A Taste for Murder is suitable for all ages.

AN ENGLISHMAN IN NEW YORK

Welcome to Murdernight Noir. In the seedy backstreets of downtown New York, a private investigator receives a late-night visit from a most unusual - and beautiful - client. Unexpectedly, she carries an invitation to a birthday party being held in honour of her husband, Big Joe. It seems Big Joe is not without his enemies and tonight, the beautiful Bella needs help to find out who is planning to kill him.

Dramatis Personae

Big Joe, The victim

Bella, His wife

Baines, The butler

Harry, Big Joe's lawyer: can be played by a male or female actor

Larry, Bella's brother

Sabine, An entertainer

Claudia, Larry's wife

Chandler, The private eye who needs your help

Narrator, who looks remarkably like Chandler

by Andy Hawkes



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

Raymond Chandler style
murdernight noir, with plenty
of humorous asides

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

None at the present time.

HANDOUTS

Scene of the Crime report
Toxicology report
Autopsy report

SETTING

New York. Raymond Chandler style.

CAST

6M 3F (or 5M 4F) (see left)

COSTUME

Period dress

PROPS

A typewriter and desk.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

An Englishman in New York is suitable for audiences of all ages.

ALL AFLOAT!

The scene is a transatlantic liner sailing between Liverpool and New York. Lord Montague 'Monty' Carstaires is travelling with his wife Lady Caroline and Monty's younger bachelor brother, Freddie. Their young, rich guest Penelope Petersham is ripe for the picking. But an unexpected encounter brings to the surface a past which many had felt - and preferred - to be forgotten: a tale of spurned love and cowardice. And on a boat there is nowhere to hide...

Dramatis Personae

Penelope 'Pest' Petersham, the heiress to a well known ceramics firm

Lady Caroline Carstaires, a lady with a past...

Lord Montague 'Monty' Carstaires, a lord with a devious streak whose past hides a dastardly secret...

Wil, a sailor who is not all that he seems

Captain John 'Jack' Bentham, a Canadian jewellery dealer

Alice, Lady Caroline's maid

Frederick 'Freddie' Carstaires, an eligible bachelor

Inspector Foot of the Yard, an officer of the law, who just happens to be on the cruise ship at the time

A pickpocket

by Sue Morris



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A straightforward murder mystery with some delightful comic moments. Boasts a strong, epic storyline set in the first world war.

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

None at the present time.

HANDOUTS

Scene of the crime
Post-mortem report

SETTING

A 1920s cruise ship travelling between Liverpool and New York.

CAST

5M 3F + 1 extra (see left)

COSTUME

Period dress. Evening dress for the gentlemen. A sailor.

PROPS

Some jewellery, including a breakable string of pearls.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

All Afloat! is suitable for all ages.

TAUGHT A LESSON

At the local secondary school, the children are excited at the prospect of the forthcoming school dance. But when the headmaster unexpectedly announces that the school inspection has been brought forward, desperate measures are needed to make the school presentable. But Mr Darling, the caretaker has his hands full, what with Damien painting graffiti on the school toilets and Sam breaking windows again. When PC Foot arrives to give a pre-arranged drugs talk, he unexpectedly stumbles on a murder...

Dramatis Personae

Theodore Peterson, the headmaster with a secret ambition

Miss Green, an inexperienced teacher who has to fend off the attentions of the amorous head,,,

Mr Darling, the caretaker who has a past...

Stepahnie, a swot

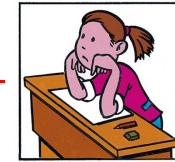
Damien, a bully - can also be played by a girl

Ashley, a fashion-conscious schoolgirl

Sam, a sport-mad schoolboy

P.C. Foot, cousin of Inspector Foot of the Yard - a humble community police officer who hopes he can solve the mystery and be just like his famous cousin.

by Gemma Simpson



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A simple, fun murder mystery which can be performed by adults or a mix of adults and children

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

None at the present time.

HANDOUTS

Scene of the crime
Post-mortem report

SETTING

A secondary schoolroom

CAST

5M 3F (or 4M 4F) or alternatively
3M 1F + 2 boys, 2 girls (or 3M 1F + 1 boy, 3 girls)

COSTUME

Policeman, school uniform for the "children"

PROPS

Policeman's whistle

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

Taught a Lesson is suitable to be performed by adults, children or a mixture of the two, It is also suitable for schools or family audiences, with participants of all ages.

HELL HATH NO FURY...

The local women's committee is anything but genteel. During a fund-raising evening the claws finally come out, after years of rivalry and petty jealousies. It seems that every member of the committee has something to hide and before long skeletons are popping out of many a kitchen cupboard. When suddenly the treasurer is found horrifically murdered, all the women find themselves under suspicion and questioned by the determined Inspector Foot of the Yard...

Dramatis Personae

Susan Cashman: The treasurer of the local women's committee, she is the victim of a heinous crime...

Barbara Settle: The chairperson of the local women's committee

Julia Scribbens: The faithful secretary

Maureen Teller: The committee publicist

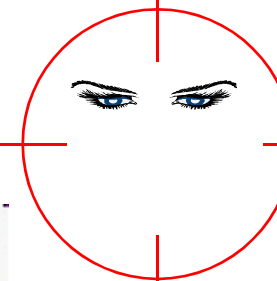
Dr Valerie Playfair: The entertainments secretary

Moya Cookson: The caterer

Glenda Shorthouse: The vice-chairperson of the local women's committee

Inspector Foot of the Yard: An officer of the law called in to solve a despicable crime

by *Andy Hawkes*



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A comedy Murdernight especially written for an all-female cast

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

None at the present time.

HANDOUTS

Two handouts

SETTING

The meeting of the local women's committee

CAST

7F 1M (or 8F)

COSTUME

No specific costume requirements. Modern day

PROPS

Everyday items.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

Hell Hath No Fury... is suitable for all ages.

THE SOUND OF MU..RDER

In the world of amateur dramatics, egos can often run dangerously close to the surface and none more so than those of the ladies of the local musical society, who on arrival for their weekly rehearsal for their forthcoming production of *The Sound of Music* find their rehearsal hall double booked. As tempers begin to flare, skeletons start to emerge from the most unlikely of places and petty jealousies begin to take on epic proportions. And for one particular prima donna, her moment of stardom is about to be cut dramatically short.

Dramatis Personae

Julie Anders: Maria in the forthcoming production, she is not popular and ends up horribly murdered

Stephanie Spielberg: The dramatic society's director

Sarah Snoop: The caretaker of the hall which has been double-booked

Aggie Alpert: A member of the chorus

Eadie Ollerinshaw: A member of the chorus

Martha Superior: The would-be star of the show, she has been cast as the Mother Superior and not Maria

Andrea Williams: The musical director

Inspector Foot of the Yard: An officer of the law

by Andy Hawkes



WHAT KIND OF MURDERNIGHT IS IT?

A comedy Murdernight especially written for an all-female cast

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

None at the present time.

HANDOUTS

Two handouts

SETTING

An abortive rehearsal for the forthcoming amateur dramatic society's production of *The Sound of Music*

CAST

7F 1M (or 8F)

COSTUME

Some nun's costumes. Modern day

PROPS

Everyday items.

SUITABILITY FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES

The Sound of Mu..rder is suitable for all ages.



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- Ticket, poster and programme suggestions. In most cases the templates can be customised and printed with your individual details
- Question and answer sheets
- Menu suggestions
- Where included in the evening's entertainment, copies of handouts to the audience depicting extra clues such as post-mortem reports and details of the scene of the crime!

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- Ticket and programme suggestions
- Sample question and answer sheets
- Menu suggestions
- Where included in the evening's entertainment, copies of handouts to the audience depicting extra clues such as post-mortem reports and details of the scene of the crime!

***Murdernight* Murderpacks cost £75 (inc P&P) which includes the royalty fee for one performance**



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