Who is...

Victoria Sponge

Great British

Bump Off

Congratulations!

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

Firstly: *Don't Panic!*

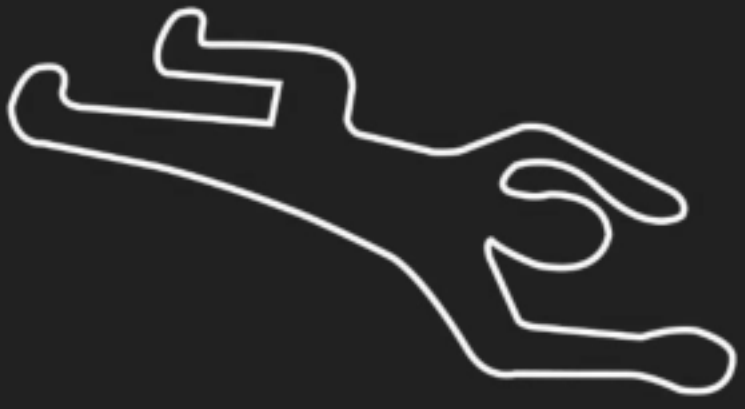
This booklet contains all the information you need to help you act your part throughout the murder mystery; background history, scripted dialogues, questions you should ask and scripted answers to questions you will be asked by the other guests.

You are encouraged to make the most of your part. Feel free to make up new lines and add to your back story or statements if you wish. However, make sure you always provide the information you need to within your answers. We have pre-scripted your statements to make things as simple for you as possible.

Make sure you listen to everyone else's questions and answers.

You won't be told if you're the killer – so feel free to guess yourself at the end – but don't tell anyone else you are! You must protest your innocence until the end!

Lastly: *Have fun!*



Victoria Sponge

Background Character Information

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

You know that flash isn't everything and that classics like yourself always win in the end.

You are accustomed to being in charge as you have been president of your local WI for the past two years. If too many people talk at once, tap your glass and call for order.

As you have been a tour guide in the past, guide people to their chairs and perhaps point out interesting things. For example, "Have you noticed your place card?" Alternatively, offer interesting facts about your surroundings or past bake offs. They certainly don't need to be true - just said with authority!

You don't like people to disagree with you. After all, you weren't named after Queen Victoria for nothing. Be queenly!

Victoria Sponge - Introductions

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

Victoria Sponge speaks first using the following dialogue:

This news about Shaw G. Bottom is most unexpected. I am, needless to say, not amused. However, in true British fashion we shall soldier on! With this in mind, I shall take the lead and be the first to introduce myself. I am Victoria Sponge and I'm from the Isle of Wight. I've led many tourists through the hallways of Osborne House so I'm confident that I'm more than qualified to lead you all out of this maze. So... which of you did it? It certainly wasn't me!

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

Scripted Dialogue - Round 1

Mac O' Roon: So, looks like we're ready to tee off! You're looking rather pale, Kendall. Something up?

Kendall Mintcake: I'm perfectly well, thank you. Well, apart from being a suspect in a murder investigation!

Victoria Sponge: No one enjoys being under suspicion, Kendall.

Whitey Bloomer: I can't believe that someone here was unsporting enough to commit murder.

Devon Scones: Not everyone plays by the rules, Whitey. Someone here didn't!

Whitey Bloomer: Can we just get this enquiry finished so we can get back to the show?

Kendall Mintcake: This murder will make much better television! The viewers love a bit of drama!

Victoria Sponge: We all knew someone would leave the tent today. Who'd have guessed it would have been in a body bag? Not me, that's for certain.

Devon Scones: Does that mean we'll all go through to next week?

Brandy Snap: How could you possibly think that the competition will continue? We've lost our judge! (SOBS) I want to uncover who did it, not who made the best bake!

Victoria Sponge: Please, Brandy. Calm down. High emotions can so easily spiral out of control.

Whitey Bloomer: In that case, I think a whisky would be very welcome about now. For the shock, obviously…

Mac O' Roon: Whisky! Now there's an idea. As Pink put it, "I'm coming up, so you better get this party started". Let's DO IT!!

Victoria Sponge: Quite right. I'll start us off, shall I?

Victoria Sponge - First Round

Questions you should ask:

Whitey Bloomer, how did you make those four slashes in the bread you baked for the first challenge?

Kendall Mintcake, did you ever leave the big white tent?

Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

When asked: Victoria, did you bring your own bread knife to be part of your presentation?

Say: I didn't see the need to bring my own knife as I knew that Shaw would bring his own one to cut and sample my bread.

When asked: Victoria Sponge, is it true that you hate knives?

Say: I do hate knives, it's true! The reason is rather private, but since this is a murder enquiry, I suppose I will have to tell all. Many years ago, I lost my temper and stabbed someone! The incident was all hushed up by my parents, for which I'll always be very grateful. I couldn't possibly let this shameful chapter in my life become public. Why, I'm a member of the WI and head of my local Cookbook Club, known as the Merry Berry Bakers! I'd really appreciate everyone's discretion in this matter.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue - Round 2

Victoria Sponge: I'm not terribly pleased with the direction in which this investigation is headed.

Whitey Bloomer: Me neither. I need some quiet to think.

Mac O' Roon: I miss the quiet of the golf course.

Brandy Snap: Maybe we should have a moment of silence to mark the passing of our judge.

Kendall Mintcake: (REALLY BRIEF PAUSE) And that's long enough, don't you think? I don't think he deserved more than that.

Devon Scones: I don't think Brandy would agree. She seems to be terribly cut up about it.

Kendall Mintcake: I'm just wondering about her sad act, which is, of course, what I think it is. An act. This amount of grief seems rather illogical - even unbalanced.

Brandy Snap: How could you be so cruel?!

Whitey Bloomer: Maybe we should all take three calming breaths. We need to concentrate on which of us attacked Shaw G. Bottom, not on attacking each other.

Victoria Sponge: An excellent point, Whitey.

Mac O' Roon: ARG! Why are we chatting when there's work to be done? Dishes don't spice themselves you know!

Victoria Sponge: I think we're all quite clear about that, Mac.

Devon Scones: To be honest, I'm still feeling a bit confused over the whole murder thing. Do you think we should ask each other a few more questions?

Victoria Sponge: An excellent idea. Shall we continue?

Victoria Sponge - Second Round

Questions you should ask:

Whitey Bloomer, do you know anything else you think might be relevant to this investigation?

Kendall Mintcake, did you see any of the other bakers while you were out walking?

Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

When asked: Victoria, I'd like to ask you about that handwritten note that Devon Scones claims to have found here in the tent. Did you write it and if you did, why were you asking Shaw G. Bottom to meet you outside the tent? Were you two in a romantic relationship?

Say: I would be happy to explain why I wrote that note to Shaw G. Bottom. Firstly, I would never EVER be in a romantic relationship with Shaw. What a repulsive idea! Secondly, Shaw G. Bottom had learned about my youthful indiscretion with the knife and has been blackmailing me for many years. I pay him quite a large amount every month. He was an evil man.

When asked: Victoria Sponge, where did you go when you left your baking station earlier?

Say: I left the big white tent to go to the judge's tent. However, I can assure everyone that this was BEFORE Shaw G. Bottom was killed because he wasn't there. I was rather surprised to see a Royal Wedding biscuit tin in the tent as I didn't know Shaw collected such things. Rather coincidentally, I do. I admit I was rather tempted to take it but I resisted the temptation. Instead, I put the money packet on the table and left. However, on my way back, I thought I saw someone heading in the direction of the toilets. I don't know who it was.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue - Round 3

Victoria Sponge: I am NOT amused at the thought of breaking bread with a murderer.

Mac O' Roon: How about cake?

Devon Scones: A cake a day keeps the killer away!

Kendall Mintcake: If you ate a cake a day, I suspect you'd need a stronger chair. Let me do a few calculations…

Devon Scones: We don't have time for calculations, Kendall.

Brandy Snap: Please! We're not here to discuss cake! We're here to discover a murderer. Can we just get on with it?

Whitey Bloomer: Going to get hysterical again, Brandy? Do you think that's wise?

Brandy Snap: Don't you tell me what to do!!!

Whitey Bloomer: SHHHH!!

Victoria Sponge: Thank you, Whitey.

Brandy Snap: Sorry everyone. Perhaps we should all sit quietly for a moment and let our thoughts rise naturally to the surface.

Mac O' Roon: I've got something rising, Brandy.

Devon Scones: Is he being funny? I can't tell.

Whitey Bloomer: Not to worry, Devon. Fancy that remark's put you right in the rough, Mac!

Mac o' Roon: Aw, come on! I was just being witty!

Kendall Mintcake: I don't think that's been proven either.

Devon Scones: Speaking of proof, perhaps we should just move on.

Whitey Bloomer: An excellent plan.

Victoria Sponge: Yes, indeed. Last round of questions, I think. Who'll start?

Victoria Sponge - Third Round

Questions you should ask:

Devon, why were you looking so irritated earlier?

Mac O'Roon, were you worried that one of the other bakers might accidentally take your lucky wooden spoon?

Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

When asked: Victoria Sponge, you were spotted holding Mac O'Roon's hand earlier today. What was going on?

Say: I was holding Mac's hand to help him attach a plaster to one of his fingers. Apparently, it was cut when Mac reached into his golf bag. I suggested that perhaps he shouldn't sharpen his putter in the future.

When asked: Victoria, you were spotted coming out of the judge's tent. Did you happen to see or hear anything suspicious while you were inside?

Say: Well I heard someone approaching the tent while I was inside which caused me to slip out the back way in rather a hurry. Although I don't know who it was, I can tell you that they were whistling the bake off theme. I ran into Whitey Bloomer on my way back.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Victoria Sponge - Concluding Statement

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

Victoria speaks first using the following dialogue:

Well I didn't do it. I would never murder someone! Yes, it's true that I was the victim of blackmail, but why would I worsen my situation by committing murder? Violence is never the answer. I learned that lesson many years ago.

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

Tell the others.

Notes

We hope you enjoyed playing this Red Herring Games murder mystery and will visit us again to try out our other games.

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Red Herring Games

There's something *fishy* going on

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