



THE DEADLY DERBY

8-15 Guests, Electronic Version

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#DeadlyDerby, #MyMysteryParty on social media – no spoilers, please – so no mention of victim or murderer or you'll ruin it for other hosts!

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SYNOPSIS

The Louisville Derby, otherwise known as The Run for Red Roses, is a famous horse race held annually in Louisville, Kentucky. The long-awaited day at Gotham Downs is just around the corner. Not known for camaraderie within the box seats of Millionaire's Row, many of the thoroughbred owners have jaded histories together. Bad business deals, betrayal, and retaliations have recently plagued the members of the elite circle so this year at the Gotham Downs Gala, look out for mayhem.

Nevertheless, the paddocks are ready, the silks are pressed, and the horses are dying to get to the starting gate. It's time to shop for stunning apparel for the big night before the race, as you would never allow your foes to outshine you. This is where your story begins.

LIST OF CHARACTERS FOR THE HOST

7 REQUIRED, 8 OPTIONAL

MAY BE PLAYED AS 'ALL FEMALE' WITH REQUIRED PLAYERS.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTION		COSTUME SUGGESTIONS
<p>CLARK CRUMP <i>Owner, Moon Ranger</i></p> <p>REQUIRED Either gender</p>	<p>Moon Ranger is the undefeated horse and number one pick of the Louisville Derby this year. Clark Crump is the horse's arrogant owner and founder of Cerebral Consultants—a management consulting firm. Clark is often stressed out and can be difficult to be around for extended periods.</p>	<p><i>F: Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire.</i></p> <p><i>M: semi-formal / formal suit, bow tie, hat of any kind.</i></p>
<p>SUNNY BARBARO <i>Socialite</i></p> <p>REQUIRED Female</p>	<p>Where there is caviar, diamonds and glitz, you'll find Sunny Barbaro. Sunny is a jet-setting socialite who travels to the biggest parties around the globe. The Gotham Downs Gala is next on her busy schedule.</p>	<p><i>Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire.</i></p>
<p>JULES MERIWETHER <i>Gossip Columnist, New York Daily</i></p> <p>REQUIRED Female</p>	<p>Jules Meriwether is a tenacious gossip columnist and famous blogger. If there is a scoop to be uncovered, she will be there with bells on and an audio recording device in her hand. If you have skeletons in your closet, make sure to steer clear of this daunting diva.</p>	<p><i>Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire. Optional props are any recording devices (i.e. smart phone), and/or a notepad.</i></p>
<p>FERN BELMONT <i>Socialite</i></p> <p>REQUIRED Female</p>	<p>Fern Belmont is the overly friendly trendsetter from Beverly Hills. With a famous cosmetic surgeon husband, Fern is used to hobnobbing with the stars and always finds a way to gain access to the place-to-be—even if she has to sneak in like she did at a White House dinner party.</p>	<p><i>Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire.</i></p>
<p>DIANE VICH <i>Racing Analyst</i></p> <p>REQUIRED Female</p>	<p>Diane Vich is the new Director of Programming and Senior Racing Analyst at Gotham Downs. Diane was a writer and editor for The Thoroughbred Monthly for many years until she was forced to resign for unknown reasons. Diane has a feisty personality and holds an Ivy League degree.</p>	<p><i>Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire.</i></p>
<p>ROSE WITHERS <i>B Movie Star</i></p> <p>REQUIRED Female</p>	<p>If you are a fan of cheesy slasher films, you have seen Rose Withers' face before. This scream queen is also an entrepreneur who is currently working on a ground-breaking social media app called Capture.</p>	<p><i>Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire.</i></p>

<p>GAIL GALLANT Owner, <i>Itsy Bitsy Mitzy</i></p> <p>REQUIRED Female</p>	<p>Gail Gallant is the plucky owner of the long shot horse Itsy Bitsy Mitzy. Gail is a founder of the fashion line Spicy – a contemporary casual wear and dress clothing brand. Gail is used to getting whatever she wants in life. Nobody knows how she would react to being told no—because it’s never happened.</p>	<p><i>Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire.</i></p>
<p>BEN BUCK Owner, <i>Thunder Thighs</i></p> <p>Optional Male</p>	<p>Ben Buck is one of the most high-profile billionaires in the inner circle of the horse racing industry. His stallion Take the Bank won the Louisville Derby in 2008, and he’s been chasing the adrenaline ever since.</p>	<p><i>Semi-formal / formal suit, bow tie, hat of any kind.</i></p>
<p>STEW PEGASUS Venture Capitalist</p> <p>Optional Male</p>	<p>Like a financial Santa Claus, Stew Pegasus finds joy in bestowing financial gifts to worthy entrepreneurs. Stew is a hardworking businessman who works from sun up to sun down. Stew hasn’t taken a break in months and the tabloids are shocked he is attending the Gotham Downs Gala.</p>	<p><i>Semi-formal / formal suit, bow tie, hat of any kind.</i></p>
<p>GIGI GRINDSTONE Owner, <i>Horrible Twilight</i></p> <p>Optional Female</p>	<p>GiGi Grindstone, the heiress of Grindstone Tires, is the gregarious owner of one of the highly ranked horses for the big race, Horrible Twilight. Rumor has it that GiGi’s handlers have been dosing her horse with anabolic steroids, but to date, Horrible Twilight has not tested positive.</p>	<p><i>Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire.</i></p>
<p>BARBARA BARTON Heiress</p> <p>Optional Female</p>	<p>Barbara Barton is the sole heiress of the Chamblee Soup fortune. She recently gained interest in horse breeding and has been importing stallions from Europe to the U.S. for breeding purposes. She is opening a private stud farm in San Diego, California called Barton Stallions and is attending the Gotham Downs Gala to make connections and gain clients.</p>	<p><i>Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire. Optional to bring fake business cards &/or pamphlets for Barton Stallions.</i></p>
<p>GUINEVERE GOTHAM Comedienne</p> <p>Optional Female</p>	<p>Guinevere Gotham is a famous standup comedienne and former star of CBC Network’s comedy show Saturday Night Lively. Guinevere is fun to be around as she is always practicing her newest routine on her friends. Guinevere is an heiress of the legendary Gotham family from Louisville.</p>	<p><i>Super outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire. Optional to have some horse jokes ready to tell the other guests. You love to perform.</i></p>
<p>CATHY CHURCHILL Entrepreneur</p> <p>Optional Female</p>	<p>Cathy Churchill is the founder of Red Dragon Pharmaceuticals, an online pharmacy of weight loss medication and anabolic steroids. Cathy has earned a tremendous stash of cash but is widely disliked for how she acquired her fortune.</p>	<p><i>Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire.</i></p>
<p>STONE EPSOM Owner, <i>Midnight Jailbird</i></p> <p>Optional Male</p>	<p>Stone Epsom is the owner of a front runner of the Louisville Derby this year, Midnight Jailbird. Stone got into a skirmish at the Gotham Downs Gala three years ago and ended up in jail – therefore, he named his stallion in honor of his bad fortune.</p>	<p><i>Semi-formal / formal suit, bow tie, hat of any kind.</i></p>

**FOX
PHARAOH**
Event Planner

Optional Either Gender

Fox Pharaoh is the anxious event planner of the Gotham Downs Gala. Fox is a control freak and has to have hands in every aspect of the event from lighting to umbrella stands. Stress is Fox's middle name.

*F: Outlandish sun hat and semi-formal / formal attire.
M: semi-formal / formal suit, bow tie, hat of any kind.*

***IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING CHARACTER ASSIGNMENTS:**

It's suggested to invite more than the required number of players, as any of the required guests could cancel at the last minute. You may use any optional players in any combination you choose. The optional players have the same materials and participation level but are not mandatory for the storyline to play out and for the mystery to be sleuthed.

What happens if one of your required characters cancels on you at the last minute?

1. If you have an extra optional player coming to the party - give them a call and tell them they'll need to switch characters. Hopefully, this isn't the day of the party because this player most likely has their costume ready. If so, allow them to wear their costume, as their name tag will notify the guests which character they are playing.
2. If you don't care about the surprise, look at who the murderer and victim are to ensure the characters are still being played in your game. The victim is disclosed within the round two clue cards, and the murderer is disclosed within the round three solutions. The victim has the most important role in the game and may not be left out. The murderer cannot be left out for obvious reasons. You might need to switch one required character over to play the no-show murderer/victim. Post the missing character's clue cards during each round (not all cards at once) on a wall or table. You can add comedy to this situation and make a stuffed dummy of this character. Post the clues to where the chest would be or in the hands! You'll be surprised as your guests start to 'mingle' with this effigy in good humor. It's hysterical.
3. If you would like to keep the mystery a surprise and are missing a required player with no optional characters playing the game - don't panic. You may contact us via email at support@mymysteryparty.com (we make every attempt to monitor this email throughout the weekends and holidays), so we can tell you if your murderer/victim are still intact. If you can omit the player, you can post the missing required character's clue card on a wall (or table) during each round (not all cards at once), and explain to the guests you are missing a player, and they need to get the information from these cards.

**HOST INSTRUCTIONS ARE
INCLUDED IN THE PURCHASED
GAME**

NAME REMOVED TO PREVENT SPOILERS

For some pre-party fun, you can contact (email, phone, etc.) the following guests in the week leading up to the party:

Contact the guest playing NAME REMOVED and say you were never able to find your wallet after the Waldorf Astoria's Snow Owl Bash. You appreciate that NAME REMOVED spent so much time trying to help you find it. Unfortunately, whoever took it was able to rack up over fifty thousand bucks on your credit cards before you canceled them! Such a hassle.

(Contact info : _____)

Respond to the guest playing NAME REMOVED and say yes, you did invest in a social media site and you believe in it. However, in other news, you heard there's been a feud going on 79th Street in NYC (where he resides). A mutual friend said NAME REMOVED no longer gets along with his neighbor and the police have had to settle disputes over there. NAME REMOVED should just head over to one of his other mansions and get away from the stress of it.

(If NAME REMOVED doesn't contact you, skip this task.)

Please note: either contacting the guests above or deciding to skip these tasks will not alter the mystery or anyone's ability to solve the mystery in anyway. However, contacting other guests will lead to excitement and mystery. Be prepared for the unexpected. Hosts and

EACH PLAYER WILL RECEIVE PRE-GAME TASKS THAT ARE OPTIONAL

ROUND ONE CLUES – cut out, slip into envelopes and label with the character and round. ✂

NAME REMOVED TO PREVENT SPOILERS ROUND ONE

CLUES TO REVEAL DURING THIS ROUND

During this round, mingle with other guests to discuss the following information:

- Speak to NAME REMOVED about Capture. You are very confused on why a social media app that captures screenshots randomly from your phone and posts them to your followers is a good idea.
- Talk to NAME REMOVED about the story you heard from a mutual friend that she broke into someone's house, stole a laptop with secrets on it, and now she's blackmailing them. You have to know the details! You won't say anything to anybody.
- Talk to a few people about how you allowed NAME REMOVED, your ex-friend, to borrow a family heirloom necklace worth 20K to a charity ball in New Orleans. She never returned it and now, she says she did return it to you that night. She did not, she is a liar, and not your friend anymore. The reason you haven't contacted the police is because you don't have proof of anything and you don't want stories in the media circulating about how you are so spoiled to worry about a 20K necklace while people are starving around the world.
- Ask around to see if anybody needs your stud services at Barton Stallions. Also, you have some colts and fillies for sale and they come from championship bloodlines.

PERSONAL CLUES TO CONCEAL

- If NAME REMOVED tells you anything about what she did and who she is blackmailing, you are to immediately spill her secrets. You have a big mouth and are not a good friend. You don't care for NAME REMOVED because of her recent stunt of sneaking into the White House to a dinner party she wasn't invited to. You think she did it for attention and you don't like attention-seekers. Plus, she'll never buy a horse, so you have no use for her.

- You are d
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her blog a
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hensible.

**EACH PLAYER WILL RECEIVE A
ROUND ONE CARD**

ROUND TWO CLUES— cut out, slip into envelopes and label with the character and round. ✂

NAME REMOVED TO PREVENT SPOILERS - ROUND TWO

PRE MURDER CLUES TO REVEAL & TASKS TO PERFORM:

- 🐎 You are mortified because you just heard a rumor that NAME REMOVED's brother is the head medical technician at the designated lab of The Jockey Club. She could have him alter and falsify a urinalysis to make it appear as though your horse is on illegal drugs! Ask around to see what others think about this.
- 🐎 Ask NAME REMOVED if s/he is confident that Moon Ranger (the favored horse) will win. You understand he got a great post position of #8. Your horse has #9 and is ranked overall as the third favorite. May the best horse win. Then, speak to NAME REMOVED about NAME REMOVED
- 🐎 Speak to a few people about how you and NAME REMOVED went to college together at Harvard. There are rumors she failed her way out, but she contends she decided a college education wasn't for her. You, on the other hand, graduated with honors. She is very envious of you and always has been.
- 🐎 Speak to NAME REMOVED about why she left her job at the Thoroughbred Daily magazine. You know she loved her job and had been there forever. It's weird that out of the blue, she resigned and then the New York Daily article (that NAME REMOVED wrote) said she was forced to resign because she didn't fact check her articles and lacks a talent in writing. You find that to be preposterous!

POST MURDER:

- 💀 You should have known that the victim was in danger as you watch a ton of emergency room shows on television. However, you didn't really care, so you looked the other way. That doesn't make you a murderer.
- 💀 You never left the party area once the party began.
- 💀 The
Som
dea

ntertaining.
ictim was

**EACH PLAYER WILL RECEIVE A
ROUND TWO CARD**

ROUND THREE SOLUTION CARDS — cut out, slip into envelopes and label with the character and round. ✂

Name is removed to prevent spoilers

FINAL SOLUTION ROUND THREE

When it is your turn, say the following to the group:

Solution removed to prevent spoilers. There will be a short sentence or two that the player will get up and act out (read) in front of the group.

THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERS ARE TO READ THEIR SOLUTIONS TO THE GROUP IN THIS ORDER. IF ANY OF THE CHARACTERS ARE NOT AT THE PARTY, SKIP THEM AND GO TO THE NEXT IN LINE. WHEN ALL THE FOLLOWING PLAYERS HAVE READ THEIR SOLUTIONS, ASK THE **MURDERER TO READ THEIR SOLUTION CARD.**

Character A, Character B, Character C, etc.

**EACH PLAYER WILL RECEIVE A
ROUND THREE SOLUTION CARD**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR GAME:

- Head over to the Your Mystery Party guest invite site at <http://yourmysteryparty.com/derby>
- Pinterest page: <https://www.pinterest.com/mymysteryparty/deadly-derby-murder-mystery-party-hosting-tips/>
- Social media posts: #DeadlyDerby, #MyMysteryParty – no spoilers, please! Spoilers include victim or murderer reveal in any way; please don't ruin it for other hosts!
- YouTube Game Trailer is located on the game page and Your Mystery Party page.

THIS GAME WAS CREATED BY DR. BON BLOSSMAN – AWARD WINNING AUTHOR

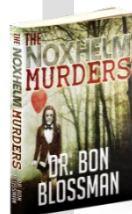
Please check out our author's line of Young Adult (YA) award-winning mystery novels!

Fiona Frost: Award-Winning YA mystery series.



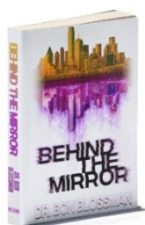
Dregs Island - YA Thriller

This book won a silver medal at Reader's Favorite, won the Beverly Hills Young Adult category, and was a solo medalist winner for New Apple Book Awards for the YA Mystery/Thriller category.



The Noxhelm Murders – YA Mystery Horror

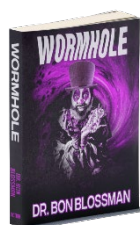
Winner of the Indie Brag Medallion, and 2 gold medals with Literary Classics Book Awards in Young Adult Mystery and Supernatural



Behind the Mirror (Book 1) – YA Dark Fantasy

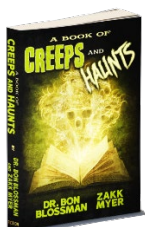
A trilogy about a teen girl who thought she was ordinary.

This book has won a literary seal of approval from Literary Classics Organization.



Wormhole (Behind the Mirror Trilogy, Book 2) – YA Dark Fantasy

Dr. Bon Blossman continues the gripping journey of seventeen-year-old Ella in the haunting and powerful second installment of the Behind the Mirror Trilogy.



A Book of Creeps & Haunts – YA Horror

13 haunting tales come together to form this anthology by Dr. Bon Blossman and Zakk Myer.

Coming Soon!

TBD (Behind the Mirror Trilogy, Book 3) – YA Dark Fantasy

The final instalment of the Behind the Mirror Trilogy is set for 2021.

EXAMPLE TIMELINE

The game can be shortened by excluding the optional activities, or lengthened by adding more bonus games.

- 7:00 PM: **Guests arrive**, have their pictures made (optional) and receive a refreshment / cocktail for adults. The guests will view the guest instructions and character list while they wait for everybody to arrive. The host should build in at least a 10 minute cushion for guests to arrive late. Hey, it happens.
- 7:10 PM: The **host reads the guest instructions** to the group. It is **optional** to have each guest introduce their character in front of the group. Play the video game trailer on Your Mystery Party for your game &/or read the game synopsis from Your Mystery Party to the group to give the premise.
- 7:20 PM: The **Round One envelopes** are handed out and the game begins. The guests mingle and reveal the clues on their clue cards. It's just like a normal party, but the guests remain in character and gossip about each other's characters. The motives & storylines will start to unveil.
- 7:50 PM: An **optional bonus game is played**. Bonus activities keep the energy flowing and the guests have a blast. They are optional, but highly suggested. The players must remain in character.
- 8:05 PM: **Optional to serve dinner**. Dinner can be sit down or buffet – or even as simple as a pizza that's delivered! You can also just serve appetizers/snacks during the party.
- 8:35 PM: The **Round Two envelopes are handed out** to the guests and pre-murder clues are discussed.
- 8:55 PM: The victim becomes the victim and the host passes out the investigation sheets to the players. The guests interrogate each other to determine whodunit using all previous clues and the post-murder clues on their round two cards. The full story is in the player clue cards, but the guests will have to be skilled at asking the right questions of each other, etc.
- 9:10 PM: The **forensic analysis report is revealed** and within ~5-10 minutes, **everybody submits their formal guess of whodunit**.
- 9:20 PM: **Optional accusation round** – the guests can take turns formally accusing who they think did it, and why. You'll be surprised at how everybody's inner actor will surface during this activity.
- 9:30 PM: Dessert and coffee (**optional**) are served and the **Round Three envelopes are handed out** to the guests. The guests sit in a circle and one-by-one, the solutions are revealed by each of the guests and the murderer will confess at the conclusion of the round. The murderer is notified in their round three solution card that they are the murderer. They will not know or have any advantage over anybody of knowing whodunit before this round. *If you do not opt to have the optional players to read their final solutions in front of the group, give them a few minutes to mingle and share their solutions.
- 9:50 PM: An **optional bonus game is played**.
- 10:10 PM: An **optional award ceremony**. [My Mystery Party](#) has award certificates of all kinds that you can choose from in the [Prop Emporium](#). The host can determine who receives the awards while the bonus game is being played. Some awards are traditional and some are snarky but hilarious!
- 10:30 PM: **Game over!**