

# *Murder on the Nile*



## **Murder on the Nile – Playing the Game**

Welcome to what is sure to be a most memorable murder mystery party! This introduction will help explain the way the game will work. If you have any questions, please ask whoever is hosting your party. The game relies on how much you get involved, improvise and play your character. Each character has a different personality so do not be embarrassed to act out your character, the more you do, the more fun you will have.

When you arrive, you can get into character straight away, but do not reveal anything from this character pack apart from your character name and who you are related to. Once everyone has arrived, the host will call everyone together and place 11 slips of folded paper in the centre of the group. One of these slips will be selected at random and on it will have “? Murders?”. The ? will be replaced by numbers which correspond to the “Secret Number” found on the next page of this pack. So if the slip of paper says “5 Murders 7”, it means whoever has secret number 5 will be the murderer and whoever has secret number 7 will be the victim. If your number is not on the slip of paper selected, you are innocent of the crime. If you are the Victim you still get a chance to solve the murder, you just switch characters and come back as a police detective! It is important that you keep your Secret Number hidden from other players and do **not** reveal if the numbers selected correspond to your secret number.

To start the main part of the game, the host will ask each guest to introduce themselves to the rest of the group, using your “**Character Introduction**”. You will then mingle with each other and read out your conversation starters. You should treat the conversation starters as their name suggests and use them to start a conversation with a small group of guests. You should not read them out in front of everyone at once, but everyone should hear your conversation starters at some point. It is up to guests to involve themselves in other people’s conversations. Do not be afraid to eavesdrop as you may pick up on valuable information! When mingling, you should use the entire venue so that you are not all in one room when conversation starters are being read out. Remember that your characters personality should be adhered to at all times and act appropriately to whatever may happen. Some characters may not like you eavesdropping on their conversations whilst others may try to mislead you and some may ignore you completely! Above all, remember, **no murder has been committed yet**.

At the host’s discretion, they will call for the victim to drop dead. If your secret number was selected as the victim, you should now scream and fall to the floor in a dramatic fashion! You will then be called together and informed that a murder has taken place. You will be given details of who, when, where and how. It is then your job to work out who did it and why. The guest who was playing the victim will now return as a police detective to help solve the case. To add a bit more fun to the night, everyone also has a secret task to carry out, which is detailed later in this character pack. These tasks are not essential to solving the murder but they can and probably will confuse others and will add extra fun to the party.

After the revelation of the murder, you will mingle for a second time. Again, it is important that you use the entire venue so that you are not all in one room. This time you can ask questions of each other relating to the murder. If you are asked a question and know the answer from your own characters **secret** information, you **must** reveal it. If you know the answer from what someone else has told you, then it is your choice as to whether you want to reveal the answer or not. You need to consider your characters personality, how well you get on with the person asking the question and anything you may want from them in return. You cannot lie unless it says so in your characters personality profile, however you do not have to tell people the whole truth unless they specifically ask! You should make others work hard for the information, after all, you can guarantee that they are doing the same to you! If your character personality allows, feel free to get into arguments and start shouting with other guests during this time. Arguments are recommended as it adds more realism to the game. Remember, always stick to your personality profile and don’t do anything out of character!

After a while the host will call everyone together and reveal more information surrounding the murder. They will also ask everyone to call out the name of who they think the murderer is but not to give a reason. If you wish, you can make a false accusation to throw others off the scent. You may not want to give too much away just yet! Going by your characters personality, if **you** are accused, you may get angry, happy, sad, etc. You also need to be careful as other guests may end up being very uncooperative if you accuse them of murder! After that, mingling again takes place for a while longer and more questions can be asked.

When the host feels like the evening is starting to come to an end, they will call everyone together for the last time. They will hand out suspect sheets on which everyone writes who they think the murderer is and why. While these are being collected in, the host will ask everyone to stand up in turn and read out their secret task and how they got on with it. The host will then ask everyone to stand up again and make their accusations. At this point, remember to stay in character and act shocked, surprised or angry, etc. if your name is read out. The host will now reveal what conclusion the Police came to and ask the Murderer to reveal themselves! To end the game, the host will give a confession to the murderer to read out.

# Murder on the Nile

## Introduction

They were a group like no other. Coming from all corners of the globe, they had a love of travel and their large bank balances were matched only by their fame, influence and egos. They had not met in many years, but all that was about to change. They had all received an invite from Molly Camper to attend a grand celebration at her luxurious Egyptian holiday home on the banks of the River Nile. The celebration was in honour of Molly's good friend Randy Alexander, a rich American Lawyer who had just turned 40. Despite the fact that most of the group did not know Randy, they were all keen to accept the invite and the chance to regale everyone with stories of their latest successes. As the sun set over the Egyptian landscape, the peace was shattered by a scream and the celebration descended into chaos. A body had been found in Molly's luxurious home! Had someone angered the ancient Egyptian Gods, had some evil curse befallen the unlucky victim or was it just cold blooded murder? Can you solve the mystery and bring the killer to justice before they strike again. Who knows, you might be next.....

## Hints & Tips

- Clues are everywhere, do not overlook anything and take nothing for granted.
- Not all secrets will lead to the murderer's identity, but some secrets can be important for blackmail purposes or exchanging with other characters.
- Make plenty of notes or else you may forget what you heard at the beginning of the party.
- Everyone knows something but you may need to find ways of making them talk
- Anything goes, friendship, bribery, blackmail, threats, deceit and even violence (pretend violence only please!)
- If you withhold too much information, others may not give you any of theirs either
- You may want to try teaming up with another guest to solve the murder as long as you can trust them!
- Remember that the murder is only one of the tasks for you to do, you will also have a secret task to complete
- Above all, remain in character at all times and enjoy yourself!

## **YOUR CHARACTER IS - MOLLY CAMPER**



**YOUR SECRET NUMBER IS – 11 – DO NOT REVEAL THIS TO ANYONE!!!**

[When asked by the host, please stand up and read the following short introduction to your fellow guests.](#)

Hello, I am Molly Camper and on behalf of my husband, David and I, we would like to thank you all for coming along tonight to attend this wonderful dinner party on the banks of the Nile in honour of our guest Randy Alexander. I know that you will all make him feel very welcome. We will be serving drinks upstairs on the balcony soon where you can enjoy the view over the Nile! If there is anything you need tonight, please let me know. Have a wonderful time!

## **MOLLY'S SECRETS**

The following is for your eyes only. Do not reveal it unless asked during the Question and Answer round.

Molly was originally from America but came to England with her husband, David. Although Molly loves England, she is a city girl at heart and misses the big metropolitan cities of America. She is a bit of a shopaholic and loves nothing better than a weekend trip to Paris, Rome, Milan or New York to try and to buy the latest fashions. Molly is the type of lady who cannot come back from a shopping trip without some evidence to prove that she has been there. This normally means several new dresses and with each dress comes the accessories, including shoes, handbags, hats, gloves and jackets. In a single weekend, she can rack up a bill of many thousands of pounds. The cost goes straight onto the joint credit card however she is beginning to wonder how they are going to pay it all after the last statement came through asking for £50,000! She has not shown the statement to David yet! Although they do have a healthy bank balance thanks to years of hard work back in America, she knows that she won't be able to keep up that level of spending for much longer otherwise they would be at risk of losing one of their properties.

Molly puts part of the blame on her best friend Anna Paris who always accompanies her on the shopping trips. Anna is always more careful with her money, but that doesn't stop her encouraging Molly to buy everything she likes. Despite that, Molly always looks forward to her weekends away with Anna. It is a chance to have a real girly time, trying on clothes and makeup and going out for drinks all evening. Molly cannot handle her drink very well though and often ends up drunk. She has actually been arrested on two occasions for being drunk and disorderly. The first time, she was sick from the top of the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the second time, she was flashing her breasts at passing motorists just outside Vatican City in Rome. Molly and Anna still laugh about it now although Anna has been sworn to secrecy.

Molly is aware that Anna is pregnant. Although Anna admitted the fact, she refuses to state who the father is. She said it was complicated but was sure that everything would work out for the best in the end. She has refused to have an abortion after shocking Molly with the revelation that she has had an abortion once before when she was younger. Molly has agreed to support her the whole way but is still pestering Anna for the identity of the baby's father as she wants to make him stand up and take responsibility for his actions. Nothing angers Molly more than a man who neglects his own child.

Although Molly and David do not spend a lot of time together due to his regular camping trips in the English countryside, her shopping trips and her time with Anna, she still loves David dearly and their marriage is as strong as ever. The only thing she regrets in life is not having children. She would have loved a child of her own but David has always been against the idea.

Molly is aware that Randy usually carries a handgun with him. She has forbade him to wear it in the house so he has agreed to leave the gun in its case in his bedroom.

For the dinner party tonight, Molly has managed to get hold of an Egyptian Asp (a snake). She believes it will go down well with the Egyptian themed evening. Anna has warned her to be careful that she doesn't end up like Cleopatra, but Molly just laughed off the suggestion.

## **YOUR CHARACTERS PERSONALITY**

The following is a guide to how your character should act on the night. Do not read this out to others.

- American and proud of it – will talk a lot about the country and its people
- Normally reserved but becomes quite an exhibitionist after a few drinks
- Is well travelled and loves talking about fashion and shopping. Generally quite intelligent
- If an argument occurs, as hostess, she will try and break it up rather than get involved.
- Good friends with Anna and David is your husband so you should act appropriately towards them

You are a good hostess. You want to make sure everyone is enjoying themselves. You are quite nosy when it comes to other people's business but can be trusted to keep secrets, unless that person has really annoyed you. When things start going wrong or if accused of murder, you get easily stressed and angry.

## **YOUR COSTUME SUGESTIONS**

As the well-travelled hostess, you should be wearing a beautiful, foreign (preferably Egyptian) looking dress. You can even go as far as to keep a toy Asp draped around your neck! Your shoes should match your dress.

## **YOUR SECRET TASK**

As well as discovering the murderer, each guest has a secret task to complete. These tasks are not compulsory but they will add fun and intrigue to the game.

**Your Secret Task is – Make everyone suspect you of being the murderer!**

You are the only character who cannot be guilty of murder but your secret task is to get others to suspect you as the guilty party. You cannot lie but you might want to try subtle methods e.g. acting a bit confused or vague about where you were at what time, etc. The more people who accuse you, the better you do!

## CONVERSATION STARTERS –

When mingling at the beginning of the night, talk to the other guests and start up conversations based on the statements below. You **must** elaborate on the statements as you feel appropriate for your character and you should give everyone the chance to hear all of your statements at some point during this first round. Remember that as well as talking, you must listen. Eavesdropping is definitely permitted and you can ask people what conversations they have heard from other guests. The mingling round is about getting to know the other characters and finding out key information that you can use in later rounds.

1. You wouldn't think it to look at him, but Claus is actually a very wealthy German aristocrat. From what I have heard, his parents died in England in a tragic car crash a few years ago. At first, there was talk of foul play, but it was eventually deemed to be an accident and nothing more. Claus was their only child and I don't think they had any other family so he inherited everything.
2. Anna is a great hairdresser you know. She trained at a top French college and went onto work at a prestigious beauty parlour in Paris. That's where I met her you see. I suppose that if it wasn't for me, she would still be working there now. I was the one who encouraged her to come back to England you see and I don't think she has ever been happier.
3. I find Randy to be completely charming, despite what some of the men are saying about him. I know he can be a bit overwhelming in front of the men, but he is used to being in charge wherever he goes. The men around here think of themselves as being so important and must suddenly feel rather small and insignificant compared to Randy. It would do them good to be taught a lesson in humility! Don't you agree?
4. I think David has been making some secret investments again. I recently came across the deeds to a small cottage out in the country side in his name. I'm not surprised, he did this all the time back in America, he would buy up properties, then sell them on for a nice profit and buy me something nice with the money. I'm just surprised he didn't tell me about this cottage, maybe it was a surprise!
5. From what I hear, Simon started out his career as an English teacher over in Australia. That is where his love of books started. Some say it was the poor pay, others the unruly children, but whatever the reason was, I bet that Simon was glad that he quit his teaching job and begun writing full time. I wonder how many setbacks he had in those early years. I would think there were times at the beginning when he thought he had made a big mistake, but just look at him now!
6. Have you noticed that Robert keeps disappearing? I wanted to speak to him in private about a very important matter but every time I turn around, he is nowhere to be seen. If you ask me, he is hiding from me and doesn't want to face up to his responsibilities. Well I will show him, men like him disgust me.

## QUESTION AND ANSWER ROUND

After being told of the murder by the host, you will mingle again. It is now up to you to approach the other guests who you suspect may know something and try to coax the information from them. Remember to stick to your characters personality at all times. Acting as a good hostess, you should try and be well mannered when asking questions. Only if you are not getting what you want do you start becoming angry and stressed. You must be careful how you word your questions as some other guests may not like being questioned over a murder! You should also take care not to alert others to your prime suspect by your line of questioning. It may be fun to throw in a few "red herring" questions to put others off the scent. When asked an appropriate question, guests **must** reveal any information that appears in their characters "secrets" paragraph. However, you do not need to give the answer straight out. Depending on who is asking, you may want to try being evasive, misleading or only half reveal the truth. It is up to your interrogator to press you for more important details. You should make others work hard for any important information after all you can guarantee that they are doing the same to you! If you know the answer to a question from what someone else has told you, it is **your choice** as to whether you reveal it or not. You should base your decision on who the person is, how well you get on with them and if they might have something you need in exchange. Remember that not everyone can be trusted though! If you are asked a question that does not appear in your characters "secrets" paragraph, you are free to make up any response you like, as long as it does not contradict any of your other statements. During this round, remember who your friends are as you will want to help them but hinder and make it difficult for those who have been unkind to you! The only question you are allowed to lie to will be – *Are you the murderer.*

If you are asked where you were after being called to dinner, you can admit you went straight to the dining room by the back stairs to wait for your guests. Randy came in soon after from the back and was quickly joined by Anna from the front. After about five more minutes, Valerie, Cecil and Bernard entered the room from the front then you left to round up the other guests. You ran into Simon by the main entrance to the dining room and then proceeded up the stairs to look for the other guests. Not finding anyone, you called out and then joined everyone else in the dining room. David was the last to enter shortly after.

# Character Relationships

