

# *The Christmas Killer*



## The Christmas Killer – 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 10 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.

# The Christmas Killer

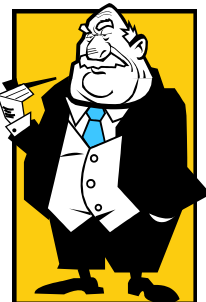
## Introduction

It was a few days before the festive holidays and the staff at Easily Cheesy Pizzeria, were looking forward to their Christmas party. Even though Easily Cheesy Pizzeria was a small restaurant and had only been open for a year, it was very popular with its customers and the employees were usually rushed off their feet every night. As a reward for all of their hard work throughout the year, the pizzeria owner, Pete Zar, had organized the Christmas Party for his staff. He had hired a banquetting suite at a popular local hotel, laid on a DJ, food and had even put some money behind the bar, just to make sure that everyone enjoyed themselves. Everyone was so busy celebrating that no one noticed when one of their number went missing... that was at least until a body was found! The police were immediately called and everyone was held at the hotel pending the arrival of the Detectives. Whilst the police were going about their business, everyone set about trying to solve the case to help exonerate their names, but what other sinister motives were going on underneath the surface? What secrets were people hiding, who could resort to murder to keep those secrets hidden and will anyone else suffer at the hands of "The Christmas Killer"!

## Hints & Tips

- Clues are everywhere, do not overlook anything and take nothing for granted.
- Not all secrets will lead to the murders identity, but some secrets can be important for blackmail purposes or exchanging with other guests.
- Make plenty of notes or else you may forget what you heard at the beginning of the party.
- Everyone knows something but you need to find ways of making them talk
- Anything goes, friendship, bribery, blackmail, threats, deceit and even violence (pretend violence of course!)
- If you withhold to 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 – Pete Zar



**YOUR SECRET NUMBER IS – 6 – DO NOT REVEAL THIS TO ANYONE!!!**

[When asked by the host, please read out your character profile below.](#)

Hello everyone, my name is Pete Zar, or as my employees call me, the Big Cheese. I am the owner of Easily Cheesy Pizzeria and I run a very tight ship. I expect my employees to work hard, give it 100% and make sure that every one of my customers leaves happy. They all know that I am hard to impress and if they slip up, they are sacked on the spot. You may think that it is a bit of a harsh stance but quality is what made my Pizzeria popular and it is quality that keeps the customers coming back every night.



## **PETE'S SECRETS**

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

Pete is the owner of Easily Cheesy Pizzeria. Although he is still quite young, he has a great business mind and an obsession for making money. His obsession with money does encourage him to take big risks though. He is on the payroll of a local drug dealer who uses the back alley of the pizzeria to sell drugs. The same drug dealer is also using the pizzeria as a front for a small money laundering operation. Pete knows that if caught, he will be sent to prison for a long time but he is prepared to take that risk in return for the large sum of money that the drug dealer pays him.

Pete also uses every opportunity he can to swindle others out of money. He told the barmaid, Ali Coholic, that he would be putting several hundred pounds behind the bar tonight so that his staff could enjoy free drinks. He persuaded her to start serving the drinks straight away and promised to give her the money later but after several hours of free drinks, Pete is denying all knowledge of the deal, leaving Ali and the bar out of pocket. Ali was very angry and refused to give anyone anymore free drinks until Pete pays up.

Pete has also angered the DJ, Declan Spinner, by telling him that his music is so bad that he will also not be getting paid. In truth, the music was of a very poor quality but that did not stop Declan and Pete having a huge argument about it. Declan wanted to leave after the argument, but his friend, Will Burn, encouraged him to stay.

Pete is also having problems with his own staff. Tina Break recently slipped on some pepperoni that had been dropped on the floor in the pizzeria kitchen. She then revealed that she was pregnant and that the doctors had told her that she may lose the baby as a result of the fall. She has told Pete that unless he pays her £10,000 compensation, she will take him to court. Pete believes that Tina staged the whole accident just to try and make him pay up and is refusing to cooperate with her. He does not believe that she is pregnant as she will not reveal who the father is. In a recent confrontation, he told Tina that if she wanted to carry on the charade, she could leave the Pizzeria and he would see her in court. He is still waiting to hear Tina's response.

Daisy Pan is his biggest concern at the moment though. She has taken a liking to Pete and has begun to follow him around at work, always trying to talk to him and trying to get him to meet up with her outside of work. Pete believes that Daisy is also responsible for the many silent phone calls and anonymous love cards that he has been receiving lately. Pete does not want to get into a relationship at the moment, he is more than happy with his numerous one night stands.

## **YOUR CHARACTERS PERSONALITY**

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

- Obsessed with making money. Constantly talks about his profits
- Power hungry and likes to exert his authority over his staff
- Talks down to everyone
- Is not to be trusted

Pete is not a very nice guy. He enjoys playing boss, talking down to others and making people's lives a misery, unless they happen to be a paying customer! He says whatever he thinks without caring who he upsets and will lie, cheat or manipulate situations to get his own way. If accused of murder, he will take it as a personal insult and make it his mission to get revenge on his accuser.

## **YOUR COSTUME SUGESTIONS –**

Smart, expensive shirt, jacket and tie, smart shoes. Carries a mobile phone at all times.

## **YOUR SECRET TASK**

As well as discovering the identity of the murderer, each guest has a secret task to try and complete throughout the night. These tasks are not compulsory and will not help lead to the identity of the murderer but they will add a bit more fun and intrigue to the night. You must not reveal your secret task to the other guests until the end of the night when asked to by the host. It is entirely up to you how you go about completing the task but you should work within your characters personality.

Your Secret Task for tonight is – **Make as much money as possible during the night.**

As you are obsessed with money, you must try and make as much as possible by any means possible. Remember, you are not a very nice guy though so you may want to think along the lines of blackmail and bribery.

## **CONVERSATION STARTERS –**

When mingling at the beginning of the night, talk to various people in groups or on their own and start up conversations based on the statements below. You **must** elaborate on the statements as you feel appropriate for your character. All conversation starters must be read in front of at least two other people. 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. You can repeat conversation starters any number of times that you wish, so once you have read out all of yours, you can still go and mingle with other guests. Remember, mingling is about getting to know the other characters and their personalities and also finding out key information that you can use in later rounds.

1. Tina and Bill get on quite well together from what I hear. They work well together and always stick up for each other if a customer makes a complaint. Tina has also been teaching Bill how to read and write in English, which is always helpful for a waiter! I am glad to see that Bill is making an effort, he is already on his final written warning for gross incompetence.
2. I wish I knew why Will needs so much time off lately. He keeps on telling me that he has doctor's appointments and is on medication but he won't tell me what for. I know he is going through a rough patch with his wife, but that's his own fault, he shouldn't be bringing his problems to work. If he keeps this up, I will have to sack him.
3. That Ali looks a bit young to be working behind a bar. She claims she is 19 but it's hard to tell these days. I really don't trust young people, they always think they know better than us. What do you think of her?
4. It looks like Tina has come into a lot of money all of a sudden. I don't pay the waiters and waitress that much money but she has somehow been able to afford a new outfit for tonight, new shoes and a new car. Maybe she robbed a bank! Where do you think she got the money from?
5. I was very surprised that Daisy agreed to come along tonight. Normally she is quite a reserved girl who stays at home rather than socializes with her colleagues. She must get so bored stuck in doors all day by herself. What do you think encouraged her to come along tonight?
6. Fona has been doing a bit of overtime lately. I have had to tell her that she won't get paid for the extra hours, but she doesn't seem to mind. She claims that she just has a lot of paperwork to catch up on, but I wouldn't mind betting she is after the leftover pizzas at the end of the night!
7. I don't know what is up with that Ali. I just asked her a few questions about her family, you know, parents, brothers and sisters and she gets all upset and bursts into tears.

## **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. As an arrogant and nasty boss, you don't mind upsetting people when trying to get information out of them. It does not take much to get you angry if someone starts questioning you though! You must be careful how you word your questions as some other guests may not like being questioned over a murder! You may want to word questions in a way such as, "Tell me more about ..." or "What was the reason for ..." or "Who else would have known ...". All guests **must** reveal any information that appears in their characters "secrets" paragraph, but it is their choice as to whether they reveal any other information that they have discovered during their own investigations. If you suspect that someone knows something and is not telling, you can try and bribe, blackmail or even threaten to sack them unless they reveal it. If someone asks you a question and you are forced to answer, you can similarly bribe, blackmail or threaten them to keep the answer secret from other guests. So if Fona were to ask you if you are allowing a drug dealer to use your back alley, you must tell her the truth but then you may try threatening her so that she doesn't tell your secret to anyone else. 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 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 during the night, you must admit that you were around the banqueting suite for some of the time but went out in the hallway at about 11.15pm as you didn't like the music that Declan was playing. You saw Ali in the corridor at about 11.30 pm. As long as she is **not** the victim, you can say you had a confrontation with Daisy in the women's toilets at about 11pm.



# Christmas Killer Guests Relationships



**Pete Zar**  
(Pizzeria owner)

**Fona Answer**  
(Secretary)

**Will Burn**  
(Cook)

**Daisy Pan**  
(Cook)

**Bill Wong**  
(Waiter)

**Tina Break**  
(Waitress)

Friends

**Declan Spinner**  
(DJ)

**Ali Coholic**  
(Barmaid)

