

An illustration of a woman with short, dark, curly hair, wearing a headband with a feather ornament. She has red lipstick and is looking slightly to the side. She is wearing a dark, sleeveless dress with a pearl necklace and a pearl bracelet. Her hands are raised, showing black gloves. The background is a light, textured pattern.

Lady Martha Rawley

Death comes
to Downturn

Congratulations!

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

Firstly: *Don't Panic!*

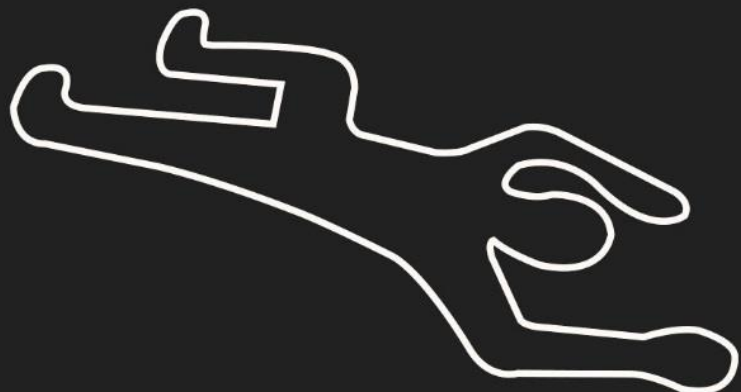
This booklet contains all the information you need to help you act your part throughout the murder mystery; background history, scripted dialogues, questions you should ask and scripted answers to questions you will be asked by the other guests.

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!*



Lady Martha Rawley

Background Character Information

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

You are the eldest daughter of Lord and Lady Rawley.

You hide your emotions so well that it would appear that you are heartless. Mind you, it's not good form to show one's feelings in front of the servants.

You don't get on with your sister, Ethel, so snipe and criticise her at every opportunity.

Lady Martha Rawley - Introductions

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

Lady Martha speaks next after Lady Flora using the following dialogue:

“Mama, it’s more than a poorly tummy. I fear Papa has been murdered! I’m Lady Martha Rawley, Lord and Lady Rawley’s eldest daughter. I’m dreadfully sorry that this has happened to Papa, but it’s really rather tiresome to be expected to answer all these questions. I need to get on and feed the pigs if I’m to save all our bacons! Miss Tuppeny? Do hurry up with this tedious investigation.”

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

Scripted Dialogue - Round 1

Lady Ethel	Poor Papa is dead. How beastly!
Miss O’Ryan	Will you cancel the party tonight, your ladyship?
Lady Flora	I’m not sure. Mrs Pratmore’s been making food all day. It would be a shame to waste it.
Miss O’Ryan	You’ll have to tell the guests.
Lady Flora	No, one doesn’t mention such things in polite society.
Maisy	But begging your pardon, they’ll wonder where he is.
Miss O’Ryan	She can hardly say he’s been murdered.
Lady Martha	We should send for the gentlemen.
Lady Ethel	Let’s not spoil the shoot. This is the only dry day they’ve had.
Lady Flora	Yes, leave them to their pleasures. After all, it’s unlikely he was killed by one of them. They’ve been out for hours.
Miss O’Ryan	Which means the murderer is here.
Lady Flora	I fear Prudence will keep us up all night with her questions.
Lady Martha	Yes, I was hoping to turn in. I’m not in the mood for the party.

Lady Ethel	How can you say that? I couldn't possibly get a wink of sleep.
Lady Martha	I don't want you to get the wrong idea. I'm not heartless, just tired.
Lady Flora	I'll ring for tea, shall I? I think we're all in need of a cup.
Mrs Pratmore	Make mine a sweet one. I could faint away!
Miss O'Ryan	Nonsense, you're as strong as an ox!

Lady Martha Rawley - First Round

Questions you should ask:

Lady Flora, did your husband frequently suffer from digestive problems?

Miss O’Ryan, when did you arrive at Downturn?

Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

When asked: Lady Martha, how have you spent the day?

Say: I’ve spent a great deal of today looking at the estate’s finances with my solicitor. I must say that things are looking rather grim. I’m beginning to think the estate should be opened up to the public and the stables converted into a tearoom in order to make some money.

When asked: Lady Martha, it’s been mentioned that you are the one feeding the pigs. Why is this your responsibility? Surely that’s the work of the Estate Manager?

Say: One would normally think that, wouldn’t one? I certainly don’t feel it’s dignified for a Lord’s daughter to be feeding livestock. I don’t believe I’ve ever seen my Papa get his green wellies dirty! However, the reality here at Downturn is that if I don’t feed the pigs, nobody will. Ever since the Estate Manager was elevated to the peerage, he has been too busy pursuing his political dreams and debating the Irish question in the House of Lords to care for the pigs. One can hardly blame me for feeling a little resentful that this responsibility has fallen to me.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Scripted Dialogue - Round 2

Lady Martha	I'm most frightfully cut up about this.
Lady Flora	Have another cup of tea, dear.
Lady Ethel	Will you pour, Mrs Pratmore?
Miss O'Ryan	Heavens! What have you done to your hand?
Maisy	It's bloodied, and bandaged.
Mrs Pratmore	I cut myself on the food mixer. I can't get on with these new-fangled inventions.
Lady Flora	Prudence Tuppeny said that the killer would need strength. Perhaps someone of the servile classes, someone used to hard work?
Miss O'Ryan	She's a cook Ma'am, not a navvy!
Maisy	Yes, don't be a ninny. Mrs Pratmore wouldn't kill his lordship.
Lady Flora	I didn't say she did. I was merely pointing out that with a bandaged hand she would have struggled to lift the candlestick.
Lady Martha	Who's to say she didn't bandage it herself after she murdered him?
Mrs Pratmore	I didn't do it, your ladyship! Oh, please believe me!
Lady Ethel	No one is accusing you, Mrs Pratmore.

Lady Martha

Personally, I haven't heard a more frank accusation.

Lady Flora

But she wanted him dead - and now he is dead. And what's worse, he died just like she said he would.

Lady Ethel

What on earth do you mean?

Maisy

She said she wished he'd drop dead.

Miss O'Ryan

But why would she say that?

Lady Martha

I can't imagine.

Lady Martha Rawley - Second Round

Questions you should ask:

Lady Flora - Mama - you said that father had complained to you this morning of a severe stomach ache. Why didn't you telephone Doctor Parkinson? Surely you were concerned about father's health?

Miss O'Ryan, you said Lord Rawley insisted you stay in your old room. Did you take up the offer?

Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

When asked: Lady Martha, have you ever discussed the estate's finances with your father?

Say: Yes, I have. I spoke to Papa at midday about opening up the estate to visitors, but he refused to countenance the idea, saying he didn't want the hoi polloi marching through his bedroom. Rather than opening the estate, he suggested that economies could be made by cutting the servants' bill until such times as his pig farm began to make substantial returns. He believed there were far too many maids and undermaids here at Downturn.

When asked: Lady Martha, you said earlier that you were too tired to stay up for the inspector's questions. What have you been doing to feel so exhausted?

Say: Haven't you been listening? I've already explained that I'm the one taking responsibility for the pigs. It's an exhausting task! I was up early this morning to muck them out and those little porkers can run rings around me! And now Papa was talking about introducing bees! He'd given me a book on beekeeping and told me to mug up on it. I was up until midnight last night trying to get to grips with hive management.

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Scripted Dialogue - Round 3

Lady Ethel	Heavens this is a nasty business!
Maisy	I think it's all very exciting.
Mrs Pratmore	Don't be ridiculous!
Lady Martha	I can't fathom it. I thought everyone loved Papa.
Miss O'Ryan	Perhaps that was the problem.
Lady Martha	I don't understand what you mean.
Lady Flora	No you wouldn't, dear.
Miss O'Ryan	Well, is anyone going to enlighten her?
Mrs Pratmore	No. Best not.
Lady Martha	I think you're rather unkind.
Lady Flora	Let's not get sidetracked. We need to concentrate on the letter.
Maisy	But why?
Miss O'Ryan	Because he was being blackmailed!
Lady Martha	Yes, but by whom?
Lady Ethel	If she knew that she'd open her own detective agency.
Maisy	Well it wasn't me!

Lady Martha	We didn't say it was.
Lady Flora	You're being rather defensive. Are you hiding something?
Miss O'Ryan	No more than you are.
Lady Flora	I beg your pardon?
Miss O'Ryan	I'm sorry. I was unintentionally rude. I think we're all letting our anxiety get the better of us.
Mrs Pratmore	Do you think we should have another cup of tea?
Miss O'Ryan	Is that the answer to everything?

Lady Martha Rawley - Third Round

Questions you should ask:

Lady Flora, you mentioned your secret suspicion that Lord Rawley was wishing to avoid his guests today. Why would he not wish to see them?

Miss O’Ryan, did you learn whether my father, Lord Rawley, was prepared to acknowledge his son?

Answers you should give when asked the right questions.

When asked: Lady Martha, did you agree with your father’s action plan for saving the estate? Are staff wages the real issue here?

Say: No, I don’t agree. In fact, I rather think Papa’s plan to reduce the servants’ bill is completely ludicrous. The servant situation here at Downturn is already dire. Why, this very morning I saw Miss O’Ryan taking a jug of water to Papa’s bedroom. Do you understand what I’m saying? A female servant was having to go into a man’s bedroom. The impropriety is staggering! Why, one would almost think we were in America!

When asked: Lady Martha, you’ve given one reason why you were too tired to stay up for the inspector’s questions. Did anything - or anyone – else keep you awake last night?

Say: I must say I quite resent the implications of this question! Let me assure you that the only thing which kept me awake last night was the complexities of beekeeping. I was not sharing my bed with anyone, despite whatever anyone else might think. I think it’s appalling that the scandal with the Turkish ambassador has reared its ugly head again. I was under the impression that it had been hushed up, but Papa recently received an anonymous letter from someone referring to it. Now it’s all starting again. Papa, needless to say, was furious. He was almost delirious with rage. We had rather a nasty row about it.

Do not read further until instructed by your host.

Lady Martha Rawley - Concluding Statement

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

Lady Martha speaks next after Lady Flora using the following dialogue:

“The pigs, the pigs, the pigs! That’s all he ever talked about! I’m fed up with looking after the pigs! Who wants to marry a woman who smells of pig’s muck? I should have run off with the Turk and joined his harem! There would have been no manure to contend with there!”

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

Tell the others.

Notes

[illegible]

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