

MURDER MYSTERY

PARTY®



*The
Champagne
Murder*

Brian Sewer

Character Booklet

The Champagne Murder

RULES OF THE GAME

1. You are a suspect in a murder. Your job is to interrogate your fellow suspects and to find the murderer.
2. **You must not show your Character Booklet to other guests and must wait until instructed by your host before reading past the STOP notices.**
3. During questioning, use the information listed under the heading **Facts You Will Reveal** as prompts for questioning the other guests. If you have any information under the heading **Facts You Will Reveal Only When Challenged**, you should try to conceal this unless you are asked directly.
4. **When questioned, you cannot lie, though you may be evasive. If challenged directly, you must tell the whole truth.** At some point in the game, you will be told in your Booklet if you are the murderer. At this point, you are allowed to lie.
5. Improvise as much as you like around the basic themes that are outlined. You will be challenged on various things you have said and done. Sometimes, responses will be suggested, other times you will have to make up your own story – again feel free to embellish and to deviate from the suggestions you are given.
6. **The key to the success of this game is for all the participants to improvise. Join in every discussion you can, even if you're not prompted to do so.**



The Champagne Murder

BRIAN SEWER
Your Character

What the World Sees

You're the celebrity wine critic for the *Evening Times*, whose proprietor was the murdered man, Lord Michael Jagged.

You're famous for being very rude and very opinionated about everything.

No one's quite sure of your background, but you're certainly not as posh as you pretend to be.

The Truth

Do not reveal unless directly challenged

Lord Michael Jagged has actually just fired you, but this is not yet widespread knowledge. He objected to your criticism of his taste in wine.

Character Summary

Bristly, fussy, sneering.



DO NOT CONTINUE READING
UNTIL INSTRUCTED BY HOST.



The Champagne Murder

BRIAN SEWER

Introduction

To be read aloud ... You speak immediately after Babs Crayfish.

Hah! Taste! Well, I suppose he had money at any rate, which is much the same thing nowadays.

I'm Brian Sewer, and I worked for the man. Dreadful little man, he was. He owned the *Evening Times*, and I'm the wine critic for the paper. Also, for my sins, I was trying to educate the man – get him to buy some decent wine for himself. It was a waste of time. The man could have drowned in a butt of Malmsey and still have wanted a drop of Liebfraumilch. Well, you can tell his lack of taste from this rubbish we're drinking at the moment.



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The Champagne Murder

FIRST DIALOGUE Start of Round One

- Charlie:** Here, was that McClue geezer saying that one of us killed Lord Michael Jagged?
- Kitty:** If I take his insinuation correctly, I think that is precisely what he is suggesting.
- Charlie:** Yeah, but he can't do that. I'm a respectable businessman, I am. I'm an upstanding member of society. If he accuses me again, I'll rip his throat out and make him eat it.
- Kitty:** How? He won't be able to swallow if he hasn't got a throat.
- Charlie:** I don't care. I'm "Champagne" Charlie, and I'll kill anyone who calls me a killer.
- Babs:** Get a grip on yourself, darling. Mr. McClue wasn't accusing you. Not in particular.
- Kitty:** Anyway, there may not be anything to accuse anyone of.
- Babs:** That's true. Lord Michael might have killed himself.
- Oliver:** He wouldn't have done that. I knew him better than anyone, he was like a brother to me. Like a blood brother. And I'm telling you, he wouldn't have killed himself.
- Babs:** Alright, keep your hair on. I was only saying.
- Brian:** Maybe he just had a massive heart attack then. Maybe he strained himself opening his cheap bottle of sparkling wine.
- Tamara:** Stop being so beastly, all of you. Poor Lord Michael's dead. I don't think I'll ever get over it.



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Brian: Oh, give it a rest. You're not fooling anyone by pretending to be upset by the death of that appalling little man.

Tamara: Oh! How can you be so mean about Lord Michael in front of me?

Brian: I didn't know it was your turn.

Kitty: Stop it, both of you. If we're stuck here together, we might as well make the best of it. That imbecile McClue gave me a letter here that I want to have a look at.

Martin: You're wasting your time, you know. We're doomed, doomed. You should read my book, *I Can't Get No Satisfaction*. It's all in there. This is the end – my only friend, the end.

**SECRET CLUES #1 & #2
CAN NOW BE EXAMINED.**



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The Champagne Murder

BRIAN SEWER

Round One

Read all the following information before questioning the suspects.

Facts You Will Reveal

Challenge Tamara Fara-Bucktooth... after Clue #1 has been revealed

Lord Michael Jagged was changing his will in favor of Tamara Fara-Bucktooth. Did she know that he was going to change it? Was she trying to speed up her inheritance?

Challenge Terence Shrimp... after discussions of Clues #1 and #2 have finished

If Lord Michael Jagged died an hour or more ago, where was Terence Shrimp at the time? Has he got an alibi?

Facts You Will Reveal Only When Challenged

Response to Clue #2

Lord Michael Jagged has sacked you. You didn't mention it earlier because it's personal, and it's not relevant. The reason given was that you'd insulted Lord Michael and his taste in wine. Actually, there was more to it, but that's the most harmless explanation, so elaborate on it. After all, he really didn't have any taste in wine.

Response to queries about your alibi

Lord Michael Jagged apparently died about an hour or so ago. At that time, you were drinking champagne in the drawing room with Mary-Jane Faithless, Kitty Killer and Tamara Fara-Bucktooth. About half an hour before dinner, you went upstairs to have a bath.



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The Champagne Murder

SECOND DIALOGUE

Start of Round Two

Tamara: So, Lord Michael was murdered after all.

Charlie: Yeah, now the fat's really in the frying pan. Now the chickens are going to come home to roast, you mark my words. Someone's gonna pay for this.

Oliver: Someone like you, perhaps? Sounds like Dr. Doktor doesn't trust you for a start, and you've never been afraid to bend the law a bit when it helped your interests.

Charlie: Well, that's just the pot calling a kettle a kettle. You've given a few people a slap before now.

Oliver: Not my style, sweetheart. Poisoning's for pussies. Real men don't do poison.

Kitty: What are you saying? That it was Terence Shrimp?

Terence: Oh, get her! You're no better than you ought to be, dearie. You've spent the last six months with your nose in the gutter, trying to sniff out some dirt.

Kitty: Are you referring to the research I'm conducting for my biography of Lord Michael?

Terence: You call it what you like, dear, I call it snooping. You even paid for a private detective, didn't you? What did he find out?

Kitty: I'm not at liberty to reveal the results of my research. But I'll tell you this: I know all about what you've done, and it's not very pretty. But it's Miss Faithless who intrigues me.

Mary-Jane: Really? You almost interest me.



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- Kitty:** Yes, you and Lord Michael splitting up must have been very traumatic. It was him who left you, wasn't it?
- Tamara:** Was it? Tell me more, tell me more.
- Terence:** Did you put up a fight?
- Mary-Jane:** It's none of your business, and it's got nothing to do with Lord Michael being murdered. It's all ancient history.
- Babs:** Well, I don't know much about history, but I do know about geography, and I think it's very suspicious that Brian Sewer left us in the drawing room, and no one can prove where he was before dinner.
- Brian:** Lord Michael was already dead by then, you bimbo. Why don't you pay attention?
- Terence:** Can we just get on with it? The sooner I can get out of here, the better.
- Wiggy:** Yeah, let's move it on up and take it to the bridge. See if we can work it out, before it's too late.

**SECRET CLUES #3, #4 & #5
CAN NOW BE EXAMINED.**



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The Champagne Murder

BRIAN SEWER

Round Two

Read all the following information before questioning the suspects.

Facts You Will Reveal

Challenge Kitty Killer... after Clue #4 has been revealed

Kitty Killer turns out to be an agent for the organization BIFFO. You've heard of them – they're an extreme right-wing group of spies dedicated to fighting crime and communism. They're capable of anything... including the execution of someone they don't approve of. Did she execute Lord Michael? How committed is Kitty Killer to BIFFO?

Challenge Terence Shrimp... after discussion of Clue #4 has finished

It may not be relevant, but you saw Terence Shrimp and Mary-Jane Faithless in a restaurant last week, and they seemed very close. Are they in a relationship? If so, did Lord Michael know about it? He was very possessive of his ex-girlfriends and might not have approved.

Facts You Will Reveal Only When Challenged

Response to challenge about the poisoned champagne

The fact that you're a wine expert is one very good reason why you wouldn't want to tamper with a bottle of champagne – why, that's almost sacrilege!

Response to challenge about Dr. Doktor

Dr. Doktor is an evil scientist, and you've been working with him on finding ways to inject poison into champagne bottles. You really don't want to reveal this – it looks way too suspicious. So be vague: you worked with him on wine marketing, or buying a vineyard, or something like that.



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The Champagne Murder

THIRD DIALOGUE Start of Round Three

- Babs:** I don't understand all this evil mastermind business. I thought Dr. Doktor was a psychiatrist.
- Oliver:** So you're pretending that you didn't know? Even though your boyfriend, "Champagne" Charlie knew all about it? You did, didn't you, Charlie?
- Charlie:** Nothing to do with me. He was out of my league – one of them evil mastermind types. I'm more of your hands-on sort of businessman. Can't make an omelette without breaking a few heads, as they say.
- Oliver:** Yeah, right. You know more than you're saying. And so do you, Miss Tamara Fara-Bucktooth.
- Tamara:** Me? What's it got to do with me?
- Oliver:** Everyone knows you were nearly bankrupt. You were after his money. You want money.
- Terence:** Yeah, money.
- Charlie:** That's what you want.
- Babs:** But don't forget, money can't buy you love.
- Tamara:** Why's everybody always picking on me? If I'd wanted his money, I would've waited until he'd changed his will, wouldn't I? Anyway, you heard Austin McClue. Lord Michael was killed by a "widget" that only Dr. Doktor could have made. And what do I know about Dr. Doktor?
- Terence:** We don't know yet, but we will... we will. What about you, Sewer?



The Champagne Murder

- Brian:** Well, I knew Dr. Doktor, if that's what you're asking. But I really think you should be looking at the criminals we have in our midst. I mean, you've got "Champagne" Charlie here.
- Charlie:** I've never heard of this widget.
- Brian:** And then there's his moll.
- Babs:** Here, I ain't no mole.
- Brian:** Between them, they could write the ultimate book on crime. *The Ultimate Book on Crime*, they could call it, published by Books On Crime Inc. and available through the Books On Crime Book Club.
- Charlie:** No, no, no. This is all wrong. I'll swear before any witness you like that this ain't my killing. Can I get a witness?
- Babs:** I'll be your witness, sweetie. I know it wasn't you.
- Brian:** Hah! Well, I don't trust you, but we got to get on. We haven't much time left.
- Martin:** That's the first sensible thing any of you have said all evening. Because we're running out of time. As it says in my book, *You're Out of Time, My Baby*; the last grains of sand are slipping through the hourglass. The end is nigh.

**SECRET CLUES #6, #7 & #8
CAN NOW BE EXAMINED.**



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The Champagne Murder

BRIAN SEWER

Round Three

Read all the following information before questioning the suspects.

Facts You Will Reveal

You start this round by revealing Secret Clue #6.

This is a transcript of a message from Lord Michael Jagged's Dictaphone.

Challenge Babs Crayfish... after discussion of Clue #7 has finished

From what you've heard, the police are starting to close in on "Champagne" Charlie Bunson and his gang, possibly after a tipoff from Lord Michael Jagged. How far would Babs Crayfish go to protect her man?

Challenge Tamara Fara-Bucktooth... after discussion of Clue #7 has finished

Apparently, Lord Michael Jagged ended his criminal association with Dr. Doktor. Around the same time, Tamara Fara-Bucktooth became Lord Michael's girlfriend. Are these two events connected? Could, for example, Tamara Fara-Bucktooth be a spy sent by Dr. Doktor to infiltrate Lord Michael's organization?

DO NOT REVEAL: You are the murderer.

You have been working with Dr. Doktor on a way of releasing poison gas from a champagne bottle. Lord Michael Jagged seems to have fallen out with Dr. Doktor and consequently decided that you were too close to his enemy. So he fired you. He's powerful enough to make sure you never work in newspapers again – your career is effectively over. But if you could silence him before he made your termination public, you might be OK.

So you used the technology you'd developed with Dr. Doktor and put a poisoned bottle of champagne in Lord Michael's room. When he opened the bottle, poison gas was released and killed him. About half an hour before dinner, you went upstairs – supposedly to have a bath – slipped into his room, and simply opened the windows to disperse any remaining smell.



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The Champagne Murder

BRIAN SEWER Final Statement

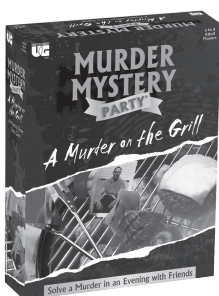
You speak after Babs Crayfish.

Brian Sewer's version of events

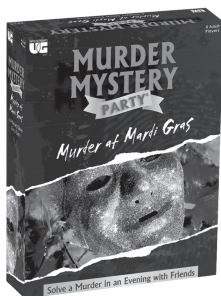
Precisely. I don't have much to add, except that I don't trust any of you. Lord Michael employed me, and frankly, he was a terrible employer. You saw how he fired me just because I told him the truth, but that's no reason for me to have killed him. To be honest, it could have been any of you. It was probably all of you.



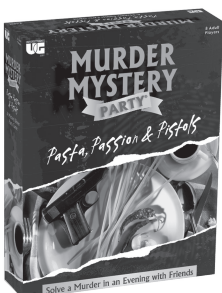
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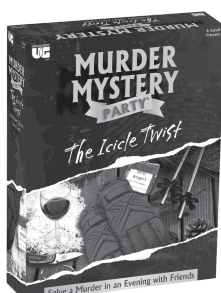
A Murder on
the Grill



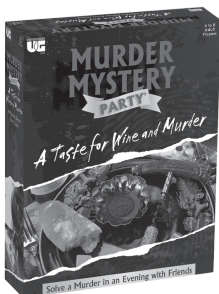
Murder at
Mardi Gras



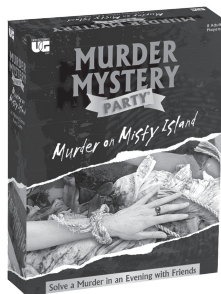
Pasta, Passion
& Pistols



The Icicle
Twist



A Taste for Wine
and Murder



Murder on
Misty Island

**MURDER
MYSTERY**
PARTY

Champagne Murders

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