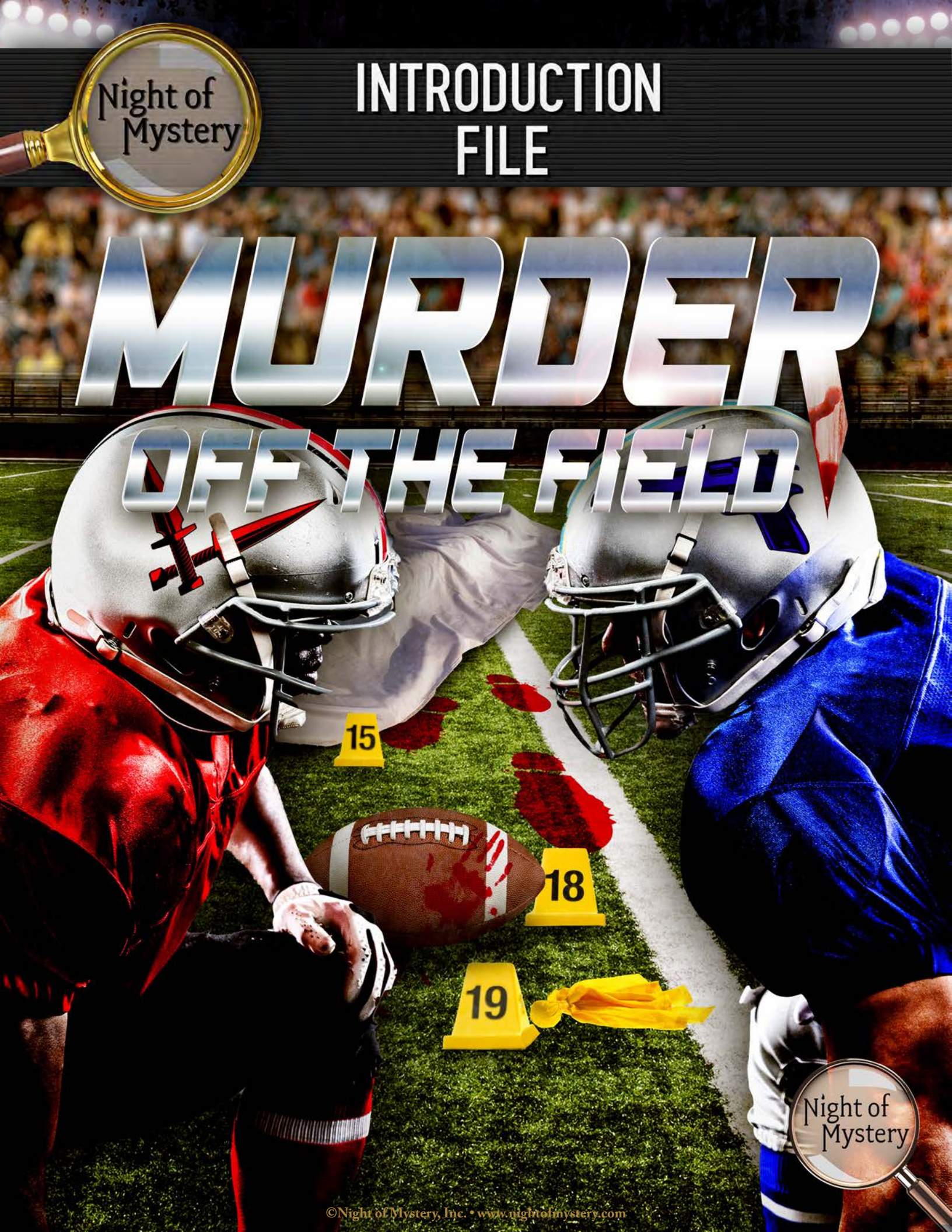
Night of Mystery

INTRODUCTION FILE

MURDER OFF THE FIELD



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MURDER OFF THE FIELD

AFTER MAKING THE PLAYOFFS BUT FINISHING JUST SHORT OF A SUPER BOWL BIRTH, THE PITBULLS (A PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM) ARE READY TO CELEBRATE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THEIR SEASON!

AS THE TEAM'S PLAYERS, COACHES, AND LEAGUE COMRADES GATHER FOR A SEASON ENDING PARTY, THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF SCANDAL. FROM DEBATING

WHO IS TO BLAME FOR THE SEASON ENDING INTERCEPTION, TO THE TALK OF PLAYER TRADES AND SPECULATION ABOUT THE STAR QUARTERBACK RETURNING OR RETIRING THIS YEAR -- THERE IS NO TOPIC OFF THE TABLE.

WHAT THE GUESTS DON'T REALIZE IS -- NOT ONLY IS THE FUTURE OF THE TEAM AT STAKE, BUT SO IS THE FUTURE OF ONE OF THE GUESTS! SOMEONE WILL PERISH IN A FATAL PARTY PENALTY!

WILL IT BE THE SOCIAL MEDIA-SAVVY WIDE RECEIVER WHO HAS SENT THEIR LAST TWEET? THE ROOKIE QUARTERBACK WHO WILL NEVER GET A CHANCE TO SHINE? THE OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR WHO HAS MADE ONE TOO MANY BAD PLAY CALLS? OR POSSIBLY THE EVER-CALCULATING COACH WHOSE MOVES IN FREE AGENCY MAY COST THEM THEIR LIFE?

AS THE CLOCK WINDS DOWN ON THE EVENING, A CULPRIT WILL TRY TO SNEAK IN ONE FINAL PLAY TO AVOID BEING CAUGHT. WITH A FOURTH DOWN AND ONE FINAL CLUE TO UNCOVER, IT IS UP TO THE PARTY GUESTS TO CATCH A MURDERER BEFORE THEY GO FREE!

A NIGHT OF FOOTBALL, FELONIES, AND SCANDAL

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Welcome to Night of Mystery

Your party planning alibi has arrived.

Thank you for sneaking a peek into the world of **Night of Mystery**, where we make hosting a murderously fun party as easy as pie… poison pie, that is.

If you're looking to throw a **one-of-a-kind event** that's equal parts excitement, intrigue, and laughter, you're in the right file. Our downloadable mystery party kits are packed with **everything you need** to effortlessly **plan and host a killer evening**—no detective license or acting degree required – and are **guaranteed to make a lasting impression** on everyone in attendance!

What Makes a Night of Mystery Party So Dead Simple?

We do the dirty work, **you get the glory.**

Each mystery packet includes **clear, step-by-step guides** that walk you through every part of the party—from sending invites to solving the murder. Whether you're a first-time host or a seasoned sleuth, you'll **feel confident setting the scene** for mayhem.

No scripts. No stress. Just good old-fashioned scandal.

Guests receive character profiles filled with juicy secrets and fun objectives—think "get the gossip," "blackmail a rival," or "clear your name"—so the **party flows naturally.** The **game is social and interactive**, not stiff or overly structured. Your guests will be **mixing, mingling, and accusing like pros.**

The mystery unfolds during the party.

Unlike other games where the murder happens before guests arrive, **our victim meets their untimely end mid-party.** This keeps everyone **engaged and guessing**—and gives every guest a reason to look over their shoulder.

Everyone's involved.

Each guest gets an active role in the story, with their **own motive and goals.** No one's stuck on the sidelines, and everyone has a reason to dive in. Even the victim and the killer don't know their fate until after the game begins**—so no spoilers here.**

Instant access.

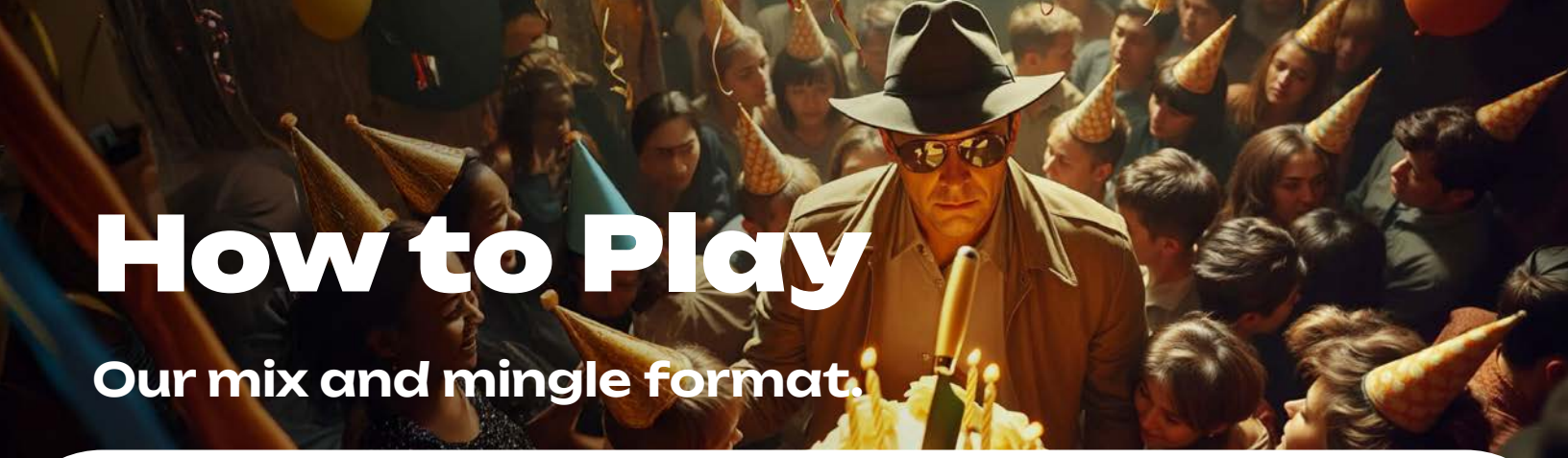
All of our mysteries are delivered as downloadable PDFs and available **immediately after purchase.** That means you can **start plotting (and planning) tonight.**

If you're **ready to host a party** that's easy to pull off, impossible to forget, and guaranteed to have your guests buzzing long after the killer is caught—then CONGRATULATIONS DETECTIVE. You've just solved the case of **who throws the most unforgettable parties.**

Killer Track Record!

With **over 128,000 parties hosted** in **147 different countries** - and celebrating **20 years of immersive fun!**

Night of Mystery



How to Play

Our mix and mingle format.

1 Guests Arrive in Character

Each guest receives a character description and party background with their invitation, so they can arrive ready to play their part from the start.

2 The Host Sets the Scene

You'll kick things off by reading the party introduction, giving everyone the lay of the land—and a few hints at what's to come.

3 The Game Begins

Guests receive their first set of objectives and start mingling, snooping, scheming, and sleuthing while enjoying the party.

4 The Murder Strikes!

That's right—someone goes down, and the mystery kicks into high gear.

5 The Investigation Deepens

An "Investigator" (played by the host or a guest) reads instructions for how the game continues. Guests receive new objectives and info to stir the pot even further.

6 The Evidence is Revealed

More clues are uncovered. Guests review the evidence and begin forming their final theories.

7 Accusations Fly

The host hands out accusation sheets. Guests make their final guesses about whodunit and vote for fun superlatives like Best Dressed or Best Performance.

8 The Big Reveal

The Investigator reads the dramatic conclusion and the murderer is exposed! The host hands out awards—and maybe a few gasps echo across the room.

That's it! No scripts. No pencils. No complicated process.

Just mingling, mayhem, and a good old-fashioned murder—solved through socializing and sleuthing. Everyone participates as much (or as little) as they like, making it **lively, spontaneous, and fun for every kind of guest.**

Improv Encouraged!

Each guest receives detailed motives, secrets, and objectives, so **each night is unique,** spontaneous and **hilariously unpredictable!**

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I run this as a first-time host?

Absolutely. Night of Mystery games are designed to be easy to run—even if you've never hosted before. Our step-by-step guides **walk you through everything** from character assignment to final reveal, so **you'll feel like a seasoned sleuth from the start.**

Can the host play too?

Yes! Our games are **crafted so that the host can participate fully** without knowing the killer or the victim. Just skip the solution file until after the party. **You'll still be able to set up everything correctly** while keeping the mystery alive—even for yourself.

Does the murder actually happen during the party?

You bet it does. We believe the **murder should be part of the night's drama**—not something that happens offstage. That surprise moment **keeps the energy high** and your guests guessing. **Just remember: no spoiler pics on social media!**

How do I choose the right theme?

Pick a theme that **excites you** and **fits your guests.** Whether you're into roaring speakeasies or tropical whodunits, **we've got something that'll spark excitement.** Unsure about character makeup or content? Check the gender breakdowns, explore our clean versions, or **email us for details** on which characters appear in each version.

Can I use this for a business or organization event?

Yes! With the appropriate business license, our games can be used for company parties, fundraisers, and public events. **Check our Business Use FAQ for more details.**

Do you send someone to run the party?

Nope—we equip you to be the mastermind. But if you'd like someone else to run the show, check our list of licensed party planners who have purchased our business license and are certified to host **Night of Mystery** parties in select areas.

Can I share party pics on social media?

Yes please! We LOVE seeing your parties and often feature spoiler-free content. But here's the deal—**no photos or mentions of the victim, murderer, or key clues.** Posting spoilers could result in a loss of sales and liability for damages. Keep it fun, keep it clever, and **don't forget to tag us at #nightofmystery.**

How do I access my mystery after purchase?

All of our games are **professionally designed PDFs.** Once you complete your order, you'll **receive instant access** through your account. You can log in and download your materials—including optional email invitations—for up to 90 days after your purchase.

"Fun", "Had a blast", and, "What a great time", are all understatements! There are no words to accurately describe **the amount of fun everyone had** eating, drinking, portraying their character and trying to **solve a murrrderrrr.**

~Jeremy

Selecting Your Mystery Crew

Assigning Characters & Preparing Your Guest List

- **Assign characters:** As host, you will **assign each guest a character.** Review the character descriptions and match each role to the guest **who best fits that personality.** Character descriptions and an assignment sheet are included in this host guide.
- **Is there a set character list? Yes.** The characters are fixed and cannot be swapped. This intro file lists the characters for the 15–20 guest version. If you would like to know the exact characters before purchasing, email support@nightofmystery.com.
- **Which characters can be eliminated? Instructions** for reducing the character count without affecting the mystery **are included with your purchase.**
- **Confirm attendance first:** Since the party requires a minimum number of players, confirm who is attending before ordering the party and assigning characters.
- **RSVP timeline:** Send invitations with an RSVP deadline about two weeks before the party. After guests RSVP, send their character sheets and party details.
- **Download invitations here to get an accurate guest count: http://www.nightofmystery.com/invitations**
- **Party size: After purchase, party sizes cannot be changed.** The only exception is upgrading from the 15–20 guest version to the 20+ guest version, which can be purchased separately. An accurate guest count is important.

About The Murder

- **The killer:** The murderer will not know they are the killer until they open their second envelope during the party.
- **The victim:** The victim will not know they are the victim until they arrive. Their first objectives will instruct them to "fall down dead when the lights go off."
- **After the victim "dies":** The victim will come back to life and conduct the investigation.
- **Host role:** Guidance on which character the host should play is included in the mystery purchase..

The Night of Mystery games definitely **go more in depth** and are **more interactive** than the other ones we have played and you have **more freedom with your character** to sleuth on your own. **I love how many details you get** to go with your backstory.

~Ash

Let's Talk Suspects

The 15-20 Character Guest List

Riley Rodger – League Commissioner. Officially in charge of the league, Riley will not let anyone dictate how they run the league or or let anyone cheat it in any fashion.

Tommy Tomlinson – Pitbulls General Manager. Responsible for setting the Pitbulls up for success, Tommy wants to have the best of all worlds, but will the Pitbull budget allow it?

Robbie Robins – Pitbulls Coach. With fighting players and coaches, Robbie has some tough decisions to make on how to lead the Pitbulls moving forward.

Ryan Rebel – Pitbulls Offensive Coordinator. Tired of being overlooked, this coach is searching for someone to have more faith in their abilities or a way to showcase them.

Joe Baller – Pitbulls Starting Quarterback. With Joe's football legacy on the line, will this be the year Joe finally hangs up their cleats?

Avery Minsell – Pitbulls Backup Quarterback. Known for their excellent play in practice, if Avery doesn't earn a starting position soon, they may just have to look elsewhere.

Beck Jones – Pitbulls Rookie Quarterback. Opinionated, assertive, and eager to start for the team, this rookie can't wait to play!

Sam Givens – Pitbulls Receiver. Joe Baller's go-to receiver, some think Sam's phenomenal success has helped the team while others will argue it has hurt it.

Teddy Honeycutt – Pitbulls Receiver. While Teddy has made their name in the league, Teddy has yet to catch a break with the Pitbulls – a situation Teddy is looking to change.

Nick Nailer – Pitbulls Linebacker. Upset about how the season ended, will Nick build upon the past or feel the need to start over?

Rory Swanson – Free Agent Quarterback. Looking to join the Pitbulls, Rory just may be the answer to all the Pitbulls' problems.

Brady Cadey – Free Agent Quarterback. Annoyed with their current situation, Brady may be looking to join the Pitbull team or just the opportunity to take advantage of it.

Biggie Baller – Parent to Joe and JuJu Baller. Proud parent of two of the league's leading quarterbacks, Biggie Baller loves to capitalize on their childrens' successes (and failures).

JuJu Baller – Gladiators Quarterback. Sibling to an all-time great, it is often forgotten that JuJu is a great quarterback themself.

Carey Bradshaw – Sports Commentator. Known for their opinionated reporting, could this be the time when Carey's favoritism comes back to haunt them?

Crunchy Numbers – League Statistician. With rumors of inaccurate statistics swirling widely, is Crunchy's carelessness the center of a scandal or is there more to the matter?

Sawyer Yells – Super Fan. No one loves the league more than Sawyer, and they will do just about ANYTHING to prove it!

Jerry McGuire – Sports Agent. While wheeling and dealing is part of the process, Jerry excels at setting their clients up for success. But at what price?

Slick Rickie – Sports Bookie. This former player has a heart for the Pitbulls and the knowledge to prove it. Could Rickie's business benefit the Pitbulls or lead to their demise?

Shannon Stripes – Referee. Known for their fairness in the league, this official is one who can sniff out a party foul from a mile away!

TRASH TALK

TOP STORIES FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE

SEASON ENDING BASH

With the season over, the who's who of the league are attending the Pitbull Party where it is rumored the team will regroup and start reconnecting for their upcoming season. Those attending will be:

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BLOWN CALL ENDS PITBULLS SEASON

The season ended unfavorably for the Pitbulls in overtime of the division championships. With only 10 yards to go to the end line, a pass by Joe Baller was intercepted and run back for a touchdown, thus ending the game and the Pitbulls' season. With a Super Bowl birth just one (blown) play away, the controversial play has led to team discourse and questions about their future - the biggest being will the Pitbull locker room be able to rebuild? *More on page A10.*

WILL JOE RETIRE OR RETURN?

As the season comes to an end, we must revisit whether Joe Baller will make THIS the year that the aging quarterback finally retires. With rumors swirling about a broadcasting contract in their future, the reasons for staying with the league are dwindling. *More on page A9.*

SCANDAL OR SCAM?

With the league's reputation on the line, there have been allegations that some of the league stats have been altered to make certain players and coaches look more desirable to the public and enhance their image in free agency. Innocent until proven guilty, Riley Rodger (league commissioner) has vowed to find out if there is any merit to these accusations or if this is simply someone trying to sabotage the career(s) of another player while enhancing their own.

SIBLINGS BATTLE FOR TOP QB SLOT

Joe and JuJu Baller are both close to topping all-time stats as leading quarterbacks. The real question is who will be the GOAT. *More on page B6.*

DO NOT MISS

GAME DAY LIVE

WITH TOP HOST

CAREY BRADSHAW

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CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

MURDER AMONG THE MATEYS

Blackspot Bailey

Ye be the widow o' Smarmy Nigel Grimm, a dread pirate lost to the merciless hands o' fate. Raised side by side, ye and Nigel dreamt o' spendin' yer days together, forever entwined in love's hearty embrace. Upon reachin' the bloom o' adulthood, the two o' ye tied the knot afore Nigel set sail as a merchant sailor. But as the seas turned darker with the rise o' piracy, Nigel's ship was seized by cutthroats, leavin' him jobless and near death. Forced to the pirate's life, Nigel joined the crew o' *The Revenge*, captained by the infamous Toothless Willie.

Whilst sailin' under the black flag, Nigel spun ye tales o' high sea adventures and the rogues he sailed with, savin' his distrust for the treacherous Merciless Morgan. Yer heart was warmed by the treasures Nigel brought home whenever *The Revenge* docked, though ye saw him less than ye wished.

Tragedy struck two years past when the royal navy captured *The Revenge*, and yer beloved Nigel was hanged in the public gallows, his body left swingin' in the winds as a grim reminder o' the pirate's fate. With him swung Toothless Willie, both mourned by ye and Willie's kin, Cap'n Redbeard and Sharktooth Brandy.

Ye've spied some o' Nigel's former mates in town, includin' Thumbless Jacky and that scoundrel Merciless Morgan, now a first mate on *The Jaded Jewel*. It burns yer soul to see them livin' free while yer Nigel hangs cold and still.

Ye've also caught wind that Breathless Betty, the governor's daughter, is smitten with Morgan, unaware o' the heartache that comes with lovin' a pirate.

Hope glimmers on the horizon, for there be whispers that Rovin' Reynolds is seekin' Toothless Willie's buried treasure. As Nigel's widow, yer entitled to a share should it be found. With *The Jaded Jewel* anchored nearby, ye be plannin' to attend the jig at The Salty Sea Dog. There, ye aim to uncover the truth o' Nigel's demise, seekin' justice for him and peace for yerself, so ye may finally set yer burdened heart to rest.

Acting and Dressing Your Part: Arr, as ye prepare to step into The Salty Sea Dog for the jig, be mindful to don some black, for ye still sail the dark waters of mourning. Let the fabric speak of yer sorrow and the shadows in yer heart. For the lasses, a flowing black skirt paired with a ruffled white blouse, and for the gents, a dark, tattered coat over breeches. Adorn yerself with trinkets o' silver and bone, symbols of the vengeful spirit that stirs within ye. Carry yerself with a somber grace, eyes like the stormy sea, ready to unleash the fury buried deep in yer soul.*For more ideas on how to dress and act like a pirate—including a glossary of pirate words and phrases to use at the party, please see www.nightofmystery.com. Simply type in www.murderamongthemateys.com and explore the Guest Info and Costuming sections on the website.*

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SAMPLE

OBJECTIVE SHEETS

OBJECTIVE A

Coconut Jane

Starting Objectives:

- Greet guests and ask how they're enjoying your exclusive beachside oasis.
- Ask Coconut Joe (resort owner and your husband) what he plans to do if bar profits stay low.
- Tell Bindy Barkeep (bar manager) that you appreciate their loyalty, but staffing decisions are up to Joe.
- Offer Starr Bright (Hollywood star) a drink to keep her happy.
- Check in with Lucky Numbers (lottery winner) and Thurston Howard III (millionaire) to ensure they're enjoying their stay.
- Ask Managing Mo (Sandy Beachbum's agent) how you can make their visit more enjoyable.

USED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PARTY

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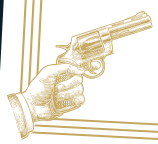
SAMPLE
OBJECTIVE SHEETS

B OBJECTIVE

Jazzy Jordan

THINGS YOU KNOW:

- Earlier tonight, Freddie Franklin (Hollywood producer) stated that Hollywood would drop Billie Love (a starlet) if Billie was involved in a scandal.
- Tom Buchanan (polo player) is romancing you and promised to help you break into Hollywood.
- Earlier tonight, you overheard Charlie Charge (a Gatsby associate) and Chief Curtis (police chief) plotting to take someone out.



B OBJECTIVE

Jazzy Jordan

OBJECTIVES AFTER THE MURDER:

- Warn Daisy Gatsby that she will never get Tom back.
- Tell Billie Love that she can't film from jail! Try to frame Billie Love for the murder. *With Billie in jail, you have a clear shot at the silver screen!*
- Discreetly ask Tom Buchanan if he murdered Sid to help you get into Hollywood. If he did, see how you can help Tom hide his guilt.
- Question Charlie Charge on the death of Mayor Foreman (late mayor, Sid's father). Offer money to find out the truth, and then follow whatever leads that gives you.
- Ask Freddie Franklin (Hollywood producer) about their evidence. *Use that as the motive for Billie to want Sid Foreman out of her life.*
- Conspire with Greta Gatsby to see who she blames and why.
- Accuse Chief Curtis of being the culprit. If they deny it, pay to find out who they were plotting against.

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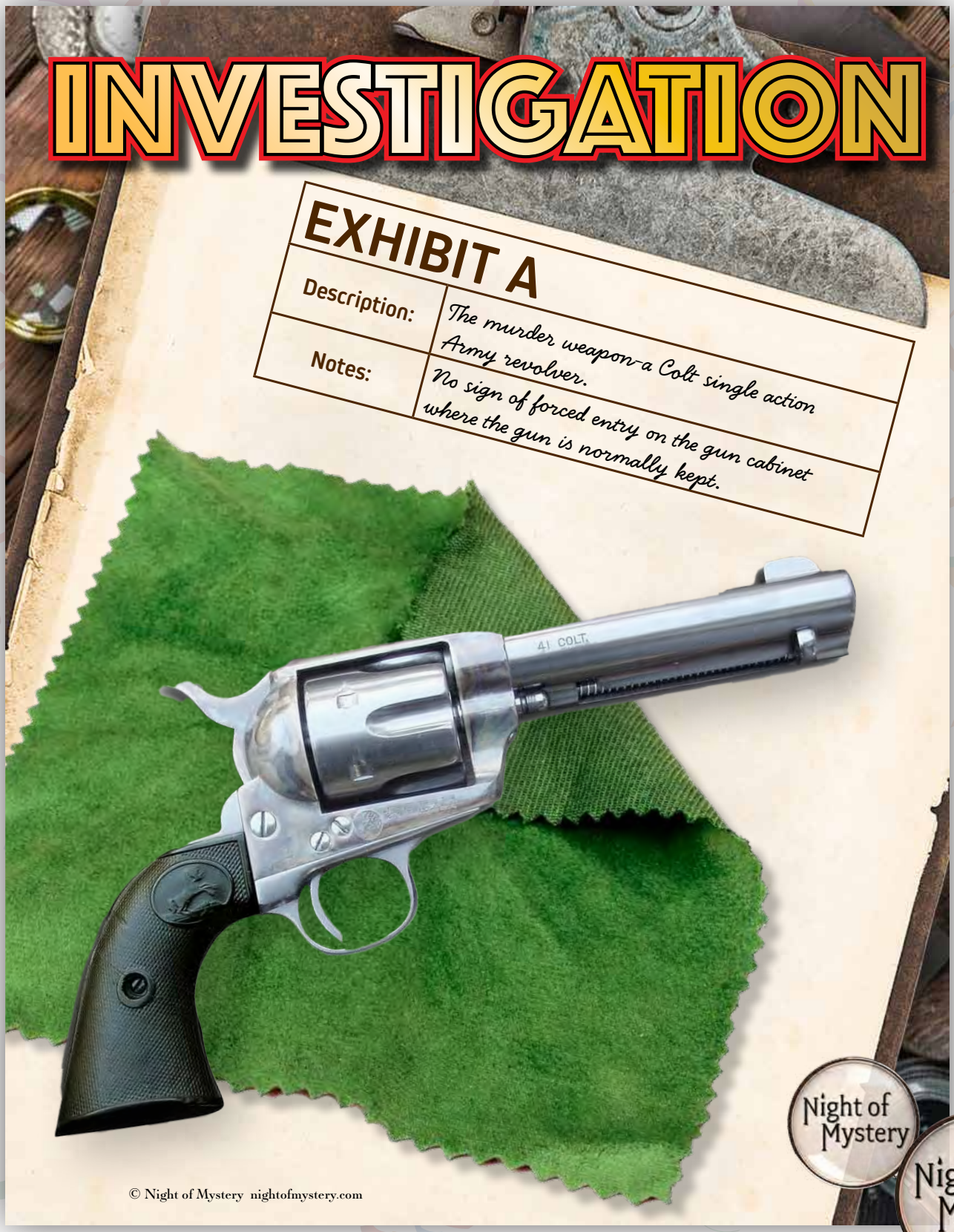
USED AFTER THE MURDER

EVIDENCE


INVESTIGATION
EXHIBIT A
Description:
The murder weapon-a Colt single action Army revolver.
Notes:
No sign of forced entry on the gun cabinet where the gun is normally kept.
41 COLT.
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SAMPLE

MYSTERY EXTRAS

Included with your mystery are ideas and designs to help you decorate for fun and authentic materials that are easy to make (a sample of items pictured here).

Night of Mystery

Check Out Murder Off the Field

What You Get With Every Mystery

When you purchase a Night of Mystery game, you're not just getting a mystery—**you're unlocking a full party experience,** complete with **everything you need** to host with confidence and flair. Here's what's **included in every downloadable mystery kit:**

Your Core Toolkit:

Host Guide – A complete, step-by-step guide to planning and running your party like a pro.

Night-of Timeline – A breakdown of how the evening will unfold, from the first guest to the final gasp.

Party Introduction – A dramatic script to kick things off and set the tone.

Designed Invitations – Fully customizable and printable, or ready to email.

News Article – Sets the stage with juicy background details about the characters and setting.

Character Packets – Each guest receives:

- A detailed character description
- Costume and acting tips
- Secret objectives for each stage of the party

Name Tags – Clearly mark who's who in your lineup of suspects.

Fake Money – For bribery, blackmail, and bonus fun.

Clue-Based Evidence – Revealed mid-party to push the plot forward.

Mystery Solution – A full explanation of who did it, why, and how it all came together.

Who Dunnit Cards – For guests to make their final accusations and vote for Best Dressed, Best Acting, and more.

Award Certificates – Printable awards for top performers, sharpest sleuths, and costume champions.

> We **host a monthly girls night** and this month we wanted something other than a craft night! **This murder mystery was PERFECT!**
> **~Brittany**

Check Out Murder Off the Field

Bonus Party Extras (Included with Mysteries):

Printable Posters & Banners – Decor to transform your space.

Editable Menus & Signage – Fully on-theme, fully customizable.

Suspect Boards – For immersive photo ops and guest reference.

Decor Inspiration – Theme-specific ideas for DIY magic.

Spotify Playlists – Curated for every theme to set the mood.

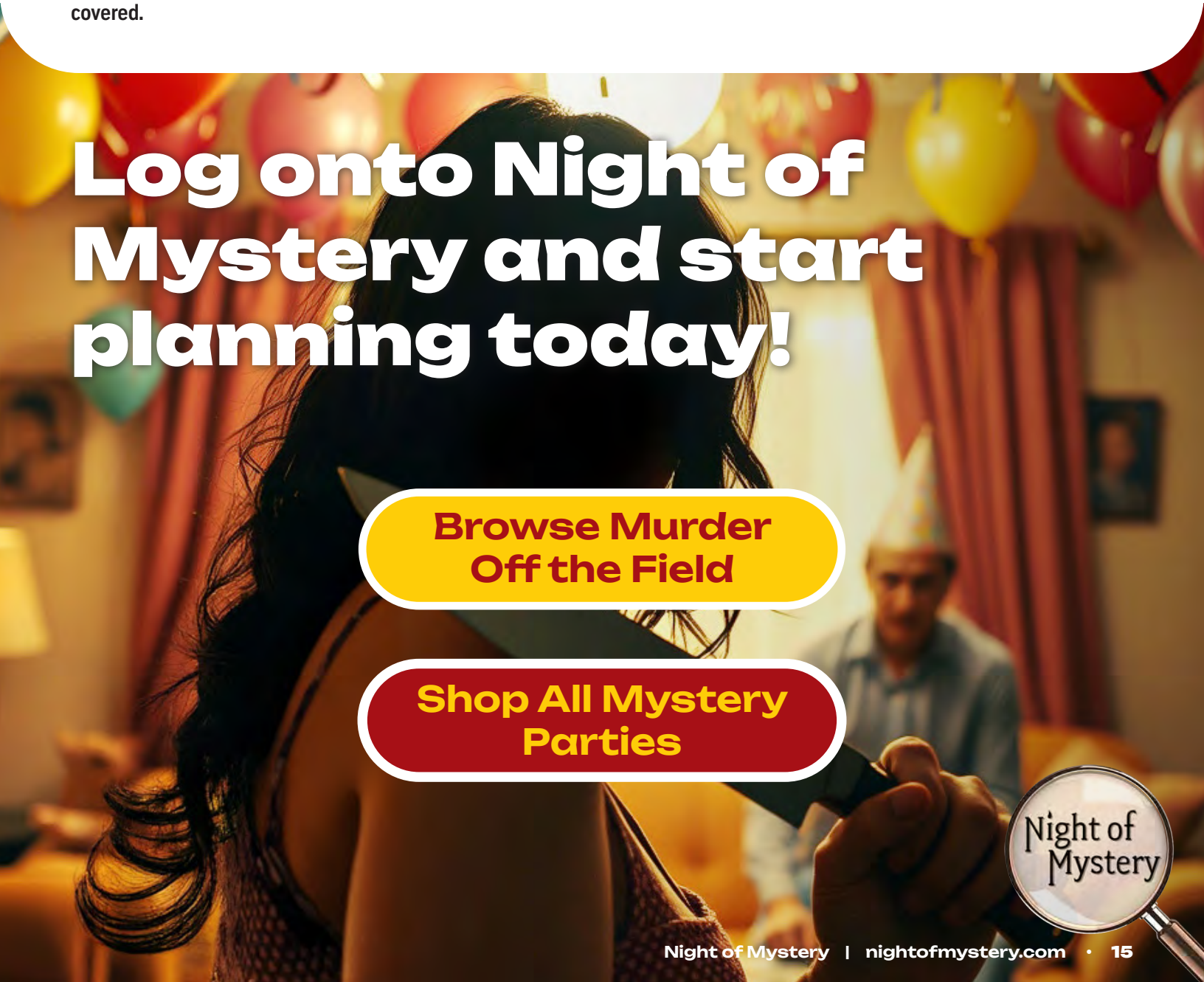
Glossaries – Get in character with lingo from pirates, gangsters, royals, and more.

Pinterest Boards – Visual guides filled with creative food, costume, and décor inspiration.

Planning Pages – Web pages tailored to each theme with recipes, costume ideas, décor how-tos, and more.

Blog Resources – Insider tips and stories from past parties.

All of this is delivered as a **professionally designed, downloadable PDF** (typically 50–125 pages). Once you purchase, you'll **receive instant access** to your mystery files and can revisit them anytime for 60 days through your account. Last-minute party panic? **We've got you covered.**

Ready to go from curious host to confident mastermind?

We've got your back. You bring the guests—**we'll bring the drama,** the details, **and everything in between.**