

CHAOS •• AT THE •• CARNIVAL



Introduction File

Night of
Mystery

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LADIES & GENTLEMEN, STEP RIGHT UP!

Come one, come all, to Ripley Ringmaster's Flying Circus!

This group of powerful performers and crazy characters have long rehearsed for their grand opening. And now, the curtain is about to go up, revealing acrobats, clowns, and daredevils to a roar of applause!

But with fame and fortune on the line, something sinister awaits the performers in the wings...

Rumors of grudges, feelings of betrayal, and bruised egos all simmer below the surface of these painted faces. And one of the performers might take things a step too far, and commit a carnival crime!

When that happens, the circus folk – from ringmaster to tightrope walker – must work together to capture the culprit.

Could it be the klutzy clown climbing for their spot as a star?

The tightly wound trapeze artist hiding a gruesome grudge?
Or the mysterious escape artist with more than one trick up their sleeve?

Only the brightest of stars can interrogate, investigate, and examine evidence to pull back the curtain and reveal the culprit!

**SO GRAB SOME POPCORN, TOUCH UP
THAT FACE PAINT, AND PREPARE TO
SHINE A SPOTLIGHT ON THIS
CHAOS AT THE CARNIVAL!**

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

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HOST GUIDE

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING CHAOS AT THE CARNIVAL

This comprehensive packet has everything you need to host a mystery party your kids will be talking about for weeks to come. The game is simple to run and packed with fun for everyone. Every guest takes on an active role — either as a suspect or an investigator — and throughout the night, they'll be challenged to not only play their part but also figure out who committed the crime!

Chaos at the Carnival is sure to be a hit with all of your guests.

In the following pages, you'll find a quick checklist of what the host needs to do to set the stage for success. Once the party begins, you'll be amazed at how smoothly it runs on its own — with kids fully engaged and having the time of their lives!

ASSIGNING THE CHARACTERS

- **What age is this mystery for?** This party is formatted for 8-12 year olds. The kids will need to know how to read for the game to flow smoothly. Adults or older friends can also help non-readers.
- **Who should be the host?** An adult should host and manage the party. To ensure that everything runs smoothly, the host should read through all of the materials well before the party date.
- **Because this party needs a minimum number of guests,** you should determine ahead of time which guests are attending before assigning characters.
 - The invite should be sent early with an RSVP date of two weeks before the party. Once your guests confirm, you can send them their complete invitation and character description. You can download an initial invitation to send at: <http://www.nightofmystery.com/invitations>
 - The mandatory characters are starred on the character list pages.
- **What if I don't have enough guests?** Siblings, parents, or friends can fill in for any of the missing primary characters. Once guests have confirmed and arrived, you are all set. The other character roles are helpful but not essential to the success of the party.
- The culprit will not know they are guilty until you hand them their confession sheet at the end of the party.
- All characters in Chaos at the Carnival can be played by any gender.

HOST GUIDE

MAKING THE INVITATIONS

Before the party, each guest must receive three things: (1) the invitation, (2) the RRFC announcement, and (3) their character description.

THE PRINT OPTION:

THE INVITATION

- To make the invitations, first input your party details into the invite page.
- Print out, double-sided, the number of invites that you need. Fold each invite in half.
- Invite should fit nicely into an A9 invitation envelope (5 3/4" x 8 3/4").

THE CIRCUS ANNOUNCEMENT

- This will provide information on the other guests at the party.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

- You will assign each guest a character to be at the party, and include their character description with the invite.
- ***Invite, RRFC Announcement, and Character Descriptions are found in the Mystery Materials pdf.***

THE DOWNLOAD AND EMAIL OPTION

- Following your purchase of the party, you may also access and use the downloadable character descriptions from our website.
- Each description is a pdf file containing the above information for each character.
- This option allows you to email each of your guests their character description without having to print and mail the information.
- Please remember, the pdf file option does not include a place to enter the date, time, or address of the party, so you will have to inform or remind your guests of the party location details in another fashion.
- For this, we do have downloadable, emailable invitations that can be found at: <http://www.nightofmystery.com/invitations>
- ***Downloadable invites with character descriptions will be available in your online account after purchase.***



RRFC

COME ONE, COME ALL

AFTER MONTHS OF PREPARATION, THE GRAND OPENING FOR RIPLEY RINGMASTER'S FLYING CIRCUS IS FINALLY HERE! COME SEE HEADLINING ACTS, WITH TALENTED TIGHTROPE PERFORMER WALKER HIGHRISE AS THE STARRING ATTRACTION! GASP AND APPLAUD AT OUR STUNNING SIDESHOW! AS THE CURTAIN OPENS FOR ALL THE AUDIENCE TO SEE, THESE DAZZLING DAREDEVILS AND POWERFUL PERFORMERS WILL ALL TAKE THE STAGE!

Ripley Ringmaster – Ringmaster. A flashy master of ceremonies with a flair for the dramatic! Ripley keeps the audience in awe while making sure the show goes on – no matter what!

Walker Highrise – Tightrope Walker. A dashing daredevil who puts their life on the line high above the audience's heads. Always a showstopper – but some say Walker steals the spotlight too much!

Trey Trapeze – Trapeze Artist. Powerful and graceful, this trapeze artist flips and flows through the air with incredible skill and amazing athletic ability!

Ryder Cycle – Unicyclist. A true performer, this unicyclist loves the spotlight – and lives for showing off their skill to roaring crowds! Ryder's got years of experience, plenty of skill – and an attitude to match!

Bowie Blades – Knife Thrower. Keen and sharp as the blades they throw, this performer has yet to miss their mark! Bowie takes their performance seriously – sometimes, maybe a little too seriously.

Harley Houndini – Escape Artist. Secretive and sly, this escape artist claims that there's no lock they can't pick, no code they can't crack, and no puzzle they can't solve!

Snappy the Clown – Clown. A slapstick comedian always looking for a laugh – no matter how many squeaky hammers it takes! Snappy's passion for performing makes them a circus mainstay – even if others get more attention!

Beau Bigtop – Stage Manager. This stage manager keeps track of every minute of every act. Without Beau, the circus would be nothing more than people in costumes – even if Beau doesn't get the appreciation they think they deserve.

Morgan the Magnificent – Magician. Flashy and fabulous, this magician knows how to captivate an audience – and always leaves the stage to thunderous applause!

Jackie Hearts – Magician's Assistant. The sparkling heart of every magic act, this magician's assistant would do anything to make their performance shine!

Mason Musclebound – Body Builder. Hard-working and hard-headed, this body builder performs feats of incredible strength live and in person – with hopes of breaking from sideshow act to big top headliner!

Flip Handspring – Acrobat. This free-spirited acrobat is eager to prove themselves – with backflips, frontflips, and cartwheels! With high-flying dreams, Flip won't let anyone steal their spotlight.

Juno Juggler – Juggler. This juggler always has their eye on the ball – sometimes, three balls. Juno's got big ambitions – which may clash against bigger egos.

Leo Lionheart – Lion Tamer. An animal lover through and through, this lion tamer gives all the animals plenty of love – and that trust leads to a showstopping performance!

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PREPARING THE MYSTERY MATERIALS

- Cut out and make name tags for the guests. (You can print the name tags onto adhesive label paper or print on regular paper and include a pin with the name tags so that the guests can secure them to their outfits.) *The name tag template is compatible with Avery labels 15163, 18163, 5163, 5263, 5523, 5663, 5963, 8163, 8253, 8463, 8663 and 8763.*
- Be sure to make enough copies of the Who Dunit voting sheets for the number of guests attending.
 - There is only one design included which has 2 voting ballots/page included.
 - You will have to print this page multiple times to ensure you have enough ballots for everyone.
- Cut all of the sheets with dotted lines in half.
- The mystery materials will be numbered 1 - 7 in the top right-hand corners. Paper clip all of the pages with the same numbers together. Keep the pages in the order they appear in the pdf.
- Discard any introductions for characters who will not be included in your party.
- Place the materials labeled with a #7 in a sealed envelope and label it "Solution."
- Keep the paper clipped stacks, as well as the name tags, awards, and "solution envelope" in a safe and convenient location so you can access them quickly when needed.

OPTIONAL HOSTING IDEAS:

- For the entrance, you can make tent flaps at the entrance of to your circus big top.
- Have awards (included with the mystery) or prizes for the super sleuth, best costume, funniest, and/or most dramatic guests.
- If multiple guests guess the identity of the culprit, you can award the Super Sleuth to each of them. If you want just one winner, then award it to the guest who had the most correct clues on their accusation sheet.

HOST GUIDE

START OF THE PARTY: THE GUESTS ARRIVE

- Have the guests' name tags and introduction speeches available for them.

STAGE ONE: INTRODUCTIONS

- After all of the guests have arrived, the host will read an introduction which will explain the game and start the introductions.
- Each kid will read their introduction speech.
- Once the introductions are done, the host will invite Beau Bigtop to read their safety report.
- Once Beau Bigtop has finished reporting their findings, the characters will learn that one of the acts has been sabotaged!

STAGE TWO: FIRST INVESTIGATIONS

- The host will read a second speech, and the kids will be divided into suspects and investigators.
- Hand each child their appropriate sheet and have them practice their dialogue according to their part.
 - The children named as suspects will receive a suspect card with their character name on it.
 - Hand detective cards to the kids who are not listed as suspects.
- After 10 minutes, have the children present their investigations, one suspect at a time with the rest watching.
 - You may want to arrange two chairs at the front of the room to provide for this.
 - Have the investigations go in the order that they were named as suspects.

STAGE THREE: EVIDENCE & INVESTIGATIONS

- After the first round of investigations, evidence will be presented and more suspects will be named.
- Hand each child named as a suspect their suspect card and have them read and practice their dialogue.
 - Hand out investigator cards to children who are not suspects.
 - While suspects and investigators are practicing, encourage the rest to talk about the possible motives for the crime.
- Have a second round of investigations, much like the first.
- The host will read a short synopsis and hand out sheets for the kids to guess the culprit.
- Lay the evidence on a table so everyone may see it before making their guesses.

STAGE FOUR: THE SOLUTION

- When all accusations are handed in, the host will read the solution aloud.
- The guilty party will confess!
- Present the awards!

HOST GUIDE

Sample Character

(a sample of what each child will receive within their invitation.)



RIPLEY RINGMASTER

BACKGROUND: You're a member of Ripley Ringmaster's flying circus, and it's almost time for the grand opening! You and your fellow performers have worked very hard to perfect your acts, from the sideshow to the spotlight. But just hours before opening night, something sinister threatens to steal the show. With everyone pointing fingers at one another, there isn't much time before the curtain call. Prepare for the circus event of your life – the culprit might make their big top debut to a roar of applause!

ACTING AND DRESSING THE PART: Use big, grand gestures whenever you talk. Smile a fabulous grin, stand up straight and tall, and speak with a dramatic booming voice that catches everyone's attention.

Dressing 'Tip: As the main face of the circus, wear a large top hat to stand out from the crowd, and wave a shiny baton or cane to emphasize your points.

YOUR INTRODUCTION SPEECH:

(You DO NOT have to memorize this.)

Greetings, everyone! My name is Ripley Ringmaster, and I'm the director of this fabulous circus! I introduce the acts, hype up the audience, and make sure everyone gets the applause they deserve – especially me! Let's make this grand opening the best the world has ever seen!



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What you get with the mystery:



Designed invites for your guests with character information and more details on the mystery for each of your guests. You can print or email these.



Introductions for each of the guests to help set up the mystery at hand.



EVIDENCE that will be presented.



Scripted investigations to facilitate kids questioning one another. (2 ROUNDS)



Accusation Forms!



SOLUTION!



Awards for Top Detective, Clownin'Around, Showstopper, and Best Dressed!

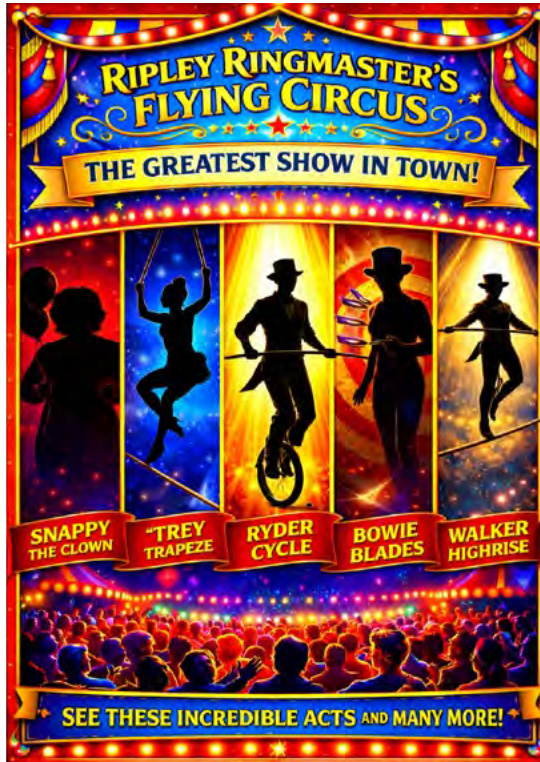
PLUS -- THE EXTRAS!!! (see next page)

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HOST GUIDE

THE EXTRAS

Included with the mystery are ideas and designs to help you decorate with fun and authentic materials that are easy to make.



TICKETS * POSTERS * FOOD LABELS * SIGNS * CONDIMENT LABELS * OLD-TIME PRICE TAGS * MORE!



HOST GUIDE

MORE PARTY PLANNING RESOURCES

Night of Mystery does our best to provide you with everything you need to create a unique and creative mystery party - including giving you plenty of party planning resources and ideas for *each* mystery theme we offer! **Check out any/all of the resources below!!!**

CHAOSATTHECARNIVAL.COM

Simply type in ChaosAtTheCarnival.com and it will take you to the "Party Tips" section of Night of Mystery dedicated to giving you the best ideas for decoration, costumes, hosting tips, etc. for THIS MYSTERY!!! Be sure to explore the "Hosting Tips" section of this as well!

ALL THE EXTRAS SUPPLEMENT

Check out the supplement that is filled with designs, posters, ideas, etc.

OUR PINTEREST PAGE

Get ideas and how-tos on theme-centric decorations, food, etc. Be sure to "Follow Us" to get the latest and greatest pins that we add to the boards! [Visit Chaos at the Carnival Pinterest Board](#)

FUCKR ALBUMS

[Check out pictures from other host and hostesses](#) from your mystery theme! See how much fun others had throwing this theme and get ideas for your own mystery party.

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/nightofmystery/>

AND INSTAGRAM! <https://www.instagram.com/nightofmystery/>

GET A COUPON AND A CHANCE TO WIN A FREE PARTY!

Once your party is thrown, please let us know how your party went by emailing the details and pictures to nompar-tyofthemonth@gmail.com! We will email you a \$5 coupon for submitting your comments and/or pictures about your party. In addition to the coupon, party pictures and comments may be highlighted on social media and/or the blog. Each month we will select one posting to be featured in our "Party of the Month" blog and that customer will receive a \$95 gift certificate towards the purchase of a future party!

HOST GUIDE

This has been just a sampling of what you
will receive when you purchase

CHAOS AT THE CARNIVAL

The complete package includes:

- **A Host Guide**— A complete how-to of throwing your party which includes directions on preparing the invitations, assigning characters, and preparing for the party.
- **A Schedule of the Night**— A step-by-step breakdown of how the party will go.
- **An Introduction**— To be read to the guests upon arrival.
- **Designed Invitations**— That you can customize with the details of your party.
- **The RRFC Announcement**— To be sent with the invitations, this includes background information on the other guests that will be at the party.
- **Character Sheets**— Descriptions of the characters, including costuming and acting tips and the kids' first introduction speech (they do not have to memorize this!).
- **Name Tags**
- **Introduction and Investigation scripts for the kids**— These simple, yet fun, scripts will be for the kids to read throughout the party. Each will reveal some clues about who the culprit may or may not be!
- **Evidence** — More clues that will be presented throughout the party. This evidence will help the kids solve the mystery and find the culprit.
- **Solution & Confession**— A detailed description of the what and why the sabotage happened, including WHO is the culprit.
- **"Who Dunit" Cards**— To allow your guests to guess the guilty party.
- **Award Certificates**— To be awarded to each of the guests that guess the culprit.
- **Party Printables and Extras**— Directions, templates, and designs to help you plan for your party. (Pictured on previous page. **Included are:** suspect board, room signs, oversized candy decor how-tos, and more!)

All of our parties come in the form of a professionally designed pdf. Immediately after completing your order, you will be able to create a member account. Once in your account, you will have the ability to download your party (including optional emailable invitations for your guests and party extras) for sixty days after your purchase. If you forget your password, you can request a new password be sent to your email. By having our games online as instant downloads, we are able to satisfy even the most urgent need for a party.

CHECK OUT:

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