MURDER MYSTERY PARTY · HOST GUIDE

DEATH AT MIDNIGHT

Someone at this party will not see the new year.



Players: 8 | Length: 2½ hours | Theme: Christmas at the old manor | Start: 7:00 pm

November 9, 2026

SAMPLE

YOUR HOST PAGE
https://gifts.lanvura.com/party/...

No spoilers until the sealed solution at the very end — you can play an innocent role.

How to prepare

1. One to two weeks before: send every guest their invitation (print, or send the private link). It shows their character and a costume idea.
2. Print the second PDF, “Player materials” (invitations, character sheets, clue cards). Put each character sheet into an envelope with the guest's name. If you play too, print it without reading — every sheet is on its own page, and this guide contains no secrets.
3. Cut out the clue cards and sort them into three piles: Round 1, Round 2, Round 3.
4. On the night, follow the schedule below. At the start of each round, read the text aloud and hand out the cards.
5. Rules for players: stay in character, share your clue cards when the round starts, and answer questions. You may hide your secret until someone has proof. Only the murderer may lie about the crime.

Schedule

Time	What happens	
19:00	**Arrival in character —** Welcome drinks; guests read their sheets and mingle in character.	20 min
19:20	**The murder —** Read the murder announcement aloud.	10 min
19:30	**Round 1 —** Read the round text, hand out the Round 1 cards, let everyone question each other.	30 min
20:00	**Round 2 —** New evidence: read the text and hand out the Round 2 cards.	30 min
20:30	**Round 3 —** Final clues: read the text and hand out the Round 3 cards.	30 min
21:00	**Accusations —** Everyone writes down who did it, how and why.	15 min
21:15	**Solution —** Read the sealed solution aloud.	15 min

Cast

Guest	Character	
Emma	**The Butler Emma**	Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.
Oliver	**The Heiress Oliver**	Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.
Sophie	**The Doctor Sophie**	Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.
James	**The Jazz Singer James**	Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.
Mia	**The Business Partner Mia**	Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.
Lucas	**The Journalist Lucas**	Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.
Grace	**The Gardener Grace**	Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.
Henry	**Victor Hale**	*The victim.* Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

SAMPLE

PRIVATE PHONE PAGES (OPTIONAL)

Each guest has a private page with their role, secret and clues. Send each person only their own link (or let them scan the QR code on their invitation). Clues unlock when you start a round on your host page, which also runs the timer. Keep your host link to yourself.

GUEST	CHARACTER	PRIVATE LINK
Emma	**The Butler Emma**	https://gifts.lanvura.com/party/...
Oliver	**The Heiress Oliver**	https://gifts.lanvura.com/party/...
Sophie	**The Doctor Sophie**	https://gifts.lanvura.com/party/...
James	**The Jazz Singer James**	https://gifts.lanvura.com/party/...
Mia	**The Business Partner Mia**	https://gifts.lanvura.com/party/...
Lucas	**The Journalist Lucas**	https://gifts.lanvura.com/party/...
Grace	**The Gardener Grace**	https://gifts.lanvura.com/party/...
Henry	**Victor Hale**	https://gifts.lanvura.com/party/...

DRESS CODE · PROPS AND ATMOSPHERE

1920s: dinner jackets, feathers, pearls

- Candles
- Jazz playlist
- A pocket watch

THE VICTIM IS PLAYED BY HENRY

Henry plays Victor Hale during the arrival, then "dies" when you read the murder announcement and helps you as the inspector for the rest of the game. Their sheet explains everything.

READ ALOUD: THE MURDER

> READ ALOUD
>
> Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to the most glamorous ball of the year. Our host, the millionaire Victor Hale, promised a surprise at midnight. But just a moment ago he was found lifeless in the library. The doors were locked from the inside and the storm has cut us off. One of you is a murderer.

ROUND 1

> READ ALOUD
>
> The police are still far away. Look around: something in this room does not fit.

SAMPLE

Evidence 1.1 A broken pocket watch stopped at 10:52 lies under the desk.

Hand out

The Butler Emma (Emma): **1.2**
The Heiress Oliver (Oliver): **1.3**
The Doctor Sophie (Sophie): **1.4**
The Jazz Singer James (James): **1.5**
The Business Partner Mia (Mia): **1.6**
The Journalist Lucas (Lucas): **1.7**
The Gardener Grace (Grace): **1.8**

Round 2

> **Read aloud**
> The police are still far away. Look around: something in this room does not fit.

Evidence 2.1 A broken pocket watch stopped at 10:52 lies under the desk.

Hand out

The Butler Emma (Emma): **2.2**
The Heiress Oliver (Oliver): **2.3**
The Doctor Sophie (Sophie): **2.4**
The Jazz Singer James (James): **2.5**
The Business Partner Mia (Mia): **2.6**
The Journalist Lucas (Lucas): **2.7**
The Gardener Grace (Grace): **2.8**

Round 3

> **Read aloud**
> The police are still far away. Look around: something in this room does not fit.

Evidence 3.1 A broken pocket watch stopped at 10:52 lies under the desk.

Hand out

The Butler Emma (Emma): **3.2**
The Heiress Oliver (Oliver): **3.3**
The Doctor Sophie (Sophie): **3.4**
The Jazz Singer James (James): **3.5**
The Business Partner Mia (Mia): **3.6**
The Journalist Lucas (Lucas): **3.7**
The Gardener Grace (Grace): **3.8**

Accusations

1. Give everyone a slip of paper: Who is the murderer? How? Why?
2. Each player reads their accusation and gives one reason.
3. The murderer may make a last attempt to blame someone else.
4. Then turn to the sealed solution and read it aloud. A point for each correct name, method and motive.

SAMPLE

INVITATION

DEATH AT MIDNIGHT

You are invited to an evening of glamour, jazz and murder. Come in costume and trust no one.

Dear Emma,

you are invited as

THE BUTLER EMMA

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

Come in character and keep your secrets close.

Costume idea: Something elegant from the 1920s.

Your private page

WHEN _____ **WHERE** _____ **RSVP BY** _____

Keep your role and link to yourself!

SAMPLE

INVITATION

DEATH AT MIDNIGHT

You are invited to an evening of glamour, jazz and murder. Come in costume and trust no one.

Dear Oliver,

you are invited as

THE HEIRESS OLIVER

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

Come in character and keep your secrets close.

Costume idea: Something elegant from the 1920s.

Your private page

WHEN _____ **WHERE** _____ **RSVP BY** _____

Keep your role and link to yourself!

INVITATION

DEATH AT MIDNIGHT

You are invited to an evening of glamour, jazz and murder. Come in costume and trust no one.

Dear Sophie,

you are invited as

THE DOCTOR SOPHIE

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

Come in character and keep your secrets close.

Costume idea: Something elegant from the 1920s.

Your private page

WHEN _____ **WHERE** _____ **RSVP BY** _____

Keep your role and link to yourself!

SAMPLE

INVITATION

DEATH AT MIDNIGHT

You are invited to an evening of glamour, jazz and murder. Come in costume and trust no one.

Dear James,

you are invited as

THE JAZZ SINGER JAMES

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

Come in character and keep your secrets close.

Costume idea: Something elegant from the 1920s.

Your private page

WHEN _____ **WHERE** _____ **RSVP BY** _____

Keep your role and link to yourself!

INVITATION

DEATH AT MIDNIGHT

You are invited to an evening of glamour, jazz and murder. Come in costume and trust no one.

Dear Mia,

you are invited as

THE BUSINESS PARTNER MIA

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

Come in character and keep your secrets close.

Costume idea: Something elegant from the 1920s.

Your private page

WHEN _____ **WHERE** _____ **RSVP BY** _____

Keep your role and link to yourself!

SAMPLE

INVITATION

DEATH AT MIDNIGHT

You are invited to an evening of glamour, jazz and murder. Come in costume and trust no one.

Dear Lucas,

you are invited as

THE JOURNALIST LUCAS

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

Come in character and keep your secrets close.

Costume idea: Something elegant from the 1920s.

Your private page

WHEN _____ **WHERE** _____ **RSVP BY** _____

Keep your role and link to yourself!

INVITATION

DEATH AT MIDNIGHT

You are invited to an evening of glamour, jazz and murder. Come in costume and trust no one.

Dear Grace,

you are invited as

THE GARDENER GRACE

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

Come in character and keep your secrets close.

Costume idea: Something elegant from the 1920s.

Your private page

WHEN _____ **WHERE** _____ **RSVP BY** _____

Keep your role and link to yourself!

SAMPLE

INVITATION

DEATH AT MIDNIGHT

You are invited to an evening of glamour, jazz and murder. Come in costume and trust no one.

Dear Henry,

you are invited as

VICTOR HALE

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

Come in character and keep your secrets close.

Costume idea: Something elegant from the 1920s.

Your private page

WHEN _____ **WHERE** _____ **RSVP BY** _____

Keep your role and link to yourself!

ONLY FOR EMMA — DO NOT SHOW ANYONE

THE BUTLER EMMA

Emma

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

WHO YOU ARE

You are The Butler Emma. Tonight everyone wants something from you.

YOUR SECRET

You owed the victim money and hid a letter that proves it.

YOUR MOTIVE

The victim threatened to tell everyone about your debts.

YOUR ALIBI

You say you were in the ballroom when the clock struck eleven.

WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OTHERS

- You saw The Heiress Oliver leave the ballroom shortly before eleven.

YOUR GOALS TONIGHT

- Find out who wrote the anonymous letter.
- Keep your secret until Round 3.

Stay in character. Reveal your clue cards when each round starts. You may hide your secret until someone has proof. Only the murderer may lie about the crime.

SAMPLE

ONLY FOR OLIVER — DO NOT SHOW ANYONE

THE HEIRESS OLIVER

Oliver

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

YOU ARE THE MURDERER!

You did it. Stay calm, use your alibi and point at others.

WHO YOU ARE

You are The Heiress Oliver. Tonight everyone wants something from you.

YOUR SECRET

You owed the victim money and hid a letter that proves it.

YOUR MOTIVE

The victim threatened to tell everyone about your debts.

YOUR ALIBI

You say you were in the ballroom when the clock struck eleven.

WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OTHERS

- You saw The Doctor Sophie leave the ballroom shortly before eleven.

YOUR GOALS TONIGHT

- Find out who wrote the anonymous letter.
- Keep your secret until Round 3.

Stay in character. Reveal your clue cards when each round starts. You may hide your secret until someone has proof. Only the murderer may lie about the crime.

SAMPLE

ONLY FOR SOPHIE — DO NOT SHOW ANYONE

THE DOCTOR SOPHIE

Sophie

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

WHO YOU ARE

You are The Doctor Sophie. Tonight everyone wants something from you.

YOUR SECRET

You owed the victim money and hid a letter that proves it.

YOUR MOTIVE

The victim threatened to tell everyone about your debts.

YOUR ALIBI

You say you were in the ballroom when the clock struck eleven.

WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OTHERS

- You saw The Jazz Singer James leave the ballroom shortly before eleven.

YOUR GOALS TONIGHT

- Find out who wrote the anonymous letter.
- Keep your secret until Round 3.

Stay in character. Reveal your clue cards when each round starts. You may hide your secret until someone has proof. Only the murderer may lie about the crime.

SAMPLE

ONLY FOR JAMES — DO NOT SHOW ANYONE

THE JAZZ SINGER JAMES

James

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

WHO YOU ARE

You are The Jazz Singer James. Tonight everyone wants something from you.

YOUR SECRET

You owed the victim money and hid a letter that proves it.

YOUR MOTIVE

The victim threatened to tell everyone about your debts.

YOUR ALIBI

You say you were in the ballroom when the clock struck eleven.

WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OTHERS

- You saw The Business Partner Mia leave the ballroom shortly before eleven.

YOUR GOALS TONIGHT

- Find out who wrote the anonymous letter.
- Keep your secret until Round 3.

Stay in character. Reveal your clue cards when each round starts. You may hide your secret until someone has proof. Only the murderer may lie about the crime.

SAMPLE

ONLY FOR MIA — DO NOT SHOW ANYONE

THE BUSINESS PARTNER MIA

Mia

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

WHO YOU ARE

You are The Business Partner Mia. Tonight everyone wants something from you.

YOUR SECRET

You owed the victim money and hid a letter that proves it.

YOUR MOTIVE

The victim threatened to tell everyone about your debts.

YOUR ALIBI

You say you were in the ballroom when the clock struck eleven.

WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OTHERS

- You saw The Journalist Lucas leave the ballroom shortly before eleven.

YOUR GOALS TONIGHT

- Find out who wrote the anonymous letter.
- Keep your secret until Round 3.

Stay in character. Reveal your clue cards when each round starts. You may hide your secret until someone has proof. Only the murderer may lie about the crime.

SAMPLE

ONLY FOR LUCAS — DO NOT SHOW ANYONE

THE JOURNALIST LUCAS

Lucas

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

WHO YOU ARE

You are The Journalist Lucas. Tonight everyone wants something from you.

YOUR SECRET

You owed the victim money and hid a letter that proves it.

YOUR MOTIVE

The victim threatened to tell everyone about your debts.

YOUR ALIBI

You say you were in the ballroom when the clock struck eleven.

WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OTHERS

- You saw The Gardener Grace leave the ballroom shortly before eleven.

YOUR GOALS TONIGHT

- Find out who wrote the anonymous letter.
- Keep your secret until Round 3.

Stay in character. Reveal your clue cards when each round starts. You may hide your secret until someone has proof. Only the murderer may lie about the crime.

SAMPLE

ONLY FOR GRACE — DO NOT SHOW ANYONE

THE GARDENER GRACE

Grace

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

WHO YOU ARE

You are The Gardener Grace. Tonight everyone wants something from you.

YOUR SECRET

You owed the victim money and hid a letter that proves it.

YOUR MOTIVE

The victim threatened to tell everyone about your debts.

YOUR ALIBI

You say you were in the ballroom when the clock struck eleven.

WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OTHERS

- You saw The Butler Emma leave the ballroom shortly before eleven.

YOUR GOALS TONIGHT

- Find out who wrote the anonymous letter.
- Keep your secret until Round 3.

Stay in character. Reveal your clue cards when each round starts. You may hide your secret until someone has proof. Only the murderer may lie about the crime.

SAMPLE

ONLY FOR HENRY — DO NOT SHOW ANYONE

VICTOR HALE

Henry

Known to everyone at the ball and to the victim.

YOU ARE THE VICTIM

Play the victim during the arrival: be charming and provocative, then "die" when the host reads the announcement. Afterwards you are the inspector.

WHO YOU ARE

You are Victor Hale. Tonight everyone wants something from you.

Stay in character. Reveal your clue cards when each round starts. You may hide your secret until someone has proof. Only the murderer may lie about the crime.

SAMPLE

Cut along the dashed lines

ROUND 1 EVIDENCE · HOST READS ALOUD 1.1

A broken pocket watch stopped at 10:52 lies under the desk.

ROUND 1 THE BUTLER EMMA 1.2

The Heiress Oliver argued loudly with the victim earlier this evening.

Emma

ROUND 1 THE HEIRESS OLIVER 1.3

The Doctor Sophie argued loudly with the victim earlier this evening.

Oliver

ROUND 1 THE DOCTOR SOPHIE 1.4

The Jazz Singer James argued loudly with the victim earlier this evening.

Sophie

ROUND 1 THE JAZZ SINGER JAMES 1.5

The Business Partner Mia argued loudly with the victim earlier this evening.

James

ROUND 1 THE BUSINESS PARTNER MIA 1.6

The Journalist Lucas argued loudly with the victim earlier this evening.

Mia

ROUND 1 THE JOURNALIST LUCAS 1.7

The Gardener Grace argued loudly with the victim earlier this evening.

Lucas

ROUND 1 THE GARDENER GRACE 1.8

The Butler Emma argued loudly with the victim earlier this evening.

Grace

SAMPLE

Cut along the dashed lines

ROUND 2 EVIDENCE · HOST READS ALOUD 2.1

A broken pocket watch stopped at 10:52 lies under the desk.

ROUND 2 THE BUTLER EMMA 2.2

A glove with traces of the victim's ink was found near The Heiress Oliver's seat.

Emma

ROUND 2 THE HEIRESS OLIVER 2.3

The Doctor Sophie was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Oliver

ROUND 2 THE DOCTOR SOPHIE 2.4

The Jazz Singer James was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Sophie

ROUND 2 THE JAZZ SINGER JAMES 2.5

The Business Partner Mia was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

James

ROUND 2 THE BUSINESS PARTNER MIA 2.6

The Journalist Lucas was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Mia

ROUND 2 THE JOURNALIST LUCAS 2.7

The Gardener Grace was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Lucas

ROUND 2 THE GARDENER GRACE 2.8

The Butler Emma was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Grace

SAMPLE

ROUND 3 EVIDENCE · HOST READS ALOUD 3.1

A broken pocket watch stopped at 10:52 lies under the desk.

ROUND 3 THE BUTLER EMMA 3.2

The Doctor Sophie was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Emma

ROUND 3 THE HEIRESS OLIVER 3.3

The Jazz Singer James was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Oliver

ROUND 3 THE DOCTOR SOPHIE 3.4

The Business Partner Mia was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Sophie

ROUND 3 THE JAZZ SINGER JAMES 3.5

The Journalist Lucas was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

James

ROUND 3 THE BUSINESS PARTNER MIA 3.6

The Gardener Grace was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Mia

ROUND 3 THE JOURNALIST LUCAS 3.7

The Butler Emma was dancing with the bandleader the whole time.

Lucas

ROUND 3 THE GARDENER GRACE 3.8

A glove with traces of the victim's ink was found near The Heiress Oliver's seat.

Grace

SAMPLE

STOP

Read only at the very end, after everyone has made their accusation.

SOLUTION

THE MURDERER

THE HEIRESS OLIVER *(Oliver)*

How: Poison in the victim's glass.

Why: Revenge for an old betrayal.

The murderer is The Heiress Oliver. The glove, the stopped watch and the missing key all point to them.

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED

22:30	The victim leaves the ballroom.
22:50	The murderer follows him into the library.
22:52	The watch breaks as the victim falls.

Fair-play check: an independent reader solved the case from the clues alone.

SAMPLE