

Bullets & Brie

Warning, page 4 reveals the murderer! Don't look ahead!

Preliminary:

Track 1 (To play to introduce the game after everyone has had a chance to read the rules and their character pages)

(Step 1 in the Party Planner)

Jacque McClue: Good Evening mesdames et messieurs, My name is Inspector Jacque McClue, and I must offer my apologies for the late start of your little soiree.

I regret I have to inform you that there has been a murder on these premises. Your guest of honor this evening was supposed to be Messieurs The Black Cat. The greatest mime artist in all of France! And therefore, all of Europe. However, The Black Cat is no more.

Let me describe the scene we have found. The Black Cat was staying in the main guest bedroom, a charming, well-appointed room on the second story, facing South over the garden, with ensuite bathroom facility, and a small drawing room. It was in this drawing room that The Black Cat was found hanging by the neck!

We have of course rounded up the usual suspects, none of them are guilty, but we rounded them up anyway. Now we have to find someone who IS guilty, and I think you will find that ALL of you here tonight are under suspicion. I shall be making the inquiries, and in the meantime – you had better get your stories sorted out!

Round 1: Now start the “First Dialogue”.

(Step 3 in the Party Planner)

Track 2 (summarizes and wraps up Round 1, after the Round one Questioning)

(Step 5 in the Party Planner)

We find ourselves in a pretty little pickle, don't we!

We have Messieurs Huges Le Grandbutte, who says he is in bed with his wife when this murder is happening. But his wife is not there! She is having an affair with Mr. Kirk Ramson, and who knows what else they are having? And who knows what Messieurs Le Grandbutte is having, either?

We have their charming daughter, Nicole, who is being told by the resistance that she must strike a blow against The Black Cat, and she expects us to believe that is just a bit of the propaganda, and NOT of the murder.

We have Mademoiselle Ingrid Pith, who was receiving stolen property from The Black Cat. Namely, the famous picture of the swollen Madonna. But she is not paying him for the goods. Maybe she killed him for the money?

We have the so-called Countess Bogov, who is no real countess! She is only the circus performer, and The Black Cat, he knows this is the case! Maybe she killed him to keep him quiet?

And we have Messieurs Oily-Carte, who runs a night club for which The Black Cat walks out in circumstances of acrimony, maybe he killed him in revenge? Or maybe Messieurs Oily-Carte came here tonight to persuade him back, his negotiations failed, and then he murdered The Black Cat.

Who knows? We have plenty of motive. What we have to remember is The Black Cat is a very big man. He weighed maybe 20 stone or more. So let us visualize the scene. The Black Cat is murdered, strangled, and then the killer has to lift a very heavy dead man in order to hang him? I think not! I think this is more than one man alone can achieve. I think we are looking for TWO killers! We are looking for a pair. So that makes us think differently now, no?

I'll be thinking of you, my little chums. ALL of you.

Round 2: Now start the "Second Dialogue"

(Step 6 in the Party Planner)

Track 3 (summarizes and wraps up Round 2, after the Round Two Questioning)

(Step 8 in the Party Planner)

So now, the waters are even more muddy, no? And I do not like muddy waters. It is in these waters that the seagulls follow the trollers looking for sardines to be thrown into the sea. Let us try to clear up these waters.

There is a bullet by the body, this much we know, but what does it mean? Does it mean The Black Cat was murdered by the Countess Bogov, formerly known as, “The Bullet”?

Or does it mean that he was murdered by the resistance who have been known to leave this trademark behind when killing collaborators? Madame Nichole Le Grandbutte and Messieurs Pierre Paysanski perhaps? Or is it an attempt to frame the resistance? I do not yet know the answer to this question, but I do know that the resistance would want to kill The Black Cat because he was a Gestapo agent.

But Heir Otto Von Pinkelwürst, he too may have wanted to kill rival in the secret service, or he might have wanted to kill the mime artist, because of how The Black Cat abused him when he was a little child! I think Heir Von Pinkelwürst, you are probably mad, so I do not know quite what you might do.

Then, we have Messieurs Oily-Carte, who is not what he pretends! He is not even French for heaven’s sake! He is a (spit) ENGLISHMAN! I do not know what this means, either.

AND there is Messieurs Huges Le Grandbutte, and Mr. Kirk Ramson, who are BOTH having an affair with Madam Pith! And neither of them are giving her what she wants – a visa. And I do not think Messieurs Le Grandbutte is capable of giving her anything else, either. This may be highly significant! Or it may not. I do not know.

And Madam Cherie Boot, she offered to spend the night with The Black Cat, but she did not! What does she have to hide?

I am really surprised Deputy Mayor, that you have so many suspicious characters at your dinner table! With all these suspects, I think you are spoiling us!

Ahh well, there are still many things to discover, but I think I begin to see the lighting at the end of the funnel. We shall see!

Now start the “Third Dialogue”

(Step 9 in the Party Planner)

Track 4 (After Round Three Questioning, and Optional Final Statements and Accusations, this will reveal the murderer!)

(Step 13 in the Party Planner)

So now I think we have all the pieces of our jigsaw in place!

Mister Kirk Ramson tells us his art is his least vulnerable spot. I think this is true. He is having affairs with Madam Edith Le Grandbutte, but also Mademoiselle Ingrid Pith! I am thinking he is not seeming very committed to Madam Edith. I think you will agree, he is not the type of man to risk his neck for this woman. And if he does not do the murder, than nor does Edith.

Messieurs Huges Le Grandbutte was in a drunken stupor. This is very clear. He had no idea his wife was not in bed with him. Which is very sad, but also very innocent. And if he is too drunk to do anything, then Madam Ingrid Pith has no one to help her do the murdering.

Heir Von Pinkelwürst is clearly mad. But I do not believe he and the so-called Countess Bogov have done this. Otherwise he would not be going around calling for the death of mime artists – this is not the behavior of a guilty man. And why would he leave a bullet behind? Maybe it is the Countess' bullet? But, I do not think so. I do not think Heir Otto would let her do such a thing.

No, my little chums. The bullet is very obviously the mark of the resistance. SO we have Mademoiselle Nicole and Messieurs Pierre Paysanski. But Messieurs Oily-Carte says he saw them in the garden! So they have an alibi. But, how does Messieurs Oily-Carte see them in the garden? Maybe because he is in the garden himself? Or maybe because he remembers The Black Cat's room faces South over the garden!

Yes... you must remember this – maybe it is from the window of The Black Cat's room sees Messieurs Oily-Carte sees the two young lovers!

Oi, I thin this is near the truth. The Black Cat is a Gestapo agent, he is also a very big man, so big it would take two men to kill him, and lift him up to be hung. More than a man and a woman to do this. I think the only answer is that he must have found out the truth about Messieurs Oily-Carte and so-called Cherie Boot, and that is why they killed him!

Therefore Mr. Patty Hashbrown, alias Messieurs Oily-Carte, and YOU Messieurs Jean-Paul Satire alias Mademoiselle Cherie Boot, I am formally accusing you of depriving all of Europe of the greatest mime artist of this generation! I am accusing you of murdering The Black Cat!