

# Farthingay Manor

*A Downloadable Murder Mystery Game  
For Six People*



A country house murder set in 1924. Guests have been invited for the weekend by a mysterious host.

Farthingay Manor” is a murder mystery for 6 people, all of whom are given a character in the plot. They have been invited to attend a country house weekend in England in August, 1924. They do not know their host, Lord Farthingay. They do not know each other. So why were they invited? As the plot unfolds, they gradually find out. The murder mystery is usually run over a meal, but if you are feeling particularly adventurous, you can run it in short bursts over a whole weekend. The characters include a vicar, a nun, a countess and a butler. All, of course, have dark secrets to hide. But who is the murderer? How is the King of Ruritania involved? And how many characters survive till the end?

This enjoyable and absorbing crime-solving game is perfect for all those who love Downton Abbey, Gosford Park and other English country house classics.

## **Age Rating/Content Rating**

As with all murder mystery plots, the characters in Farthingay Manor have been up to no good. Despite this, we don't believe they do anything that most people would find offensive. After all, murders don't happen over nothing. But anyone under the age of 14 may have trouble understanding some of what is referred to. We therefore recommend it as suitable for those aged 14 and above.

## **When is this whodunit set?**

In 1924.

## **Hire an actor**

If you are in or visiting the UK and would like a professional actor to run your game for you, please look at Option 2 on this link: [www.mayhem.org.uk/plots/best-value/](http://www.mayhem.org.uk/plots/best-value/). If you'd like a professional events company to put together the whole party for you, please go to Option 3 on the same page.



Thank you for taking the time to download this document. Most of the information you need to put it together is contained in the main game, for which you will have to pay. Before you do that, please check that your software and hardware are compatible with ours by printing out this whole document.

### *What is in this section?*

- A summary of what our murder mystery is about.
- An invitation and list of all the character parts.
- A copy of the News of the People
- Notes on how to buy your game.

### *What is included when you actually buy it?*

- Character information for each guest.
- A step-by-step guide on how to run it.
- All the other essential paper props.
- The solution!

### *A summary of the game*

“Murder at Farthingay Manor” is a murder mystery for 6 people, all of whom are given a character in the plot. It is usually run over a meal, with the person hosting the party also playing one of the characters.

The characters are all supposed to be attending a country house weekend in England in August, 1924. Among them are a vicar, nun, businessman, countess and music hall star, and

attending on them is a smarmy, creepy butler called Jarvis.

As the mystery unravels, guests question each other (in character) and try to discover what everyone has been getting up to. Information about their own character and clues about the others are given to them, and new plot developments occur while the mystery progresses.

As proceedings draw to a close, people get the chance to make their accusations, then the correct solution is revealed and the murderer is unmasked.

### *Who has booked our murder mysteries before?*

We have been running murder mysteries professionally in the UK since 1989. Hundreds of blue-chip businesses have booked us, and a list of satisfied corporate customers is on this link to the web site of our Murder Mystery and Mayhem sister company:

[www.mayhem.org.uk/about-us/](http://www.mayhem.org.uk/about-us/)

Please do not think, however, that you can just download the game and let it run itself. By getting it at a much lower price than it usually sells for, you will obviously have to put in some work to make it a real success. If you want us to organise and run it all for you, please e-mail us and we will tell you what we provide and what we charge. Or look us up at [www.mayhem.org.uk/](http://www.mayhem.org.uk/)

# THE NEWS OF THE PEOPLE

Vol. 12, Issue 254, 1924



## Wicked Fellow Is Jailed

*"Bounder deserves to be whipped," says Judge Mowbray*

Albert Norris was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment at the Old Bailey today for his role in the "Double Your Life Savings" scandal. Wicked Norris conned hundreds of trusting investors out of their savings, after placing advertisements in a wide range of periodicals and newspapers. As he admitted in court, Norris even had the effrontery to use his employer's name in these advertisements, entirely without permission. They read as follows:

### **DOUBLE YOUR LIFE SAVINGS A Scheme That Sounds Too Good To Be True, But Most Certainly Is Not!**

*"Mr. Harold Blunt invites you to partake in an investment opportunity of a lifetime. Simply pass your life savings over to him and he will guarantee a doubling of your monies within a period of not more than two years. Mr. Blunt would like to assure investors that his scheme has the full approval of the government of Liberia, whose mineral resources provide the key to the security of the investment. A generous offer such as this is, of course, certain to attract a good deal of interest. Mr. Blunt regrets that only those who respond quickly to this solicitation will enjoy the full fruits of his glorious enterprise."*

Norris held a position as a clerk within Mr. Blunt's investment company, Blunt Holdings, for several years before descending into a life of crime. He told the court: "Mr. Blunt is an honourable man who was not a party to my criminal action in any way. It was entirely of my own devising and the advertisements were placed without his knowledge. I confess that all promises of Liberian securities were of my own invention and all monies sent to Blunt Holdings in response to the advertisements were used simply to line my own pocket. I declare myself to be a wholly inadequate, wretched, pathetic, woebegone and worthless person."

**Albert Norris:  
the hideous, smirking  
face of villainy and  
deep depravity**



Judge Mowbray, who conducted the trial, agreed with him on this point. Noting the ragged appearance of the defendant, the Judge asked Norris why he appeared to have so few material gains to show for his criminal endeavours. Informed by Norris that he had "spent it all on horses", the Judge was heard to remark: "the bounder deserves to be whipped".

Blunt Holdings ceased trading following the "Life Savings" scandal. A shy, retiring gentleman who now lives in a large, baronial castle in Wales, Mr. Blunt was not present at any of the Court proceedings but did attend the final creditors' meeting at which his company was liquidated. His only comment to the Press was to say that he had no comment to make to the Press.

A photograph of the evil Norris is displayed elsewhere on this page. A mere glance at it suffices to reveal sin and wantonness lurking in every pore. We have so far been unable to obtain a photograph of the shy and blameless and entirely wronged Mr. Harold Blunt.

### **Art or Indecency?**

Word reaches us that a collection of "artistic photographic studies" of a young lady has recently become available, entitled "A Maiden On Her Wedding Night". We understand the "studies" are intimate in nature. While we have not seen them and have no wish to see them, we do not hesitate to deplore them utterly.

# MURDER AT FARTHINGAY MANOR INVITATION

You are invited to step back in time to 1924 to enjoy a pleasant stay in the country with your gracious host, Lord Farthing

(alias .....

At his home, Farthingay Manor, Fairview, England

(alias .....

His Lordship is aware that his guests have not met him before and do not know him. He is, however, pleased to inform all of you that he has some interesting information to share. Much may be gained by giving him the pleasure of your company! He asks you to dress appropriately and to come as:

(your character: .....

The full guest list is as follows:

**Mr. Ernest Sharpe:** A 42-year-old businessman who recently moved to Wales. Suave, intelligent and as slippery as a greased eel.

**Miss Monica Cholet:** Star of musical hall and stage, Monica has been thrilling audiences for years with her saucy rendition of the song, "Whoops-a-Daisy!" She admits to being in her late twenties.

**The Reverend Archibald Flannel:** The Reverend is a financial expert who advises the Church on how to invest its money. He is 37 and hopes to become a Bishop soon.

**Sister Susan:** Saintly Susan regards nothing as too much trouble where helping others is concerned. She is 23 and has been in Holy Orders all her adult life.

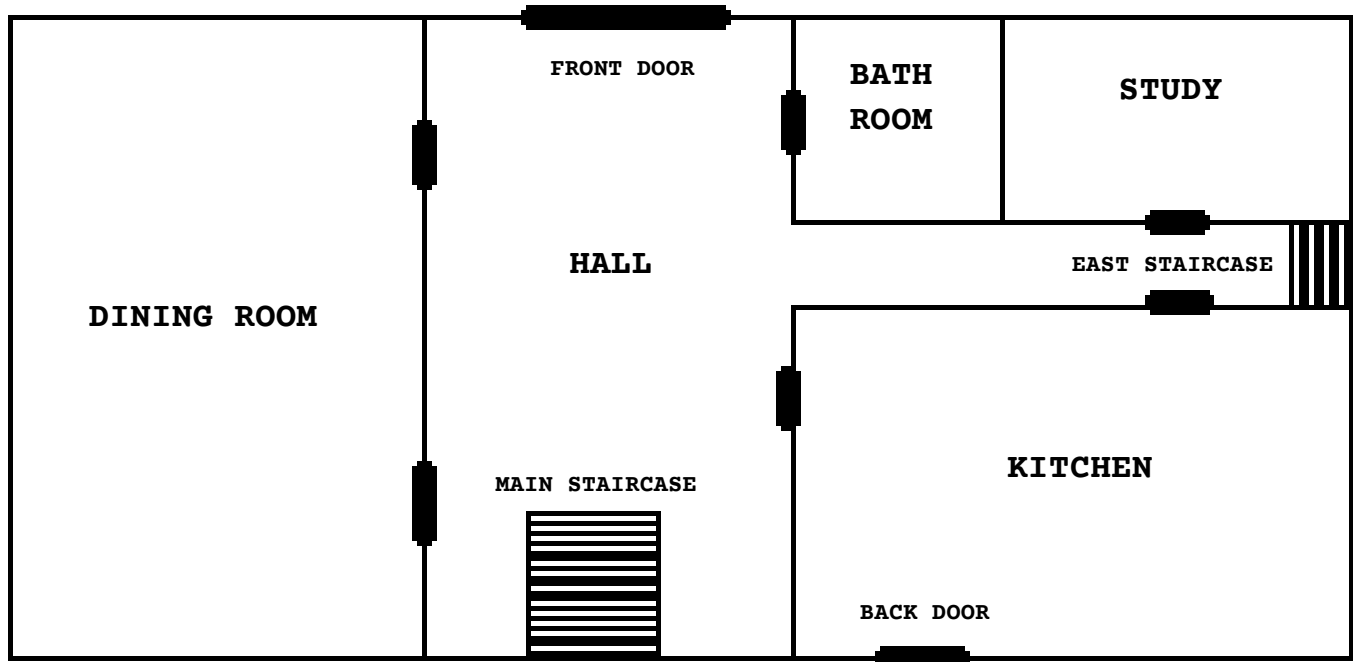
**Gertrude, Countess Torrington:** Formerly known as Nurse Tremble, the Countess is still grieving the loss of her elderly husband, Count Bertie. 30-year-old Gertrude nursed the Count all through his last illness.

Also in attendance will be Lord Farthing's splendid butler, **Jarvis**. Close to retirement age, he can always be relied upon to be tactful, polite and smarmy.

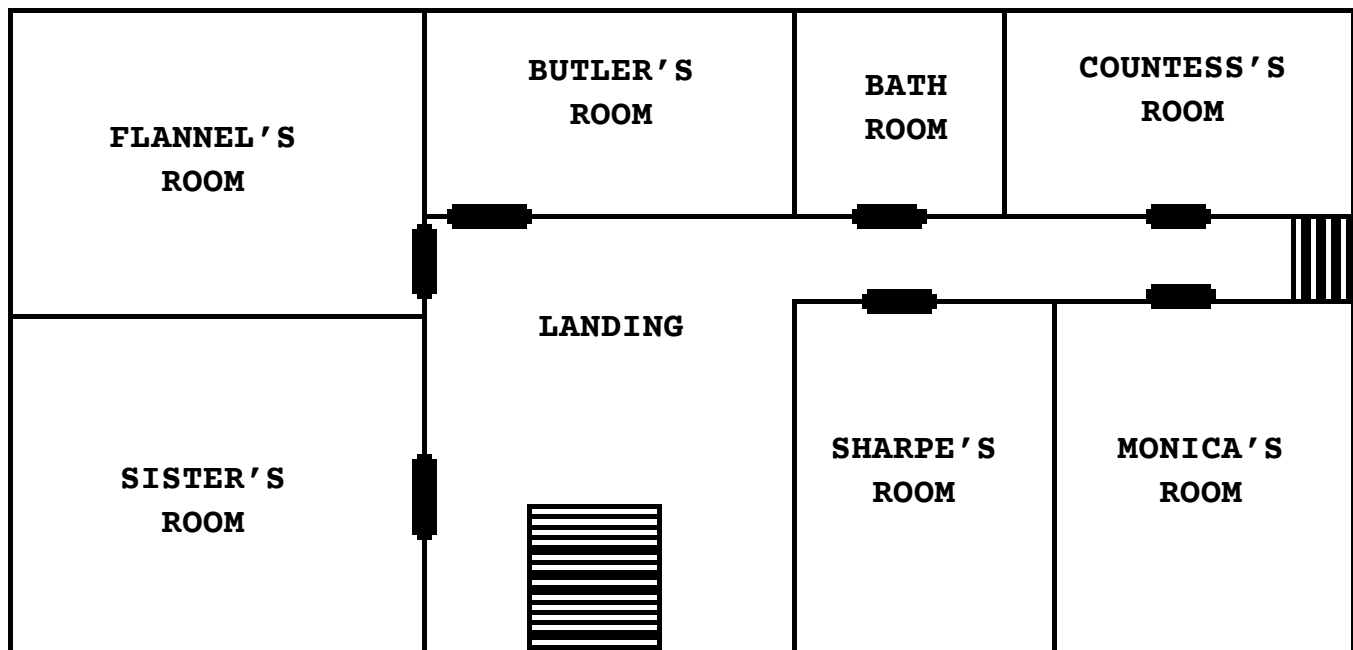
Your humble host,

*Farthing*

# PLAN OF FARTHINGAY MANOR



## GROUND FLOOR



## UPPER FLOOR

# HOW TO BUY YOUR GAME

THANK YOU for getting this far. Now please buy the game!

Available from anywhere in the world, the game is only available by download from the Internet. When buying a game from us, you must respect the copyright terms as set out on our [www.murdermysterygames.net](http://www.murdermysterygames.net) website and to abide by our [Terms and Conditions](#). In particular, you agree not to run your game commercially or for profit unless you have received our **specific, written consent** to do so.

## To buy online

The payment system is very secure. We don't receive or store any of your bank details ourselves. Instead, your payment will be processed via PayPal which encrypts and protects your personal details using SSL.

Please go to [www.murdermysterygames.net](http://www.murdermysterygames.net) and follow the instructions you find there. When we receive your payment, we will e-mail you a password which will enable you to download the main game. Yours for around US\$30. (We are based in the UK and prices may vary slightly according to the latest exchange rate changes.)

## Disclaimer

The game comes "as is". Any disputes arising from the sale of the game are subject to the laws of England and Wales, regardless of the geographical location of the customer.