

The Reading of the Will

*Downloadable Murder Mystery Game
for Six to Eight people*



The Duke of Felthorpe seems to have been murdered in his bath. But how? The room is locked from the inside.

The Reading of the Will is a 'sealed room' murder mystery. After the Duke of Felthorpe dies in his bathroom, no one can gain entry except by breaking the door down. So how did his killer get in there? It looks impossible.

Everyone taking part in this crime game plays a character who works for or is related to the Duke. All of them are here for the reading of his Last Will and Testament. The contents of the Will are a big surprise. So many last-minute changes. Was he being blackmailed? Was he mad? Should this Will be thrown out and replaced with an earlier one?

The murder mystery usually takes place during a meal but can be run without one. Fresh clues are introduced as the plot gradually unravels and more evidence emerges. One character is the duke's butler. So, did the usual happen? Did the butler do it? Or was it the Duke's maid? The Duke's idiot son, perhaps? His son's scheming wife?

Before all is revealed, everyone gets the chance to say who they think the guilty party is. By the time the truth is out, everyone will have had great fun playing their parts, working out whodunit and trying to prevent other people from accusing them.

Age Rating/Content Rating

Although some of the characters behave badly, we don't believe the plot contains anything that would cause offence to most people. But, because those under the age of 14 may have trouble understanding some things mentioned in it, we recommend it as suitable for those aged 14 and above.

When is this whodunit set?

The Reading of the Will is set in the modern day but has a very "period feel" to it. You can, if you prefer, set it in a previous era: the Thirties, Forties, Fifties, Sixties, Seventies, Eighties, Nineties, Noughties. You will need to add the era you've chosen to the invitations and do a small amount of explaining on the night. But there is nothing to stop you going back in time, if you want to.

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/. 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 file. Most of the information you need to put the plot 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 file.

What is in this file?

- **A summary of what our murder mystery is about.**
- **An invitation and list of all the character parts.**
- **A Felthorpe Bugle.**
- **A plan of Felthorpe Manor and a Felthorpe Family Tree.**
- **Notes on how to buy your game.**

What is included when you actually buy it?

- **Character information for each guest.**
- **Notes for the organiser on what to do before and during the murder mystery.**
- **Other essential paper props.**
- **The solution!**

What you don't get

- **After you have printed out the plot, there will still be some folding, cutting up, envelope stuffing and printing of extra copies of some pages to do.**

A summary of the game

“The Reading of the Will” is a murder mystery for 6-8 people. Each of them is a character in the plot. It

is usually run over a meal, with the person hosting the party also playing one of the characters.

Four characters are male and four are female, but don't worry if you don't have the right male/female split. Getting men to play women or women to play men generally adds to the fun!

While 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 us 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/

Please do not think that you can just download the game and let it run itself. By getting it at a much lower price than usual, you will need to put some work in yourselves. But rest assured that thousands of people all over the world have done so before - and been very happy with the result.



The Felthorpe Bugle

Tragic Death of His Grace, the Duke of Felthorpe

It is with great sadness we must report the tragic death of Maurice Didlington, 18th Duke of Felthorpe. His Grace was found dead in his home yesterday morning, following a domestic accident. The full details have yet to be made public, but it is understood that His Grace suffered an electric shock while taking a bath.

A member of his household staff discovered him slumped in the bath and made valiant efforts to revive him - sadly, to no avail.

Tributes to the duke have been pouring in to this newspaper,

Also in this issue:

Help "If we don't help them, will they help themselves?" The late duke explains why he often employed ex-convicts.

Missing A week prior to his death, the duke told police that large sums of money had disappeared from his bank account. The police are still investigating.

ever since word of his demise began to spread. Many people in Felthorpe clearly held the duke in deep affection. Wreaths are already piling up outside the ducal home, Felthorpe Manor.

The duke's title will now pass to his fine son, Monty.

*The Duke of
Felthorpe,
R.I.P.*

*An interesting
local character
who will be
much missed.*



The life, the man

Born the Right Honourable Maurice Didlington on the first of May, 1951, the duke was an only child. He spent his early years being cared for by a succession of nannies and was, by all accounts, a delightful little boy who always had a deep respect for his elders and a certain knowledge of his place. At the age of eleven, he was accepted into Eton College, where he went on to make a

name for himself as a fine oarsman and clay modeller.

He married Fleur Adcock, youngest daughter of the Earl of Stitchfield, in 1978. After bearing him two children, Fleur died in a riding accident in 1978 and the duke never re-married.

He became duke in 1986 after the death of his father, Horace. He will be much missed.

The Reading of the Will: Invitation and Guest List

You are invited to attend the reading of the last will and testament of the Duke of Felthorpe. The reading will take place at his home, Felthorpe Manor,

(alias.....)

.....)

on

(date/time:.....)

Please be on time. There is plenty of business to get through. Hosting all this will be someone who will make every effort to ensure everything runs smoothly

(alias.....)

The following people are likely to be present at the reading of the will:

Monty: The duke's son and heir. Not very bright.

Mandy: Monty's wife. Beautiful, pushy. A part-time model.

Susan: The duke's daughter. A teacher. Clever, underappreciated, unmarried.

Roxanne: The duke's full-time nurse. Good with needles.

Larkin: The duke's lawyer. Slick and cunning.

Nobbs: The duke's butler. Loyal, long-suffering. Used to be a monk.

Chef Humble: The duke's cook. Short-tempered, unreasonable.

Trish: The duke's maid. Young, trusting, naïve.

Please wear anything you consider appropriate for your character and come as:

(your character:.....)

Be so kind as to phone/email
to confirm whether or not you will be able to attend.

Felthorpe Family Tree

Henry Didlington
16th Duke of Felthorpe
Born: 1899

Gertrude Blenkinsop
Born: 1904
Died: 1952

Horace Didlington
17th Duke of Felthorpe
Born: 1923
Died: 1986

Celia Pickleton-Smythe
Born: 1934
Died: 1964

Maurice Didlington
18th Duke of Felthorpe
Born: 1951

Fleur Adcock
Born: 1956
Died: 1978

Monty Didlington
Born: 1974

Mandy Brown
Born: 1980

Susan Didlington
Born: 1977

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 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 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.