

You are invited to come out to the Annual Hickleberry County Fair! Several of the county's most hilarious and notorious people are getting together for a memorable and suspenseful evening of home-cookin', good music, and a mystery to solve that is sure to knock your socks off! Memories will be made, but not all will be so sweet as Mrs. Witherspoon's prize- winning cherry pies. You see, the rumor is there's been a murder...

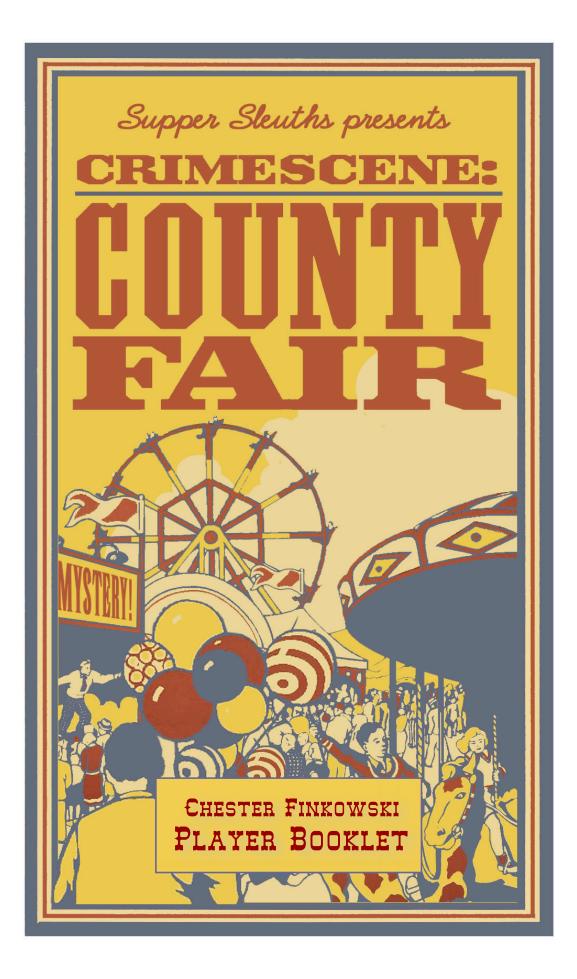
Please come to the home of		8	at0'clock
on the night of	_ at this address		
R.S.V.P. to			

You will play the role of **Chester Finkowski**.

Chester, your character reveres the "king" of rock and roll to god-like status. As an Elvis Presley impersonator who takes your job seriously, you are pretty much always in Elvis mode. Because of this, your past is blurry even to locals who have known you for years. Whenever asked why you are so obsessed, you reply something to the effect of, "I'm just doing my part to carry on the spirit, legacy, and wonder of the greatest man who ever graced this land with his presence."

Costume Suggestion: As you might expect, you should wear a flashy, polyester, rhinestonestudded suit with bellbottoms but anything showy will do the trick. Fake sideburns and dark, huge sunglasses are a great touch, and chest hair would be an added bonus! Bring a harmonica or a microphone, something to wave around when you get excited. Use a southern accent, and try to sound and act as much like Elvis Presley as you can. Say "Thank you, thank you very much," call all the girls, "Darlin," and walk with a swagger. Request music by the "king" or bring your own.

Be sure to visit <u>www.suppersleuths.com</u> to learn about the other characters who will attend, and for more helpful resources to prepare for the occasion!



CHESTER FINKOWSKI PLAYER BOOKLET AND SECRET ELUE

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME

This room is full of murder suspects – and you are one of them! You must try to figure out who the murderer is tonight, by both accusing your fellow players and also trying to convince everyone else that you are innocent.

This game has four rounds, each round revealing new pieces of information about each character. Do not turn the page in your player's booklet until the host tells you to do so.

On the top of each page is information you are to share with the whole group. You can either ad lib or read directly from the page, but make sure that before moving on to the next round, you share all information on the top of each page with the whole group.

On the bottom of the page, you will see hidden information about your character. Do not reveal this information until you think it is the appropriate time. You may not lie if someone asks you about this information, but you do not need to offer incriminating evidence about yourself without a direct question. However, if you find out that you are the murderer, DO NOT TELL! If asked about it, you should say, "I am not aware of that information at this time," or just lie if you have to. Likewise, if someone asks you a question you do not know the answer to, just say, "I am not aware of that information at this time." The murderer is the only one permitted to lie at any time in this game.

There are also 8 secret clues that different players will reveal throughout the night. Make sure you do not look at your clue until your player's booklet tells you to look at it and pass it around to the group. When that time comes, just detach it and pass it around. You may also use the next page to take notes throughout the evening.

At the start of the game, the killer is not aware of his or her identity – it could even be you! Be suspicious of everyone's motives, and remain in character throughout the evening. After dessert, you will be given a chance to make your accusation. You may accuse any player of being the killer, including yourself. However, you must give evidence from the clues, and again, DO NOT TELL if the booklet says you are the killer! Have fun!

LIST OF CHARACTERS

Chester Finkowski – An Elvis impersonator who absolutely obsesses over his belief that "the King" is still alive, well and returning soon. Mr. Presley here may be in disguise for a reason deeper than rock and roll!

Madame Mona Soothini – A gypsy who makes her fortune selling yours, Mme Soothini is sure to attend the fair every year, but she can't be found as the fairgrounds close. Why she rushes off and where she goes is not clear, even when viewed through her crystal.

Travis Buckland – This handsome stud rides like he's got nothing to lose. He seems like a good ol' boy, just lookin' for thrills, but can a guy this reckless be trusted? Is he just talking bull?

Tiffany Ann Canterway – This sophisticated, attractive and arrogant horsewoman is a 4H snob and owner of Canterway Stables, the largest equestrian site in the whole county. She has participated in fundraising for the fair for years, but when she doesn't get her way, how long will her short fuse...and funding last?

J.L. Mackabee – This trucker loves a good county fair and has been to this one for the past 14 years. J.L. may look like any wide-eyed country kin of yours, but when he's on the road and on the radio, he's mixin' with all kinds. Some say he used to be in jail.

Ida Witherspoon – As a farmer's wife and notorious town gossip, Ida is the reigning quilting and cherry-berry pie champ in the county. Mrs. Witherspoon seems to have no real competition for the blue ribbon this year...so why has she been such an "old bitty" lately?

William B. Lackhart – Local mayor, Lackhart, feels the pressure to please all and to have a good fair each year. But whether he also plays fair to get votes is still out at the polls.

Cindy Sue Sweetly – Last year's "Berry-Beauty" queen, this year Cindy reluctantly passed her crown onto another young girl. She wears that flashy smile wherever she goes but some say that she never smiles when she doesn't know who's there.

NOTES

APPETIZERS

SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH THE GROUP (READ AFTER TIFFANY)

(Speaking in a soft, southern accent), How y'all doin'? Thank you, thank you very much." I am a little out of place here, being a famous singer and all, but it appears that your little town has seen better days. I'm Chester Finkowski and I am an ETA, that's Elvis Tribute Artist in case you didn't know. I live out here in Stumpville with my mama, who I adore, and with my guitar, who don't leave my side. I love to play bluegrass, soul, and most of all, rock and roll. That's why I'm even here. I am taking this show on the road and this fair is my first big gig.

Look, it's no secret that I didn't get along all that well with ol 'Roy. He didn't like my music, said it's overplayed, can you believe it? By the way, do you know how I get paid now that he's out of commission? Oh, I take requests for cash so let me know if have a tune in mind (blow through your harmonica or hum a little tune).

HIDDEN INFORMATION: (Do not share until you feel it's necessary.)

You have been obsessed with Elvis ever since you saw a documentary about him when you were having an early mid-life crisis. You attribute his rags to riches story of hope to your own recovery. You believe your life's purpose is to bring his passion to others who may be struggling to find meaning. You can only fall asleep to his music and you believe that Elvis is alive and well, in his late seventies but looks only in his fifties since he's been on a health kick.

CHESTER FINKOWSKI



SOUP/SALAD

SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH THE GROUP.

You have no new information to share during this round. Feel free to question others and focus on the food!

HIDDEN INFORMATION: (Do not share until you feel it's necessary.)

As a serious ETA, you try to copy Elvis' every act and habit, including his bad ones. This includes the rumors about him taking drugs.

Another of his hobbies you have taken seriously is his love for the martial arts. You have taken four years of Kung-Fu classes.

Since Elvis was drafted, you thought it only fair to sign up for the National Guard. Your participation in the military has taught you a lot about honor, and also a lot about using a gun.

You had and still have a lot of anger at the auctioneer for starting your nickname back in high school. You feel that he stole your true love, "Double D" Debbie Dalloway.

CHESTER FINKOWSKI



MAIN COURSE

SHARE RIGHT AFTER TRAVIS BUCKLAND SPEAKS:

Travis, I don't mind your jealousy and needless reminders about my past. In the limelight, we always deal with our share of suspicion and oversensitivity. I just hope that after I leave and head to Vegas, you won't feel too bad about yourself, because you've gotta live with you. I'm doing fine on my own and have the world in my hands right now.

HIDDEN INFORMATION: (Do \underline{NOT} share! Lie if you have to!)

When Ida confronts you about the email to Mrs. Parsley, joke about how you treat all your fans that way. "It's a way to keep my fan life so strong, it's a form letter I forward to all of my biggest fans. It keeps me with a heartbreaker motif and it wouldn't hurt to take any of the more serious fans to Vegas with me – I still need a fan club president, ladies."

Another thing to know. <u>YOU ARE THE MURDERER!</u> This is the one piece of information you should **not** share, even if questioned directly (duh!).

Do your best to remain casual, aloof and cast suspicion onto the Mayor and Ida Witherspoon. You believe your mama's pies and quilts beat hers any day, even though Ida always wins.

CHESTER FINKOWSKI



Dessert

SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH THE GROUP BEFORE ANYONE ELSE.

I gotta take this show on the road, but before I go, I want to show y'all something I found near the port-a-jon after I was done with my show. I looked down and saw this note thinking I could use it to sign autographs. When I read it, I kept it because I thought I'd show it to Roy. Now being as I can't, I need to show you. It looks like your Mrs. Witherspoon was mixing more than piecrust for our fine mayor.

On a brighter note, Hey, J.L., how 'bout me getting' a ride to Vegas with you on your way to Reno? The King's daddy was a trucker too so I really respect your work, brother.

I'd like to get on out there to Vegas as soon as possible, especially since it looks like my gig here's run out. I think everybody knows that a showboat like me is too busy with life to get hung up about a murder case. Viva Las Vegas!!

HIDDEN INFORMATION: (Do \underline{NOT} share! Lie if you have to!)

You and Debbie Parsley originally conspired to stage a suicide and run away together to Vegas. Roy hated your music, ridiculed you and stole your woman years ago - he deserved to pay for that! You also truly believe that you have been reincarnated as Elvis Presley's twin brother Garon, who died at birth. You mean to get your name changed to Garon one of these days, especially since the nickname "Chest-Hair" is so annoying! It is difficult for you to understand why anyone would blame you when you were only trying to help save the legacy of the King of Rock and Roll. It just so happens that sometimes it takes great sacrifice to make things happen. One small murder won't set you back far. Should they actually catch you, you'll just do the "jailhouse rock" with your guitar and spend some time thinking about your hero.

CHESTER FINKOWSKI



SOLVE THE MYSTERY

Take a few moments to think through the following questions, look over your notes, and decide for yourself who committed the murder. There are a lot of crooked guests here, but only one is the murderer!

Motive:

Who would most want to kill this person? Why?

Weapon: Who would have had the means to do so?

Overall Evidence: Whom does the evidence point to most strongly?



I, Chester Finkowski, believe

committed the murder of Roy Ichabod Parsley (R.I.P.)

CRIME SCENE DU NUMERIA

POLICE COPY

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Recipe Card

Ingredients:

Open Mouths, Warm Hearts, and Winning Votes.

Directions:

- 1. Take good care of my pies and quilts in your judging, using *all* of the above ingredients.
- Place a copy of your signed official mayoral voting ballot in an unmarked envelope in my mailbox.
- Come on over for a generous and hearty helping as a thank you from my home to yours. (It's always hot, ready, and yours for the taking!)