

# **MURDER IBM ADDENDUM**

## **HARD DISK INSTALLATION**

1. From the hard drive prompt (C: or D:, etc) make a subdirectory called MURDER by typing MD MURDER <Enter> (MD is the command for the make directory; please note the space between MD and MURDER).
2. Type CD MURDER <Enter> (CD is the command for change directory, which will change your computer into the new MURDER subdirectory just created).
3. Insert the floppy disk of Murder! into your A or B drive.
4. Type COPY A:\*.\* <Enter> (substitute B: if the disk is in the B drive).
5. When the files have copied, the installation is complete.

## **LOADING FROM THE HARD DISK**

1. From the hard drive prompt (C: or D:, etc.) type CD MURDER <Enter> (this will change your computer to the proper subdirectory where Murder! has been installed).
2. Once in the MURDER subdirectory, type MURDER <Enter> and the game will load.

## **TURBO MODE**

If you are running Murder! on a fast PC you may find the game too fast to handle. In such a case, you should reboot your machine and turn "TURBO" mode off either using the button on the front of the PC or by using the equivalent DOS command before running the game again (consult your system user manual).

# **THIS GAME IS... MURDER!**

"Thank goodness you're here - something dreadful has happened! One of the guests has been found - here in the house - and it looks like Murder!"

Murder is the most appalling crime, and yet it exerts a fascination over all of us. We all enjoy playing amateur sleuths, trying to spot the clues that point to the guilty party. You may even think you're pretty good at it. In US Gold's MURDER, you get the chance to find out.

A terrible murder has been committed by someone staying in the house. The police have been called, but who knows if the murderer will still be here when they arrive? Only you can unravel the threads of the dark deeds that have happened here? The situation calls for a detective with vision, keen observation and a deep insight into the mind of a killer. You have just two hours to expose the guilty party before the authorities arrive.

## **LOADING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **AMIGA**

Switch off your computer. Insert the disk into Drive DFO, and switch on.

### **PC**

From Floppy:

Insert the Murder disk into drive A or B (then type A: or B: <Enter> to log the drive). Type MURDER <Enter> to start the game.

From Hard Drive:

Murder for the IBM PC/Compatible computer uses off-disk copy protection. You can run the game from a hard drive by copying the disk files into a subdirectory on your hard drive and then loading the game.

## **COPY PROTECTION**

Following the loading screen, a question will appear which you must answer to continue the game. The question will appear as follows:

"What is word . . . on line . . . of page . . . ?"

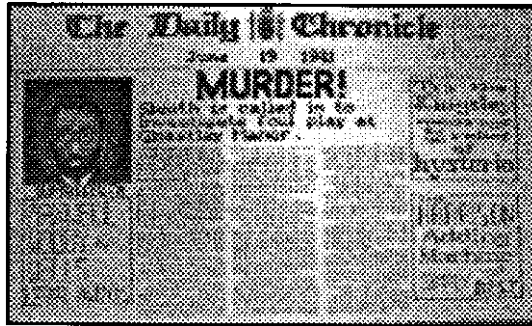
Refer to the appropriate page of this booklet, and count down the appropriate number of lines (headings and sub-headings count, but not any text within the illustrations). Type in the appropriate word from that line, and the game will continue to load. For example: Enter the word on page 8, line 4, word 6: shoddy <Enter>.

## **CONTROLS**

The mouse will control the movement of the cursor and your Sleuth. The left mouse button will function as the action/option button while the right mouse button will serve as the mode button. Point to a doorway and press the left mouse button and the sleuth will go in that direction; point to an option icon and select it by pressing the left button- pressing the right button will clear the selection from the screen; the right button will also change the cursor into a magnifying glass.

## SELECTING A MURDER

US Gold's MURDER is cunningly contrived to present almost 3 million different cases for you to solve. You select your murder from the next screen to appear:



There are four variables you can change:  
 The date of the newspaper;  
 The name of the house;  
 The type of house;  
 The difficulty level.

Each of these variables shape the events you will investigate. Leaving them identical to a previous game will result in the same crime being investigated. There are four difficulty levels-Novice, Average, Experienced or Super-Sleuth. It's best to start off as a Novice for your first game, while you are getting used to the controls.

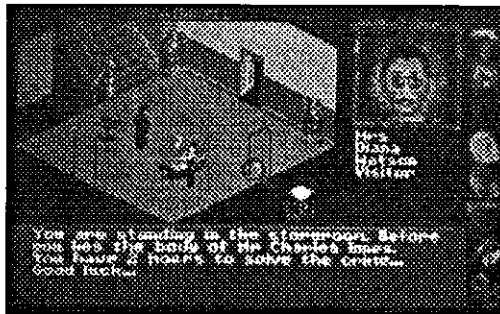
You can even change the name and appearance of your detective. Click on his nose, eyes, hair, etc to change his appearance; his name is altered automatically.

To change one of the variables or the appearance of the detective, move the pencil cursor over the feature you wish to alter and press the left button. Continue to press the left button to scroll through the list. When you are ready to start playing, press the right button.

## SLEUTHING

In general, the left button selects an option, and the right button either Quits, Returns to the Main Game Screen or toggles between Move and Examine.

Your detective starts the game in the same room as the victim. This is as good a place as any to start your investigations.

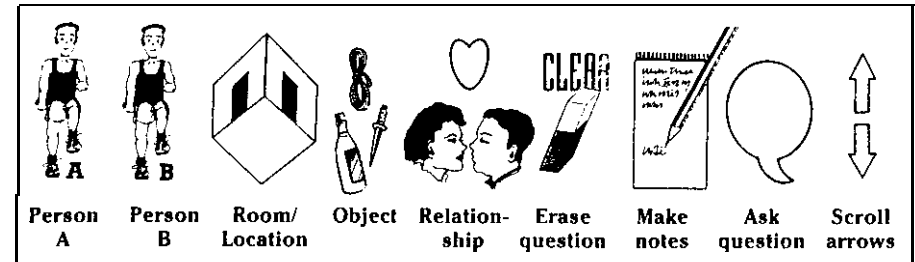


Interrogate **M**ap | Examine Notebook/ Take Fingerprints | Compare Fingerprints | Wipe Clean / Take Exhibit / Arrest

You can toggle between Move and Examine with the right button. Move mode is indicated by arrows pointing towards the exits from the room. Examine is indicated by the cursor being replaced with a magnifying glass. Equipped with the most important tool of your trade, you can begin to examine the evidence.

## INTERROGATION

To get information about a person or to examine an object, place the magnifying glass over the person or object in question and press the left mouse button. The person or object will appear in the portrait in the upper right section of the screen. Information about the person (along with the name of any item they are carrying) or object will be displayed below the portrait.



Person A / Person B / Places / Object / Relationship / Clear/Erase / Make Notes / Ask / Scroll Arrows

After getting information about a person, you can interrogate them by aiming the cursor at the question mark icon in the upper-right hand corner of the screen and pressing the left mouse button. You may then select the options at the top of the screen to build up questions. To ask that Person about the People, Places and Objects connected with the case, select the appropriate icon and press the left button and then select a name or object. For information, point and click on the ask question icon. For example, you can ask your suspect where they have been during the day of the crime; select Person A with the left button, and find your suspect's name on the list (you may need to use the Scroll Arrows to access different parts of the list). Click the left button on their name, and the question you are asking appears. Now click on the Ask icon, and you will get that person's account of what is going on.

To get more detailed information, you can link people, objects and places together. For example, you might want to know when your suspect was in the room where the body was discovered. Select the suspect's name from the Person A list, and the scene of the crime from the Places list. The question now links them together. Click on Ask to find out if your suspicions are confirmed...

You can also add to your Question by checking out how People felt about each other. Select a name from the Person A list, and another from Person B. Now click on the Relationship icon. You can build up a profile of who loves/hates who, and who might have a motive for Murder...

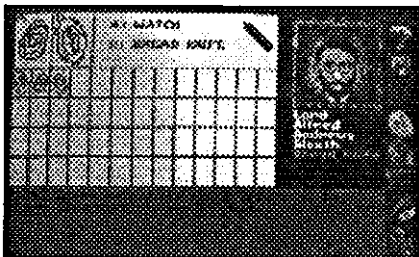
Use the Erase/Clear icon to clear all the names, places etc from the question you are building.

Useful answers can be recorded by clicking on the Make Notes icon; this will store the information in your notebook. Suspects will only volunteer information once. Oh, and before we forget, the Murderer will not offer information which incriminates them... you must trap them through the information you gather from the others. (Note: to cancel actions, simply press the right mouse button.)

## OTHER EVIDENCE

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More clues can be gathered from the many Objects you can find in this game. If you Examine an Object, a picture appears in the portrait frame to the right of the screen. It can then be examined for fingerprints by clicking on the Take Fingerprints icon. Not every Object can provide fingerprints - some are porous, or impossible to examine - and some fingerprints can be smudged. However, if you get a good print, you can record it by clicking on one of the storage cells which will appear (point to an empty cell and press the left button).



Then, to provide proof for your suspicions, you need a print from your suspect(s). When you have an object in the frame, click on the Wipe Clean icon, then wait for someone to pick it up. When they put the object down again, you can check it to obtain their prints (as shown above).

To compare prints you have taken from two different places, select Compare Fingerprints. Click on the large Box A, then one of the storage cells; then click on Box B and select a cell containing a print you want to compare. Do they look similar? Could be you've just found a vital clue...

If you think you have found the murder weapon, you should pick it up by using the Take Exhibit icon. If you were already carrying an object, it is swapped for the new one. The murder weapon is essential evidence if you are to make a successful prosecution (you cannot accuse a suspect if you do not have the murder weapon).

## MOVING AROUND

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Clicking the right button toggles you between Examine and Movement. To move around the house, use your mouse to select the exit you wish to use, then hit your left button. You can see a plan of the floor you are on by placing the pencil cursor over the Map icon and hitting the left button.

## KEEPING TABS

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Select the Notebook icon with the left button to go over the facts so far. You can review the evidence through several categories - People, Places, Clues and Motive, by clicking on your choice with the left mouse button. All the information is comprehensively cross-referenced.

Use your own notes as well, but the Notebook is a complete guide to the way your case is building. Who was seen with whom; whose prints were all over the revolver; who might have a reason for MURDER...

## J'ACCUSE

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When you have pieced together all the evidence, and you think you have established a motive, discovered the murder weapon and taken a fine set of prints, it's time to hunt down the felon. When you find your suspect, click left button to put them in the Frame and then press the left button again over the Arrest icon to slap on the cuffs. If you're right, the papers will be full of your incredible exploits. If you're wrong, you had better find a good lawyer who can get you off a wrongful arrest rap...

# THE US GOLD MURDER CASEBOOK

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A dozen of the most notorious cases in the history of MURDER...

## Dr Thomas Neill CREAM - *the Ripper by Poison?*

Thomas Cream went through the hangman's trap at Newgate Prison on November 15th 1892. His last words, cut off by the rope, were "I am Jack the...". Was he confessing to the gruesome Ripper murders that had terrorised London in 1888? Or was Cream trying to confuse and torment the authorities as he had done for over ten years.

Cream was born in Scotland, and raised in America. He obtained a degree from McGill University. Even before he graduated, he performed a botched operation on a girl-friend which left her crippled. He was forced to marry her, but ran away at once. She died of consumption in 1877.

He fled to London, failing further studies because of his wild life-style, and contracting a disease which caused his later insanity. He completed his studies in Edinburgh, before returning to Canada.

Almost at once, he killed another woman as a result of a botched abortion and torched several properties for the insurance in London, Ontario during 1878.

Chicago was his next base. He was suspected of poisoning Julia Faulkner, who died on his operating table; then, when another woman died of strychnine poisoning, he tried to blackmail the chemist, stating he had put too much poison in her medicine! Arrested again, he was released for want of pmof. Small wonder Cream thought he could flout the law from now on.

In June 1881, he poisoned a patient, Daniel Stott, with strychnine while having an affair with his wife. Daniel was buried without suspicion, but Cream wrote letters demanding he be exhumed, while he tried to blackmail another chemist. This was too bold, and Cream was sent to Illinois State Prison at Joliet - but only for second-degree murder.

Cream was "rehabilitated" and released in 1891. His father had died in the meantime, leaving the deranged doctor a large fortune.

Cream returned to London, where he murdered prostitutes, offering them free medicines. The pills contained strychnine, and the women - Ellen Donworth and Matilda Clover in October 1891, Emma Shrivell and Alice Marsh the following April - died in agony, capable only of blurting out some descriptions of the man they called 'Fred' between spasms of pain,

Cream knew how to extract lethal quantities of the poison from the small amounts present in certain medicants - he also knew it is a particularly sadistic and cruel poison+ bitter to taste, and causing savage contractions before death. Part of his sadistic pleasure must have come from knowing what he put his victims through.

As before, Cream attempted to pass the blame elsewhere and to profit by it. After the Clover murder, he tried to blackmail the family of Lord Russell. The following year, he wrote to the father of a fellow lodger-Walter Harper- saying he had evidence that would prove Walter poisoned Shrivell, and offering to sell it for 1500. He was arrested for extortion.

At this point, a woman he had offered pills, but who had had a lucky escape (her name was Louise Harvey) identified Cream. He was proved to have purchased a popular tonic which contained strychnine, and bottles of it were found in his lodgings.

He was undoubtedly guilty of the murders by poison he hanged for, but was Cream also The Ripper? It seems unlikely-Cream was in Joliet at the time of the Ripper killings. There are wild theories that he may have had a double, and that each covered for the other during their prison stretches. In the end, this was a greater fantasy than Cream ever invented himself.

## Lizzie BORDEN -*guilty by innuendo.*

The children's poem that sings "Lizzie Borden took an axe; and gave her mother forty whacks; when she saw what she had done; she gave her father forty-one" fails to mention an important detail. Lizzie Borden was acquitted of the murder of her father and stepmother. A campaign of innuendo and gossip condemned her to be remembered as a killer after her trial.

One hot August day in 1892, Andrew Jackson Borden, a man whose fortune came from banking and property, returned to the family home in Fall River, Massachussets, at 10.45am. The whole family was feeling ill. Mrs Borden had remarked that it was as if someone was poisoning them, but it was probably the effects of some left-over mutton on such a hot day.

The maid, who was also ill, let Mr Jackson into the house; curiously, the door was locked and bolted. Lizzie told him a note had been delivered to Mrs Borden and she was visiting a friend. Mr Borden went to sleep in the sitting mom.

At about 11.15am, Lizzie called out to Bridget that her father was dead: "Someone came in and killed him!" They found him on the sofa; he had been the victim of a frenzied axe attack. Following another strange remark from Lizzie, Bridget and a neighbour, Mrs Churchill, found Lizzie's step-mother, Abbie Borden, in the upstairs guest mom, similarly despatched.

After 24 hours of panic in the community, suspicion centered on the household. Bridget Sullivan said she was asleep; Emma, Lizzie's elder sister, and an uncle, John Morse, were both sway at the time. Lizzie insisted she was in the barn looking for fishing weights, but she was brought to trial in June 1893. Investigators found her too calm, and there was known to be friction in the house, with the daughters suspecting Andrew was going to disinherit them in favour of Abbie.

District Attorney, Hosea Knowlton tried hard to make a case. Lizzie (and her sister) hated Abbie Gray; they were also tired of their father's mean ways; a woman answering Lizzie's description had tried to buy poison in several shops; how could it have been anyone else? Was it likely that a madman would have entered the house at 9.30am (when Mrs Borden was proved killed), then waited there ninety minutes to kill her husband?

Lizzie's defense was conducted by George D Robinson, who showed the flaws in the prosecution case. Anyone could have slipped into the house, it was seldom kept locked during the day-there had even been a burglary a month before. Andrew Borden had many enemies through his shady banking deals, and some neighbours said they had seen men loitering about the house.

There was no murder weapon, though the prosecution found a broken, ash-covered hatchet in the basement. It had no blood on it. Nor, conclusively, did Lizzie, and she would have had to have changed twice. Lizzie burned a dress a few days after the killings, which Bridget and Emma said was covered in paint, not blood, and which Emma had brought out of the closet for her.

The jury took an hour to acquit Lizzie. She stayed in Fall River, moving to a larger house with the estate her father left her, and she died there in 1927, leaving money to a society which cared for animals.

But, if it wasn't Lizzie, then who was it? Some writers have settled on Bridget as the only other possible suspect, although the motives they ascribe to her are always trivial. Some suggest she and Lizzie were in it together, and that Bridget returned to Ireland with a small fortune.

The truth may never be known.

## **Albert PATRICK - where there's a will..**

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Texan lawyer Albert T Patrick was a maverick. He left Texas under the threat of disbarment and moved to New York in 1882, posing as a pillar of the community, though his legal work was shoddy.

It was this reputation that brought OT Holt to his door in 1896. Holt was working for the estate of the late wife of William Marsh Rice, a multimillionaire. Under Texan law, Mrs Rice was entitled to half Rice's wealth during their marriage, and could then dispose of it as she wished in her will. Rice had moved to New York, claiming that he was resident there, and not in Texas. Holt wanted to prove otherwise, and hired Patrick to do his dirty work.

Patrick saw this as the chance to make money for himself. Rice lived as a recluse with his secretary, Charles Jones, as his sole intermediary with the outside world. Patrick won Jones' confidence, and suggested they forge a new will, which would make them rich if Rice died. Patrick practised forging Rice's signature night after night. After trying to kill the old eccentric by less direct means, Jones killed Rice with chloroform in September 1900.

Patrick now took four checks on which he had forged the signatures; they totalled \$250,000. He tried unsuccessfully to cash these in two banks, but the clerks were suspicious and refused. Then Rice's Texan lawyer, Captain Baker, arrived in New York and contested the forged will. The plot unravelled further when doctors performing an autopsy at Baker's insistence found the presence of chloroform. Patrick and Jones were arrested; Jones turned State's evidence and Patrick was convicted.

He was pardoned in 1912, and died in the West. Rice's true will founded the Rice Institute in Houston, a monument to learning and justice.

## **Dr Hawley Harvey CRIPPEN - no hiding place.**

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Crippen, like Cream, was a doctor with a transatlantic connection, who killed and paid the ultimate price. Crippen, though, killed for love, and to free himself from a wife he could tolerate no longer.

Born In Clearwater Michigan in 1863, Crippen was a talented doctor, who had practices in various cities in the USA and Canada. In New York, he met and married Kunigunde Mackamotzki -or, as she had become, Cora Turner. Cora had one ambition-she wanted to be an opera singer. She was young, good-looking, and charming. The only thing was she couldn't sing.

Lessons to correct this defect began to drain the Crtppen household budget. Frustrated, Con lost her looks and her manner. Crippen, burdened by debt in America, took a job in London, England, escaping his creditors. For Cora, this meant a shot at the music halls of London; her last chance of fame.

She didn't succeed. She was booed off stage; the only bookings she could get were in small provincial theatres. Money continued to bleed away as Con improved her wardrobe and threw parties for her theatre friends. She was probably having affairs, blaming Hawley for her lost opportunities.

The down-trodden Hawley, however, had had a stroke of good fortune. In 1905, he employed Ethel le Neve as his secretary, and fell in love with her. Over the years that followed, that love blossomed to the point where Hawley had to be rid of Cora to be with Ethel. There was only one way that could become a reality.

In January 1910, Hawley Crippen bought a large quantity of the sedative hyoscin hydrobromide. The clerk made Crippen sign the poisons register. Late that month, he

poisoned Cora, chopped her up and buried her in the basement of their home.

At first, Crippen said Cora had died after going to California to visit a sick relative. Then, when questioned by the police, he changed his story - Cora had run off with another man to Chicago. His stories came under such scrutiny because he simply could not hide his love for Ethel; she moved into the house, wore Cora's jewellery, went with Hawley to France.

Under pressure, Crtppen snapped. He and Le Neve fled. The police searched his house, and found the dismembered body. The only identifiable part of her was part of her trunk bearing an abdominal scar.

The search for Crtppen covered all England and the continent, but the lovers had set out for America, Ethel dressed as a young boy. The captain of the SS Montrose soon dismissed the disguise - they were seen holding hands-and used the newly-invented radio to voice his suspicions. Inspector Dew of Scotland Yard became convinced the Montrose was carrying Crippen and Le Neve - the radio proved its worth as he questioned the captain extensively - and took a faster ship to the New World. The Laurentic overhauled the Montrose on July 31st, and Dew arrested Crippen.

The trial caused a sensation in England, and was followed with intense interest in America. There was briefly doubt that Crippen would be found guilty; the defence claimed that the body could have been anybody's, buried in the cellar before the Crippens arrived in 1905. The appendix scar, and forensic evidence showing the presence of hyoscin proved the case, and the mutilation of the body probably counted more against him than the murder. Crtppen was hanged on November 23rd 1910. A photo of Ethel Le Neve was placed in his coffin.

Le Neve was acquitted of any responsibility. She changed her name, married and had children. But when she died in 1967, she also carried a picture of her beloved in the coffin. Crippen and Le Neve were reunited at last.

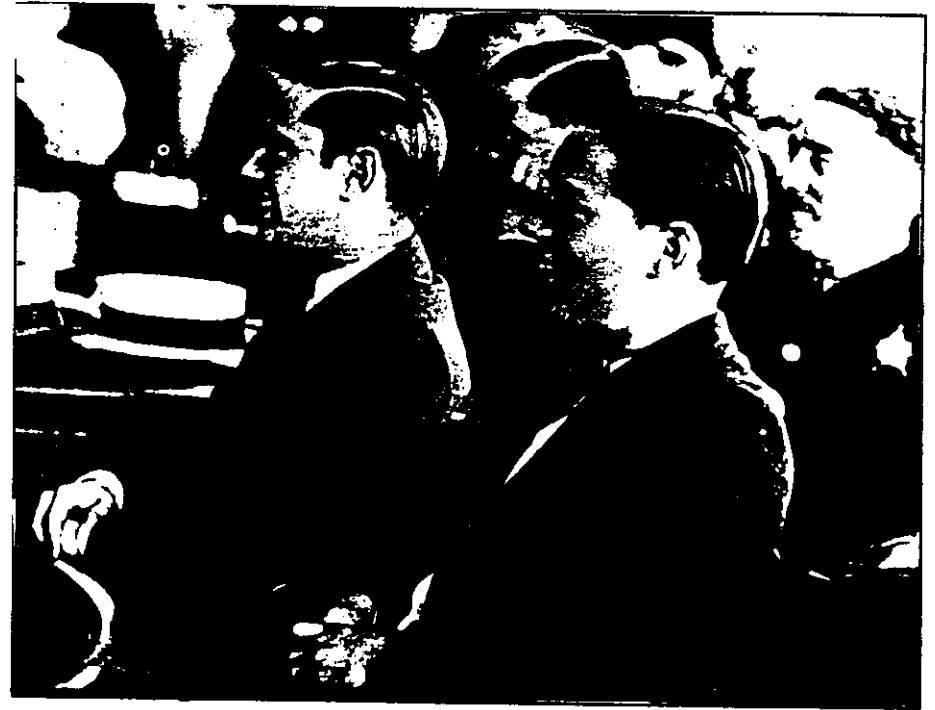
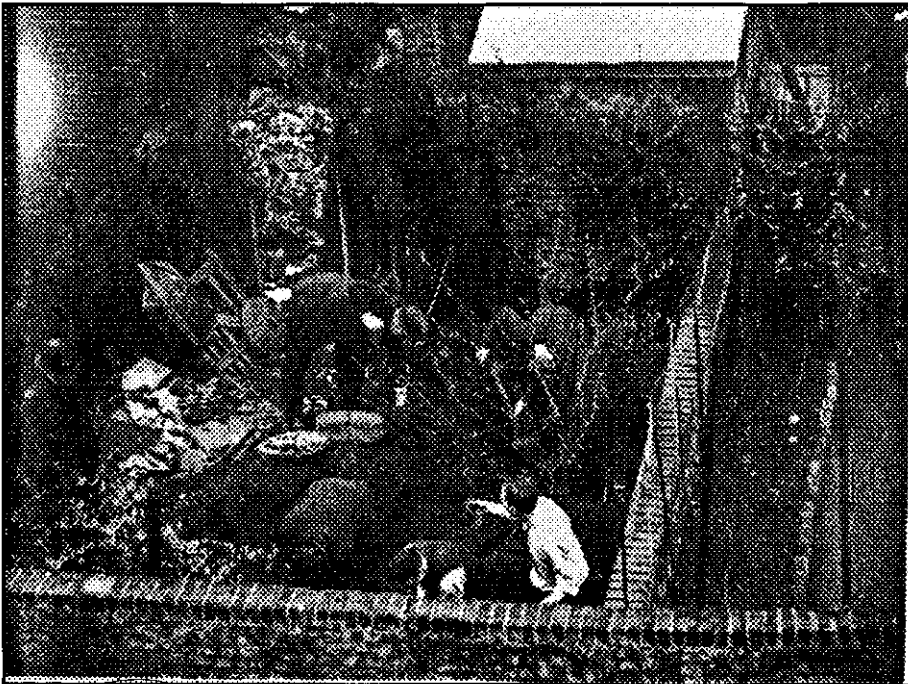


ABOVE: John Haigh returns to Brixton Prison, London, during proceedings against him at Horsham Magistrates Court.



RIGHT: Henri Landru in the dock on the second day of his trial at the court of Assizes in Versailles, France.

BELOW: Detectives digging in the garden of 10 Rillington Place. The objects in the dustbin lid are human bones.



ABOVE: Leopold and Loeb share a joke during their trial,



ABOVE: Police escort Dr. Crippen and Ethel Le Neve from the SS Montrose.



ABOVE The trials of Charles Lindbergh; here he is to appear in the trial of two men who claimed they could recover the baby.

All photographs courtesy of Poppedoto.

## **Edward KELLER - *the vartnershiv is dissolved.***

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In Philadelphia, in December 1915, workmen discovered a rotting leather trunk inside an old packing case, and broke it open. The case contained a half-rotted body with a 32 calibre slug in the skull.

The Police often have difficulty discovering Whodunnit; this time they were faced with a Dummitowho? Lieutenant William J Belshaw took charge of the case.

The medical examiner said the victim had been dead for twenty months. Checking the files, Belshaw found a missing person's report from March 1914. Daniel J McNichol, a partner in a leather goods firm, had not been seen since that time except by his partner, Edward Keller, who had taken him money in New York from his wife. A label on his suit confirmed the ID once the tailor was traced.

Keller claimed McNichol had run from his previous life to become a bum in New York, and that he had met him there by chance. Belshaw never believed him. He pieced the case together slowly. First, he found McNichol's watch in a pawnshop, left there by a Mr McNamee of 826 Wensley Street. Keller had lived on Wensley Street also, at 1818. His landlady remembered him moving out on the day of McNichol's disappearance, carrying a large trunk with special leather straps. She identified the trunk in which the body had been found.

Keller was tried and convicted, but only of voluntary manslaughter. He served from 1916-1924 in Eastern State Penitentiary.

In 1925, Belshaw was called to investigate a man who had died of a heart attack in a cab, seemingly fleeing from his job as a bank nightwatchman with \$20,000. Ironically, the dead man was Keller.

## **Henri LANDRU - *the infamous Bluebeard.***

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The year is 1914, the place is Paris; war fever is in the air. One man, however, has no time for war. Using several aliases, Henri Landru places ads in the matrimonial columns of the newspapers, saying that he is a widower with a considerable income looking for a wife. He keeps the replies, filed in separate groups according to how he judged their potential; there are also notebooks and love letters. But Landru wasn't looking for a wife. He was engaged in mass murder.

Born in 1869, Landru served in the army, married his childhood sweetheart, Marie, and worked as a used furniture dealer. From 1900, he was also in the business of swindling women of their money and furniture. At first, he was always caught, and much of the time between 1900 and 1914 he was in prison. Landru learned from his mistakes, however; he covered his tracks more efficiently, and improved his forgery. He kept extensive notes on his prospective victims, ranking them by how easy they would be to cheat.

In 1914, another fraud backfired. Jeanne Cachet, a woman he had married and cheated, bumped into him. He gave her an excuse for having left her, and took her to a lodge outside Paris. There he strangled her, and cremated her body in the stove. Shortly after, Jeanne's inquisitive son, Andre, was disposed of in the same manner. Neighbours complained about the evil-smelling smoke, but no-one suspected anything.

In 1916, Henri rented the Villa Trac in Gambrais, an isolated house near a cemetery. His first home improvement was to build a furnace. No-one is sure about the exact number of women he killed, but Landru's extensive deceptions kept him in close liaison with perhaps 300 women, many simultaneously. Yet he was always able to remember which of his many aliases he was using, and the details of his many fiancées' likes and dislikes.

On April 12th 1919, Landru was spotted in the street by the sister of a previous victim. Other relatives were also suspicious, and the mayor of Gambrais became concerned as they wrote to him asking about Landru through his many aliases. Landru's striking red beard was always mentioned, no matter what the name.

The police interviewed Landru, and found his notebooks. Throughout, he protested his innocence, crying: "Oh, fancy accusing me of being an assassin! That's too much, for it could mean a man's head!" However, he also refused to see his faithful wife, Marie. Perhaps he could face her no longer.

He pleaded innocent to having killed ten women and Andre Cuchet. Landru became the most notorious Frenchman of his generation; songs were sung about him in the music halls. Quite how he became known as Bluebeard - when his facial hair was red - is not clear.

His defense counsel, Mario-Giafferi, claimed Landru was a white slaver, who had sent his victims to South America. Landru continued to insist Prosecutor Robert Codefmy should produce a body and refused as a gentleman to discuss his dealings with the women. He dismissed the notebook evidence; it did not amount to a confession, he insisted. The trial dragged on. Finally, three years after his arrest, Landru was found guilty. On February 25th 1922, he climbed the steps to the guillotine. He dismissed the priest, still unrepentant of his many crimes: "I am very sorry, but I must not keep these gentlemen waiting."

## **Richard LOEB and Nathan LEOPOLD Jr - *murder for kicks.***

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Loeb and Leopold were advantaged and wealthy young men, students at the University of Chicago. 18-year-old Loeb was the son of the President of Sears Roebuck, and Leopold was also rich. Why, then, did they resort to kidnapping a fourteen-year-old youth for ransom, and - finally - murder?

This was the central mystery in the case of Bobbie Franks. He was kidnapped from outside his school in May 1924; his killers tricked him into a hired car which Leopold drove while Loeb battered and strangled him to death. Having tried to make the body unrecognisable, they left it in a culvert, then prepared a \$10,000 ransom to his millionaire parents demand to make the case look like a kidnapping.

Their aim appears to have been the desire to commit the perfect murder. They were inspired by Nietzsche's philosophy, which said that conventional morality was not for the elite. They had tried petty theft, but that hadn't been exciting enough. They wanted to break the ultimate taboo- murder. But even if Nietzsche's propositions were true, Loeb and Leopold scarcely qualified-their perfect murder was littered with crass mistakes.

The body was quickly found and identified. Police also found Leopold's glasses at the scene. Furthermore, the ransom note was proved to have been typed on a typewriter Leopold had loaned to some fellow students. Leopold's excuses - he said he had dropped his glasses while bird-watching in the area much earlier- didn't stand up to the evidence. Nor did his alibi; that he and Loeb had been with two girls named Mae and Edna who were never discovered.

Loeb, meanwhile, had been over-talkative during police enquiries, until he broke down under more intensive questioning. Leopold also confessed.

They were defended by Clarence Darow, the social reformer, and received life sentences. Their youth probably saved them; Darow made a great closing address in which he spoke of the folly of youth and the waste of young lives. And while their wealth and background made them more guilty in the eyes of the press, it undoubtedly gave them a better chance in court.

Furthermore, their wealth ensured that they were never to be ordinary prisoners either. Loeb had a private library in his cell, along with a glass-topped desk. Leopold also had a private cell in the desperately over-crowded prison. They dined privately in the officer's mess from a select menu, showered in the officer's wash-room and made phone calls from the storeroom. They roamed outside the prison walls, visiting Leopold's garden, and had bootleg booze brought in.

Controversy also attended the end of the ordeal in prison. Loeb was killed by another prisoner, James Day, in Stateville Penitentiary in 1936. Leopold was released through the campaigning work of Carl Sandberg and lawyer Elmer Gertz in 1958. He died of a heart attack in Puerto Rico in 1971.

## **Bruno Richard HAUPTMANN - did he murder the Lindbergh baby?**

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Charles A Lindbergh was America's greatest hero, the man who had crossed the Atlantic in the Spirit of St Louis. But the events of 1932 were to blight his life, and turn him against his country.

On the night of March 1st 1932, his twenty-month old son, Charles A Lindbergh Jr, was snatched from his cot in the second-floor nursery of the Lindbergh house in Hopewell, New Jersey. His Scottish nurse, Betty Gow, discovered he was gone. After a search, an envelope was found on a radiator. Lindbergh insisted it be left for the Police; when they opened it, they discovered a ransom note for \$50,000.

A massive search began, which delivered few clues. Gow and Anne Lindbergh had left one shutter open in the nursery - it wouldn't close - and a crudely repaired ladder was discovered, which had been used to climb up to the nursery. Then a second ransom note arrived, demanding \$70,000, and containing several grammatical and spelling errors which left the authorities believing the kidnapper was German.

An intermediary, Dr John F Condon, agreed to hand over the ransom. He had a meeting with a man named John, during which some of the baby's clothes were handed over as proof by the kidnapper. At a second meeting in Woodlawn Cemetery, the Bronx, New York on April 2nd 1932, he paid 'John' \$50,000 and was told the baby was on a boat called Nellie; Condon and Lindbergh rushed to the mooring place, but found nothing.

On May 12th the Lindbergh baby was found dead, buried under a pile of leaves by a roadway not far from his home. He had obviously been killed on the night of the kidnapping. Thousands of police and federal agents joined the manhunt, but they were inept. continually tripping over each other.

Of the ransom money, \$20,000 had been paid in gold certificates. In 1934, these were withdrawn from circulation. However, in September 1934 Bruno Richard Hauptmann, an unemployed carpenter, paid for gas at a filling station with one of the certificates. Alerted, the New York police arrested Hauptmann on September 19th. finding \$14,000 of the ransom in his garage. Hauptmann had a long criminal record in his native Germany, and had entered the USA illegally.

The trial was held in Flemington, New Jersey from January 1935. It lasted six weeks; Hauptmann was electrocuted on April 3rd 1936 in Trenton, New Jersey. But there have always been doubts about his guilt, and the suspicion that the police planted some of the evidence. Condon eventually identified Hauptmann as the man in the cemetery, even though the meeting had taken place at night. Wood experts identified wood used to repair the make-shift ladder as having come from floorboards in Hauptmann's attic, but the repairs were crude, and Hauptmann insisted he was incapable of such poor work.

Was Hauptmann guilty? It is difficult to judge. The effects of the case and the publicity on the Lindberghs blighted their lives, however, and the famous aviator left

his country, bitter at the way Governor Hoffman was working to re-open the case. He worked actively to keep America out of the war on behalf of the Nazis.

Other members of the Lindbergh household were implicated in new investigations; there is even the theory that the child was kidnapped as part of a complicated plot to get Al Capone out of jail. A modern jury might not even be persuaded that the body was that of Lindbergh Jr- a children's home was as close to the grave as the Lindbergh home, and the corpse was almost unidentifiable. Harold Olson came forward claiming he was Lindbergh Jr, and there is some evidence to back his claim. The Lindbergh case remains a compelling mystery.

## **Robert JAMES - a determined killer.**

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Robert James was not a very efficient killer, nor one who covered his tracks well. Within three months, he was arrested for pestering an attractive red-head outside his barber shop. But he was at least inventive... and very determined.

In August 1935, Mary James was found face down in a pond outside the James' home. She had drowned. The examining doctor also found that her leg was horribly swollen, but he reported that she must have become dizzy while working in the garden, and fallen into the pond.

James' odd behaviour after her burial worried the police, and the insurance policy on Mary was only part-settled (the marriage wasn't a real one; it transpired). Then there was Mary's oddly swollen leg. What had made the marks that were found there?

The police spoke to one James' barbers, Charles Hope, and found a receipt for the purchase of two rattlesnakes. They spoke to the man who had sold them, Snake Joe Houtenbrink. Some time after Mary James' death, Hope had brought the snakes - Lethal and Lightnin' - back. "He said they didn't work..."

Hope cracked under interrogation. James had given him \$100 to get the snakes, and to pretend he was a doctor. Hope had the, told Mm James she shouldn't have the baby she was carrying, and got her drunk so he could 'operate'. The men had the, put her foot in the snake box. Lethal and Lightnin' did their stuff, but it didn't kill Mrs James, so - frustrated beyond belief (he had also used black-widow spiders in her bed) - James drowned his wife in a bath.

James was finally executed on May 1st 1942.

## **John Reginald CHRISTIE - the beast of 10 Rillington Place.**

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Up until the day he murdered his girl-friend, John Christie was a very ordinary man. He married a dull and matronly woman, Ethel. He served in WWI and was wounded by a gas attack. After the war, he dabbled unsuccessfully in petty crime, and spent time in prison. In many ways, Christie was a loser.

His affair with attractive Ruth Fuerst must have been the bright point of his life. But, in August 1943, he invited her to his basement flat at 10 Rillington Place (Mrs Christie was away) - and strangled her.

But before he could dispose of the body, word came that Ethel was on her way home. In a panic, Christie first put Ruth under the floorboards in the front room, then buried her in the garden.

Christie's mind had now snapped, and he was soon planning his second murder. A work-mate, Muriel Eady, suffered from catarrh; Christie told her he had an inhaler she should try. She did; but Christie had attached the other end of the inhaler to the gas supply, and knocked her out. Then he strangled her, and buried her in the garden as well.



By now, a young couple with a small baby were living in the top floor flat at 10 Rillington Place. The old blind man on the middle floor went away to hospital, and workmen arrived to make some repairs. In the midst of all this, Christie strangled Beryl Evans, and tricked the very dim-witted husband to help him get rid of the body, saying Beryl had died during Christie's attempt to dispose of a second child. He also strangled the Evans' baby. The bodies were stored in the middle flat; the cramped living space at 10 Rillington Place was filling up fast!

Timothy Evans became overcome with guilt at what he had been a part of, and confessed to the murders of his wife and child. Of course, he had no idea where the bodies had ended up - Christie had moved them to the washroom at the back of the house - but he implicated himself completely otherwise. It was only in court that he tried to put all the blame on Christie; but Reggie was a former policeman (during the war) and a war hero. Evans was unconvincing and stupid. He was found guilty and hanged in 1950.

Back in Rillington Place, the nagging and dour Mrs Christie was the next to die. Christie strangled her in bed one morning in December 1952. She was placed in the temporary grave Ruth Fuest had occupied in the front room. Alone in the house, Christie now accelerated his murderous spree. First Kathleen Maloney, brought back drunk to his flat, gassed, left overnight in a chair, then hidden in an alcove behind some kitchen cupboards; then Rita Nelson, killed and disposed of in the same way. In February 1953, he killed Hectorina MacLennan, and she joined the other girls in the alcove, which Christie papered over.

Perhaps the place was becoming too crowded, because Christie now moved out, leaving some back rent due along with a few unexpected loose ends. A new tenant, Beresford Brown, found the bodies in the kitchen when he was putting up shelves that same March. At last the crimes were revealed.

Shocked at what they had found, Scotland Yard had no difficulty finding Christie. During his trial in the same room where he had been a witness against Evans - Christie never denied killing the women (though he did deny murdering the baby). He was hanged on July 15th 1953.

Rillington Place had its name changed, and number ten was later demolished. The Crown gave a full pardon to poor Tim Evans in 1966.

## **John George HAIGH - the acid bath murderer.**

They say Murder is easy-getting rid of the evidence is the tricky part. One of the most cold-blooded murderers England has ever known was also one of the most determined when it came to getting rid of the most important evidence of all - the body.

John Haigh was born in Stanford, Lincolnshire, in 1909. His father was an electrical engineer, and the family led a conventional, comfortable life.

But as John moved into adulthood, he showed few signs of settling down. When a business venture went sour, he misrepresented some property he was selling, and was caught. The charges were dismissed. Haigh had started on the criminal road, and it wasn't long before he was forging orders to claim commission from his next employers. His father repaid the company to keep his son out of jail. Unbelievably, Haigh joined another branch of the same business, and cheated them in the same way! This time he went to prison.

In the 1930s, Haigh moved from one scam to another, and spent more time in prison. Then, in 1949, he forged references to get a job with an engineering company, but within six months he left to set up his own business. Outwardly, it was an engineering company. In reality, it was the cover for murder.

An old friend, Donald McSwan, had money after selling a business. The two 'friends'

spent a lot of time together until Donald went to visit Haigh's factory. Haigh struck him with a metal pipe and killed him.

That just left the body. Haigh's factory provided the solution. He had two large carboys of sulphuric acid amongst his inventory; McSwan was bundled into a large drum and dissolved in acid. When Haigh thought the body was completely reduced to 'sludge', he simply poured it down the drain.

His next victims were McSwan's parents, who also owned property. Haigh forged letters from their 'runaway' son, then invited them to his factory. They went the same way as Donald. Haigh then forged letters with plausible excuses for the McSwans' absence and to transfer their assets to his own name.

In 1947, another couple followed them down the drain. He met the Hendersons when pretending to buy their house; that September, he shot Dr Henderson at his workshop. He told Mrs Henderson her husband was ill, took her to the workshop, and shot her too. The forgeries he made to seize their property and to reassure Rose Henderson's brother, were masterpieces.

Haigh's last victim was an elderly lady named Mrs Durand-Deacon, who lived like Haigh - in the Onslow Court Hotel in London. She accepted Haigh's invitation to visit the factory on February 18th 1948. His factory was now well-equipped for its macabre function by now, and Haigh murdered the poor woman that afternoon, shooting her once in the back of the neck.

Haigh insisted the rendezvous with Mrs Durand-Deacon never took place, but her friend, Mm Lane was very suspicious. He was questioned by the police, and they also found his answers too glib. Haigh slipped back to the factory to dispose of Mrs Durand-Deacon's remains, but - unaccountably - kept the revolver, and several documents about the McSwans and Hendersons at the workshop. When the police investigated the factory, they found these vital clues, along with evidence Haigh had sold her jewellery - even if they had no idea what else Haigh had done.

But Haigh confessed, convinced he could not be prosecuted if there was no body. He was wrong on two counts. First, other evidence against him was building. Second, the police did find some remains... small particles of bone, some plastic dentures and Mrs Durand-Deacon's gallstones.

Haigh hanged on August 10th 1949.

## **Dr Geza DE KAPLANY - insane jealousy.**

Dr De Kaplany was an Hungarian refugee and anesthesiologist who lived in San Jose, California. In the summer of 1962, he married a young ex-beauty queen, Hajne. But their marriage ran into problems at once - Geza insisted he had been rejected by Hajne - and the insanely jealous doctor decided he must protect himself against the inevitable day when his wife would run off with another man.

He attacked her with surgical knives and acid, insisting later that he was trying to erase the beauty only he was allowed to possess. Her screams were partially drowned by loud classical music and running bathwater.

It seems like the plot of a bad Victorian novel, but it happened for real in modern-day California. When ambulancemen arrived to take Hajne away, they burned themselves on her body. The bedroom was splashed everywhere with acid. Worse still, Hajne de Kaplany hung on to life for many long, appalling days, while her mother prayed for her to die.

When the case came to trial in 1963, De Kaplany became hysterical when photographic evidence of his bestial crime was produced in court. He was given a life term, but was inexplicably paroled and then smuggled to Taiwan six months before his official release date to act as a heart specialist. The scandal caused resignations and much anger in the press, but the Acid Doctor was gone from American shores, never to return.