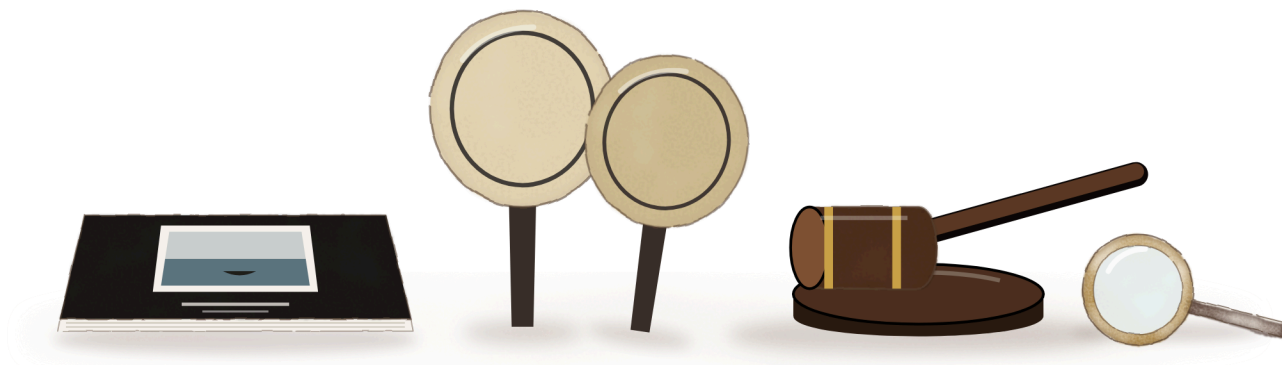




FREE PREVIEW · NOT THE GAME ITSELF

The Masked Auction at Alder Hall

A charity auction in a grand old house, where every bidder is known only by a number. Between Lot 14 and Lot 15, the chair of the foundation was found dead among the lots in the strong room.

USE THIS PREVIEW TO PLAN

- Page 2 shows all fourteen characters, with a dress idea for each, so you can start casting your guests.
- Page 3 tells you what the full game asks of a host, so you can decide whether it suits your party.

WHAT THIS PREVIEW IS NOT

It has no character booklets, no evidence and no solution — you cannot play the mystery with it. The full game is a separate download.

The guests

Eight are always played; Val, Blaine, Bryn, Campbell, Dallas and Haven join for 9 to 14 guests.

ALWAYS PLAYED

Hunter Ballard

Auction committee chair

Organized the auction, the seating and every lot in the catalog.

Wear: Black tie, and a catalog under your arm.

ALWAYS PLAYED

Ollie Corwin

Collector

Buys the best lot at every auction, and lets everyone know it.

Wear: Black tie and a vintage watch.

ALWAYS PLAYED

Rene Dacosta

Foundation director

Runs the Alder Hall Foundation, and can quote every grant it has ever made.

Wear: Black tie, with the foundation's green ribbon.

ALWAYS PLAYED

Jody Ellsworth

Estate executor

Sold an old family's whole estate through tonight's auction.

Wear: Black tie, and the look of someone counting.

ALWAYS PLAYED

Tracy Faraday

Art adviser

Advises half the collectors in the room, and found tonight's best lots.

Wear: Immaculate black tie, and a catalog full of notes.

ALWAYS PLAYED

Terry Garrick

Gallery owner

Owens the smartest gallery in the county, and bids against Ollie on principle.

Wear: Black tie with something unexpected — a velvet bow tie, say.

ALWAYS PLAYED

Tyler Hargrove

Silent-auction volunteer

Runs the silent auction in the long gallery, and guards the bid sheets with their life.

Wear: Black tie, a volunteer's badge and a pen behind the ear.

ALWAYS PLAYED

Brett Isley

Foundation treasurer

Keeps the foundation's books, and the paddle register, in perfect order.

Wear: Black tie and very polished shoes.

OPTIONAL

Val Jarvis

Young collector

Bought their first painting last month, and their second tonight, maybe.

Wear: Black tie, a little too new.

OPTIONAL

Blaine Kincaid

Artist

Donated a painting to the silent auction, and is watching the bids nervously.

Wear: Black tie with paint under your fingernails.

OPTIONAL

Bryn Lachance

Foundation intern

Started at the foundation in September, and has already met everyone.

Wear: Borrowed black tie, and an intern badge.

OPTIONAL

Campbell Mayhew

Late arrival

Arrived late, as always, and wants a paddle immediately.

Wear: Black tie, slightly wind-swept.

OPTIONAL

Dallas Nyberg

Interior designer

Decorated half the houses in the county, including this one.

Wear: Black tie in an unexpected color.

OPTIONAL

Haven Oyelaran

Pianist

Played the piano before the auction, and is very glad that part is over.

Wear: Black tie and a music folder.

Before you buy

What the full game asks of you and your guests.

IS IT RIGHT FOR YOUR PARTY?

Guests	8 to 14 adults or teens (14+). Eight characters are always played; up to six more join.
Time	About two hours with dinner: an opening, three acts, accusations and the reveal. Designed to this length; not yet timed with a real group.
The host	Reads a short script and opens three envelopes. The host can play a character too, if they print without reading.
Acting	None needed. Guests can stay seated and read their cards aloud. Black tie optional.
Content	A fictional death that happens offstage and is never described; a black-tie auction, old crimes and new money. No real auction house or charity. Nobody needs to drink, dress up, act or walk around to play.

WHAT THE FULL GAME INCLUDES

- A host guide with an exact print list for 8 to 14 guests, a read-aloud script, cue cards and what to do if someone cancels.
- Fourteen player booklets of three pages each: a dossier, and an Act 2 and an Act 3 page that stay folded shut until their act.
- Three sealed round envelopes of evidence — the catalog, the bid sheet, the paddle register, the runner's ledger, statements — a house map, detective notes, a timeline board and ballots.
- A sealed solution that proves the answer step by step, with why it was not anyone else.
- Party extras: invitations, place cards, name badges, a menu, awards, a teaser poster and invitation words to copy. Low-ink pages that print well in black and white.
- A large-print copy of every player booklet (about 17 pt), for any guest who prefers bigger type.