

# Christmas Reunion with Death

## Introduction

It's Christmas, in smallish-town America—and Holborrow High is staging its 15-year school reunion. Former students are gathering in the town's main hotel, ahead of the big festive party tonight. But one of them, former prom queen Mikolette Lukanis, has been murdered!

Everyone is locked in together in the hotel ballroom where the gala was to have taken place, pending a full police investigation. High-school rivalries will re-emerge, old grudges and secrets will surface—along with a heady mix of present-day envy, betrayal, and holiday-season lust.

Get out your glad rags and Santa hat, consult your old high-school yearbook, head for the complementary bar for some eggnog, and join the alumni of Holborrow High as they prepare for their...

## Christmas Reunion with Death!

Important note: ***Christmas Reunion with Death*** is an alternative version of one of our other murder mystery games, ***Reunion with Death***. The characters and the plots are the same, so if your guests have previously played ***Reunion with Death***, they'll know the secrets of ***Christmas Reunion with Death*** too! The difference is that ***Christmas Reunion with Death*** is written specifically for a Christmas setting, while ***Reunion with Death*** is suitable for any time of year.

## What do you get with *Christmas Reunion with Death*?

- A step-by-step guide on how to run the game.
- Character booklets for each guest, including background, goals and objectives, rules, and special abilities.
- Name badge cards showing the characters' names.
- Handouts and other essential items.
- The solution!

### How many people are needed for *Christmas Reunion with Death*?

*Christmas Reunion with Death* is for 6 to 9 players. Someone needs to coordinate and organize (host) the game – they can either be in addition to the other players, or they can play one of the characters themselves. The step-by-step guide explains which characters to omit if you have fewer than 9 players (you do need at least 6, however). Here's how this works:

| Number of players | Male characters | Female characters | Characters that can be played by anyone |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|
| 6                 | 2               | 2                 | 2                                       |
| 7                 | 2               | 2                 | 3                                       |
| 8                 | 3               | 3                 | 2                                       |
| 9                 | 3               | 3                 | 3                                       |

And if you have even more guests, we have a few free extra characters for *Christmas Reunion with Death* available on our website.

### How does *Christmas Reunion with Death* work?

*Christmas Reunion with Death* runs for three or four hours and suits a buffet meal. The host can either play the role of the Hotel Manager (game coordinator), or if they prefer they can instead play one of the characters. In either case, they are responsible for making sure everything runs smoothly and that all guests have the information they need. The Hotel Manager does not count toward the minimum or maximum number of players.

The characters are all locked in at the Sturner Palace Hotel, to try and identify the murderer of Mikolette Lukanis. They each have their own goals, and how they achieve these goals is up to them. *Christmas Reunion with Death* is an evening of high-school grudges, present-day rivalry, and murder!

## **Playing online**

***Christmas Reunion with Death*** has been designed to be particularly straightforward to adapt for play online, via video chat. The game includes instructions for how to use it in this way.

## **Where can I purchase *Christmas Reunion with Death*?**

***Christmas Reunion with Death*** is available from <https://www.freeformgames.com>. We accept all major payment methods.

When you purchase the game, you'll be taken to a page where you can download it right away.

We will also email you a download link and password, so you can collect your game later if that's more convenient.

## **What if I don't like *Christmas Reunion with Death*?**

We offer a cast-iron, no quibble guarantee. If you're not completely satisfied with ***Christmas Reunion with Death***, let us know within 30 days and we will refund you.

# Holborrow Courier-Bugle

## HOLBORROW HIGH REUNION

*ALUMNI RETURN TO FESTIVE PARTY*

Holborrow today celebrates our high school's graduating class from fifteen years ago – a grand gala Christmas party is lined up for them, in the ballroom of the Sturner Palace Hotel. Those former students who stayed here in town, together with those returning from more exotic locations and careers, will be accommodated at the hotel in preparation for the fabulous festive ball.

We're particularly looking forward to seeing the class's prom queen, Mikolette de Sousa (now Lukanis), who currently works as a glamorous and exciting commercial lawyer!

## DRUG MENACE STILL PLAGUES TOWN

*CAFÉ THOUGHT TO BE SOURCE*

Concerned citizens of Holborrow are urging police to do more to tackle the blight of illegal narcotics and stimulants that is besmirching our fair streets. Persistent rumors link this dark trade to the alleyway at the back of the Corner Café, in the town centre: but owner Ross Tallowah has steadily denied any awareness of the sordid business.

*Suzanne Cardigan*

## FIFTEEN YEARS OF LOSS

*MATTHEWS FAMILY CONTINUES TO GRIEVE*

It's now fifteen years since the death by suicide of Marcie Matthews, a promising student at Holborrow High. The unfortunate girl drowned herself in the school pool, leaving a poetic and thoughtful note expressing her readiness to end her life.

Marcie's family and friends are still devastated, and puzzled. "She told us she was being bullied by some of the more popular kids," Mr. Matthews told the *Courier-Bugle*. "But for sure we never suspected that she was so miserable as to take her own life."

## RADIO KHOL IN TROUBLE

*COMMUNITY RADIO LEAKING CASH*

Our town's beloved community radio station, KHOL – known affectionately to generations of Holborrow folks as 'Keyhole' – is in deep financial difficulty, the *Courier-Bugle* has learned. The trust has long relied on donations, and on sponsorship from local businesses, and it seems that the general economic slowdown that our town has experienced is hitting those pockets hard.

Taylor Michaels, trustee and manager, refused to confirm stories that a rescue bid is on the table. "No comment," was all the response that this reporter could get.

*Suzanne Cardigan*

### **Find your Christmas beauty**

A wide range of beauty treatments  
Spa treatments – Facials – Pedicures



### **Cherrytree Beauty Parlor**

(Proprietor: Frieda Gilbert)

## ***Christmas Reunion with Death – Cast List***

### **Locals, living in Holborrow**

- **Elizabeth Rondel:** Former library monitor, now a police officer.
- **Frieda Gilbert:** Former ‘nice girl’, now a beautician.
- **Ross Tallowah:** Former swim team star, now runs a cafe.
- **Suzanne Cardigan:** Former goth outsider, now a journalist.
- **Taylor Michaels:** Former science whiz, now cares for elderly parents.

### **Returned from out-of-town**

- **Charles Masinga:** Former high-school-band member, now a professional musician.
- **Damian Lukanis:** Former chess club captain, married to Mikolette Lukanis, now an architect.
- **Jay Fitzgerald:** Dropped out of high school, now a software developer.
- **Rowan Silverberg:** Former grade-A student, inherited money and now a dilettante.

