

# Bludgeoned on Broadway

## Introduction

It's 1947 and along New York City's Broadway Avenue, theatres are stuffed to capacity with eager spectators waiting to be entertained. Inside the Arlington Theatre, it's the first scene of the new Broadway Play *Olympian Days*, and leading actor Jackson Turner has failed to make his grand entrance! Why? He's been brutally murdered in his dressing room backstage.

In *Bludgeoned on Broadway*, everyone is acting a part, and it's up to you to figure out who's hiding behind the mask of illusion, deception, and even murder! You can form alliances, blackmail each other, steal items and money, and generally usurp and upset others' attempts to achieve goals!

Along the way, you may solve some of *Bludgeoned on Broadway's* mysteries, like who is the Theatre Bomber? Who is the Midwest Murderer? Who is a Communist? And of course, who murdered Jackson Turner? Find out in...

## Bludgeoned on Broadway!

## What is included when you buy **Bludgeoned on Broadway**?

- 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.
- Items and money for each guest.
- Handouts and other essential items.
- The solution!

## How does **Bludgeoned on Broadway** work?

**Bludgeoned on Broadway** has been written for 8 to 13 guests – plus the host or co-ordinator. The step-by-step guide explains which characters to omit should you have fewer than 13 guests (you do need at least 8, however). Here's how that works:

Number of guests	Male characters	Female characters	Characters that can be played by either sex
8	3	2	3
9	3	3	3
10	4	3	3
11	4	3	4
12	5	4	3
13	5	4	4

**Bludgeoned on Broadway** runs over the course of three or four hours and is particularly suited to a buffet meal. One person is the Director, and acts as organizer and coordinator, responsible for making sure everything runs smoothly and that all the guests have the information they need.

Your guests will be actors in *Olympian Days*, theatre staff, or guests at the performance. They have their own goals and agendas, and how they choose to achieve those goals is entirely up to them. **Bludgeoned on Broadway** is an evening of drama, double-takes, denouements and murder!

## Where can I get **Bludgeoned on Broadway**?

**Bludgeoned on Broadway** is available from [www.freeformgames.com](http://www.freeformgames.com). It costs \$29.99 (US dollars). We accept all major credit cards – and PayPal.

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 come back to the site and collect your game later if that's more convenient.

## What if I don't like **Bludgeoned on Broadway**?

No product is perfect for everyone. We know that and you know that and that's why we offer a cast-iron, no quibble guarantee. If you're not completely satisfied with **Bludgeoned on Broadway**, let us know within 30 days and we will refund you. You can read our full terms and conditions here: <http://www.freeformgames.com/terms.php>

"I had a fantastic time playing **Bludgeoned on Broadway**. As the host, I had spent a lot of time reading and preparing for the night, I am glad I did! There is a lot of story lines running at the same time and at points I had to give people tips about who to talk to and questions to asked when they got a little stuck. It was good being able to do this easily and from memory. It ran extremely smoothly though and everyone absolutely loved it!"  
*Frances Jackson, United Kingdom*



"**Bludgeoned on Broadway** was a wonderful game, all the guests had loads of fun! I liked that the host had a more involved role – I usually end up hosting instead of playing, so that is something that I appreciate. I love Freeform Games, I definitely recommend them to others!"  
*Amanda McLeod, Canada*



"Just to let you know we had our murder mystery evening last week, **Bludgeoned on Broadway**, and we had a great time. It was our first freeform game, and we enjoyed it very much. The play was so well written and the characters very colourful. Some of us had some problems last week saying goodbye to their alter ego. We sure want to try another game in the future. So thank you very much!"  
*Marc Damen, Nijmegen, the Netherlands*



"What better way to celebrate being alive and kicking in a new year than an old-fashioned-death-and-deception whodunit? As a New Year's Eve party with the villain nabbed at midnight, **Bludgeoned on Broadway** gets an Oscar. With plenty of twists and turns and intriguing characters for all ages, this game's a winner. Highly recommended."  
*Marjorie Hafer, United States*

"Yesterday I hosted my first Murder Mystery, **Bludgeoned on Broadway** was nothing short of fantastic! Everyone really got into it and had a brilliant night. The game was so easy and so fun to carry out, we had to make some changes to characters as the snow made it hard for people to get there, but your amazing info sheet really helped me to solve the situation in such a short amount of time! I've been asked to host another 'whodunnit' for Christmas. Thank you so much as you really helped me to have a brilliant party to be remembered for some time!"  
*Zoe Butler, United Kingdom*



# The New York PRESS

## The Theatre Bomber, a Menace to Society

Theatres both on and off Broadway have recently undergone attacks by the menace quickly becoming known as the "Theatre Bomber." Officials are perplexed as to the identity of the assailant, who has bombed a total of four theatres in the last six months.

Just two months ago, a janitor named Mr. George Fuller was severely wounded and found in critical condition after the theatre where he was working exploded at the hand of the Theatre Bomber. Mr. Fuller is recovering at St. Mary's Hospital in Brooklyn.

Yesterday, in a press conference, Mayor La Garner assured theatregoers that, "The New York City police force is working day and night to locate this horrific terrorist, and let me assure you that he will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law!"

## Mayor La Garner's "Vice Hunt" Update

Mayor La Garner vows to bring down the Italian Lipinski Mafia family, focusing on its power within the Theatre District. The Italian Mayor feels that Lipinski's syndicate is sullyng his people's image. "My mission is to rid the corruption that is scouring our city. Let's drive the scum out of town!" he said.

Many mob-owned burlesque theatres, including the Rochester Burlesque Theatre, have been padlocked and shut down. La Garner also wants to stop rumored gambling operations with a planned "search and destroy" operation.

"Gambling is a plague on our society," said La Garner.

## Manhattan Gossip

Will Mrs. La Garner wear her 50th birthday present to the premiere of *Olympian Days*? Unless you've been hiding in a cave, you've probably read recent tabloid news that the Mayor made a grand show of presenting his wife with a beautiful diamond bracelet in front of the elite throng of onlookers at her birthday ball. And since we all know Mrs. La Garner

won't miss her favorite actor Jackson Turner's debut as Zeus tonight at the Arlington, all eyes will be watching New York's first lady and her wrist at the premiere. Look for pictures of Mrs. La Garner in attendance in tomorrow's edition.

## *Olympian Days*, a Waste of Time by Joe Huntley

I attended an early preview of the new flop in the making, *Olympian Days*, produced by the once gifted, but now floundering, Olivia Dalton who is reportedly relying on the show to save her pocketbook. This botch of a musical squanders the terrifically talented



Jackson Turner, and evidently, the actor couldn't even stomach his own show... he fled at intermission! Although Lana Johnson as Aphrodite can sing and dance, Dorothy Sadler, a Broadway amateur, plays the leading role Hera with all the grace of a hippopotamus. Harold Finney

## FBI Report

Reports from across the United States indicate that American Communists have been involved in significant acts of looting across the country. Here in the city, a brick was thrown through a Macy's Department Store window, and the spray-painted phrase "Capitalist Pigs" appeared on the door of Wall Street's Bank of New York.

As a result, preliminary inquiry hearings will take place in New York City conducted by Mayor La Garner and the FBI. The House Committee on Un-American Activities set the stage for upholding democracy by questioning ten film directors and screenwriters, who were then blacklisted from the film industry because of their refusal to renounce Communism. The Broadway theatre district surely attracts similar Communist propagandists, and Mayor La Garner encourages us all to be on the alert.

Communists are the sworn enemies of our citizenry!

wields a trident as the humorous Hades, and is later unrecognizable as a ridiculous Minotaur, who in the final scene impotently throws around a wooden club. The outlandish script is written by Pat Waddle.

If you bring a blindfold and earplugs, you may be entertained. Under any other conditions, you may experience an urge to run out of the theatre screaming. *Olympian Days* is a ludicrous waste of time.

## **Olympian Days**

Come to the new Broadway play *Olympian Days*, produced by Olivia Dalton, and see your favorite gods and goddesses sing, dance, and battle it out in a drama of Olympian proportions tonight at the Arlington Theatre!

Featuring Jackson Turner as the powerful Zeus; Dorothy Sadler making her debut as Hera; Lana Johnson as the gorgeous and enticing Aphrodite; and Harold Finney, first as the mischievous Hades and later as the Minotaur monster in the play's climactic final scene.

Curtains will rise at 8:00 p.m. promptly, and tickets are on sale at the box office.

# Bludgeoned on Broadway – Cast List

## Actors

- **Dorothy Sadler:** the ditzy leading actress debuting in the role of Hera, Greek Queen of the Gods.
- **Lana Johnson:** the glamorous and talented Broadway actress playing the supporting role of Aphrodite, Greek Goddess of Love.
- **Harold Finney:** the veteran character actor and mischievous storyteller playing the role of Hades, God of the Underworld.

## Theatrical staff

- **Olivia Dalton:** the *Olympian Days* producer.
- **Pat Waddle:** the studious and idealistic *Olympian Days* playwright.
- **Bruno:** the stage manager and a tough mafia soldier.
- **Hannah Edelstein:** the production's talented choreographer and a Jewish immigrant from Denmark.
- **Jordan Lutrova:** the costume / prop coordinator and an eccentric collector of antiques and other treasures.
- **“Scrappy” Barker:** the wily owner of the Arlington Theatre.

## Outsiders

- **Mayor La Garner:** the ambitious New York City Mayor.
- **Taylor Higgins:** a newspaper reporter from the *Manhattan Happenings* newspaper.
- **Logan Randolph:** a New York City police detective.
- **Franco Torrio:** fronts as a waste management consultant, but really a powerful mafia capo.

