

Dazzled to Death

It is 1948. The socialite Evington-Browne family (“E-B” to their friends) and guests are preparing for their annual cocktail party, held by tradition at the family’s hunting lodge in the White Mountains north of Boston. A fierce storm has now set in, and the party finds itself cut off from the rest of the world. This is unfortunate, as the valet of one of the guests has been found dead in the kitchen! It looks like a heart attack – but is it murder?

This year, the Evington-Browne’s cocktail party has an element of added excitement, as the “Dazzling Diamonds” (Aunt Priscilla’s fabulous necklace) will be handed down to the eldest daughter, as is the family tradition. But there is also a shadow cast over the event – and not just the death of the valet. There’s an infamous society cat-burglar ‘the Puma’ in the vicinity, and several family members are acting suspiciously... Join the Evington-Browne family in their hunting lodge as the cocktail party begins and find out how the evening unfolds. Welcome to... *Dazzled to Death!*

All those invited to *Dazzled to Death* are given a character – which could be a family member, the retired family doctor, unexpected friends, the famous English detective or hired help. As they arrive they are greeted by the Waiter, and welcomed to the hunting lodge. Each character has goals and objectives that they must complete before the end of the party. However, not everyone may be as they seem and some family members are behaving out of character. Some of those attending have alternative motives and mysterious secrets that they will do anything to prevent from being revealed.

Everyone has their own goals – and not all goals are compatible. If one person achieves their goals, another may fail! Guests can form alliances, blackmail each other, steal items and maybe even try to kill one another. Along the way they may solve some of *Dazzled to Death*’s mysteries. Who has been sneaking around in a mask? Who will inherit the Dazzling Diamonds? Would the infamous cat-burglar ‘the Puma’ dare to strike here? Are the Evington-Browne family in danger of losing their money, their reputation in society and their sanity? Can anyone keep control of Tracy’s pet monkey? Join us in *Dazzled to Death* and find out!

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

You are invited to a cocktail party!

What is included when you buy *Dazzled to Death*?

- A step-by-step guide on how to run the game.
- Character sheets for each guest, including background, goals and objectives, plus special abilities, rules and item cards.
- Handouts and other essential items.
- The solution!

How does *Dazzled to Death* work?

Dazzled to Death has been written for 12 to 15 guests – plus the host or coordinator. The step-by-step guide explains which characters to omit should you have fewer than 15 guests (you do need at least 12, however). Here's how that works:

Number of guests	Male characters	Female characters	Characters that can be played by either sex
12	5	6	1
13	6	6	1
14	6	6	2
15	6	6	3

Dazzled to Death runs over the course of three or four hours and is particularly suited to a buffet meal. One person is the Waiter, 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 all be attending a cocktail party at a hunting lodge owned by the Evington-Browne family. They have their own goals and agendas, and how they choose to achieve those goals is up to them. *Dazzled to Death* is an evening of double-dealing, intrigue, blackmail and even murder!

Where can I get *Dazzled to Death*?

Dazzled to Death is available from 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 *Dazzled to Death*?

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 *Dazzled to Death*, 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>

“We played **Dazzled to Death** recently and had a great time. Everyone was really involved and enjoyed themselves (with varying levels of success in the actual game). Everyone was dressed up and there were even some American accents being maintained throughout the night! A wonderful product, and I will certainly be buying more in the near future.”
Thomas Halliday, United Kingdom



“Thank you so much for letting me download the new files and the extra characters. The **Dazzled to Death** party was a huge success, everyone enjoyed it and the two extra characters fitted in seamlessly! People are already talking about which game we should buy to play next – except this time someone else can host, so that I can try my hand at detective!”
Hayley van den Bergh, New Zealand

“We just played the game **Dazzled to Death** and what a blast! Everyone came fully costumed and fully prepared for an evening of murder and intrigue. With great food, good music, fake candles and an inflatable moose head, my apartment was totally transformed into a hunting lodge! Thanks guys!”
Anne Gregory, United States



“My friends and I had such a blast with **Dazzled to Death**. They were mostly impressed at how professional the whole set up was. From the e-invites, to the character packs, to the ability and item cards. But most of all, the storyline was so captivating.”
Faith Toh, United States

“Just wanted to tell you how great last night was. We put on **Dazzled To Death** (the first Murder Mystery I've ever hosted!) and it was fantastic! Everyone said how much they loved it and it was a huge success. At first my guests didn't know what was going on but they soon got into the swing of things! We made photographs to hang on the wall, family tree, family portrait and a lovely buffet. It seems as though the general consensus is to do one again but everyone wants me to do one sooner rather than later!

“I LOVED it! I had **Dazzled to Death** for my 15th birthday party, and though we were nonchalant at the beginning we had a ball! It was such a successful night full of betrayal, murder and suspense! My friends are all begging me to host one next year!!!”
Sophie, Australia



I highly recommend to people to give **Dazzled To Death** a go because it was excellent! Thanks a lot Freeform Games!”
Nick Eccles, United Kingdom

THE BOSTON TIMES

Excerpt from
The Boston Times
1948

'Puma' preys on Boston Society

The Puma has struck again! This time the victim was Mrs Sowersby Smalls. In spite of the tightest security arrangements at the Springfield Ball, the notorious thief walked away with a beautiful ruby necklace and earrings given to Mr Sowersby Smalls by the Maharajah of Bajput.

The burglary had all the trademarks of a Puma attack, including a feather placed carefully where the necklace had been, and a note saying "you've been plucked!"

"This guy can walk through walls!" exclaimed D.I. Sparfield of the Boston PD. "This is the tenth robbery this year - but we'll catch him."

Excerpt from
The Boston Times
'Society Page'
1948

No doubt the Evington-Browne family are looking forward to their traditional masked cocktail party at the family's hunting lodge in the White Mountains area. We are sure no-one can be more excited than Miss Evie Evington-Browne who achieved her 21st birthday this year.

According to family tradition, it is assumed that the beautiful and charming Miss E-B will inherit the fabulous 'Dazzling Diamonds' from her aunt, Miss Priscilla Evington-Browne at the climax of the evening. Although we are sure that she can shine no more brightly than she already does, this writer looks forward to seeing Miss E-B display the diamonds at the Harpinger Ball next month!

Excerpt from *The Boston Times* 'Business Page', 1948

For some investors, this will be a far from happy year. The continuing instability in the market will see many of our men of business tightening their belts and looking anxiously at the predictions of an upturn next quarter.

Television - Explosion continues

The East Coast continues to lead the way in the media phenomena that is television - of the 350,000 TV sets in operation in the USA, 75% of these are in our eastern network cities. It seems that the \$1,000,000 needed to construct and place a TV station into operation may turn out to be a sound investment in spite of initial scepticism! Sports fans may be interested to know that television rights for baseball games in New York City have been sold for \$700,000.

Dazzled to Death cast list

John Evington-Browne III: Respected businessman and head of the family.

Rose Evington-Browne: John's much-loved wife.

Patrick Evington-Browne: John and Rose's 20-year-old son.

Evie Evington-Browne: John and Rose's wilful 21-year-old daughter.

Tracy Evington-Browne: John and Rose's mischievous 16-year-old daughter.

Priscilla Evington-Browne: John's elderly and often forgetful aunt.

Agatha Marbles: Priscilla's elderly English friend and allegedly famed detective.

James Pemberton: Rose's brother. Art dealer and traveller.

Charles Pemberton: James's son, currently a student at Harvard.

Dr. Bruisyard: Retired family doctor and friend.

Miles Earnshaw: Unexpected guest, friend from Rose's youth.

Reggie Haven: Young socialite friend of Evie's.

Christy Crompton: Young fellow-student friend of Patrick.

Soames: Butler/Housekeeper.

Dinah Peters: Cook (temporary stand-in for usual cook).

