



The Santa Clause



The Santa Clause

*You are Cordially Invited to Attend the
Annual Lie, Cheat & Steal Christmas Party
An evening of deceit, treachery & murder to be held at:*

On: _____ *Starting At:* _____

It's time for the annual Christmas Party for the law firm Lie, Cheat and Steal, a powerhouse law firm with influential ties to business, government and politics. This party is one that everyone is just dying to attend. Quite literally that is. Mr. A. Big Scam, who was the next in line to become Partner in the firm, was found stuffed up his chimney in the Santa suit he was going to wear to the party!

Someone leaked a statement to the press stating that tonight Mr. Lie will be announcing his retirement and replacement. With Mr. Scam dead who will be the one to get this lofty and very sought after partnership?



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Guest List

Will Lie - 58 - Senior Partner in the firm of Lie, Cheat & Steal. Rumor has it that he is getting ready to announce his retirement and his replacement at the Christmas Party.

Constance Cheat - 28 - Constance made full partner in the firm 2 years ago. Speculation runs rampant on how she achieved that feat. Was she sleeping with one of the senior partners? Maybe she blackmailed the partners? When it was announced that she was coming on board as a full partner, Mr. Lie stated that she was sought after because of her large, influential clientele. That may be true, her father is Senator Earl E. Bird. Constance is married to a younger man named Igotta. She refers to him as her boy toy.

Igotta Cheat - 22 - Constance Cheats husband. Last Christmas Constance went to France on Holiday and came back married to him. Igotta gets upset when Constance calls him her boy toy, but she just laughs it off. His father is one of 3 top Genetic Scientists who mysteriously disappeared 3 months ago.

Seymour Steal - 49 - Seymour has been a partner with the firm for almost 16 years. He was a staunch family man until a few years ago when he hit mid life crisis. He bought a red convertible, rented a bachelor pad, starting hanging out in bars, having affairs. He was still surprised when his wife Enid A. Drink left and divorced him.

Enid A. Drink - 38 - Ex-wife to partner Seymour Steal. Enid was a dutiful housewife until her hubby hit mid-life crisis. She refers to her ex as The Toad. Enid likes a little nip now and then. Since her divorce it has been rumored that she has been collecting Voodoo Relics. Some say she even has a 6' snake!

Shamus Steal - 29 - Son of Seymour Steal. Shamus was going to college to become a lawyer when his dad wiggged out. After his mother and father divorced, Shamus changed from corporate law to representing environmentalists & animal rights activists. Usually against his fathers clients.

Inspector P. Ness - The Inspector is here to investigate the death of Mr. A. Big Scam who was found murdered 2 days ago, wearing a Santa suit and stuffed up his chimney.

Ben DeToy - 33 - It is rumored that Ben may be the next in line to become partner, now that Mr. Scam is dead. He is a brilliant lawyer, but has a habit of stepping on toes. He is a playboy through and through. His good looks and numerous affairs are regularly discussed around the water cooler.

Gabby Gossip - 26 - Gossip Columnist for the Dirty Daily. Gabby just loves her work. In her opinion there is nothing better than digging up and dishing out the dirt.

Mary Christmas - 22 - Receptionist for the firm. Not the brightest bulb in the office, but Mary is always very happy and upbeat. It is rumored that this perky ray of sunshine has been seen after work hours in the company of Ben DeToy. With Bens reputation, it is assumed that they are having an affair.

Marsha Mellow - 44 - Pharmaceutical Magnate who owns Vale Drugs, one of the biggest pharmaceutical companies in the U.S. The law firm represents the company's interests.



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Senator Earl E. Bird - 46 - Good friend to Will Lie. They have a mutually beneficial relationship. It was through the Senator that Will met Constance Cheat before asking her to become partner.

Barbie Dahl-Scam - 23 - Widow of A. Big Scam. Barbie was an aspiring actress when she met her husband.

Justin Case - 29 - State Attorney General. He is one of Constance Cheats clients. Justin makes sure the Firm gets all the contracts to bring lawsuits on behalf of the state. That tobacco lawsuit a last year put almost \$27 million into the Firms account!

Sue Yu - 28 - Sue is the 'Ambulance Chaser' in the Firm. At least that is what people call her behind her back. She will take on almost any lawsuit no matter how frivolous. The thing about Sue is that she wins almost every case!

Chris Mass - 52 - A Private Investigator. No one knows exactly what a PI is doing here.



The Dirty Daily

Shoveling Dirt Like No Other!

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December 23

Santa Found Dead - Stuffed up Chimney

This may sound like a fairy tale gone bad, but last night the body of 42 year old A. Big Scam was found dressed in a Santa suit and stuffed up his chimney. He had been bludgeoned to death with a fireplace poker. According to the investigator on the scene Mr. P. Ness there are no suspects in the case at the moment.

Mr. Scam worked for the law firm Lie, Cheat and Steal. It was rumored that he was going to be made partner after the retirement of the senior partner in the firm Mr. Will Lie. As we reported to you last week Mr. Lie is going to be announcing his retirement from the firm. Who is next in line now? Some say Ben DeToy will be promoted as partner. This reporter has her doubts about his ability to handle such a position. Her experience with DeToy has shown him to be shallow and unimaginative. His numerous affairs would be legendary if they weren't so callous and what some have quoted as being disgusting.

Animal Liberation Terrorists Strike

Last week we reported to you that there had been a Break in at Vale Drugs owned by Pharmaceutical Magnate M. Mellow. New evidence suggests that the break in may have been perpetrated by the Animal Liberation Army. ALA is an animal rights terrorist group that breaks into laboratories where animal testing is being done to set the poor beasties free.

Without A Trace

Police still have no leads in the disappearance of famed Genetic Scientist Dr. Donald Cheat & Virologist Dr. Brian Bolin. They both disappeared from separate labs 3 months ago today. Police reports show that Dr. Cheat was working on a secret cloning experiment for the French government.

As many of you may know Dr. Donald Cheat is the father of Igotta Cheat, the 22 year old Boy Toy of Constance Cheat, Partner in the firm Lie, Cheat and Steal. Cradle robbing Constance is also the daughter of the Senator Earl E. Bird. We sympathize with the embarrassment that the Senator must feel for his daughter's lifestyle.

Whoodoo Voodoo?

Recently it has come to my attention that we have in our midst an actual voodoo practitioner! No need to run and hide the kiddies. Our local voodoo lady was nice enough to let me watch one of her 'rituals'. While it all seemed very strange, and her six foot snake scared the stuffing out of me, I found it to be harmless. That is unless you are the one on the end of her Voodoo Curse! Anyone feeling any piercing unexplained pains lately?!



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Sample Character - Will Lie

Tonight is your law firms annual Christmas Party. You started Lie, Cheat & Steal over 30 years ago and have managed to build it into one of the biggest firms in the nation. You are 58 and feel it is past time to retire and enjoy the fruits of your labor. Tonight you are going to announce your retirement and name your replacement. You had every intention of naming A. Big Scam as your replacement until he was found murdered 2 days ago. Stuffed up his chimney in his Santa suit, he was. That left you in quite the predicament. Not only do you have to name a new replacement, but you also had to find someone else to play Santa at this party. You ordered Ben DeToy to play Santa tonight. Hopefully it will keep his playboy antics to a minimum.

A. Big met with you the day he was murdered and told you that he was in a dilemma. He had some information concerning the firm. He said that if it was found that the firm had this information and did not reveal it, that everyone who knew about it could spend life in prison. At which time you promptly told him you did not want to know anymore about it and to do what he felt was best.

A couple years ago you and Constance Cheat had an affair. Many think that is why she made partner, but it isn't so. You have never been one to let your libido run your business. The fact was that you had an affair with her to lure her from her previous firm. Constance has very important contacts in the political arena. Making her partner was one of the smartest decisions you ever made. She has brought some influential clients into the firm. She broke off your affair after making partner stating that she did not believe in mixing romance with work. That hack Gabby Gossip stated in The Dirty Daily that in her opinion Constance slept her way into the promotion with you. Your wife read that and left you over it. It cost you a pretty penny too. So what if it was true, she had no right to publish rumors with no proof.

It looks like you will have no choice but to appoint Ben DeToy as the new partner. He is an excellent lawyer, but his indiscretions worry you. At the beginning of the evening you need to take Ben aside. Tell him that you will be appointing him as partner tonight, but that as partner he needs to learn to be much more discreet in his dealings, both in and out of the bedroom. Immediately afterward you should get everyones attention and announce that you are retiring and that you are naming Ben DeToy as the firms new partner.

Character Suggestions: You are a no nonsense kind of guy. Your law firm & it's untarnished reputation has meant everything to you. You haven't always done everything on the up and up, but you walked close enough to the line to keep legal... just barely.



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Will Lie (Confidential Information given out after the murder)

Secrets:

These are secrets you do not want others to know about you as they may implicate you in the murder

- ◆ You had an affair with Constance Cheat 2 years ago before taking her on as partner in the firm. You don't want people to know this as they would assume that you only hired her because of the affair. You were also married at the time. In fact your wife left you due to the innuendoes put out by Gabby Gossip in that rag called The Dirty Daily.

What You Know:

This is information that you have that you may use in any way you wish. You can use this information to blackmail or bribe others, spread it as gossip, turn it over to the authorities. Be creative!

- ◆ A. Big met with you around 2:00. At about 2:30 he went to Ben DeToys office and they had a closed door meeting. A. Big left the office immediately following this meeting at about 3:00.
- ◆ You have a suspicion that your firms receptionist Mary Christmas is not what she seems. She seems to be bubbly and friendly, even a little dim, but lately you have noticed what you are sure is a calculating look in her eye.

What You Need To Do:

Make sure you accomplish these things sometime during the evening. Just be sure to watch your back because you may make an enemy in the process!

- ◆ Someone is sure to question you about your last meeting and conversation with A. Big Scam. To best protect yourself and your firm it would be best if you told him the truth. You met with A. Big in your office about 2:00 on the day he was murdered and he told you that he had some information that could affect the firm. He said it could have global repercussions and he was going to come forward with it. He did not tell you what this information was and you have no idea. You saw him leave the office about 3:00.
- ◆ Tell as many as possible. Just in case the killer is here you do not want him or her to think you know something you don't!
- ◆ Keep an eye on Mary Christmas to see if she is what she claims to be.
- ◆ If Gabby Gossip asks you any questions tell her to stick that rag she calls the Dirty Daily right where it belongs.



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Guide to Running the Santa Clause

Thank you for purchasing The Santa Clause, a Dinner and a Murder Mystery Game. Our games are created to be fun and easy to play. There are no scripts to read, with the exception of the Inspectors evidence presentation and the Solution. We feel that reading scripts takes away from the spontaneity of the game, therefore we create highly developed plots and characters that allow the evening to progress in a fun and natural way. Every mystery is filled with plenty of opportunities for blackmail, bribery and other nefarious schemes for all the guests. The murder always takes place at the party. No dummy's here! Our games are organized in such a way that they are very easy to run. The Santa Clause is a murder mystery for 10-15 players. The first 10 listed are necessary characters. The next 5 are secondary characters that can be used if needed. Secondary characters should be assigned in the order listed if possible.

Note: If you are a host who wishes to play the game without knowing the solution then do not read the character sheets or the solution. You can assign characters on the brief Guest List description.

Listed here are the items in this game and what you need to do with them.

- ◆ Each guest needs to receive a copy of the Invitation.pdf file. It will contain their invitation, the guest list and a news item that sets up the game. It is easiest if you fill in one copy of the invitation and then make copies of that. Include the (2) following items also:
- ◆ Brochure.pdf. It tells guests how to play the game. It needs to be printed on both sides of paper and then tri-folded and inserted into envelope.
- ◆ Each character has 2 parts. The first part is their background information, which they will need to receive before the game, as it contains background info, dress and character suggestions.
- ◆ The second part of the character sheet is their confidential information. It lists their secrets, knowledge and actions. These need to be placed in a sealed envelope with their names on them and bold letters stating " Open After Murder". Some may also have other items.
- ◆ When the guests arrive you will give each of them their sealed envelope, nametag and \$500 cash (1 sheet of money at the end of this game equals \$500, cut up and wrap with rubber band to easily distribute.)
- ◆ Place the solution in a sealed envelope. Give this to the inspector at the end of the evening.
- ◆ At the end of this sheet are some Exhibits which also need to be given to these characters:
- ◆ Exhibit F (FBI Report) needs to go to Mary Christmas
- ◆ Exhibit E (Virus Report) needs to go to Ben DeToy in a sealed envelope with the name Igotta Cheat printed on it.
- ◆ All other Exhibits will go to the Inspector along with his second character sheet in a large sealed envelope labeled " Open After Murder" (Do not fold evidence!)
- ◆ The last item is the Guest Solution sheets. There are 4 sheets to a page. Cut out to distribute. Each guest needs to receive one of these at the end of the evening to fill out.
- ◆ We have also included a Certificates pdf file that you can print on regular certificate paper to give out at the end of the evening. You can get certificate paper at your office supply. It only runs about \$3.00! Print using landscape view.



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Playing our game is very simple. After everyone arrives read the Hosts Announcement.

Either a man or a woman can play Chris Mass and the Inspector.

Make sure that the person who is to play Ben DeToy is very outgoing and will enjoy 'dying' in front of the guests. Dinner will need to be served about 45 minutes into the evening. There are a couple confrontations that need to take place before the 'murder'. Bens character will be poisoned and die at the end of dinner. The Inspector will run to his body, feel for a pulse and pronounce him dead and ask some people to remove his body from the room.

After this happens the 'victim' will be given another Character along with his nametag. If you only have 10 guests you can assign the character of Shamus Steal. If you have more than 10 guests, assign one of the secondary characters.

- ◆ Guests now open their sealed envelopes.
- ◆ After guests have a chance to look at their new information, the Inspector will present his evidence.
- ◆ Afterwards guests will mingle, scheme and question.
- ◆ At the end of the evening, ask each guest to fill out his or her solution sheet.
- ◆ After this the Inspector will read out the solution.
- ◆ While he is reading this, the host will go through the solution sheets and fill out certificates accordingly.
- ◆ Give out certificates as follows:
 - ◆ Super Sleuth Certificates for those that solve the murder.
 - ◆ Wealthiest Player goes to the one with the most 'money' at the end.
 - ◆ Best Costume goes to the most creative costume.
 - ◆ Best Actor goes to the person who plays their part the best.

Well that's all there is to it. We are sure your party will be talked about for months to come! We love to hear from our customers telling us what they think of our games. Send an email to mary@dinnerandamurder.com with your comments or questions.