



MASTERS OF MYSTERY  
— HOST YOUR OWN MYSTERY —

# EXORCISM AT THE ASYLUM

Father Brennan.

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— HOST YOUR OWN MYSTERY —

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# FATHER BRENNAN CHARACTER GUIDE

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTION:

<b>ROLE</b>	Priest
<b>KNOWN FOR</b>	Being the youngest priest in New York.

Psst! It's me, Jimmy Lugs, you may know me as the eyes and ears of Park Slope. I heard you've been asked to help investigate the murder at Madonna House and I just wanted to remind you of a few things before you get started. Hey, I'm probably preaching to the choir here- since you're trapped in that place day in, day out- but when there's been a murder, sometimes it's worth reminding ourselves of the basics before we go digging into the who and the why...

As you well know, Park Slope, New York is a nice, quiet place where folks help their neighbors but always mind their business. Help your neighbor lift a rolled-up carpet into the trunk of their car? Fine. Ask what's inside that unusually heavy carpet? Never!

The neighborhood has attracted Catholics from all over the world, drawn by the foreign land of opportunity before feeling completely at home amongst the familiar customs and traditions that bind the people of Park Slope together. Some families have been here so long that the last couple of generations know nothing of their forefather's lands.

Crime? Heck, there's tons! It's New York- if it doesn't happen here, it doesn't happen anywhere, right? But the crimes are generally petty, nothing a visit to a confessional won't cure, ye know what I mean? And us folks from Park Slope, we like to clean up our own mess and rarely involve the police. Allowing the NYPD to poke their noses into Park Slope business would be the beginning of the end for our way of life. Once the NYPD get hold of something they just can't let go- like a ratchet that can only tighten notch by notch. Click! Click!

Now, your dilemma: on August 13th, 1969, not two days ago, a tragedy occurred. Sara Hinder, a much-loved local nurse, was murdered at her place of work- Madonna House- our local asylum. As well as figuring out who killed the nurse, you're gonna need to decide if this crime can be kept from the NYPD.

Most days you probably wonder who the patients are and who's meant to be running the asylum. Such is life in a nuthouse. You couldn't pay me enough to work in that place! But, between you and me, the way things are going in Park Slope, Madonna House is gonna need an extension- some days I think the whole place is going mad. Involve the NYPD in this mess and you can bet your bottom dollar that they'll flatten the place!

Good luck and stay safe...

## SPOILER ALERT!

**DO NOT CONTINUE UNTIL THE HOST STARTS THE GAME!**

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# FATHER BRENNAN

## ROUND 1

### GETTING TO KNOW THE PLAYERS

#### INTROS

##### Introduce Yourself

*Read this text word-for-word or paraphrase it in your own words as you introduce yourself to everyone. Don't add any information, just slang or casual language suitable for your character.*

"Welcome everyone, I'm Father Brennan. And can you please join me in wishing a warm welcome to Father Kelly. It is quite simply a blessing to have Father Kelly with us, I have no shame in admitting that what has occurred here at our beloved Madonna House is way over my head, but, like everything else, the Lord only presents challenges to those that He knows have the means and will to handle them. As I tell you all often enough, there's no shame in asking for help and, true to my word, that is why Father Kelly is here- to help me!"

##### YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE VICTIM

*All the Players have a history with the victim. Try to keep the details of your relationship to yourself—but be aware that other people may already have some idea of it!*

Nurse Hinder used to make comments that made you believe that she knew a little more about your past than she should. Perhaps Cheryl Small filled her in following your moment of weakness when you let slip to Cheryl that if it weren't for the priesthood you'd be in jail. The less said about that the better- you know what you did when you were a child, but if you don't think about it perhaps it'll never catch up with you.

You'll recall the last argument you had with Nurse Hinder, she was the only person at Madonna House who could bring out the old you:

"Father, those two ladies should know better. How can they be carrying out an affair right below your nose, them of all people!"

"Nurse Hinder why don't you keep your sanctimonious crap to yourself for once. I happen to be a very modern priest and I don't mind same sex couples. Heck, I'd oversee the marriage of a same sex couple and I bet I'd be duly rewarded for it when I leave this earth. Do you really think the Lord, who created everything with love in mind, would really say that two people couldn't love one another simply because of what danged, or in this case, didn't dangle between their legs?"

"Father Brennan, you disgust me. You bring shame on yourself and the Church. I shall have to take this further."

"Be my guest, you silly old bat! See who they believe!"

***STOP!***  
***DO NOT CONTINUE***  
***UNTIL THE HOST INSTRUCTS***  
***YOU TO!***



# FATHER BRENNAN ROUND 1 GETTING TO KNOW THE PLAYERS

## RUMOURS CHOOSE YOUR VICTIM

*Here are things you may have observed about other characters. In your group, agree on a character you want to talk about—someone who is at the party, but preferably not within earshot.*

<b>DR RUBY REID</b>	Dr Reid was recently overheard saying, "A few less people around here is what we need, people are getting under my feet."
<b>DR DAVID MCCORMACK</b>	Dr McCormack is exceptionally fit & strong owing to his hobby of bare-knuckle boxing. With his strength and interest in violence perhaps he should be top of any suspects list.
<b>CHERYL SMALL</b>	Had made headlines in the local paper when she was younger for smashing a bottle over the head of her ex-boyfriend. The boyfriend didn't press charges, but his mother worked for the local paper and ran the story against his wishes.
<b>SISTER ELIZABETH</b>	Once asked Nurse Hinder, "Why would a woman like you want to stay on at Madonna House, Lord knows it's a dangerous place for the likes of you."
<b>SISTER CHRISTINA</b>	With age it seems like Sister Christina's eyes have grown darker and she seems to carry the weight of the word on her shoulders like she never did before.
<b>SISTER MARY HELEN</b>	Nurse Hinder was overheard asking Sister Mary Helen, "What kind of nun behaves like that, it's surely a sin?"
<b>BOBBY "BA-DOING" SPRINGER</b>	Pretends to wet his bed by pouring water over it and himself so that he can spend more time with Nurse Hinder. Nurse Hinder always ignored his wandering hands so long as there was nobody else around.
<b>SHELLEY</b>	Drew an upside down cross on Nurse Hinder's uniform by squirting urine from a stolen syringe when Nurse Hinder turned her back. The other patients found this extremely funny which enraged Nurse Hinder and almost caused her to walk out on her first day at Madonna House.
<b>MRS KELLY</b>	Once asked Nurse Hinder if she'd miss her family if they burned to death. She never listened to Nurse Hinder's answer but interrupted with, "Would they miss you?"
<b>TREBLE</b>	Asked Father Brennan if he thought that Nurse Hinder would ever date a patient. When Father Brennan said no, he stormed off muttering curse words under his breath.
<b>ARCHIE MURPHY</b>	Archie was sent to Madonna House for dropping paving slabs from a high building on to passersby below. His claim in court that his crime didn't matter as he was only aiming for women and girls led him to be committed to Madonna House.
<b>MARY "CYCLOPS" PATTERSON</b>	Told Nurse Hinder that if she doesn't start leaving the Medicine Distribution Room open that she'd visit her when she was sleeping and make her chew and swallow the key.
<b>DAVID DUFFY</b>	Asked Dr Reid if he could lie with Nurse Hinder's body until it was removed from Madonna House, "I just want to smell her one last time," he'd said.
<b>ELAINE "EPPIE" POWER</b>	Was overheard saying, "It's about time we took over this nuthouse. Let's break a few heads open!"
<b>SHERIFF MARLBORO</b>	Keeps demanding a 'good hanging'. He's been heard to say, "By hook or by crook, it's about time we had ourselves a good ol' fashioned hanging. Yessir! Or any form of capital punishment for that matter, I ain't fussy."
<b>JC (JUST CHRISTOPHER)</b>	Nurse Hinder once told JC that his initials could be confused with Jesus Christ, JC whispered in her ear that he felt a closer kinship to Lord Satan and that she could call him LS if she wished.
<b>ANNA "FLETCH" FLETCHER</b>	Was sent to Madonna House for causing her father to shoot another man by claiming that the man had impregnated her. The man, a recluse, was a stranger to Anna before that day, she simply knew where he lived and that he was considered odd.
<b>LONGFORD MCLOUGHLIN</b>	Told Nurse Hinder that she should leave Madonna House and never look back.
<b>WILLIAM "WILLIE" BYRNE</b>	Was heard to say that human flesh tastes like gammon and that women's flesh is far more tender than a man's.

## SPREAD THE DIRT

*Use your improvisational skills to share your rumor about that character with everyone in your group. Just as in real life, some people will already know your dirt—that doesn't mean you can't talk about it! The Host may ask you to move on to a different group, to share rumors with and about new people. Feel free to pass on or combine items you've heard from other Players. The Host may end the Round before you have finished, so get to the juicy stuff early!*

## BITE YOUR TONGUE!

*If you hear someone spreading a rumor about you, pay attention but don't feel you need to answer. You'll have a chance to respond in the next Round.*

***STOP!DO NOT CONTINUE  
UNTIL THE HOST INSTRUCTS  
YOU TO!***

# FATHER BRENNAN

## ROUND 2 | MOTIVE

*Every Player answers ONE question posed by another character. Ignore any references to characters who are not at this party.*

### SUSPICIONS TO CHALLENGE THE OTHER CHARACTERS WITH

*When it is your turn, choose ONE question to ask another Player and read it aloud. Eventually, all the characters listed in that row will be asked that same question.*

ASK: CHERYL SMALL DR RUBY REID SISTER MARY HELEN	How did you feel about Nurse Hinder? Was there any bad blood between you?
ASK: BOBBY 'BA-DOING' SPRINGER JC (JUST CHRISTOPHER) ANNA 'FLETCH' FLETCHER	They say that Nurse Hinder had become very quiet recently, guarded even. She communicated just enough to get her job done. Why do you think that was?
ASK: SISTER ELIZABETH DR DAVID MCCORMACK	I heard that Nurse Hinder had recently caught a couple of folks here at Madonna House in a compromising position, they say she tried to talk to Father Brennan about it and was shot down. Who do you think she caught?
ASK: SHELLEY MARY 'CYCLOPS' PATTERSON ELAINE 'EPIE' POWER SHERIFF MARLBORO	We all know you like your meds a bit too much, did you ever ask Nurse Hinder for more meds than you were prescribed? If so, what did she say?
ASK: LONGFORD MCLOUGHLIN MRS KELLY	You've attacked Nurse Hinder more than once and for very little reason, why should I believe that it wasn't you that killed the poor woman?
ASK: TREBLE ARCHIE MURPHY	Did you like Nurse Hinder and think she was good at her job?
ASK: DAVID DUFFY WILLIAM 'WILLIE' BYRNE	We all know you like a bit of blood and gore, smashing someone's head in would come easy to you. With that in mind, convince me you didn't kill Nurse Hinder.
ASK: SISTER CHRISTINA	I can't understand why the killer would rip Nurse Hinder's dress to her waist? Was it just to embarrass her? Why do you think the murderer would do such a thing?

### ANSWERS FOR WHEN YOU ARE QUESTIONED

*When another Player challenges you, read the appropriate answer.*

IF YOU ARE INNOCENT	"Not to put too fine a point on it, but this place is full of perverts. And I don't just mean the patients! Sure, maybe the killer just wanted to embarrass Nurse Hinder but perhaps it was simply for their own twisted pleasure. The world functions on a fine balance, everything in harmony. Take me, clean cut with no interest in the sins of the flesh, and then consider the complete opposite of me – people that live for sex, and everything related to it. Truly repugnant stuff!"
IF YOU ARE GUILTY	"Plain and simple, the person is a pervert. That's one thing that makes me believe that this is not the work of the Devil. The Devil has his own breasts and sees the breasts of his followers in Hell day in, day out- why would he want to see Nurse Hinder's chest? Makes no sense- unless of course it was to throw us off his scent."

***STOP! DO NOT CONTINUE UNTIL  
THE HOST INSTRUCTS YOU TO!***

# FATHER BRENNAN

## ROUND 3 | OPPORTUNITY

*Every Player answers ONE question posed by another character. Ignore any references to characters who are not at this party.*

### QUESTIONS TO ASK THE OTHER CHARACTERS

*When it is your turn, choose ONE question to ask another Player and read it aloud. Eventually, all the characters listed in that row will be asked that same question.*

ASK: ANNA 'FLETCH' FLETCHER WILLIAM 'WILLIE' BYRNE	You know how to pick locks, right? Would you waste the time needed to re-lock a place after you'd committed a crime? I'm not accusing you, of course, just looking for your professional opinion.
ASK: LONGFORD MCLOUGHLIN ELAINE 'EPPIE' POWER DAVID DUFFY	If you had to break into the Medicine Distribution Room and the door was locked, and you couldn't get a key or pick the lock, how would you get in?
ASK: SHERIFF MARLBORO BOBBY 'BA-DOING' SPRINGER SHELLEY	Where were you when you first heard that Nurse Hinder was dead?
ASK: TREBLE MRS KELLY ARCHIE MURPHY	Do you think there's anyone here that wouldn't be physically or mentally capable of carrying out the killing of Nurse Hinder as described so far by Father Kelly?
ASK: MARY 'CYCLOPS' PATTERSON JC (JUST CHRISTOPHER)	From what I've heard so far, Nurse Hinder didn't scream or call out for help whilst she was being murdered. Why do you think that was?
ASK: DR RUBY REID DR DAVID MCCORMACK CHERYL SMALL SISTER ELIZABETH SISTER CHRISTINA SISTER MARY HELEN	If only staff have access to the spare key for the Medicine Distribution Room, that places you at the top of my suspect list. Convince me that it couldn't have been you that killed Nurse Hinder.

### ANSWERS FOR WHEN YOU ARE QUESTIONED

*When another Player asks you, read the appropriate answer.*

IF YOU ARE INNOCENT	<p>"There's a special place in Hell for folks like you. Oh, don't look so surprised- yeah, priests have feelings too. Who'd have bloody guessed?</p> <p>Sorry, forgive me. I'm a little shook up- it was me that found Nurse Hinder's body as you'll recall, and it has wreaked more havoc with me than I care to admit for fear of scaring the others."</p>
IF YOU ARE GUILTY	<p>"I have it on good authority that the Medicine Distribution Room is even less rigid than the greasy paper bags from Joe Joe's Dog Stand on the corner of Fifth Avenue. I don't think the killer would have needed the key to get in there. Locked doors in this place serve one purpose only – they offer false hope, much like certain versions of the Bible. The lock on The Box however is very strong, and that's where you'll end up if you ask me a question like that again!"</p>

***STOP! DO NOT CONTINUE UNTIL  
THE HOST INSTRUCTS YOU TO!***





## FATHER BRENNAN ROUND 4 | METHOD

*Every Player answers ONE question posed by another character. Ignore any references to characters who are not at this party.*

### QUESTIONS TO ASK THE OTHER CHARACTERS

*When it is your turn, choose ONE question to ask another Player and read it aloud. Eventually, all the characters listed in that row will be asked that same question.*

ASK: FATHER BRENNAN CHERYL SMALL MRS KELLY ARCHIE MURPHY	That language is the work of the devil, don't you agree? Have you ever seen such symbolism before?
ASK: SISTER ELIZABETH MARY 'CYCLOPS' PATTERSON DAVID DUFFY	How angry does a person need to be to smash someone's head in? Do you think you could do such a thing if you were provoked enough?
ASK: TREBLE SHELLEY DR RUBY REID	I've noticed that you've not been acting yourself lately. Do you feel okay?
ASK: DR DAVID MCCORMACK SISTER CHRISTINA SISTER MARY HELEN	Do you believe that a person could be possessed by an evil spirit? Perhaps the killer left satanic clues to only make it seem like they were possessed.
ASK: BOBBY 'BA-DOING' SPRINGER ELAINE 'EPIE' POWER JC (JUST CHRISTOPHER) SHERIFF MARLBORO	I think the person who stuffed Nurse Hinder's throat with pills was sending a message; they hated being force fed medicine in here. How did you feel about being handed pills to swallow multiple times every day?
ASK: ANNA 'FLETCH' FLETCHER LONGFORD MCLOUGHLIN WILLIAM 'WILLIE' BYRNE	Why burn the message into Nurse Hinder's flesh, surely only the devil would go to such lengths. I'd have just left the message on a bit of paper, how about you?

### ANSWERS FOR WHEN YOU ARE QUESTIONED

*When another Player asks you a question, read the appropriate answer.*

IF YOU ARE INNOCENT	"If I had, do you think I'd have invited Father Kelly here? No, that is something only a very experienced priest would have seen. But you knew that didn't you? You only asked to make me feel bad, to make me feel small. Well, well done to you, you've succeeded- I'm suitably put in my place! PERHAPS YOU CAN RUN THE ASYLUM FROM NOW ON!"
IF YOU ARE GUILTY	"No."  (Now just stare at the person who questioned you until they either look or walk away. Once they look/walk away whisper their name until they turn around and then lick your lips whilst you stare at them again).

***DO YOU KNOW WHODUNIT?  
TURN THE PAGE TO SHARE YOUR DEDUCTIONS***

FATHER BRENNAN

## ACCUSATIONS OR VOTING

*Follow the Host's instructions on how to name the Murderer*

- *You may fill out a Game Ballot on paper or via Chat.*
- *You may be asked to make an Accusation in the format below.*

*Either way, the first Player to correctly identify the Murderer and motive wins the game. If nobody gets it right, the Murderer wins!*

### ACCUSATION FORMAT

I accuse \_\_\_\_\_ of murdering Nurse Sara Hinder.

I believe they committed the crime for this motive:

---

### OPTIONAL:

I base my accusation on this evidence:

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# FATHER BRENNAN FINAL STATEMENTS

*When the Host calls on your assigned letter, share the appropriate final statement:*

IF YOU ARE INNOCENT	<p>"Wow! I never seen that coming, I've gotta be honest.</p> <p>No, I never killed Nurse Hinder. Poor Sara and I never seen eye to eye at all times, but we were professional with one another and worked to make Madonna House a place of sanctuary for both the patients and the staff. I am going to miss her. And I know that we will never replace her- nurses of Sara's ilk are a rare breed, and with the new generation it looks like we just won't receive the level of dedication that she showed us. I don't know what it is, but young nurses and even young doctors seem to care more about themselves than the work they were sent here to do. Shame.</p> <p>Anyway, I won't hold your accusation against you, I know that everyone's nerves are shot to pieces and that your judgement has been seriously impaired."</p>
IF YOU ARE INNOCENT	<p>"About bloody time!</p> <p>You lot like to mess about, eh? It's all just one big game to you, huh? Some of us, namely me and my new master! have other things to be getting on with- mostly, killing Father Kelly when he tries to separate us.</p> <p>But thanks for coming, I'll be sure to pay you all an individual visit as you sleep.</p> <p>By way of thanks, I'm going to tell you how Nurse Hinder signed her own death certificate...</p> <p>Nurse Hinder brought up something about my past, I assume she heard it from Cheryl Small whom I had entrusted with this information in a moment of weakness or perhaps madness. The secret that I've carried since I was a child is this- I am the only surviving child of my mother's, she gave birth to 13 children in total and thought that she lost them one by one to cot death- a common problem in Park Slope at that time. But it was me. When my exhausted mother would fall asleep, I'd smother her latest child so that I had her all to myself. My mother ended her days here at Madonna House. I felt that I could repent by becoming a priest and working to help others.</p> <p>When Nurse Hinder told me that she knew, it sent me into a panic and with my guard down my new master was able to sneak in. But with Him, I have grown stronger, and I've realized it feels better to keep killing than to keep hiding."</p>





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