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# Merri Mysteries

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*presents...*

## “Mystery In The Library”

Large standard version  
for 10 females  
and 11 males

*by Stephanie Chambers*

Second edition

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## The Suspects

The other night in the library, when many characters were out of their books enjoying a sojourn in the night air, a crime was committed, grim and grave, right in our own library. As a result his Majesty Henry VIII – that famous monarch from the English history books – has disappeared. Gathered are the characters who were present in the library at the time of the nasty deed. Fortunately Master Sherlock Holmes is here to investigate, so the perpetrator of this heinous crime will no doubt be revealed as the night proceeds.

**Book:** *Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

**Master Sherlock Holmes** – I am a man with such superior detective skills that I have become world famous. Nothing goes unnoticed by me. I already know a lot about each of the suspects, just from looking at their appearance. For example, I can tell Alice is a little girl with a very fanciful imagination and Aladdin is from the Far East. But, I am not a great reader of fiction, I prefer to do chemical experiments and I also play the violin. Did any of you happen to steal my lighter from me? I seem to be missing it ever since my visit to the library last night. Was the King a thief? Do you think he stole my lighter? I am really missing my pipe. I can't use it without my lighter. This certainly does not seem like a normal case. Things are not what they seem. It is more like the Mr Angel case. You may like to read about it in my diary, if you get time. *Dress suggestions:* Dress in old-fashioned clothes, carry a magnifying glass and a pipe.

**Book:** *Alice's Adventures In Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll

**Alice** – Mr Holmes is wrong. Wonderland was not my imagination. It was a wonderful dream – a dream filled with strange creatures.” I saw a White Rabbit looking at its watch and I followed it down a rabbit hole. I fell down a deep well, but I fell slowly so I had plenty of time to look at the jars of “Orange Marmalade” and such. I came to a bottle saying “Drink Me”, but “the bottle was not marked poison”, so I drank it. I “shut up like a telescope” till I was only “ten inches high”. Then I found a cake marked “Eat Me” and I ate it and grew very tall. My feet were so far away. Oh there is so much to tell – all about the tea cups and the Queen of Hearts shouting “Off with his head! or “Off with her head” and all the other people I met in Wonderland, but it would take too long. *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a little girl with pig tails in your hair and rosy cheeks.

**Mad Hatter** – ‘If you knew Time as well as I do,’ you wouldn't talk about wasting IT. It's HIM.' ‘It's always tea-time, and we've no time to wash the things between whiles.' Alice comes into the library and looks at the children's books. King Henry said he didn't like little girls. He said his wives had too many of them and not enough boys – only one boy in fact. *Dress suggestions:* Wear a very large hat. Also carry a pocket watch in your waistcoat and a tea cup. Dunk the watch in the cup from time to time. Ask riddles you don't know the answer to.

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**Book:** *Cinderella* by various authors

**Cinderella** – I am a merchant's daughter. Then my mother died and my father remarried a widow with two grown daughters. Alas, when I met them, they treated me as a slave rather than as a step-sister. My step-sisters saw me covered in cinders after cleaning the fireplace and, my name being Ella, they gave me the nickname of “Cinder-ella”. *Dress suggestions:* Dress like a princess with tinsel/glitter or as a servant covered in cinders.

**The Fairy Godmother** – After working all day on her chores, Cinderella often wondered if she would ever be happy again. The ladies of her household were invited to the Duke's ball. But Cinderella's step-mother said she could not go unless her chores were done. Fortunately, I came to Cinderella's aid and – well, you all know the rest of the story. King Henry was fascinated by Cinderella's glass slippers. I think he thought that if she had no slippers, that the Duke's son would not find her in her fairytale and then she would be free to marry him instead. *Dress suggestions:* Like a fairy complete with wings & a wand with which to grant wishes.

**Book:** *Snow White* by The Brothers Grimm

**Snow White** – My step-mother – the Queen – was jealous of my beauty and asked a huntsman to do away with me. He took pity on me and let me run away into the forest and I came to the house of the dwarfs. I ate their porridge. They found me later asleep and asked me to stay and take care of them. But I am not a porridge thief like you Goldilocks, I only took a little from each bowl as I was fainting from hunger. And since then I have kept house for them, so I have repaid my debt to them. The Queen asked her looking-glass ‘Who is the fairest of us all?’ and it told her I was living in the glen. The Queen, plotted to get rid of me. *Dress suggestions:* Old-fashioned clothes (eg drawstring sash at the waist, puffy sleeves, flouncy skirt). Black hair, red lips & white skin.

**The Queen** – I dressed as an ‘old pedlar woman’ and sold Snow White some lace for her waist. Then I laced her up so tight, she ‘lost ... (her) breath, and fell down as dead.’ Unfortunately, the 7 dwarfs soon returned and cut the lace in two, so that she could draw breath. I knew she wasn't dead because my mirror told me so, so I came again with a poisoned apple. The dwarfs thought Snow White was dead. A prince saw her and carried her away. Then the apple fell out of her mouth and she came back to life and they married. King Henry kept trying to get Snow White to marry him, but she refused. *Dress suggestions:* As a queen with a crown, a long gown and a nasty face mask.

**Book:** *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L Frank Baum

**Dorothy** – After I was captured by the flying monkeys and I defeated you – the Wicked Witch of the West – I came back to you – the Wizard – only to find out you had no powers at all. You offered to take me back to Kansas in your balloon, but then you took off without me. Fortunately, someone told me to use my magic slippers. *Dress suggestions:* A blue dress with a white blouse underneath. Add white socks and magic red shoes. If you can, add long black hair tied in two bows. © copyright Acture Pty Ltd 2004 **Page 2 of 5**

**Wicked Witch of the West** – After Dorothy returned home, she told her family and friends how there’s no place like home. King Henry was the same as me – wicked to the core. King Henry had the audacity to tell Dorothy to go and play. *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a witch complete with broomstick, green skin and pointy hat.

**Book:** *Little Red Riding Hood* by various authors

**Little Red Riding Hood** – I was on the way to visit my Grandmother when I met the wolf. We chatted about how I was visiting my Grandmother and I told him where she lived. Then he left me and I went to my Grandmother’s cottage. When I came inside my Grandmother’s cottage, I found that she looked very different from her usual self. *Dress suggestions:* A red hooded cape with a dress beneath (possibly also in red). Carry some little cakes or cookies.

**The Grandmother** – The Big Bad Wolf locked me in the cupboard. So Little Red Riding Hood, said to the Wolf who was sitting in bed dressed in my nightgown, ‘Why, Granny...what big eyes you have got.’ And the wolf said, ‘The better to see you with, my child,’ imitating my voice. I won’t bore you with the rest as you have probably all heard the story. Most versions of the story end happily with Little Red Riding Hood being saved from the wolf’s clutches by her father and the woodcutters. King Henry and the Big Bad Wolf had a lot in common. They were both men that little girls should be kept away from. *Dress suggestions:* A long nightgown with a bed-jacket and a bonnet on your head.

**Book:** *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by various authors

**Goldilocks** – I ate porridge at the bears’ house. The bears hadn’t locked their front door, so that’s permission to eat their porridge, isn’t it? I didn’t get much porridge anyway. Great Big Bear’s porridge was too hot, Middle-sized Bear’s bowl was too cold. So I had to eat Tiny Little Bear’s and his bowl is so small. Then I tried to find a comfortable chair to sit on, but Great Big Bear’s chair was too hard, Middle-sized Bear’s chair was too soft and Tiny Little Bear’s chair collapsed on me. *Dress suggestions:* Cute little-girl clothes. Tie a ribbon in your golden hair and don a blue dress, a frilly white apron, red shoes and yellow socks.

**Baby Bear** – Goldilocks was getting tired after all this, so she went upstairs to find a bed to rest on. Great Big Bear’s bed and Middle-sized Bear’s bed both weren’t right for her. But my tiny bed was perfect, so she got in. She didn’t even take her shoes off. So I am the innocent victim of Goldilocks. She ate my porridge, broke my chair and slept in my bed while I was out. King Henry kept saying Goldilocks was a spoiled little girl and that if she was his child, he would lock her in the tower. The King had a chair in the library that he liked to sit on. It was large and I suppose it reminded him of his throne. Whenever he found Goldilocks sitting in it, he got very angry. *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a little bear but with normal clothes on top.

**Book:** *The Adventures of Aladdin* by various authors

**Aladdin** – I met a ‘mysterious stranger who said he would pay me a silver penny if I went down a manhole for him’. I found myself in a ‘large chamber... (filled with) pots of gold.’ ‘Put out the flame and bring me the lamp!’ he said. When I hesitated, he left me in there, dropping his ring in the chamber as he did so. Terrified, I put the ring on my finger and ‘twisted it round and round’. ‘Suddenly the room was flooded with a rosy light and a great genie with clasped hands appeared on a cloud’, and said he was at my command. *Dress suggestions:* Wear middle eastern clothes (eg baggy trousers). Add sequins and jewels.

**The Genie** – Aladdin said he wanted ‘to go home’ and he immediately found himself there. He told his mother of his adventures. She was a little disappointed he had returned with only the old oil lamp. But she started to polish it and ‘out shot another genie’. That was me. I said that they had set me ‘free after centuries’ and that I would be their servant. Things went pretty well after that for Aladdin and he married a beautiful princess. King Henry was jealous of Aladdin having a genie and even though he was already wealthy, he ordered Aladdin to give me to him but he refused. *Dress suggestions:* Wear middle eastern clothes (eg baggy trousers) and a turban. You may like to carry the lamp in which you live.

**Book:** *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

**Huck Finn** – I’m a good boy – honest. Me Pap – he kidnapped me and kept me in a cabin. I escaped. But before I left, I killed me a pig and made it look like I’d been murdered. Then I hid on Jackson Island, but I found out I wasn’t alone – Miss Watson’s, Jim, had run away. So we floated down the river on a raft at night and slept and fished all day. I got separated from Jim and I stayed with a family that was feuding with them neighbors. But Jim found me and we escaped from them thank God. Then we got mixed up with some con artists – the Duke and the King we called ‘em cause they pretended to be royals so we’d wait on them. *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a country bumpkin with bits of hay sticking out of your clothes and a beaten up old hat. Wear old rags, possibly made out of bags.

**Tom Sawyer** – Then Huck got mixed up with some con artists – “the Duke and the King” Huck called ‘em cause they pretended to be royals so they’d wait on them. But King Henry was a worse King than the one in Huck’s book. “He used to marry a new wife every day, and chop off her head next morning. And he would do it just liken he was ordering eggs.” “Fetch up Nell Glynn”, he says. They fetch her up. Next morning, “Chop off her head!” And they chop it off. “Fetch up Jane...” and so on. Huck’s kings were regular ‘rapsallions’, but King Henry, why he was a plain villain. He kept trying to latch on to me and Huck, said we could be his sons, but we wouldn’t have a bar of it, would we Huck? *Dress suggestions:* Dress as a country bumpkin with bits of hay sticking out of your clothes and a beaten up old hat.

**Book:** *Frankenstein* by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

**Dr Frankenstein** – Many know how I gathered various body parts from graveyards and the like. It is true that I was foolish in my quest to create a living being. I remember the night when my creature came to life: “I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature open; it breathed hard, and a convulsive motion agitated its limbs”. *Dress suggestions:* Old-fashioned period clothes. Don a laboratory coat and some strange tools.

**The Monster** – even though Frankenstein had spent so much time and effort creating me, he found me so horrible, he ran in revolt. I reeked of the dead that had been used to create me. I met King Henry in the library. It was by no means a pleasure. King Henry was not a civilized man. In all of my interactions with him, I found him detestable. Almost as detestable as people found me the monster. *Dress suggestions:* Wear clothes that look stitched together and draw some stitches on your brow.

**Book:** *Pinocchio* by Carlo Lorenzini – penname Carlo Collodi retold by James Riordan

**Pinocchio** – When I was a puppet I lied a lot, but the Good Fairy taught me not to and to be good. ‘How stupid I was as a puppet. And how glad I am to be a real live boy.’ When I lied my nose became so long I ‘could not move without banging it against the walls or door.’ Geppetto sold his coat to buy me a spelling book for school. I sold it to go to the puppet theatre. Then I saved a puppet from being burnt by the showman and the showman gave me coins for my father. *Dress suggestions:* A red jacket with a white frill-necked shirt. Make a pencil nose out of cardboard.

**Geppetto** – A fox and a cat told Pinocchio he could multiply his money in “The Field of Miracles”. A bird and the ghost of the cricket tried to warn him not to. The evil fox and cat hung him in a tree to die, but the Good Fairy saved him. But Pinocchio still let them fool him into burying his money so it would grow. So they stole it. Later Pinocchio becomes a donkey and ends up rescuing me from the belly of a whale with the help of the Good Fairy. King Henry thought that Pinocchio was a silly puppet and he tried to fool him into being his slave. But the Good Fairy warned Pinocchio that he was an evil man. *Dress suggestions:* Old-fashioned clothes. Wear a workman’s apron with a few tools poking out of pockets. You may also smell fishy because of your time in the belly of a whale. © copyright Acture Pty Ltd 2004 P 5 of 5

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<h1>Master Sherlock Holmes</h1>
<h1>Alice</h1>
<h1>Mad Hatter</h1>

Cinderella

Fairy  
Godmother

Snow  
White

The Queen

Dorothy

Wicked Witch

Little Red  
Riding Hood

The  
Grandmother

Goldilocks

Baby Bear

Aladdin

The Genie

Huck Finn

Tom Sawyer

Dr Frankenstein

**The Monster**

**Pinocchio**

**Geppetto**

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

**'Mystery in the Library'**

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the clues for:*

*Master  
Sherlock Holmes*

## Master Sherlock Holmes - Act One

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During this act you must take turns in asking the other characters these questions:

<b>Alice</b>	Did King Henry treat you badly child?
<b>Cinderella</b>	You do look a bit distraught Cinderella. I can well understand that it was no fun being chased by the King Henry. Someone please give the lady a handkerchief if you would be so kind, so she can wipe her brow. How did you stop the King from stealing your slippers?
<b>Snow White</b>	Why did you turn down the King's marriage proposal?
<b>Dorothy</b>	What did you do when King Henry told you to go and play?
<b>Little Red Riding Hood</b>	Before your incident with the wolf, I heard you were a very fearless little girl?
<b>Goldilocks</b>	What did King Henry do when he found you in his chair?
<b>Aladdin</b>	So you refused to give the King your genie. How did he take that news?
<b>Huck Finn</b>	So the King wanted you as a son did he? Didn't he know what a rascal you are?
<b>Dr Frankenstein</b>	How did you get on with the King?
<b>Pinocchio</b>	So how did you stop King Henry from making you his slave?

## Master Sherlock Holmes - Act Two

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During this act you must take turns in asking the other characters these questions:

<b>Alice</b>	Surely a sweet young girl like you wasn't involved in a crime like this?
<b>Cinderella</b>	The King had threatened you. What did you do then?
<b>Snow White</b>	Did you work on your plan with Cinderella?
<b>Dorothy</b>	What did the King do next to get the slippers?
<b>Little Red Riding Hood</b>	Do you think King Henry was trying to trick you?
<b>Goldilocks</b>	So did you get to put your plan into action?
<b>Aladdin</b>	So why did you let yourself be robbed of the lamp when Alice had warned you?
<b>Huck Finn</b>	And what did King Henry want you to do for him?
<b>Dr Frankenstein</b>	And how did you stop the King from annoying you?
<b>Pinocchio</b>	So did you get to turn King Henry into a donkey?



## Master Sherlock Holmes - Act Three

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During this act you must take turns in asking the other characters these questions:

<b>Alice</b>	And how did you plan to trick King Henry?
<b>Cinderella</b>	Why did your fairy God-mother desert you in your hour of need?
<b>Snow White</b>	So you gave the King a poisoned toothpick?
<b>Dorothy</b>	And what happened on the night of the King's departure?
<b>Little Red Riding Hood</b>	Did the King annoy you enough to make you want to remove him from the library?
<b>Goldilocks</b>	The librarian must not like your shelf clearing process.
<b>Aladdin</b>	So did you banish King Henry to a dungeon?
<b>Huck Finn</b>	So did Aladdin's genie fulfill your wish and lock up King Henry in a dungeon?
<b>Dr Frankenstein</b>	So what happened when you met the King to show him what you had made?
<b>Pinocchio</b>	How come we haven't found a donkey in place of the King?

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

## **'Mystery in the Library'**

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the clues for:*

*Alice  
(and The Mad  
Hatter)*

## Alice (& The Mad Hatter) - Act One

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During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 At night, I liked to skip around the library, singing tunes to amuse myself. The King said I gave him a headache.
- 2 I told him not to be angry about it. I offered to show him some of the comic books. I was sure they would make him smile.
- 3 To this he replied gruffly, that Kings had more important things to think about than comic books.
- 4 **Mad Hatter:** Huck, Tom, Alice and I often team up for a game of hide and seek around the library. Don't we Huck? It's lots of fun.
- 5 One time Alice was hiding and the King came along with Huck when the King caught sight of her. Alice had forgotten that she'd come out of our book when she was 'nine feet high' and hiding wasn't easy.
- 6 King Henry called Alice a spy and pulled her pig tails till she cried. She was still 'nine feet tall'. Thankfully Huck stopped her in time so that her tears didn't cause any flood damage.

## Alice (& The Mad Hatter) - Act Two

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During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 When people are found guilty in court they are locked away. But King Henry wasn't a real person any more, just a book character, so he couldn't be dealt with by a court.
- 2 I decided to take the matter into my own hands, but I didn't go around shouting 'Off with his head' or anything silly like the Queen of Hearts. I'm more clever than that.
- 3 I knew I had to get King Henry to like me so that I could perform my trick on him. So I went up to him and apologized for hiding while he was talking.
- 4 **Mad Hatter:** Alice said she was going to make it up to him by polishing his boots. The King liked this and he would chat with her while she polished.
- 5 He told her that Aladdin was a selfish man and that he was going to teach him a lesson.
- 6 Aladdin had always been very kind to us, so we didn't want him to be hurt, so later we told you, didn't we Aladdin, of what the King had said?

## Alice (& The Mad Hatter) - Act Three

During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 I decided to get him to experience the same kind of thing that happened to me in Wonderland. So I came out of my book while I was still holding the bottle labeled 'Drink Me'.
- 2 The King asked me what it was. I told him it was a delicious drink that tasted sort of like 'cherry-tart, custard, pineapple, roast turkey, toffee, and hot buttered toast.'
- 3 I didn't tell him that if he drank it he would become so small we would be able to squash him.
- 4 **Mad Hatter:** Alice told him that if you drink it all quickly in one go, it makes you feel very light-headed. It doesn't really, but that's what Alice told him because she thought it would be even more attractive to him.
- 5 He told Alice that as she is only a little girl, she shouldn't be drinking such drinks and he took the bottle off her.
- 6 He drank the bottle all down in one go and then... No. I'm not saying any more.

*Merri Mysteries presents...*

## **'Mystery in the Library'**

*by Stephanie Chambers*

*These are the clues for:*

# *Cinderella (and her Fairy Godmother)*

## Cinderella (& Fairy Godmother) - Act One

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During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 It was not always easy to avoid his advances. I ran away as quickly as I could. He, being portly, was not very fit and he never caught up with me.
- 2 If by chance he caught hold of me before I ran, I yelled and Aladdin would come to my assistance. You are a wonderful friend, aren't you Aladdin?
- 3 On other occasions, my tears would bring my Fairy Godmother to my aid.
- 4 **Fairy Godmother:** The King said if Cinderella continued to avoid him, he would see to it that she would be made to clean and scrub the library floors.
- 5 The memories of toiling endlessly for her step-mothers and step-sisters made this threat of his cause her to weep.
- 6 He left us both so distraught that when we returned to our book, the other characters kept asking us if we were ill.

## Cinderella (& Fairy Godmother) - Act Two

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During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 My Fairy Godmother and I conversed in secret and I warned her of his wrath towards her.
- 2 You reassured me, didn't you Fairy Godmother, that we would win over the King any day? You gave me a little bell to ring wherever I needed your assistance with the King.
- 3 One night, the King crept up behind me and grabbed my glass slipper.
- 4 **Fairy Godmother:** Cinderella rang the bell and I came. I told him to let go of her slipper. He said he'd break it.
- 5 Then I disappeared. Cinderella was very alarmed because she knew King Henry couldn't be trusted. She rang her bell, but no one came. Why didn't you come Aladdin?
- 6 Cinderella bit King Henry's ear. Then she disappeared into the safety of our book.
- 7 Cinderella knew that if she simply locked him up or hurt him, he would vanish back into his book at dawn and he would be his usual self the next night. We book characters are a bit like Cinderella's pumpkin, except we vanish at dawn rather than midnight.

## **Cinderella (& Fairy Godmother) - Act Three**

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During this act, you must reveal the following points after Sherlock Holmes asks you a question:

- 1 She apologized to me later. She said that because she had created the glass slipper by her magic, if he destroyed it, he would destroy her.
- 2 You said, didn't you Fairy Godmother, that you were afraid the King now knew your weakness so you said you couldn't help me in the library any more.
- 3 The children's section of the library is pretty quiet during the week as most kids are at school.
- 4 **Fairy Godmother:** Cinderella decided to try visiting the library during the daytime instead of at night. But she found it not so good as you have to keep avoiding being seen by the real people.
- 5 She wanted to learn more about King Henry, so she did a search on the computer and found that he was mentioned in three books on English history and in one Encyclopedia section. Going to the library during the day gave Cinderella an idea of how to rid the library of King Henry.
- 6 When we come to the library each night, the last person to leave turns out the lights. You said you did this, Mr Holmes, as you were the last.