3 cases-3 murders-1 team

A deductive crime game for 1 to 6 players aged 14 and over



#### Here's what's inside:

- 3 case files
- 3 cases, each comprising 27 cards
  - Case 1 "The Mysterious Death of Mrs. Smith" (24 witness statements and 3 items of evidence)
  - Case 2 "The Author's Brother" (21 witness statements and 6 items of evidence)
  - Case 3 "The Cabin" (24 witness statements and 3 items of evidence)
- 3 final report files with solutions



# What's the game all about?

What on earth happened?! A wild night. A lifeless writer. And Mrs. Smith's talkative parrot. You're the first investigators on the scene of a mysterious crime. Three exciting cases wait to be solved. Use the witness statements and evidence to work out exactly what happened. Can you answer all of the questions and reconstruct the course of events? And if so, how many cards do you need for this?

# How to set up the game:

Take all of the playing materials out of the box.

Select one of the three cases and take the appropriate deck of cards, the corresponding case file and the final report file for this. You can distinguish between each case by the title. You're not allowed to look at the playing materials yet though! Lay the final report file aside for now. Be sure not to open it until you've completed your investigation!

Return the other two decks of cards and their case and final report files to the box.

Shuffle the case cards and lay them out on the table turned face down and overlapping as shown below. There should be six rows in total. Start with the top row and lay out five cards. This is followed by a second row comprising four cards. Make sure that the bottom corners of the first row are covered by the top corners of the second row. Lay out rows three through six in the same way.



## How to play:

You're one team and investigate together. First, read the case file out loud. It includes four questions about the investigation. Your goal is to be able to answer at least three of these questions correctly at the end of the game. If you succeed, then you've solved the case and won the game. You can read the case file as often as you wish.

As the game progresses, you'll gradually uncover the cards featuring the witness statements (red, yellow, green, blue) and items of evidence (black). You'll receive information about the course of events and the background to the crime. Put all these clues together to answer the four questions. The fewer cards you have to turn over, the higher your final score will be.

#### How to proceed:

- Start with the bottom row and decide together whether you want to take a witness statement or an item of evidence. Take the card from the row and turn it over. Read the text out loud (witness statement) or take a look at the picture (evidence). Place the card in front of you, turned face up.
- You may only take cards that are accessible during the game, so the bottom corners of the card can't be covered by another card.
- You can look at the witness statements and items of evidence for as long as you like.
- Confer on the witness statements and items of evidence. Keep the questions you have to answer in mind. Can you answer them one by one, or do you need more information? Then turn over the next card.

Only a maximum of three cards may be turned face up in front of you at any one time during your game.

Do you already have three cards turned face up in front of you and want to turn over another? Then choose one of the three cards to return to the box (turn it face down). You can no longer look at this card but can turn over a new card in its place.

*Tip:* You're not allowed to take notes, so be sure to keep track of what's on the cards!

**Solo play variation:** Want to practice your detective skills all on your own? No problem! You can also play the game without a team. It works in exactly the same way. Turn over cards and attempt to reconstruct the case and to answer the four questions.

# End of the investigation:

Think you can answer at least three questions? Then you can complete your investigation at any time. It doesn't matter how many cards are still turned face down.

Now take the final report file and read it out loud. You'll now learn how the crime came about. Check how many questions you answered correctly. There are now several possibilities:

- Did you answer at least three of the questions correctly? Congratulations! You've solved the case. Check the points table to see how well you did.
- Oid you answer at least two of the questions incorrectly? Then unfortunately you didn't solve the case.

### Final scoring:

How good were you? Count the cards that are still turned face down in the grid.

The fewer cards you had to turn over, the higher your final score will be.

Top investigators	10 or more cards left	Excellent work. Hats off to you!
Super- detectives	6-9 cards left	Great job! That'll be a tough act to follow!
Small-town cops	3-5 cards left	That was some good sleuthing. There's still a little room for improvement though.
Amateur commission- ers	1-2 cards left	A little more practice wouldn't hurt. You did manage to solve the case though!

**Example:** Tobias, Mariya, and Niki have completed their investigation and answered at least three questions correctly. Eight cards are still turned face down in the grid, meaning they're super detectives.

Author: Mathias Spaan Illustrations: Folko Streese Graphics/design: Kreativbunker Editor: Magdalena Smaha Proofreading: Elke Vogel

Proofreading: Elke Vogel Translation: Birgit Irgang Production: Claire Deutsch

Article no.: 90142

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The author and moses. Verlag would like to thank all of the test players from Kempen, Düsseldorf, Bochum, and Hamburg.