## Coach's Instructions for...



## Game overview

Teams are trying to figure out which book, out of 26 total, describes the criminal's next crime. They eliminate books from suspicion by finding clue words. They're looking for 25 words. They are given 1 word at the start. The 4 yellow envelopes result in 6 words each. That leaves a single book as the final answer.

## Envelope 1

- This round uses author names.
- Form 6 book loops that link last names with first names.
- Clue words are spelled out words by reading the first letters of book titles.
- Answers: WINE, HORN, MOON, PIPE, QUEEN, STORM


## Envelope 2

- This round still uses author names.
- Teams place bookstore cards ON TOP of existing loops, spanning two covers
- The first letters of the store names spell out 6 more words.
- Answers: GURU, PONG, BLED, TRACK, DANCE, JAVA


## Envelope 3

- Each grocer uses cover art via a different mechanism.
- Connect each cover with a different grocery item.
- The item quantities index into the book titles to reveal a letter.
- Answers: PLANET, MATCH, HAT, ZAP, SMOKE, XCIX


## Envelope 4

- This round uses titles.
- Each shelf title card clues how the plots match up with titles on that shelf.
- The shelf cards have a collection of symbols at the bottom. Match up like symbols and read the dropcaps from top to bottom to reveal the words.
- Answers: HEART, HIVE, TRIO, SAFE, EIGHT, SEWN


## Envelope 5

- Use all 25 clue words to get a final punchline.


## Your job

## Confirm each step

Each time a team solves a memo, confirm that they have the right 6 words. (See previous page.) Then, tell them to open the next envelope in the stack.

## Give hints

Stock hints are given in the following pages. You can also confirm when a team asks if something is right.

## General purpose hints

These are good hints to use if a team is stuck.

## "Tell me what you know."

"READ EVERYTHING. Almost every word and design is important."
"Show it to a teammate."
"You don't need to guess. The solutions will be obvious."

## Hints

1. Sort by name and look for a message.
2. (Once they get the message) That last name SMALL links to the first name BIGALOW.
3. You're looking for opposites. Small with Big. Yes with No. Dry with Wet.
4. Use the first letters of the titles to find a word.
5. Fix any mis-matched pairs.

## In envelope

- Memo 1
- 26 book covers


## How it works

1. Put books in alphabetical order by last name and read the middle initials.
2. Get the message LINK EACH LAST NAME WITH A FIRST.
3. Link last names with first names based on embedded words.
a. e.g. XYLAND matches with SKLYER because LAND is the opposite of SKY.
4. Make chains of covers out of linked names. The last name of the last book links with the first name of the first book, thus making a loop.
5. Use first letters to extract the clue word.

## Possible problems

- The chains are arranged backwards.
- "Put last names next to the first names that match. Don't stack covers."
- They make pairs of covers, not chains
- "You'll need 6 loops, not 13, so it can't be pairs."
- The first letters don't spell a word, because the loop is starting in the wrong spot.
- "Try starting from a different letter."


## Envelope 1 Answers

| w | 1 | N | E |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WEEPY MEDICNE | Irrevocable Balls | * | EXTREME FRI |
| TOPHIER R. RISCOOD | evilyn t. laenear | NO HONEY IN WINTER | indial. ironbottom |
| TOPHER | EVILYN | FARRAH | INDIA |
| ELSGOOD | LAENEAR | Grout | IRONBOTTOM |





Q
U
E
E
N


## Hints

1. Use the connections from part 1.
2. What do you notice about each bookstore name?
3. (Walk them through whatever they've missed.)

## In envelope

- Memo 2
- 26 bookstore business cards


## How it works

1. Teams keep books in chains from step 1.
2. Connect slogans from bookstores to a pair of words from step 1.
3. Teams use the first letter of the bookstore name, in order, to extract new words from the chains.

## Example

## 国目 PAGES OF <br> POTENTIAL

Ground yourself with books from the heavens.

Reason: GROUND \& HEAVENS match LAND \& SKY
Match: ROSE T. XYLAND \& SKYLER R. VAPOOR
Letter extracted: P (Pages of Potential)

## Possible problems

- Players immediately disassemble loops.
- "Create those loops again."
- Players have a hard time finding words from extracted first letter.
- "Search for letters that stick out."


## Envelope 2 Answers

Note: For this round, each business card is meant to straddle two books. That is hard to represent in a digital table like the one below, so instead: each answer (e.g. a Bookstore name and its tagline) represents the connection between the cover above it and the cover to its right.
Example: Pages of Potential connects Hold 'Em High and Oxygen Meets Gold, i.e. XyLAND with SKYler



| J | A | V | A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| My Favorite Colors <br> WALKRRI. WOLPRON | OBSTINAT EXISTENCE | ONE CIIMPIOX INAFAMINE <br> LIVEA K. DELL'AUGH |  |
| Julian's Journals | Awesome Accounts | Vlad's Volumes | Affordable Antiquaries |
| Books for the sender or the receiver. | Books for those who perish or thrive. | Comedies and dramas. | For a race to finish or an idle stroll. |
| FROM-TO | DIE-LIVE | LAUGH - CRY | RUN - WALK |


| T | R | A | C | K |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Quick Memory for Nude Ellie <br> DIMITRI A. UMMIN | UNDER OZ, LOW AND DEEP <br> MAXINE E. PLAME | Effective Textiles <br> COOLEY N. MCKNIGHT | Evil <br> Broke <br> Soul <br> dayvons. Yellos: | Next of Kin $\qquad$ ALBRIGHT |
| Tantalizing Texts | Raul's Readings | Amazing Articles | Careful Collections | Kind Knowledge |
| The least possible effort for the most possible good. | Whether you're unhip or chic. | Books for any hour. | Books are for everyone, triumphant or defeated. | Focusing a spotlight on an unlit world |
| MIN - MAX | LAME-COOL | NIGHT - DAY | LOSE - WIN | BRIGHT - DIM |



## Hints

1. Each grocer's name is a clue about how it works.
a. Double Bagged: specializes in pairs of letters
b. Grosser: should be read aloud
c. Headless: they cut off just the head.
d. Another Way: items can mean a different thing
e. Some Kind: items have lots of types
f. Closer: items that rhyme
2. Use the numbers to count into the titles.

## In envelope

- Memo 3
- 6 grocery lists


## How it Works

- Each grocer has a mechanism to match ingredients to COVER ART.
- Match each cover with a grocery item.
- Extract the Nth letter from the grocery item, where $N=$ number of item.


## Example



For this Grocer, SALSA (the food)

## Envelope 3 Answers

## The Headless Grocer

Remove the first letter to match ingredients to cover art.

| Amt. | Item | Without "head" | Book | Letter |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 5 | Wheat | Heat | Only Zombies Love Prog <br> Rock | Z |
| 4 | Clove | Love | My Favorite Colors | A |
| 4 | Grain | Rain | Weepy Medicine | P |

## The Doubled Bagged Grocer

Double letter in item name = alliterative art on cover.

| Amt. | Item | Alliteration | Book | Letter |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 4 | Carrot | Rail road | Roam and Slay | M |
| $\mathbf{1 1}$ | Apples (or courgettes) | Table Tennis | Under Oz, Low and Deep | A |
| 4 | Beets | Electric Eel | Next of Kin | T |
| 5 | Molasses | Solar System | Exotic Journey In Space | C |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | Mayonnaise | Ninety Nine | The 99 Club | H |

## Another Way Grocer

Words with double meanings.

| Amount | Item | Double Meaning | Book | Letter |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 1 | Salsa | Salsa dancer | Slightly Outside Seattle | S |
| 6 | Buns | Butt cheeks | Quick Melody For Nude Ellie | M |
| 2 | Sage | Sage (wise person) | Power in Air | O |
| 8 | Half \& Half | Yin-yang | Evil Broke Soul | K |
| 5 | Toast | Clinking glasses | Oxygen Meets Gold | E |

The Grosser Grocer
Homophones

| Amt. | Item | Homophones | Book | Letter |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 7 | Pear | Pair of cards | Hold ‘Em High | H |
| 2 | Leek | Pipe | Massive Drops of Pain | A |
| 4 | Thyme | Clock | Post Hoc, Denied | T |

## Some Kind of Grocer

Types of Items

| Amt. | Item | Type of Item | Book | Letter |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 12 | Mushrooms | Buttons | Effective Textiles | X |
| 9 | Beans | Coffee | Into Basic Mayhem | C |
| 6 | Pasta | Bowtie | Nearsightedness | I |
| 2 | Orange | Blood drops | Extreme Fruit | X |

## The Closer Grocer

Rhymes

| Amt. | Item | Rhyme | Books | Letter |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 8 | Rice | Mice | One Champion in a Famine | P |
| 10 | Shark oil | Gargoyle | Never in Hell | L |
| 8 | Oat | Goat | Irrevocable Balls | A |
| 1 | Peas | Bees | No Honey In Winter | N |
| 2 | Salt | Vault | Remember the Strings | E |
| 4 | Mint | Fingerprint | Obstinate Existence | T |

## Hints

1. Focus on just the titles.
a. Shelf 1 : Look at the last word in each title.
b. Shelf 2: What do the titles have in common?
c. Shelf 3 : Categories of things
d. Shelf 4: Read the starts of sentences.
e. Shelf 5: Find plots that mention something geographical.
f. Shelf 6: Typos
2. Here's a hint for one plot on each shelf
a. Shelf 1. Look for: spades, hearts, diamonds
b. Shelf 2. IRL, BFF, TBH
c. Shelf 3. red, green, black, silver
d. Shelf 4. Has... to... Don... Glasses
e. Shelf 5. Czech
f. Shelf 6. the word "prieless"
3. (Give them an answer for a shelf they need help with.)

## In envelope

- Memo 4
- 26 plot cards


## How it works

- Organize the books to match the layout of the shelf poster, as indicated on memo.
- Match each plot with a book TITLE.
- Each shelf uses a different matching mechanism, clued by the shelf name.
- Once all plots are matched to a book, use the 6 shapes on the title cards to spell 6 words, from the drop caps on the corresponding books.


## Possible problems

- Players are taking the plots literally
- "None of the plots are literal."
- Players believe typos are actual typos
- "There's something more to it."


## Example:

- Clue: "An Unfinished Set"
- Plot: High heels with inlaid diamonds remain missing after all but one in a priceless collection of shoes are destroyed. The owners' hearts are broken, and everyone in their circle has motives in spades. There's only one clue: a mysterious footprint.
- Matching Title: The 99 Club
- Reason: The plot mentions spades, diamonds and hearts. It's missing clubs. THE 99 CLUB has "club" in it, thus completing the set of card suits mentioned in the plot.


## Envelope 4 matchups

## 1: An Unfinished Set

Every plot has all but one of a set.

| Book | Group | Missing |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| The Ninety Nine Club | Diamonds, Hearts, Spades | Club |
| Power in Air | Fire, Earth, Water | Air |
| One Champion in a Famine | War, Death, Pestilence | Famine |
| No Honey In Winter | Spring Summer Fall | Winter |
| Remember the Strings | Winds, Brass, Percussion | Strings |

## 2: Letters of the C.I.A.

The first letters of the titles on this shelf spell a well-known acronym. The plots feature words related to that acronym.

| Book | Clue Words | Acronym |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Into Basic Mayhem | Dell, Apple, Acer, Intel | I. B. M. |
| Oxygen Meets Gold | IRL, BFF, OMG, DIY, NP, ASAP, TBH | O. M. G. |
| Suddenly Outside Seattle | "Taps out an urgent call for help on the telegraph." | S. O. S. |
| Post Hoc, Denied | Philosophy, professor, class, fellowship, tenure, doctorates | P. H. D. |

## 3: Many of a Kind

The titles feature a category, and the plots contain items in that category.

| Book | Category | Items in category |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| My Favorite Colors | Color | Red, green, black, silver |
| Irrevocable Balls | Balls | Tennis, Lucille, crystal, bread, cricket |
| Weepy Medicine | Medicine | Antacid, painkiller, stimulant, injects, sugar |
| Extreme Fruit | Fruit | Cherries, date, orange, banana, Kiwi, plum(b) |

## 4: The Sentences Begin

The plots for these each have four sentences. The first words of the sentences make a clue for one of the words in the title.

| Book | First word of each sentence |
| :--- | :--- |
| Nearsightedness | Has. To. Don. Glasses. |
|  |  |
| Exotic Journey In Space | All. Aboard. The. Rocket. |
| Next of Kin | First. Relative. To. Know. |
| Night in Hell | Every. Sinner. Is. Here. |

## 5: City Sounds

These titles each have a homophone of a world capital. The plot features the capital's country.

| Book | Country | Capital | Homophone |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Only Zombies Love Prog Rock | Check | Prague | Prog |
| Roam and Slay | Italian | Rome | Roam |
| Under Oz, Low and Deep | Norwegian | Oslo | Oz, Low |
| Quick Melody for Nude Ellie | Indian | New Delhi | Nude Ellie |
| Evil Broke Soul | South Korean | Seoul | Soul |

## 6: Improper Spells

Each plot has several missing letters. The missing letters spell a word that is a synonym of one of the words in the title.

| Book | Missing letters |
| :--- | :--- |
| Effective Textiles | C L O T H |
| Obstinate Existence | L I F E |
| Hold 'Em High | T A L L |
| Massive Drops of Pain | H U R T |

## Envelope 4 answers

Each shelf card has 4 or 5 shapes along the bottom, which correspond to the books on that shelf, in order (e.g. the leftmost shape corresponds to the leftmost book on its shelf, etc.)
E.g. for the Many of a Kind shelf:

- PENTAGON: "Indigo the donut..."
- SQUARE: "At Passover..."
- TRIANGLE: "It's a risky..."
- CIRCLE: "Generations ago..."

Each shape corresponds to a clue word. For each shape, read the 4 or 5 capital letters that correspond to that shape, reading from top shelf to bottom shelf. Not all shapes are present on all shelves.

## Square shape example = SAFE

- Shelf 1: "Stem cell" $\square \mathbf{S}$
- Shelf $2: \mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$
- Shelf 3: "At Passover" $\rightarrow \mathbf{A}$
- Shelf 4: "First Lady" $\quad \rightarrow$ F
- Shelf 5: n/a
- Shelf 6: "Esteemed" $\rightarrow$ E


## Clue words for each shape

| Shape: | Star | Diamond | Circle | Square | Pentagon | Triangle |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Word: | HEART | SEWN | EIGHT | SAFE | TRIO | HIVE |



## Envelope 5

The text hints to use the $\mathbf{2 5}$ clue words and the given table of contents to find the final message.

## Solution

The first letters of the words in each chapter title can be anagrammed to one of the 25 clue words plus an extra letter. (e.g. Xenology And Xenobiology In Callais = XCIX + A.) Those extra letters, in order, spell the final answer: THEY WILL THROW THE BOOKS AT ME.

