



# The Gangsters Weekly News

A Family Owned Publication for over 10 years!

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## Announcing the Grand Opening of the Four Deuces

Don Wannabe and his wife, MeMe, are hosting the event of the season. The Grand Opening of the Four Deuces speakeasy is to take place tomorrow night. It will be an exciting night for all!

An inside source has confirmed that the crème de la crème of "The Family" will be attending this extravagant event. We expect stringent security measures to be in place at such a large event. Orders are that no packing of heat is allowed.

New York Capo, 'Toto' Tequila, is rumored to be in town. Could the Boss of Bosses be attending the Grand Opening? Everyone is wondering what occasion would warrant such a visit.

### Gangland Slaying:

Last night around 11:30 PM, a gangland style murder took place under the South Side Bridge.

Among the deceased were:  
Jonathan 'The Joker' Julseppi  
Harry 'The Hammer' Hambini  
Sam 'The Squeeze' Senelli

Word on the street is that they were members of The Black Hand Gang. "Big Jim" Ravioli was quoted as saying, "The Family would like to extend their sincere condolences on your tragic loss. It is our hope that other members of this outfit will take the necessary precautions to remain safe."

## ❖ The Gangster Grapevine ❖

Don "Big Jim" Ravioli has stated that he has an important announcement to make during the Grand Opening of The Four Deuces.

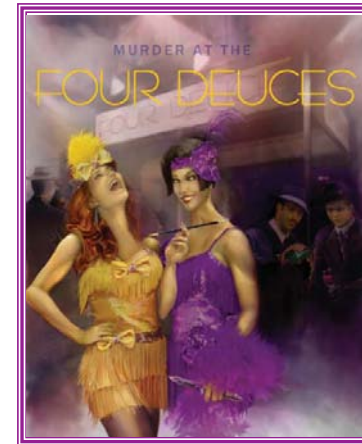
Rebecca Ravioli has been telling people that she is going to marry Rhett Bumbler. We have our doubts that Big Jim would allow this marriage.

Last week, Don "Big Jim" Ravioli married 19-year-old singer, Carrie Crooner. Big Jim's ex-wife, Vicky, did not seem to grieve much over their divorce. We have heard she received a big divorce settlement and that she now has a secret beau.

*"The Gossip"*



# Lucky Lucy



*Don Wannabe is hosting a Grand Opening celebration for his lavish new club, The Four Deuces, and you are Cordially Invited to Attend. With gangsters, hit men, politicians, a jazz singer and many other interesting guests in attendance, there are sure to be a lot of big deals being made here tonight.*

Written by Mary Lee - Artwork by Darryl Taylor

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## ***Player Guide***

In this booklet is information you will need to participate in our Murder Mystery Event. Everything will be perfectly executed... including some of the guests! You have been assigned a character by the host, who has taken great efforts to insure that the game will go smoothly. If you will not be able to attend the game, contact the host immediately! Your character may have information vital to the solution of the mystery, in which case the host will need to reassign your character.

### **CHARACTER BACKGROUND**

Your Character's Background has most of the information you will need to play your character. It will give you a general background on your character. You may have instructions to do something at the beginning of the evening. Do this as soon as possible as it needs to be accomplished before the murder can take place! Use the background as a foundation for your character & feel free to introduce new information or stories about your character.

Upon arriving, you will receive a nametag, game money and any other props your character may require. Later you will receive a Confidential Booklet with lots of secrets and instructions. Call it ammunition if you will!

Any information that would incriminate or embarrass your character should be kept secret for as long as possible. Other information, however, should be used in whatever way you deem most beneficial to you. Bribery and extortion are encouraged. Use the knowledge you have, as you can be sure others will use their information against you!

Please remember that murder mystery games are just that - a game. People won't necessarily be behaving in ways you expect. They will be playing characters with their own secret backgrounds and agendas. Somebody will probably be working against you, others may have been told to snub you, or have been told lies about your character. Someone may seem to be really obnoxious and rude. Most likely, this is just the character they are playing, so please keep this in mind at all times. Don't take anything personally - it's only a game!

**Donna Wannabe** is Don Wannabe's little sister. Donna has become quite popular with the movie picture actors. She was secretly seeing Big Jim on and off for the last few years. Lately, she has been seen making a play for Rhett Bumbler's attention. Some speculate that she has always been jealous of the attention Big Jim lathered on his daughter, and this is her way of getting back at her.

**Al Capone** was brought from New York by Don Wannabe to work in his club. While his job title is bouncer, everyone knows that he is really just a hit man for the Family.

**U.S. Congressman Darrin Toosteal** - Some say Darrin's rise to fame was a result of his close friendship with Don Big Jim Ravioli. He could very possibly become the next President of the United States. You have to wonder how he could hope to become the next president, when it is well known that he has such a close affiliation with a man of Big Jim's reputation.

**Sly Sleaze** runs the horse race ring for Don Big Jim Ravioli. He made an agreement with the new Telegraph Company to be the only person able to receive the live horse race results immediately in the Chicago area. He then sells these results to local bookies for half of their take. In exchange for all his work, the Don gives him 5% of the earnings. Some say he is not happy with this percentage and feels that he deserves a full partnership in the venture. He and Rebecca Ravioli have been good friends for years.

**Vanessa Crooner** is the mother of Carrie, "Big Jim" Ravioli's new wife. She chaperoned Carrie and Big Jim everywhere they went before the marriage. She does not approve of Big Jim. After they were married, she moved into the new house with them just to make sure that Big Jim treats her baby right.

**Mary Toosteal** is the wife of U.S. Congressman Darrin Toosteal. Mary is the perfect political wife. Elegant, dignified, and she turns a blind eye to her husband's escapades. She comes from old money and powerful connections.

**Mayor "Big Bill" Bumpkin** is the Mayor of Chicago. He is friendly and honest, which is why people do not believe the rumor that city funds have been vanishing. He and Don "Big Jim" Ravioli have been good friends for many years.

**Cash Steal** - No one knows anything about this man. Not why he is here or where he comes from.

**Cassandra Steal** is the wife of Cash Steal.

**Jack "Greasy Thumbs" Guiseppi** is Don "Big Jim" Ravioli's accountant.

**Gilda Guiseppi** is the wife of Jack Guiseppi.

# Guest List

*Some guests on this list may not attend, or we may have guests attend that are not shown here*

**Don Wannabe** is Don "Big Jim" Ravioli's Chief Lieutenant. When he met his wife, MeMe, it was love at first sight. MeMe is known to be a very successful matchmaker.

**MeMe Wannabe** is very successful matchmaker who has been married to Don Wannabe for fifteen years. With their combined head for business, they have amassed a fortune. Tonight, they open their newest venture, The Four Deuces.

**Capo "Toto" Tequila** is the self-proclaimed Boss of Bosses. He will be visiting us from New York. Speculation is running rampant on why he is coming here tonight. When it involves the Capo, it just has to be something big.

**Don "Big Jim" Ravioli** is the well-known father of the Chicago mob or "The Family". The Don just recently divorced Vicky, his wife of twenty years, to marry the much younger Carrie Crooner. They have only been married for a week.

**Carrie Crooner-Ravioli** was a jazz singer in one of Big Jim's clubs when he fell in love with her. He divorced his wife Vickie to marry her. She is attending tonight to do a special performance. People speculate that she only married Big Jim so that she could use his connections to be discovered as the star she is.

**Vicky Ravioli** is the ex-wife of Don "Big Jim" Ravioli. While she is older than he is, she was still surprised when he demanded a divorce to marry that tart, Carrie Crooner. When the divorce came through on March 20<sup>th</sup>, Vicky was overheard saying, "I raised my husband from a boy to a man for another woman". She received a \$50,000 settlement from the divorce.

**Rebecca Ravioli** is the daughter of Big Jim and Vicky Ravioli. Rebecca has been telling everyone that she is engaged to marry Rhett Bumbler. Her father refuses to allow the marriage.

**Rhett Bumbler** is a gambler who blew into town six months ago. No one knows much about him, except that he is not very good at cards or dice. His attempts to cheat are so laughable that most people tend to overlook it. What could Rebecca see in him? Big Jim would never tolerate this buffoon as a son-in-law.

**Baroness Ravioli** is the mother of Don "Big Jim" Ravioli. Of course, she is not a real Baroness, but being the Don's mother does tend to keep people from saying any different. The Baroness loves to wear tiaras and lord it over anyone she considers 'beneath' her, which happens to be most people.

**Inspector Neville "The Nose" Nutella** will be attending the function to investigate the murder of the Black Hand Gang two nights ago.

## PLAYING TIPS

If you have never participated in a murder mystery party game before, the concept can seem a bit unusual. Do not worry. It really is not difficult to play. These are little more than evenings of "let's pretend" games for adults. The event takes about 2-3 hours.

## PLANNING FOR THE EVENT

You should **never** use weapons for props or prop weapons. We provide Weapons Cards for in game use.

Other than informing people who your character is, it is important that you **DO NOT** discuss your character's information with anyone else before the game starts. If you do so, you are likely to give away secrets and spoil the game - mainly for yourself & the person you told! This is especially true if you are the killer!

## TALKING TO PEOPLE

The trick to doing well at a murder mystery party is to talk to people. This helps you determine who can help or hinder you. Start with the people mentioned in your character background. If your character knows them, it is likely that their character knows you. You will also have something to talk about - they will be mentioned for a reason.

Your sheet may mention characters that are not at the party. Just ignore any instructions or information regarding characters not in attendance. Keep in mind that they might arrive later, at which time you can complete those goals or use those secrets.

## YOUR GOALS

The main indicator of success is the amount of fun you had playing. It is often useful in the game to find your allies as soon as possible. Normally, to achieve your goals you need to get other people to help you, and that usually means negotiating with them, because they will usually want something in return. If their goals do not conflict with yours, there is no reason why you should not go for it.

## GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER

We have found that sometimes characters improvise and decide that they can best reach their goals by committing murder! To this end, we have developed a system for committing murder:

There will be four Weapon Cards. You **MUST** have a Weapon Card to commit murder. During the evening, your host will give you a Clue Sheet that will contain puzzles and riddles, whose answers indicate where weapon cards are located. You will have 10 minutes to decipher riddles before the hunt begins. If you do find a weapon, it is a very good idea to keep this fact a secret. This will insure you do not become a suspect if the card is used in a murder. These will be very valuable commodities!

## TO COMMIT MURDER:

- Tell your intended victim that you have murdered them, then hand them the weapon card used to do so.
- At that time, the 'victim' is to pose as a dead body with the weapon card lying atop their body. **You may not steal or re-use a previously used weapon card for any reason!**
- The murderer then discreetly tells the host that they committed the 'murder' & where the 'body' is located.
- The host will casually ensure that the 'body' is 'discovered'.
- The victim will be removed and return as a new character or as a Detective/Inspector. No guest will have to sit on the sidelines.
- The Weapon Card will then become Evidence and put on display with the remaining evidence.
- No person that is murdered can use any of his or her previous knowledge, as that character no longer exists. Dead men tell no tales!

## ACTION CARDS

Sometime during the evening, you will draw Action Cards from a container. You will draw an action card (Great), or a blank card (Better Luck Next Time). To use an Action Card, you must show the card and after it has been fulfilled, the card must be torn up. This does not apply to the Immunity Action Card, which can be used repeatedly.

## ***Your Character's Background***

You are here to celebrate the Grand Opening of The Four Deuces. You have been married to Jimmy the Snake for 10 miserable years. Two nights ago, he went out for a pack of gum and never returned. You aren't sorry to see him go, but you would like to know if he is dead or alive. You have a life insurance policy that would set you up nicely if his body were discovered!

Jimmy was a bagman for Don "Big Jim" Ravioli. Jimmy was skimming money from his collections. He was also secretly pining after the Don's new wife, Carrie Crooner-Ravioli. Both of these actions would get the snake killed if the Don found out. In an effort to hasten his demise, you occasionally let these little secrets "slip" during conversations with other "Family" wives.

Yesterday, the thug named Al Capone came looking for Jimmy. Everyone knows Al is the mob's hit man and not the bouncer he pretends to be. You turned on the fake crocodile tears. "Jimmy had not returned home for more than a day. Did he run out on you? Maybe he had an accident. Maybe he is seeing someone else. You just don't know!" – You should become one of those Hollywood actresses like Donna Wannabe. Mr. Capone bought it completely. Unfortunately for you, this means that Jimmy most likely heard Al was looking for him and he ran off. You really need Jimmy found. The "Family" would take care of the rest.

You reported Jimmy's disappearance to Inspector Nutella. You found the Inspector to be a charming man.

**NEAR THE BEGINNING OF THE EVENING:** Approach Don "Big Jim" Ravioli, pat your eyes as if you have been crying, sniffle and ask Big Jim if he has heard any news about your precious Jimmy.

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**Dress Suggestions:** 1920 style in black. You hope to become a widow.

**Character Suggestions:** You act sad and upset that Jimmy is missing.