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# Dishonour on the RMS Gigantic



Richard Nouveau-Riche  
Character Booklet

**Congratulations! You are taking part in a mystery by Red Herring Games.**

A few simple instructions to help you along:

Firstly: Don't Panic!

This booklet contains all the information you need as a guest to help you act your part throughout the mystery party.

The first page provides you with additional background information to help you get into character, however there are no special acting abilities required and you can make as much or as little of your character as you wish.

After that on each page you are given either something to read out, questions to ask, or answers to questions you may be asked. Although you are encouraged to ad lib, it is very important you do not lie, so provide the information contained within your booklet when it is asked of you.

Your host for the evening will direct you where necessary and tell you when to move on to the next round when the time is right.

If you are the thief you will not be told. When you finally come to guess who did it – it could easily be you and feel free to point the finger at yourself if you feel you must!

And lastly: Have fun!

1 2

**Richard Nouveau-Riche**

**Background Character Information:**

**Keep this information to yourself, and use it to help you to act in character throughout the mystery:**

You are travelling with your wife Marion in first class not just to Finland, but on to the USA. Hugely successful and massively wealthy, you have an unfortunate tendency to tell everyone about it – all the time.

Your wealth seems a little disproportionate to your trade and there are some questions about the authenticity and the sources of some of your best known pieces.

However, you have only been caught out once – when you used your excellent woodworking skills to great effect.

**Richard Nouveau-Riche****Introductions:**

**Use the following dialogue to introduce yourself to the other guests, speaking when indicated below.**

**Richard Nouveau-Riche speaks first, saying:**

Well, I say! Here am I, Richard Nouveau-Riche, the owner of this fine missing clock - and I am held here with this collection of ne'er-do-wells.

The clock is beautiful; I am told that it is a duplicate of one presented to Queen Victoria in 1865, on her 25th wedding anniversary. I had bought it to celebrate our own anniversary; to give Marion a gift she would never forget. Of course, I can afford to replace it a hundred times over – but it is unique!

Now my gift is ruined. And instead of sympathy, I receive accusations!

**After you have heard from everyone, please continue reading and begin round 1.**

**Scripted Dialogue Round 1**

**Richard Nouveau-Riche** I've had enough of all this nonsense. I have had my clock stolen and now this. I will be writing a very stiff letter to the Blue Star Line when I return home.

**Marion Nouveau-Riche** You've had "your" clock stolen? Well, that says it all. Here was I thinking it was my present and suddenly it's "your" clock?

**Gerry Van Der Halliwell** Sorry, Richard, but you're in this with the rest of us. Who do you think you are? Some kind of superstar?

**Reverend I.T.Best** Superstar? What's that? I don't know what you're talking about. You may speak like that in Holland, Gerry, but we're trying to solve a crime here.

**Gerry Van Der Halliwell** Sorry. I'm experimenting with language as well as music. The Dutch lead the world in all sorts of ways.

**Reverend I.T.Best** Yes, well, I thought that like me you appreciated the finer things about this clock. I think it could contribute greatly to the efficiency of mankind. I certainly hope that details of the mechanism aren't lost forever.

**Cont.**

**Charles Champagne** Would that be such a bad thing? The greater efficiency in timekeeping would no doubt be used to exploit the working classes and make the rich man richer!

**Kate Wingsitt** Oh give it a rest, will you? You ARE one of the rich men! Some of us are much less lucky.

**Richard Nouveau-Riche** Well ... now we've all finished bickering, there's no wonder they have brought us all together. We've all just admitted possible motives, one way or another. But only one of us is guilty ...

**Richard Nouveau-Riche**

### **First Round**

#### **Questions you should ask:**

You hear that Charles Champagne has a strong interest in Charlton Athletic Football Club, a youth team for 15-17 year olds. Ask him why.

Ask Gerry Van Der Halliwell whether she was familiar with the details of the missing clock before this incident.

#### **Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.**

You deal with a number of associates, most of whom you have known for many years. You have a great deal of faith in all of them. Although some have been in trouble with the police in the past, you are sure they are reformed characters.

You kept the clock in the safe in the cabin, up until the time when you gave it to Marion. You are unclear where it was put after that; you had a disagreement about it but Marion must have put it somewhere.

**Do not read further until instructed by your host.**

## Scripted Dialogue Round 2

**Charles Champagne** Does anyone else find all of this a little distasteful? I wonder what the lads at the football club would make of this. You'll never find footballers with too much money – team spirit makes them tick.

**Richard Nouveau-Riche** Never mind all of that socialist talk. What about the clock's hiding place? I wonder who would put it there?

**Reverend I.T.Best** Well, it seems to me that practically anyone could have put it there. I just wonder why they would do so.

**Kate Wingsitt** I suppose it's been discovered and we still don't know who the culprit is. Had it been hidden in a cabin, it would have been all over.

**Charles Champagne** Thanks for that Kate. It's very useful to have an insight from your criminal mind.

**Marion Nouveau-Riche** Hey, leave it out, Champagne. Kate is under no more suspicion than anyone else here.

**Cont.**

7 8

**Richard Nouveau-Riche** Must we resort to bickering every time we talk like this? It's hardly going to help us to single out the culprit, is it?

**Marion Nouveau-Riche** Let's be honest Richard. If we hadn't been bickering in the first place then none of this would have happened.

**Kate Wingsitt** Bickering? If that was bickering, I'd hate to be in the vicinity if you had a full blown argument. Not that I blame you Marion; you seem to have more than enough to contend with.

**Gerry Van Der Halliwell** Yes, leave Marion alone. We women should stick together. Girl power will see us through.

**Kate Wingsitt** Girl power? You're at it again. What's that? Marion and I are fully grown women. And as for power - they won't even give us the vote.

**Reverend I.T.Best** It's interesting that you come out with these nonsense phrases all the time, Gerry. Are you trying to put us off the scent? Was the clock supposed to wind up in Holland?

**Richard Nouveau-Riche** We all have motives, Reverend. There's no point in us all pointing the finger at each other.

**Richard Nouveau-Riche****Second Round****Questions you should ask:**

Ask Kate Wingsitt whether she often wears a stole of an evening and if it was very similar to the one she was accused of stealing.

Ask Charles Champagne whether his place in the first class cabin of RMS Gigantic – right next door to the Nouveau-Riche cabin - sits comfortably with his socialist principles.

**Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.**

You understand from your supplier that the clock was one of only two produced at the same time, one of which was presented to Queen Victoria. It is therefore not so much a reproduction; it is a duplicate of the original one given to the Queen.

You have fine woodworking skills and used them some time ago to reproduce a 17th century table, which you sold as genuine but was later uncovered as a fake. You regret doing so, and it was in the early days when you were aiming to establish your business.

**Do not read further until instructed by your host.**

**Scripted Dialogue Round 3**

**Gerry Van Der Halliwell** So, the missing clock belongs to royalty! Tonight is the night when two clocks become one! Does that make the crime treason or something?

**Charles Champagne** The existence of the thing is a crime against mankind. How can anyone justify such a valuable clock when people are struggling to pay for food? I suppose if there is only one clock, that's half as bad.

**Kate Wingsitt** You really don't think about anything else, do you? Have you considered that your politics might get a bit boring after a while?

**Reverend I.T.Best** Yes, after quite a short while, actually.

**Richard Nouveau-Riche** Well, I guess it does mean that I'm in pretty deep trouble no matter what happens now. I bought it in good faith...

**Marion Nouveau-Riche** I know you did, Richard. I may not have particularly wanted a clock but I know you would have believed it to be a sound buy, and certainly wouldn't have bought it under these circumstances.

**Cont.**

**Charles Champagne** You make him sound quite honourable. Try telling that to the man who bought his fake table.

**Kate Wingsitt** We all make mistakes, you know.

**Marion Nouveau-Riche** Yes, and yours was rather more recent, wasn't it Kate?

**Reverend I.T.Best** Even if Kate did take a stole, it doesn't make her guilty of stealing a clock. She can't be accused of every theft after that.

**Gerry Van Der Halliwell** Never mind all that. Whoever stole the clock, whatever the motive, I suppose that its real owner will want it back. I guess we'll never get to see it close up. And I'll never get it back to Holland.

**Richard Nouveau-Riche**

### **Third Round**

#### **Questions you should ask:**

Kate Wingsitt is already in trouble with the Master-at-arms. Her honesty is in some doubt. Ask her whether she had heard about the clock and been tempted to take it?

Ask Charles Champagne for his opinions about the missing clock.

#### **Information you should reveal about yourself only when asked.**

You met the supplier of the clock in Keswick, while on holiday with Marion. He is known to friends but has been out of circulation for some time. You now suspect that he spent that time in prison.

You had started to suspect that the clock was actually the one given to the Queen; it appeared to be too similar in every way for that not to be the case. You were actually relieved when it went missing from the cabin, as otherwise you were thinking of disposing of it yourself before any authorities caught up with you.

**Do not read further until instructed by your host.**

**Richard Nouveau-Riche****Concluding Statement**

Use the following dialogue to summarise your position, speaking when indicated below.

**Richard Nouveau-Riche speaks first, saying:**

It is true that I have taken chances in my career, and I am sure that whatever happens now, I will be prosecuted for receiving stolen goods.

It is also true that when I realised the true nature of the clock, I was alarmed by it and would have been tempted to dispose of it myself – but it had already gone.

I have many regrets and now have to face up to some real problems. But I feel that the whole experience has helped me realise just how selfish I have been, and I will make that up to Marion in every way I can.

Just for the record however, I didn't fake the theft of the clock. Had I done so then it most certainly would not have been found on board. It would now be at the bottom of the sea.

**After you have heard from all the guests make a prediction as to who the thief is and why.**

**Tell the others.**

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