

CRIME SCENE

2023 SENIOR SCHOOL DRAMA PRODUCTION
INFORMATION




The Plot, Like Gravy, Thickens

By Billy St. John

Ever want to commit a murder? Walter, the playwright's alter ego in this madcap mystery, demonstrates just how to do someone in, in your imagination, of course!
Come and join the fun...

When: Thursday 4th and Friday 5th May 2023

Contact Ms McGinn via Seqta or mcginn.jesse@trinity.wa.edu.au





I am excited to announce Trinity College's 2023 Senior Drama School Production: ***The Plot, Like Gravy, Thickens*** by ***Billy St John***. Before I get into the nitty gritty details of this 'murder mystery' please note, that whilst things are looking promising, we are still in the process of receiving the rights to this production and therefore ask that you do not distribute any information or audition materials provided to you while we are still undergoing this process!

FAQS:

What is the play about?

*Great storm effects, spiffy costumes and lots of fun and mystery distinguish this work by the author of *Abduction, The Reunion* and others.*

Ever want to commit a murder? Walter, the playwright's alter ego in this madcap mystery, demonstrates just how to do someone in, in your imagination, of course!

After introducing the audience to tyrannical millionaire Edward Worthington's relatives, business associates and household staff, most of whom have reason to wish the man dead Walter exits, only to reappear in a tuxedo as Worthington. Gathered on a stormy evening at Worthington Manor to celebrate Edward's fiftieth birthday are his attractive wife, her playboy brother, Edward's befuddled older sister, his ex-wife and his daughter, a college student. Also present are his shady lawyer and his uptight business manager with his giddy wife and southern secretary as well as the butler, the housekeeper, the maid and the cook.

Each has a motive that is barely established when the lights go out! Seconds later they come back on to reveal the knife for the birthday cake protruding from Edward's back.

In Act II, the police detective also played by Walter investigates, eventually allowing the audience to question or accuse suspects before the killer's identity is revealed in a surprising climax.

How many roles are available in the cast?

Walter (a playwrights alter-ego) also plays ***Edward Worthington*** (a millionaire, 50) and ***James McMillan*** (police detective)

Allegra Worthington: Edwards attractive wife, early 40's

Tony Blackwell: Edward's brother-in-law, a playboy, early 30's



Justine Worthington: Edward's ex-wife, bitter, late 40's

Debra Worthington: Edward's and Justine's daughter, a student, 20's

Beatrice Worthington: Edward's older sister, spinster, 60's

Roy Phillips: Edward's business manager, nervous, up tight, 40's

Connie Phillips: Roy's Wife, giddy, 30's

Peggy Sue Brumley: Edwards's secretary, a Southern belle, 20's

Lawrence Tate: Edwards's lawyer, business-like, 50's

Hollister: the butler, formal, 60's

Mrs Vickers: the housekeeper, outspoken, 40's

Edith: the maid, pretty, innocent, 20's

Ina: the cook, has a temper, 40s

I love acting, but I can't dance or sing, is this a requirement?

No! This is not a musical, it is a Drama comedy, so although you will need to move and talk as your character, dance or singing skills are not required to audition.

I'm not doing Year 11 or 12 ATAR Drama, does this mean I can't be in the school production?

Absolutely not! We would like to see all talent, regardless of whether you are doing Drama as an ATAR subject in 2023.

What year groups are invited to audition?

This will be the first time ever that we are opening the Senior School Drama production to Years 10's, 11's and 12's in 2023 (current 9's, 10's, 11's).



What does the audition involve?

For the male roles, you will be given a short monologue from the play to perform to a small panel of Drama teachers. It is always beneficial to learn your lines to enable you to give your best performance, however, due to time constraints you may also hold the script in your audition.

For the female roles, you will be provided with a short excerpt from the play. You will need to schedule an audition time with Ms McGinn at Trinity College. It is always beneficial to learn your lines to enable you to give your best performance, however, due to time constraints you may also hold the script in your audition.

You will be required to complete a form providing information, measurements, and availability to bring along with you to your audition.

I'm not here for the auditions, can I still apply for a role?

Ofcourse! We acknowledge that Trinity is a busy College, especially in Term 4. Whilst I will still be looking to announce the male cast by Week 8 of the Term, if you need to arrange a different day and time, you can contact me via Seqta or mcginn.jesse@trinity.wa.edu.au.

If I do make the cast list, what would I be committing to?

Rehearsal schedules will be created in discussion with the final cast when the 2023 Calendar is announced. This will be the time to advise me of other extracurricular activities you are involved in at the college. To give you some idea, you will need to be prepared to commit to one afternoon after school during the week, and a Sunday in the lead up to the production. This will increase during production week whereby extra dress and tech rehearsals will be running.

On a scale of 1 – 10 how much fun do you think I will have?

100... this is going to be a fun play to perform where characters can interact with the audience, as well as a great opportunity to put your drama skills to use in an intimate cast with lots of laughs and comedic moments. I hope to see you there!