

THE CLOSED CIRCLE



A FIASCO PLAYSET
BY SANDY PUG GAMES

THE CLOSED CIRCLE

CREDITS AND BOILER

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The Closed Circle was written by Liam Ginty who also did most of the art. Editing and playtesting from a whole host of incredible people, including but not limited to Kieran Wilkinson, Sarah Ginty, Kate Perino, Simon Henderson, Keith Evans and a bunch of other wonderful people. If I missed anyone they can sue me to have their names put here. Just kidding, don't sue me.

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THERE HAS BEEN A MURDER!

Before you is a corpse. This person was a friend, a stranger, a father, a mother, a wife, a husband, but now they are dead, and the killer is among you.

You, and the people around you are trapped here, in this remote location, maybe it's a train, or a remote ski lodge, perhaps you're locked in the parlor room or a steamer headed for Greenland, regardless, you're not going anywhere, and neither are the suspects. Luckily, one of you is a legendary detective, known the world over for their uncanny ability to pick away at a mystery until the truth is all that remains.

Find the killer amongst you; discover what happened to the deceased and try your very best to not share their fate...unless of course, you're the murderer. Then your job is much easier – Don't get caught.

RELATIONSHIPS

1 OLD WORLD TIES

- ☐ Financier/Purveyor
- ☐ Old War Officers
- ☑ Expeditionary Partners
- ☑ Rival Factory Owners
- ☑ Fought a Duel
- ☑ Political Rivals

2 FRIENDS

- ☐ The Best of Friends. Once.
- ☐ Trench Comrades
- ☑ The Absolute Last People You'd Call Friends
- ☑ Friends, But Something More
- ☑ Social Club Pals
- ☑ Acquaintances, I Guess

3 FAMILY

- ☐ Long Lost Siblings
- ☐ Estranged Parent/Child
- ☑ Ruined Marriage
- ☑ Secret Lovers (Everyone Knows)
- ☑ Reunited Twins
- ☑ The Black Sheep/The Favorite

4 CRIME

- ▣ Rival Crime Lords
- ▣ A Killer, But Not The Killer
- ▣ Police Guard/Prisoner
- ▣ Low Time Crooks
- ▣ Convict On The Run
- ▣ Ex-Con Fresh Out Of Jail

5 WORK

- ▣ Boss/Underling
- ▣ Upper Class Gent/Butler
- ▣ Young Playboy/Executor of Their Trust
- ▣ Good Ole Union Boys
- ▣ Businessmen, Meeting By Chance
- ▣ Property Developer/Property Owner

6 THE ESTABLISHMENT

- ▣ Maintenance People
- ▣ Service Staff
- ▣ The Money People
- ▣ In Charge Where They Shouldn't Be/Not In Charge When They Should Be
- ▣ Engineers
- ▣ Property Owner/Property Manager

...IN THE CLOSED CIRCLE

NEEDS

1 TO GET AHEAD

- ☐ ...Of The Cops
- ☐ ...Of The Killer
- ☑ ...Of The Great Game
- ☑ ...Of My Nemesis, at last
- ☑ ...Without anyone else realizing
- ☑ ...Of The Detective's Prying Eyes

2 TO GET OUT

- ☐ ...Of These Cuffs
- ☐ ...Of This Lie
- ☑ ...Of This God Damn Room
- ☑ ...Of This Social Class
- ☑ ...Of My Responsibilities, Just Once
- ☑ ...Before Anyone Else

3 TO GET RECOGNIZED

- ☐ ...By Him/Her
- ☐ ...For All I've Done For This Country
- ☑ ...By These Ungrateful Fucks
- ☑ ...For My Genius At Last
- ☑ ...By Someone, Anyone
- ☑ ...By The History Books

4 TO GET RICH

- ...By Solving This Crime and Writing A Book
- ...By Taking What's Mine
- ▣ ...At Least, Enough For One Night
- ▣ ...By Pulling Off The World's Greatest Heist
- ▣ ...Despite Getting Caught
- ▣ ...By Being The Last One Left

5 TO FIND THE TRUTH

- ...About The Murder
- ...About The Real Killer
- ▣ ...About Your Father's Will
- ▣ ...About The Secret You Witnessed
- ▣ ...About What Happened To Your Service Pistol
- ▣ ...About The Locked Chest, In The Middle of It All

6 TO KILL

- ...The Inspector
- ...Her, Despite What We Had
- ▣ ...Him, Despite What We Could Have Had
- ▣ ...Them All
- ▣ ...The Rumors About Your Trip To Africa
- ▣ ...The Last One In Your Way

...IN THE CLOSED CIRCLE

SECRETS

1 THE MURDER

- Who Did It
- When It Really Happened
- ◻ Where It Happened
- ◻ How It Happened
- ◻ Who Wanted It To Happen
- ◻ Why It Happened

2 THE SUSPECTS

- Who Knew The Victim
- Who Last Saw The Victim
- ◻ Who Last Touched The Weapon
- ◻ Who Had Motive
- ◻ Who Knows Everything, At Least I Think So
- ◻ Who's Happy They're Dead And Not Hiding It

3 THE LOCKED ROOM

- The Secret Doorway
- The Hidden Compartment
- ◻ Where The Key Is
- ◻ The Line To The Outside
- ◻ Why We're Really All Stuck Here
- ◻ How To Get Out, Before Anyone Else

4 THE WEAPON

- What It Was
- What It Wasn't
- ▣ Where It Is Now
- ▣ Who Owns It
- ▣ Who Knows How To Use It
- ▣ Who Has One Just Like It

5 CLUES

- Prints, Somewhere No One Else Noticed
- A Speck Of Blood On A Shirt Sleeve
- ▣ A Stolen Uniform
- ▣ An Overheard Conversation
- ▣ A Stolen Purse
- ▣ A Fake ID

6 THE PAST

- Who Said They'd Kill Them, Frequently
- The Business Deal About To Fall Apart
- ▣ The Family Quarrel
- ▣ A Love Turned To Fury
- ▣ The Broken Blood Pact
- ▣ They Killed Their Wife/Husband And Got Away With It

...IN THE CLOSED CIRCLE

OBJECTS

1 SUSPECT

- ☐ An Actual Smoking Gun
- ☐ A Bloody Knife
- ☐ A Button From Someone Else's Clothes
- ☒ The Victim's Wallet
- ☒ A Locked Suitcase That No One Can Touch
- ☒ A Camera With An Incriminating, Undeveloped Photograph

2 LOCKS AND KEYS

- ☐ The Key To The Room
- ☐ The Combination For The Safe
- ☐ A Lockbox
- ☒ Keys To The Victims Home
- ☒ A Broken Lock
- ☒ A Secret Password

3 WEAPONS

- ☐ The Police Chief's Contact Details
- ☐ A Friend In A High Place
- ☐ Innocence
- ☒ Real Innocence
- ☒ A Disguise
- ☒ A Webley Service Revolver With 4 Shots Left

4 HELPFUL

- The Last Matches
- The Perfect Amount Of Rope
- ▣ The Manual
- ▣ A Toolbox
- ▣ A Notebook With Handwriting Samples
- ▣ A Book On An Esoteric Subject

5 VALUABLES

- The Priceless Kinsey Jewel Collection
- An Antique Shotgun, Dusty But Loaded
- ▣ The Keys To a Lockbox in Nairobi
- ▣ The Map To Everything You've Ever Wanted
- ▣ One Good Day
- ▣ The Deeds To The House, All Yours

6 SENTIMENTAL

- A Locket With Their Face On It
- A Collection Of Trophies
- ▣ The Last Letter They Wrote Before They Left
- ▣ A Portrait Of The Victim
- ▣ An Old Stuffed Bear, A Little Tattered
- ▣ A Boat Ticket From Before All Of This

...IN THE CLOSED CIRCLE

THE CLOSED CIRCLE INSTANT SETUP

RELATIONSHIPS IN THE CLOSED CIRCLE

For three players...

- # **Family** – Long Lost Siblings
- # **Crime** – Low Time Crooks
- # **Work** – Upper Class Gent/Butler

For four players, add...

- # **Friends** – Social Club Pals

For five players, add...

- # **Crime** – Police Guard/Prisoner

NEEDS IN THE CLOSED CIRCLE

For three players...

- # **To Get Ahead** – ...Of The Killer
- # **To Get Recognized** – ...For My Genius At Last
- # **To Kill** – The Inspector

For four players, add...

- # **To Find The Truth** – About The Real Killer

For five players, add...

- # **To Get Rich** – ...By Pulling Off The World's Greatest Heist

SECRETS IN THE CLOSED CIRCLE

For three players...

- # **The Suspects** – Who Last Saw The Victim
- # **The Murder** – Who Wanted It To Happen
- # **The Weapon** – Who Has One Just Like It

For four players, add...

Clues – A Stolen Uniform

For five players, add...

The Past – The Family Quarrel

OBJECTS IN THE CLOSED CIRCLE

For three players...

Suspect – A Bloody Knife

Weapons – Innocence

Locks and Keys – The Combination For The Safe

For four players, add...

Valuables – The Deeds To The House, All Yours

For five players, add...

Helpful – A Book On An Esoteric Subject