

# “SPY”

The Manhattan Murder Mystery

by

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S.P.Y.

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### CAST

Frank Spencer , B.A. H, M.A. Oxon born 1899 in Virginia, son of Benjamin Spencer, cabinet maker. Married Elizabeth Fairchild, only daughter of Peter Fairchild in 1922 after completing his masters degree at Oxford and moving to Pennsylvania to work as an engineer for East Steel Ltd.. as Chairman of the Board of American Aircraft he has overseen the production of the B29 for the war effort. A man of energy and great ambition he has always enjoyed the company and attentions of beautiful women .

Betty Spencer b. December 7th 1898 in Pittsburgh daughter of Peter and Suzanne Fairchild. Married Frank in 1922. Inherited all of her father's wealth and assets upon his death in 1921. Her mother is alive and in an asylum in the outskirts of London. During the war Betty expended great efforts selling war bonds, visiting the wounded in hospital and charity work. She still owns 51% of East Steel the holding company for American Aircraft. In her 40's, she is still a handsome woman whose passion has never found full expression.

Professor Ernst Grubenheimer b. 1892 in Danzig, studied at Heidelberg University where he was awarded a doctorate in physics. A brilliant scholar he emigrated to the USA in 1931 and settled in Chicago. Recruited onto the Manhattan Project in 1941 largely because of his expertise in atomic fission. He is an old-fashioned man with a tendency to digress.

Colonel Ivan Voronsky b. 1918 in Kiev to an English nurse and Russian father. He fought at Stalingrad where he was wounded. Promoted on the battlefield he is also a member of Comsol. Because he speaks fluent English, he has been sent as part of the Soviet Diplomatic Mission in Washington to

*oversee lend/lease. He is a handsome, energetic man with the soul of a Cossack or so it would appear .*

Michelle Lefevre b. 1922 in Paris where she studied at the Conservatory. When the war broke out she was studying on an exchange scholarship at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Unable to return to France, she worked as a singer in a London nightclub and became engaged to an American serviceman from Phoenix. Having lost contact with him, she has come to Phoenix to try to trace him (this is her cover for she is actually an F.B.I. agent) and has recently been working as a singer in a Phoenix nightclub where she met Frank. She is beautiful, charming and dangerous. In actuality she is an undercover agent working for the U.S. government - FBI. She was instructed to find out as much as she could about Frank since he was building the Enola Gay and had a pension for beautiful women. When two murders are committed she takes control of the interrogation with the hopes of finding out who has stolen the plans to the atomic bomb.

Penelope Primrose b. 1920 Frank's new secretary, employed by Betty to oversee Frank's "business" life. An attractive woman whose efficiency and organization are obvious to all but whose sexuality is somewhat ambiguous. She is well-built and wears fashionable suits . In conversation she rarely listens. Her bluntness borders on rudeness. (She - actually a HE) is Captain Peter Pendergast, a British agent.

## STORYLINE

The date is Saturday 12th May 1945 four days after VE day. The place is an airport where the American Army Air Corps has been training British pilots. Frank Spencer, President, American Aircraft Corporation and his wife, Betty are hosting a party to celebrate the end of the war in Europe; to announce new orders for the B29 bomber; and to entertain two important guests, - Professor Grubenheimer who is present to oversee modifications to three newly ordered B29s and Colonel Voronsky who ostensibly studying aircraft production facilities

in the United States in anticipation of a major order from the Soviet government for B29s.

Frank has come directly from the factory although he has changed into his tux. Hot and flustered, with lipstick on his collar, he is followed in by a rather less flustered Michelle Lefevre , a singer (and undercover FBI agent) he met at a local nightclub the week before and whose career he intends to launch. He is not aware of her true identity. Betty is the hostess for the party and is relying on Miss Primrose, the company secretary, for details about why Frank is late. She is annoyed about not knowing who the girl is who followed Frank in. This annoyance, however, is greatly mitigated by the attentions she receives from the young Colonel Voronsky. Attracted by his masculinity and patriotism Betty lauds the Soviet/USA alliance little realizing that she is being used. The real event taking place is the attempt to steal the plans for the first atomic bomb, the prototype of which is about to be detonated at Alamogordo in New Mexico on 16th July.

*(Some of the characters in the audience must make contact with their actor prior to the guests sitting down for dinner. Some will have a code and/or prop and will have to approach the right character to get the correct response. See audience character bios.)*

## **THE RECEPTION**

*(The guests arrive and are welcomed by Miss Primrose. The Stage Manager hands out the parts to the guests (this may be delayed until they are seated if having cocktails.). The waitress is filling in with real staff. As soon as she/he has handed out Harry Gold and Olga's parts as well as Pavlov's, Olga is instructed to go outside where Voronsky will be waiting. The Stage Manager also gives her instructions to have Pavlov meet Voronsky to hand over the cigarette case. Betty and Frank are welcoming everyone and introducing people to each other (Betty also uses the cocktail hour to set the stage for the women present, indicating that Frank is a womanizer.) After most guests have arrived, Frank disappears. As soon as the guests are seated, the Stage Manager welcomes them and reads the Rules for the Game. After he/she is finished, Betty requests the Reverend to say grace prior to the start of dinner.)*

**Betty: Miss Primrose. Where's Frank?**

**Primrose: (flustered) He had to go back to the office to pick up some scientist. He must have been delayed.**

**Betty: Miss Primrose you were hired to make sure Frank doesn't get delayed. The only thing that delays Frank wears stockings and high heels.**

**Primrose:** Mrs. Spencer, I can't be in two places at once. I had to be here to greet the guests.

**Betty:** Don't complain Primrose. You know, I can't stand women who complain.

**Primrose:** I'm sorry but I'm a professional secretary - not a SPY. Look. Isn't that him now? No. It's *she checks her list* Colonel Voronsky.

**Betty:** So it is. Leave this to me Primrose. You phone the office and find out where Frank is. *(Primrose exits and Betty crosses the room eagerly)* Colonel? Colonel Voronsky. Here I am.

*(Voronsky strides into the room. He is young and handsome. Dressed in his Russian uniform he exudes an old-world Russian charm. His eyes scan the room restlessly.)*

**Voronsky:** Mrs. Spencer... I may call you... Betty? You must call me Ivan. *(He takes her hand and kisses it slowly.)*

**Betty:** Must I? Oh...yes ...I must...Ivan... *(she pronounces it slowly and with feeling)* Ivan... *(she turns to the guests)* Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to present a member of the red army and a hero of the Soviet Union. He was personally decorated by Stalin and is in the U. S. supervising lend/lease or something. We're very proud to have him here to celebrate the victory of the Allies over Germany. Please a round of applause for Colonel Ivan Voronsky.

**Voronsky:** Thank you. Thank you. On behalf of Soviet people I would say thank you for all the help United States Government have given to Soviet Union. The heroic sacrifices of the victorious Red Army in defeating the forces of fascism will long be remembered by our children and children's children. A toast to the Red Army. Nostrovia *(Russian toast - he has 3 glasses of Vodka lined up for toasts)*. Also *(he pulls a telegram from his pocket)* I have important news for everybody. In the heroic liberation of the enslaved people of Germany from the yoke of imperial fascism, the forces of Soviet Union have liberated the capital of Berlin and I am pleased to announce that last Monday, 1st of May,

**Herr Hitler committed suicide in his bunker under the Reich tag. (general clapping and applause. Voronsky has another Vodka and salutes everyone) To Victory. And to the defeat of the Imperial Japanese forces. Nostrovia! (another toast)**

**Betty: (to members of the audience) Isn't he wonderful? He fought at Stalingrad you know. A bullet went right through him. He was terribly lucky. Ivan! Tell them about your war wound.**

**Voronsky: A mere scratch. You would like to see my wound. (offers to take his shirt off)**

**Betty : I already have...I mean Yes.... No....perhaps later...(she stops him from taking off his shirt)**

**Primrose: (re-enters and looks at the two of them suspiciously) Mrs. Spencer, I phoned the office. Mr. Spencer is on his way.**

**Betty: Oh, Primrose, Colonel Voronsky...Ivan... and I were just getting to know each other better. He has a war wound, just about here isn't it? (indicates chest)**

**Voronsky: For two days I lay in a cellar bleeding to death in Stalingrad. Luckily the cold saved my life.**

**Primrose: Mrs. Spencer, the gentleman from New Mexico has arrived. The scientist. (Voronsky sticks close to Betty listening)**

**Betty: Darn. Frank was suppose to pick him up.**

**Voronsky: Scientist ? But I thought your husband makes aircraft.**

**Betty: Some kind of a hush- hush thing for the government. They need a special aircraft or something.**

**Voronsky: You must tell me about this. I am very interested in... (flirting) Aircraft.**

**Betty : Of course Ivan. After all we are - allies . (walking away to audience) Isn't he gorgeous? How would you like to have a red in your**

bed? *(She sees the Professor as he arrives.)* **Professor. You found us.**

*(Enter Ernst Grubenheimer, dressed in an ill-fitting suit, his white hair on end and bow tie askew. His eyebrows twitch periodically and he has a habit of trailing off his sentences. He speaks with a strong German accent and is patterned after Einstein although of course historically he would have been Professor Oppenheimer who worked on the atomic bomb.)*

**Prof:** *(clicking his heels and bowing)* **Professor Ernst Grubenheimer at your service. I am afraid that I come und bit late for which you must accept my apologies, Mrs. Spencer. Thank you for your hospitality and please thank the beautiful Miss Primrose for her assistance. A fine woman...ya...ya...ya.**

**Betty:** **Welcome Professor Grubbyheim.**

**Prof:** **Grubenheimer...ya...it is a difficult name to pronounce.**

**Betty:** *(to all the guests)* **Ladies and Gentlemen. I must apologize for my husband being late. He must be tied up with business. However, I am very pleased to introduce our special guest, Professor Grubbiheimer who is overseeing some modifications to...**

**Prof:** *(interrupting)* **Mrs Spencer, excuse me, this is secret work for the government.**

**Betty:** **Surely we don't need to have military secrets now that we've won the war in Europe!**

**Prof:** **Please?**

**Betty:** **Oh all right. The Professor is doing...secret...work for the government.**

**Prof:** **I am sorry that I cannot talk about what we are doing because it is top secret. But I can tell you that America is on the verge of demonstrating the incredible effects of certain atomic discoveries which will revolutionize the future of warfare. These discoveries will also bring about a new age when all our energy will be provided for without coal or oil. More than that I'm sorry I cannot say, only that very soon**



you will be learning more... ya.

**Betty:** It sounds fascinating. (*Sitting across from Voronsky, she raises her skirt and shows her leg as though fixing her stocking.*) Don't you agree Ivan?

**Voronsky:** (*looking at Betty's legs*) Yes, very fascinating. What are you doing Professor? Making a - bomb?

**Prof:** (*startled*) What?

**Voronsky:** I said - are you making a bomb?

**Prof:** (*clearly embarrassed*) I cannot discuss this. I will only say that we are lucky we made the discoveries before the Nazis.

(*Enter Frank, out of breath, slightly disheveled, lipstick on his collar. Michelle enters just behind him and goes to her seat and tries to be inconspicuous which is difficult since she is quite attractive and wears a stunning evening gown.*)

**Frank:** Professor Gruben...(*mumbles name*)! You made it! Sorry I wasn't there to pick you up. Got tied up with a new venture. (*Smiles at Michelle*). Hi everybody! Hello Betty. Well, friends, let me welcome you to our victory celebration. We won the war folks. Now we're going to beat win in Asia. A toast, Ladies and Gentlemen....grab yer glasses....to the sweet taste of victory and to our boys comin' home. (*all drink*). Does anyone remember the last time we were here? December 6, 1941. Had a little trouble the next day - Pearl Harbor. Betty still hasn't forgiven me for parking her yacht there.

**Bob Fortescue?** Where are you? Everybody, a big welcome for Squadron Leader Robert Fortescue who trains the Royal Air Force at \_\_\_\_\_(*use name of nearby airport*). Oh, and Ladies and Gentlemen, we're very pleased to have with us tonight, a Russkie...you seek 'em here you seek 'em there...those Russkies sure are everywhere. May I introduce Colonel Ivan Voronsky.

**Betty:** We've already met, Frank.

**Frank:** Oh yes? (*to Betty*) Well I'm not surprised. Colonel, I believe you

brought a friend by the name of Pavlov? Pavlov, where are you? Welcome! The colonel and Comrade Pavlov are over here looking at some of our aircraft and may even make a few purchases, right Colonel? (*Slaps him on the back to Ivan's dismay.*) Well, drink up everybody and have one hell of a good time tonight. Betty I've got some great news for you. (*He takes Betty to the side. Betty sees the lipstick on the collar and slaps him hard across the cheek.*) What in tarnation is wrong with you?

Betty: You are.

Frank: What did I do to deserve that? I'm ashamed of you.

Betty: You couldn't be ashamed of me Frank Spencer, you have no shame. There's lipstick on your collar or didn't you know?

Frank: What? Where? Oh that. I told you that maid is no good with the laundry.

Betty: Don't you ever get tired of lying Frank?

Frank: Betty I'm a salesman, it comes naturally.

Betty: Why couldn't I have married a gentleman?

Frank: Why couldn't I have married Betty Grable?

Voronsky: Mrs. Spencer, is there something I can do for you?

Betty: (*she flirts*) Yes there is, Ivan. You can send my husband on a business trip to... Siberia...*without* a coat.

Voronsky: (*he laughs*) That's what I love about America, everyone behaves as if they are in the movies...very funny...I don't get it but...

Frank: Betty, I was trying to tell you before you knocked the hell out of me, that since the aircraft industry is likely to hit bottom because the war is over, I have discovered a whole new business which will make us a ton of money.

**Betty:** What are you going to do Frank? Buy more worthless real estate in \_\_\_\_\_ (*mention the most expensive up market local area in your region*) and build houses out in the middle of nowhere?

**Frank:** Don't be sarcastic Betty. I know \_\_\_\_\_ will never amount to much but I also know how popular radio has become. They're gonna be sending more than voices over the air. Soon they will send pictures over the air too - right into people's homes. Something called television (*pronounces this tell E vision*). Would you believe that? Now what do people like listening to? Singers like Caruso and Bing Crosby and what do they want to see? People who look good. So, what we've got to do is find us a really good singer (who also looks good) and promote her.

**Betty:** HER Frank! Did you say her?

**Frank:** Her, him, it doesn't matter. They just have to be talented and good looking.

**Betty:** (*suspiciously*) Oh?

**Frank:** Coincidentally, I have discovered just the person we need and later you can meet her when she sings for us. You see I've invited her as a special guest to provide the entertainment tonight. Primrose? (*Miss Primrose is not to be found.*) Miss Primrose? Darn it. Why isn't that woman ever around when I want her? Why did you hire someone so incapable Betty? I told her to bring that contract. Primrose! (*Miss Primrose arrives.*) There you are. There's something strange about you Primrose but I can't quite put my finger on it.

**Primrose:** I don't know what you're talking about Mr. Spencer.

**Frank:** Well, for one thing, you're never around when I need you.

**Primrose:** I ... (*she looks around in an embarrassed way*)

**Frank:** Never mind. Where was I? Oh yes! The contract I asked you to draw up. Where is it?

**Primrose:** Here it is but I don't understand, we don't have any singers working for the company.

**Frank:** Well, we soon will. Ladies and Gentlemen, how about a big \_\_\_\_\_ *(name of State i.e., Arizona New York, etc.)* welcome for Michelle Lefevre, one of our bravest (and most beautiful) allies flown in all the way from Paris in France! She is our special guest and will provide the entertainment during dinner. Wait till you hear her sing. *(Frank goes to Michelle, she stands and they are quietly talking – obviously flirting.)*

*(Betty is in a state, and looks for Primrose)*

**Betty:** Miss Primrose! Miss Primrose! PRIMROSE!!

**Primrose:** Yes, Mrs. Spencer, did you want me?

**Betty:** No, I just enjoy shouting your name.

**Primrose:** I'm sorry. How can I help you?

**Betty:** The question is - how can you help yourself?

**Primrose:** I'm afraid I don't understand.

**Betty:** I'm afraid you don't either. Why exactly do you think I hired you?

**Primrose:** I imagine it's because I type 100 words a minute, I speak four languages, I have a degree from Oxford, and I'm a wizard at French pastry.

**Betty:** *(points at her menacingly)* Wrong! I hired you to keep an eye on Frank! You know his little problem with women. We've discussed it thoroughly. Why, Rosie the Riveter won't even stay in the same factory with him anymore.

**Primrose:** Well, I certainly never thought my experience would be used for this.

**Betty:** *(pauses and thinks and then smiles at her own joke)* Hum, I know. Why don't you use your talent with French pastry and make that tart disappear.

**Primrose:** With all due respect, I don't know how I can get rid of Mr. Spencer's girlfriend...I mean, girl friend! FRIEND! Who's a Girl! Oh, his guest.

**Betty:** Trick her. Trick him! Use your long-dormant feminine wiles . *(Primrose looks confused)* I don't care. Just split them up!!!

**Primrose:** I can scarcely keep your husband on a leash, Mrs. Spencer. Apparently, any better than you!

**Betty:** *(coldly)* Look, you bargain basement steno harpy, either you send Simone-Simone packing, or you'll be about as popular as Wallace Simpson is with the Royal family in England. Now, do you understand?

**Primrose :** Perfectly. *(Primrose goes up to Michelle and Frank who are talking in a corner and pushes herself between them)* Excusez-MOI!! Oh, Mademoiselle LeChevre.

**Michelle:** It's LeFevre! LeFevre! "Le chevre" means "the goat"

**Primrose:** *(smiling sweetly)* Really? You have a telephone call *(confidentially)* I think it's Charles Boyer.

**Michelle:** Oh, Mon Dieu! Charles Boyer! I only met him once and I did not even think he noticed me! And now he is calling me! Do I look all right? *(she runs out breathlessly)*

**Betty:** *(as an aside)* It's a phone call honey.

**Frank:** Miss Primrose, as usual your timing is impeccable.

**Primrose:** *(looking after the departing Michelle and trying to keep Frank in the room)* Alone at last! I thought she's never leave. We liberated their country - isn't that enough?

**Frank:** What do you want?

**Primrose: May I be Frank?**

**Frank: Sorry, darlin' I'm Frank, you're Penelope.**

**Primrose: I must tell you how I feel - I may never get my nerve up again.** *(Betty eggs Primrose on)*

**Frank: *(uncomfortably)* Now darlin, don't feel like you have to tell me anything you don't want to...really!**

**Primrose: *(herself a bit sickly at her conduct)* I-uh-I just can't tell you what it's meant working for you.**

**Frank: You can't? Too bad.** *(starts to go after Michelle)* **Now, excuse me, I need to find Michelle. You know, Primrose, the sight of a young woman is the only thing that keeps me alive. Now, where did Michelle go ? She's a chanteuse, you know!**

**Primrose: Perhaps she could see a doctor.** *(tries to stop him from leaving)* **I can't conceal it! You've awoken feelings in me I didn't know I had** *(throws a look at Betty like how am I doing? This whole scene is played for laughs as she physically tries to stop him from leaving.)*

**Frank: You don't say** *(tries to leave again).*

**Primrose: *(in an effort to stop him)* Yes! Um... You've made my life so glamorous...you can't blame me for feeling...amorous!**

**Frank: I need a drink. You know, I haven't been feeling myself lately, the heart pills are doing fine but this phenobarbitol that Doc David gave me seems to be slowing me down.**

**Primrose: You sit down. I'll freshen your drink for you.**

**Frank: You're making me nervous Primrose, which for a woman is really something.** *(He sits in his chair)*

*(Grubenheimer has been watching this and approaches Primrose who is on her way to get Frank a drink. He continues to follow behind her. This scene*

*is played for laughs.)*

**Primrose: Professor Grubenheimer, I do believe you are following me.**

**Professor: Me?** *(looks around innocently)* **I think not Miss Primrose.**

**Primrose: (emphatically) No, you were following me.**

**Professor: Well, perhaps just a little bit.**

**Primrose: Not that I mind** *(she straightens her dress and looks around in an embarrassed way as she knows Frank is watching her.)*

**Professor: You are a very handsome woman.**

**Primrose: Oh....well...(coyly) It's not often someone says that.**

**Professor: I am very attracted to strong women, women of substance. I don't like skinny women.**

**Primrose: (pushing him away at this insult) That's very kind of you Professor but I'm really far too busy with my job.**

**Professor: You should not be working all the time. You have an expression in English, "all work and no play makes (pauses as he searches ) Jack and Jill go up the hill".**

**Primrose: No, a dull boy.**

**Professor: A dull boy? I am not a dull boy. I am one of the world's leading experts on atomic fission.**

**Primrose: No Jack is a dull boy. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."**

**Professor: (he laughs) Of course. How stupid of me! Miss Primrose perhaps we can get together for a short while later for a little schnapps and wiener schnitzel?**

**Primrose: I don't know. I'm really far too busy with my job.** *(Goes back*

*to Frank and hovers)*

**Professor:** *(watching her)* **You remind me very much of someone I met in England at the Atomic Research Station at Harwell before the war started. Yes, I remember, he was working for security und keeping a watch on us all. Perhaps he is a relative of yours.** *(While this is going on the waitress/actress/Natasha hands a drink to Voronsky who mimes sticking her with a needle on the back of her hand in a cigarette which is poisoned - it is not necessary for everyone to see this. The cigarette is in the case given to Voronsky during the cocktail hour by Pavlov and Olga. The actress places the red mark surrounded by what appears to be a bruise on her hand prior to the start of the show. Usually her left hand if she is serving water with her right.)*

**Primrose :** **Oh that must have been my brother, Petey. I haven't heard from him in such a long time. I was worried that he had been killed in the blitz but then heard he had made it safely to the U.S.**

**Professor:** **You know, in 1933 I also came to the U.S. I left Germany as it was not safe. I came to Chicago in 1940. Of course, it wasn't safe there either** *(he looks round)* **goodness me, isn't that Dr. Nunn May? Dr May, I haven't seen you for a few months. I understand you had your security clearance withdrawn from Los Alamos. These army people and that General Groves...they are dumpkopf. You wear a red tie and they think you are a communist.**

*(Suddenly from the opposite side of the room there is a scream and the actress/waitress, clutching her throat, unable to breathe, drops a tray of silverware and falls to her knees and then on to her back. BIG death. In the commotion Frank calls for Reverend blessed to hear her final confession. The waitress whispers "Raymond, brown book" to the Reverend. There is a red dot on her hand surrounded by what looks like a bruise. Frank then calls for Doc David. Betty asks for the banquet manager and mumbles about her party being ruined and stands near the waitress along with the Professor.*

**Frank:** *(taking control)* **Reverend did she say anything to you? Doc**



**David, what's wrong with the poor girl? What's that mark on her hand?**

**Doc: She's deader than a doornail.**

**Frank: Dead? Well, I'll be. Every time I come to this place, someone gits killed. Reverend Blessed can you please say a few words over the poor creature?**

*(Reverend Blessed bends over the waitress and reads his speech from his bio.)*

**Frank: Did she say something to you?***(Frank gets the Reverend to repeat the information.)* **That's kind of a strange thing to say. Perhaps she was just delirious. I'm sorry about this folks. We'd better get her out of here. Professor will you give me hand.** *(they exit with the body.)*

*(This can be the opportunity for the Stage Manager to have each table elect a team captain who will be the one to open the clue envelope on his table when instructed to do so. If there are more tables than clues, no captain is elected.)*

*Betty calls for Primrose.*

**Betty: Primrose! Come here.**

**Primrose :** *(meekly)* **Yes Mrs. Spencer.**

**Betty: Where does she come from?**

**Primrose : Who?**

**Betty: The French whore.** *(you can substitute "tart" if it is a conservative audience.)*

**Primrose: France I think.**

**Betty: No, where did Frank find her?**

**Primrose : I ...**

**Betty:** Oh never mind. I'll find out for myself. You're useless!

**Primrose:** But it's not my fault. *(She keeps talking and making excuses as Betty walks off.)*

**Betty:** *(going over to Michelle and standing behind her. Michelle ignores her and remains seated.)* I don't believe we've been introduced. *(offers her hand)* I'm Mrs. Spencer, Madame Spencer, La femme de Frank? You do speak English don't you?

**Michelle:** *(innocently stands)* Oui, Mrs. Spencer. I have been wanting to meet you. Frank has told me so much about you.

**Betty:** *(slightly flustered)* Funny, he forgot to tell me *anything* about you.

**Michelle:** I am sure that is because we have only just met. Perhaps he has not had the opportunity. Besides, it is simply a business relationship. Your husband has very kindly offered to represent *(she pronounces this wepwesent)* me.

**Betty:** To what?

**Michelle:** He says he can get me a recording contract.

**Betty:** Oh, he did, did he? Look, as woman to woman I'd better warn you. Frank's friendship can be very dangerous. Why, one of his secretaries, Kristen Wolfe, a "friend" of Dr. Smith's *(indicates Dr. Smith played by a guest)* had to be executed.

**Michelle:** Mon dieu! Executed?

**Betty:** *(triumphantly)* Yes, it was a shame. Such a pretty woman. She looked a bit like you come to think of it .

**Michelle:** But what was she executed for?

**Betty:** She was a ... SPY

**Michelle :** A SPY?

**Betty: Oui.**

**Michelle: But the French are not your enemy. We are your allies.**

**Betty: Oh, she wasn't French. She was German.**

**Michelle: Oh...**

**Betty: Still, if I were you, I'd be very careful .**

**Michelle: Mrs Spencer, I do hope you are not trying to threaten *(pronounced sweaten)* me.**

**Betty: Sweaten you? Why, of course not.**

**Michelle: *(almost sincerely as woman to woman)* I do understand, that at *your* age it must be difficult to see your husband with a younger, more attractive woman.**

**Betty: Well... yes ...sometimes I...*(Betty does a double take)* What?**

**Michelle: But please don't be upset.**

**Betty: Oh, I assure you I'd burn in hell before I would let someone like *you* upset me. *(catfight played across tables.)***

**Michelle: Well, given the summers in *(whatever State such as New York or Arizona)* the heat should not bother you.**

**Betty: *(furiously)* Your papers better be in order Miss Lefevre. Allies or not, America doesn't put up with people working here without a visa.**

**Michelle: Frank will look after me.**

**Betty: Oh, I wouldn't be too sure of that. At his age and in his physical condition, anything could happen to him.**

**Michelle: I will take my chances. *(She exits just as Voronsky returns.)***

**Voronsky:** Excuse me. Is the young lady upset about something?

**Betty:** Oh...Ivan ... no, she's fine ...just... out of her *depth*.

**Voronsky:** I'm afraid the waitress is dead. Your husband has sent for the ...hearse?

**Betty:** *(putting her arms around his neck)* The waitress is not important. It's you and I who are important. We could conquer the world together given my experience and your courage.

**Voronsky:** Mrs. Spencer...Betty...I am from Soviet Union and you are from United States of America, a capitalist country

**Betty:** What does that matter? We're allies.

**Voronsky:** But you are a married woman.

*(Frank enters and stands along the side of the room watching quietly. Betty & Voronsky do not see him)*

**Betty:** Not really. *(pause)* With Frank there is no passion. I want - I *need* passion. I want to feel alive again and when I am around you I feel alive.

**Voronsky:** You are an interesting woman.

**Betty:** Oh Ivan. Let's get out of here, away from everyone.

*(Frank clears his throat and Betty and Voronsky spot him and split up.)*

**Frank:** Hi Betty. I see you are getting along with the Colonel. That's good. Gee, I'm sorry folks. That young lady has passed on. She had some sort of a seizure. Betty, you've done a great of job entertaining our guests. I'm sorry I didn't help more but I'm feeling worn out. *(he looks around)* Where's Miss Lefevre? She was here before. *(to Voronsky)* Would you mind goin' and finding her. Tell her we're ready for her to come and sing. Betty, why don't you sit down. *(pulls out Betty's chair for her)* I'm afraid I've been a really bad host. I haven't even introduced all of our guests. Now, you all met Reverend Blessed he

(she) said a real nice prayer over that young girl that died; and this is Doc Smith who pronounced the poor girl dead - he's my old drinkin buddy. I have to tell you he has me on some really good new pills for my heart condition. I've never felt better. He says the ingredients come from foxgloves. I gotta tell ya folks, I never knew those critters wore gloves (*all cast groan*). And, of course, his wife Sally is here - best nurse I ever had. (*hold for laugh if they get take off of "had"*) Works in the clinic along side the Doc. Now, here is another doctor, a scientist Dr. Nunn May, he(he) is staying with Bob Fortescue and his wife, Juliet, cus they're all Brits. Dr. May was working out there at Los Alamos - that hush- hush secret place in New Mexico. I suppose it doesn't matter us talking about it now that the war is over. I figure you must have been doing something pretty big there Dr. May because I hear that real estate is mushrooming (*another cast groan*). Of course, the Professor here is getting me to adapt a B29 big enough to drop a Sherman tank.

**Prof:** Mr Spencer please!

**Frank:** Oh come on Professor, the trouble with the world nowadays is that there's just too many secrets. If we were all honest with each other there would be no need for all this fighting, ain't that right Colonel Voronsky? (*Voronsky has re-entered with Michelle on his arm and is flirting with her. At this point, he takes her to her seat and sits.*) Oh and this is Pat Rose. Pat is in charge of security at the factory. It's kinda hard folks we make these aircraft that some of our boys are goin' to fly and well, hell, they could get killed in them. How long have you been with us Pat? Pat works directly under Betty. (*cast groan*) Oh and this is Monsieur and Madame Doree. Met them in New Mexico when I was there two weeks ago. They have a uranium mine or something. Real important to our government. Glad you make it. Hey, I know you're Belgians, but you speak French! You got to meet Michelle. Michelle? (*she stands*) Honey...we missed you. This is Monsieur and Madame Doree. They own Union Miniere, a mining company dealing in uranium. You suppose that is something like diamonds?

**Michelle:** I do not know.

**Frank:** Well, if it is, I'm going to get some for you and put them round that pretty little neck of yours.

**Michelle :** *(kisses him)* You are too generous mon cherie.

**Frank :** Now don't you go embarrassing me....

**Betty:** *(She has been trying to hear what they were saying.)* Frank?

**Frank:** Yes Betty! *(He sits at his table.)* Colonel, I believe you have invited some guests tonight. Is that right ?

**Voronsky:** Yes, to celebrate this great day of victory...Soviet Military Attache from Washington, Vitali Pavlov. Please welcome. And also Olga, or as we say in my country OLGA *(this is down with a deep voice while looking like he is going grab her)* old friend and very good member of communist party, now with American friend Mr. Harry Gold. *(to Harry )* You are carrying a brown book - very strange.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in this our great hour of victory, let us remember those who have fought the battles and who cannot be with us today. I ask you to raise your glasses. To the brave men from both of our countries! May they never be forgotten! *(another Russian toast but this is done seriously as a real toast to those heroes.)*

**Betty :** What's the matter with you Frank? *(Frank has fallen asleep)*

**Frank :** *(wakes up startled)* What! Oh! Did I fall asleep? I keep doin' that. We're having a toast? O.K., Cheers everybody. Now I think it's time Michelle sang us a song. Ladies and Gentlemen, Mademoiselle, Michelle Lefevre.

*(Michelle sings her song..La vie en rose – or another appropriate 40's love song and flirts with all the men. Rubbing the heads of bald men, etc. Just enough but not so much as to make their wives jealous. Preferably pick on single men. Frank falls asleep at the end of the song.)*

**Betty:** Will someone please wake Frank up? How rude. He's fallen asleep again. Frank, this is very embarrassing. What's in that medicine Doc? *(as a guest tries to wake him up, he drops his head on the table or something equally dramatic)* Oh my God. Doc David, help! What's

wrong with Frank?

**Dr. Smith:** He's deader than a doornail.

**Betty:** He can't be. Frank isn't the type to just... die.

**Voronsky:** Betty, he is dead.

**Betty:** Dead? *(pause)* Really dead? *(she stares at the body)* Are you sure he isn't just faking it?

**Voronsky:** No he is dead.

**Betty:** Really, really dead? *(she bursts out crying)* Oh Colonel...oh Ivan ...Frank's... dead.

**Michelle:** Mon dieu, qu'est-ce qui ce passe? Il est mort? It is not possible. *(she starts to search Frank's pockets)* Excusez- moi. It is just that Frank was going to give me something.

**Betty:** How dare you! Have you no respect ? *(Betty removes Frank's keys from his pocket)* I'll look after these.

**Michelle :** He promised to give me a contract.

**Betty:** Well he's given you all you're gonna get. Comprenez vous? Frank est fini...mort...arretez... *(they fight over the body)*

**Voronsky :** *(breaks up cat fight over the body)* Perhaps we should ask Reverend Blessed to say a few words. Reverend Blessed?

**Reverend Blessed :** Please ladies. Mrs. Spencer. *(they are restrained)* Ladies and Gentlemen. Let us all stand and have a moment's silence for Frank. Let us wish him well, wherever he goes. God Bless you Frank and may the rest of our dinner be on time *(or whatever it says in his bio for a prayer.)* *(Betty starts crying loudly a la Lucille Ball.)*

**Grubenheimer :** Colonel Voronsky kindly help me remove the body of Mr. Spencer. *(they remove the body with the help of the Stage Manager)*

*and the Professor immediately returns and continues)*

**Ladies und Gentlemen, I sink we have und problem here. All is not what it seems to be and I think I know ze reason why. *(he screws up his face)* Some of you here tonight are not what you seem to be. I have here an order from General Groves at Los Alamos that if during my mission anyone or anyzing threatens the vital interest of the Manhattan project that I am to use all means to ensure the security and the success of my mission. I have observed everyone very carefully tonight and I am certain now that there are... SPIES ... among us. Yes. There are many countries, including friendly ones who would like to have the secrets of the Manhattan Project. I have already phoned General Groves at Los Alamos to inform him of the suspicious death of the waitress. Now with the demise of Mr. Spencer, clearly we have some desperate men or women among us who are prepared to stop at nothing. Do not underestimate the danger of zis situation. The General is sending someone to help me but in the meantime he has ordered me to take command. Nobody is allowed out of this building. There is a security guard patrolling ze outside and if you attempt to leave, you vill be... *(hopefully audience will respond - SHOT at the same time as the professor.)***

*(End of Reception - proceed immediately to Betty/Primrose scene)*

**Betty:** *(very matter fact and business like. She is saddened by Frank's demise but secretly relieved)* **Primrose, I've got a job for you.**

**Primrose:** Yes Mrs. Spencer.

**Betty:** I want you to go back to the office.

**Primrose:** But...

**Betty:** These are the keys to Frank's safe.

**Primrose:** But Mrs. Spencer...



Betty: Get everything out of it - it's behind the picture - you know where it is.

Primrose: Mrs. Spencer, the Professor said that there is a security guard out there. I could be shot!

Betty: Nonsense. Nobody is going to shoot a woman.

Primrose: But what if someone stops me?

Betty: Just explain that you are Frank Spencer's secretary and you have some important work to do. I want everything out of that safe. Do you understand?

Primrose: If I am killed Mrs. Spencer, I will hold you personally responsible.

Betty: Yes. Remember I want all his papers, the will and money - if there is any. Now get going.

*(Voronsky reenters and seizes this opportunity to try and get Betty on his side so he can leave the building with the plans, which are in the possession of Mr. Gold who will turn them over with a gun to his head. Betty is no longer interested in the Colonel since she can't use him to make Frank jealous and she now has her future on her mind.)*

Voronsky: Mrs. Spencer, I am deeply sorry about your husband.

Betty: Thank you Colonel. I appreciate that.

Voronsky: It must have been a great shock

Betty: *(coily)* Not completely. He did overdo things a bit.

Voronsky: Perhaps it is wrong for me to say this since Mr Spencer is not even cold in his grave but...

Betty: Yes?

Voronsky : When you have seen death on the battlefield ... when you know that each day could be your last, then life must be... seized...(he grabs her in an embrace)

Betty: *(slightly alarmed)* Seized? *(she backs off)*

Voronsky: Yes, and now that you are free...

Betty: Free?

Voronsky: We can be together. *(he looks around)* Perhaps we should leave now to make sure all is safe at the factory.

Betty : But I have Pat Rose for that.

Voronsky: Mrs. Spencer, we need to be alone.

Betty : Please Colonel, *(deeply embarrassed)* this is very embarrassing.

Voronsky: Is this not what you want?

Betty: Look, I know you Russians are a very passionate people *(aside)* that's putting it mildly, but things have changed.

Voronsky: *(interrupting and very suave)* Your kiss will never change.

Betty: *(embarrassed)* A kiss in 1945 does not mean what it used to and it certainly shouldn't be thought of as...

Voronsky: But I thought...

**Betty:** You shouldn't have jumped to conclusions Colonel (*distancing herself*).

**Voronsky:** Ivan!

**Betty:** Colonel! In the heat of the moment I behaved perhaps (*she hesitates*) too passionately. The war has been a great strain on us all.

**Voronsky:** Mrs Spencer...Betty (*pursues her and grasps her by the waist*) I love you.

**Betty:** (*extracting herself from his embrace and holding him back*) Colonel! Please remember where you are. This is America and we draw the line at making love over our dead husband's body. You see, I loved Frank. He may have had his faults but he was...

**Voronsky:** I need to be with you now!

**Betty:** But, you're young enough to be my (*hesitates*) son...nephew. It just isn't right. I have to think of the company and the war in the Pacific. Frank made American Aircraft into what it is. Without his factories there wouldn't be any B29s. Don't you realize without Frank we would never have won the war. And now he's dead.

**Voronsky:** Betty. You must help me...(he is interrupted by a scream. Enter Primrose shot in the leg.)

**Primrose :** (*screaming*) I've been shot!

**Professor:** What?

**Primrose:** The guard shot me...without warning.

**Professor:** Those were his instructions. Where were you going?

**Primrose:** I was just going on an errand for Mrs. Spencer and he shot me.

**Betty:** I'm sorry Primrose. I didn't think they would really...

**Voronsky:** It is just a flesh wound.

**Betty:** Well, you would know, wouldn't you?

**Professor:** Silence, please. We know that the plans for the atomic bomb... yes I have mentioned it... have been stolen and are somewhere in this building. Now which of you has them or knows where they are? Must I remind you that nobody will be able to leave this room until we find the plans? The fate of the world depends on what happens here tonight. If only we had someone here tonight well versed in the art of interrogation perhaps he or she could find our murderer or murderers and they would lead us to the plans. I have been instructed by General Groves to use any such services to initiate an immediate interrogation.

**Michelle:** Professor, perhaps I can help.

**Professor:** Miss LeFevre, we do not need any more songs.

**Michelle:** My real name is Nora Noble and I am an FBI agent. I have been watching all of you this evening and I have a list of questions to ask which I believe will lead us to our killers. In the meantime we need hard clues to solve these crimes. If you should be asked, please relinquish any and all evidence, which will help us. All clues must be displayed on the clue table located \_\_\_\_\_. The professor will be available to assist you if needed. I must call General Groves.

*(The Stage Manager instructs the team captains to open their envelopes. If there are no team captains then he instructs the tables with a clue to open the envelope. Michelle then reviews clues after the Stage Manager lets her know all of them have been located and are displayed on the clue table. One by one she asks who found the clue, where, on whom, etc. She then proceeds with the interrogation. Her interrogation, which follows is written so it can be put in a small detective book. The answers she hopes to get are in red.)*

**INTERROGATIONS**

**Ladies and Gentlemen, two murders  
have Been committed here tonight.  
From my information and observations,  
the death of Frank Spencer has  
nothing to do with the death of the  
waitress. Let's start with Frank's death....  
Mrs. Spencer ...will you stand please...**

**What is your relationship to  
Colonel Voronsky?**

*I used him to make Frank jealous. Sorry Colonel.*

**What medicines was your  
husband taking?**

*.1 mg. of digitoxin 3 times a day for his heart  
and phenobarbitol for his nerves. He wasn't  
suppose to drink alcohol.*

**You are a very jealous woman,  
aren't you Mrs. Spencer?**

*No. If I was I would have killed Frank along  
time ago... you know figuratively speaking.*

**Mrs Spencer, did you kill  
your husband?**

*No !*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Miss Primrose! Will you stand  
Please Miss Primrose.**

**What was your  
Relationship to Mr. Spencer?**

*I was his personal secretary*

**Did you ever pick up his medicine  
for him?**

*yes.*

**What pharmacy did you use?**

*Laird's (or local pharmacy name)*

**And is this what you picked up?**

*Let me see the bottle - Yes.*

**Miss Primrose are you British?**

*Yes.*

**How did you get a visa to work in  
the US?**

*(My father's an American)*

**Thank you. You may sit.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dr. Smith, would you stand please?**

**Did you prescribe .1 mg of  
Digitoxin to Frank to be  
taken three  
times a day ?**

*No, once per day*

**Do you write your own  
prescriptions?**

*Yes.*

**Do you personally sign them?**

*Yes.*

**Will you sign this please using  
the signature you used  
on the prescription?**

*( He signs it and Nora displays it on the clue table)*

**Mrs. Smith, will you stand please?**

**You are a registered nurse and  
you work in your husband's clinic,  
is that correct?**

*Yes.*

**And all his prescriptions come  
through you?**

*Yes.*

**Is this your driver's license?**

*(shows it to her)*

*Yes.*

**Then this is your signature on the  
license?**

*Yes.*

**This may be very embarrassing  
for you but isn't it true that your  
marriage has been somewhat**

**rocky over the years ?**

*Yes.*

**In 1941 your husband was going  
to leave you wasn't he?**

**With Frank's ex-secretary**

**- the German spy Kristen?**

*(let her ad lib)*

**Have you forgiven him?**

*No.*

**Thank you Mrs. Smith, you may sit.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Monsieur and Madam Doree,  
would you stand please?**

**What is the name of  
your company?**

*Union Miniere*

**What do you mine?**

*uranium*

**Who do you do business with?**

*The U. S. Government*

**What is special about uranium  
Professor?**

*It is used to make the atomic bomb*

**Are you the only world-wide  
Supplier of uranium**

**Mr. and Mrs. Doree?**

*Yes*

**And you only do business with  
the U. S.?**

*Yes*

**I have information from General  
Groves that your company shipped  
20 tons of low grade uranium  
to the Soviet Union two  
months ago. Is that true?**

*No. (they will probably lie)*

**Have you had any contact with  
Mr. Pavlov? or Mr Gold? or  
Colonel Voronsky....**

*No.*

**Thank you.... do not**

**leave the room.. or ....**  
*(answer should be "you will be shot")*

**Pat Rose. Please stand....**  
**Ladies and Gentlemen... let me**  
**Assure you that the American**  
**government is well aware of what**  
**is going on here tonight Pat...you can tell**  
**them who you really are.**  
*(Agent 500632 Pat Rose, Federal Bureau*  
*of Investigation - Subversion Division)*

**Pat.. your orders were to infiltrate the**  
**organization of American Aircraft...correct?**  
*Yes*

**What did you find?**  
*(The Russians wanted to find out about the B29 )*

**Have you uncovered the spies here?**  
*(Pavlov, Voronsky and May we know about.*  
*There's one more we don't know about)*

**What is your relationship with**  
**Mrs. Spencer?**  
*(whatever - he may say he works directly under her).*

**Pat, keep your eyes and ears open.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dr Smith, please stand again.**  
**The waitress had a small**  
**pinprick on her hand. Could that**  
**have been caused by a needle**  
**in the end of a cigarette?**  
*Yes*

**You were near the waitress when**  
**She died, correct?**  
*Yes*

**How do you think she died?**  
*I believe she was poisoned*

**What type of poison is fast acting**  
**and can be administered via**  
**a puncture wound?**  
*Curare.*

**And this poison would have been**  
**deadly if administered by a**  
**single pin prick?**



Yes

Thank you. You may sit.

\*\*\*\*\*

Reverend Blessed, please stand ....  
Before the waitress died did she  
Say something to you?

*Raymond Brown Book*

*(if Nora does not get answer, she asks Betty)*

Thank you Reverend that is all for now.  
Hopefully, we will not need your services  
again tonight.

\*\*\*\*\*

Squadron Leader Fortescue, please stand.  
You are in charge of the training of  
the Royal Air Force at Falcon Field,  
is that true?

Yes

You knew Dr. Nunn May before this evening.  
Did you know that he/she had his/her  
Security clearance revoked  
at Los Alamos?

No.

Juliet Fortescue, please stand.  
Mrs. Fortescue, we found a secret  
Message sent to your husband  
from Winston Churchill.  
Did you help him decipher it?

*(whatever)*

Would you read it aloud for us  
at this time?

*(hands her the decoded message)*

Squadron Leader, did you kill  
the waitress?

NO.

Did you kill the waitress, Juliet?

No.

I warn both of you - do not leave the  
room or ...

\*\*\*\*\*

Dr. Nun May, please stand.  
Why was your security clearance at  
Los Alamos revoked?

( if necessary because she doesn't answer properly-)

*Put it this way.....do you believe that  
scientific discoveries belong to  
the world and not just to one country?*

**Are you a member of the  
Communist party?**

*No.*

**Would you betray your  
country?**

*No*

**Is Raymond your code name?**

*No.*

**Dr. May you brought with you samples  
Of uranium which you obviously  
stole from Los Alamos.**

**Who did you give them to?**

*Voronsky (o.k. if she says someone else)*

**You are under arrest for espionage**

**Dr May.**

**Pat keep an eye on him/her**

\*\*\*\*\*

*(He answers to every question: No comment. I claim  
diplomatic immunity)*

**Vitali Pavlov. You are the Military  
Attache for the Soviet Union, correct?**

**Are you a member of the NKVD,  
the Soviet Secret Service?**

**Are you here to assist Colonel  
Voronsky in some way?**

**Did you give him these cigarettes?**

**Vitali Pavlov you are under arrest.**

**Pat keep an eye on him.**

**Stop salivating Pavlov. You are  
Innocent until proven guilty.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Harry Gold will you stand please?**

**Harry, are you an American citizen?**

*Yes*

**Where were your parents born?**

*Russia*

**You were seen carrying this brown book when you came in this evening. Was that some type of signal to someone to give you the plans to the atomic bomb?**

*whatever*

**Is your code name Raymond?**

*(He probably will lie and say No)*

**What do you know about Los Alamos Harry?**

*(he denies any knowledge)*

**Have you ever been there?**

*No*

**Oh, really? That's odd. I searched your car and found this.**

*(Shows Map of New Mexico with Los Alamos circled)*

**Harry Gold, you are under arrest for suspected espionage.**

**Pat keep an eye on him.**

*(this is now a running gag with Pat)*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Olga Molotov, please stand. What is your relationship to Harry Gold?**

*his friend , comrad, whatever.*

**Isn't it true that you met with comrade Pavlov earlier and accompanied him outside to meet with Colonel Voronsky ?**

*Yes. (she may lie - say you saw her.)*

**What was the meeting all about?**

*(whatever)*

**Did you kill the waitress?**

*No*

**Did Comrade Pavlov kill the waitress?**

*(whatever)*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Colonel Voronsky will you stand.**

**Do you smoke?**

*No.*

**Did anyone see the Colonel  
With these cigarettes?**

*(probably several will say yes)*

**Where did you get them?**

*The Embassy gave them to me to give away  
to Americans in friendship - they seem to like  
to smoke. There is nothing harmful about that.*

**Are you sure someone didn't give  
them to you earlier tonight?**

*Yes*

**I think you are lying. Vitali Pavlov  
did you give the cigarettes  
to the Colonel?**

*whatever*

**What are you in the United  
States for Colonel?**

*to look at planes*

**Did you know about the plans  
for the atomic bomb?**

*what bomb?*

**Are you a member of the NKVD?**

*No. I am merely a soldier.*

**Tell me Colonel. Isn't it true that  
members of the Red Army carry  
up-to-date pay books?**

*Yes*

**Why is your pay book out of date?**

*A mere oversight. I have been  
in the field.*

**Hum. Colonel, there are only  
two reasons why you would kill  
someone for the plans if they were  
already on their way to Moscow  
via Harry Gold. You were planning to  
defect or you made a little deal  
on your own?**

**Those plans must be worth a fortune.**

**Colonel you are under arrest for**

**International espionage  
and suspicion of murder. Pat keep  
an eye on him.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen. I think I  
know who our murderers are. But before I  
reveal any more information,  
I must phone General Groves to confirm  
my suspicions. You might want to  
consider these clues.**

**Was Betty bewitched by  
the colonel's behavior and make  
a bargain to betray  
Frank ?**

**or**

**Is the charming Colonel a classical  
cold blooded killer who  
calculated the crimes and  
chose the cigarette case  
as a clever cover-up?**

**What about Penelope  
Primrose? Did she promise  
to pacify the professor or put  
up with his pursuit to protect  
her past?**

**Speaking of science,**

**Did the doctor diligently  
diagnose Frank's disease  
or deliberately dole out too  
much dope? What about his  
wife the nurse? Did she  
neutralize Frank with a  
numbing number of narcotics?**

**Finally, simply put -  
Pavlov has a pension  
for performing; Rose is an  
active agent; Dr. Nunn is noble  
but nostalgic; the Dorees deal  
out doom and disaster; Hedda has great hats;  
T. R. lies through her lipstick;  
Helen has helped in the hunt; Harry**

**and Olga are soviet saboteurs  
and the Squadron Leader is a  
SPY!**

**It is now up to you.**

## INTERROGATIONS

Ladies and Gentlemen, two murders  
have been committed here tonight.  
From my information and observations,  
the death of Frank Spencer has  
nothing to do with the death of the  
waitress. Let's start with Frank's death....  
Mrs. Spencer ...will you stand please...

What is your relationship to  
Colonel Voronsky?

*I used him to make Frank jealous. Sorry Colonel.*

What medicines was your  
husband taking?

*.1 mg. of digitoxin 3 times a day for his heart  
and phenobarbital for his nerves. He wasn't  
supposed to drink alcohol.*

You are a very jealous woman,  
aren't you Mrs. Spencer?

*No. If I was I would have killed Frank along  
time ago... you know figuratively speaking.*

Mrs Spencer, did you kill  
your husband?

*No ! I loved my husband.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Miss Primrose! Will you stand  
Please Miss Primrose.

What was your  
Relationship to Mr. Spencer?

*I was his personal secretary*

Did you ever pick up his medicine  
for him?

*yes.*

What pharmacy did you use?

*Laird's (or local pharmacy name)*

And is this what you picked up?

*Let me see the bottle - Yes.*

Miss Primrose are you British?

*Yes.*

How did you get a visa to work in  
the US?

*(My father's an American)*

Thank you. You may sit.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dr. Smith, would you stand please?**

**Did you prescribe .1 mg of  
Digitoxin to Frank to be  
taken three  
times a day ?**

*No, once per day*

**Do you write your own  
prescriptions?**

*Yes.*

**Do you personally sign them?**

*Yes.*

**Will you sign this please using  
the signature you used  
on the prescription?**

*( He signs it and Nora displays it on the clue table)*

**Mrs. Smith, will you stand please?**

**You are a registered nurse and  
you work in your husband's clinic,  
is that correct?**

*Yes.*

**And all his prescriptions come  
through you?**

*Yes.*

**Is this your driver's license?**

*(shows it to her)*

*Yes.*

**Then this is your signature on the  
license?**

*Yes.*

**This may be very embarrassing  
for you but isn't it true that your  
marriage has been somewhat  
rocky over the years ?**

*Yes.*

**In 1941 your husband was going  
to leave you wasn't he?**

**With Frank's ex-secretary  
- the German spy Kristen?**

*(let her ad lib)*



Have you forgiven him?

*No.*

Thank you Mrs. Smith, you may sit.

\*\*\*\*\*

Monsieur and Madam Doree,  
would you stand please?

What is the name of  
your company?

*Union Miniere*

What do you mine?

*uranium*

Who do you do business with?

*The U. S. Government*

What is special about uranium  
Professor?

*It is used to make the atomic bomb*

Are you the only world-wide  
Supplier of uranium  
Mr. and Mrs. Doree?

*Yes*

And you only do business with  
the U. S.?

*Yes*

I have information from General  
Groves that your company shipped  
20 tons of low grade uranium  
to the Soviet Union two  
months ago. Is that true?

*No. (they will probably lie)*

Have you had any contact with  
Mr. Pavlov? or Mr Gold? or  
Colonel Voronsky....

*No.*

Thank you.... do not  
leave the room.. or ....

*(answer should be "you will be shot")*

\*\*\*\*\*

Pat Rose. Please stand....  
Ladies and Gentlemen... let me

**Assure you that the American government is well aware of what is going on here tonight Pat...you can tell them who you really are.**

*(Agent 500632 Pat Rose, Federal Bureau of Investigation - Subversion Division)*

**Pat.. your orders were to infiltrate the organization of American Aircraft...correct?**

*Yes*

**What did you find?**

*(The Russians wanted to find out about the B29)*

**Have you uncovered the spies here?**

*(Pavlov, Voronsky and May we know about. There's one more we don't know about)*

**What is your relationship with Mrs. Spencer?**

*(whatever - he may say he works directly under her).*

**Pat, keep your eyes and ears open.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dr Smith, please stand again.**

**The waitress had a small pinprick on her hand. Could that have been caused by a needle in the end of a cigarette?**

*Yes*

**You were near the waitress when She died, correct?**

*Yes*

**How do you think she died?**

*I believe she was poisoned*

**What type of poison is fast acting and can be administered via a puncture wound?**

*Curare.*

**And this poison would have been deadly if administered by a single prick?**

*Yes*

**Thank you. You may sit.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Reverend Blessed, please stand .**

**Before the waitress died did she  
Say something to you?**  
*Raymond Brown Book*  
*(if Nora does not get answer, she asks Betty)*

**Thank you Reverend that is all for now.  
Hopefully, we will not need your services  
again tonight.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Squadron Leader Fortescue, please stand.  
You are in charge of the training of  
the Royal Air Force at Falcon Field,  
is that true?**  
*Yes*

**You knew Dr. Nunn May before this evening.  
Did you know that he/she had his/her  
Security clearance revoked  
at Los Alamos?**  
*No.*

**Juliet Fortescue, please stand.  
Mrs. Fortescue, we found a secret  
Message sent to your husband  
from Winston Churchill.  
Did you help him decipher it?**  
*(whatever)*

**Would you read it aloud for us  
at this time?**  
*(hands her the decoded message)*

**Squadron Leader, did you kill  
the waitress?**  
*NO.*

**Did you kill the waitress, Juliet?**  
*No.*

**I warn both of you - do not leave the  
room or ...**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dr. Nun May, please stand.  
Why was your security clearance at  
Los Alamos revoked?**  
*( if necessary because she doesn't answer properly-)  
Put it this way.....do you believe that  
scientific discoveries belong to  
the world and not just to one country?*

**Are you a member of the  
Communist party?**

*No.*

**Would you betray your  
country?**

*No*

**Is Raymond your code name?**

*No.*

**Dr. May you brought with you samples  
Of uranium which you obviously  
stole from Los Alamos.  
Who did you give them to?**

*Voronsky (o.k. if she says someone else)*

**You are under arrest for espionage**

**Dr May.**

**Pat keep an eye on him/her**

\*\*\*\*\*

*(He answers to every question: No comment. I claim  
diplomatic immunity)*

**Vitali Pavlov. You are the Military  
Attache for the Soviet Union, correct?**

**Are you a member of the NKVD,  
the Soviet Secret Service?**

**Are you here to assist Colonel  
Voronsky in some way?**

**Did you give him these cigarettes?**

**Vitali Pavlov you are under arrest.  
Pat keep an eye on him.**

**Stop salivating Pavlov. You are  
Innocent until proven guilty.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Harry Gold will you stand please?**

**Harry, are you an American citizen?**

*Yes*

**Where were your parents born?**

*Russia*

**You were seen carrying this brown book when you came in this evening. Was that some type of signal to someone to give you the plans to the atomic bomb?**

*Whatever – he will probably lie.*

**Is your code name Raymond?**

*(He probably will lie and say No)*

**What do you know about Los Alamos Harry?**

*(he denies any knowledge)*

**Have you ever been there?**

*No*

**Oh, really? That's odd. I searched your car and found this.**

*(Shows Map of New Mexico with Los Alamos circled)*

**Harry Gold, you are under arrest for suspected espionage.**

**Pat keep an eye on him.**

*(this is now a running gag with Pat)*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Olga Molotov, please stand. What is your relationship to Harry Gold?**

*his friend , comrade, whatever.*

**Isn't it true that you met with comrade Pavlov earlier and accompanied him outside to meet with Colonel Voronsky ?**

*Yes. (she may lie - say you saw her.)*

**What was the meeting all about?**

*(whatever)*

**Did you kill the waitress?**

*No*

**Did Comrade Pavlov kill the waitress?**

*(whatever)*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Colonel Voronsky will you stand.**

**Do you smoke?**

*No.*

**Did anyone see the Colonel  
With these cigarettes?**

*(probably several will say yes – if not, Betty will say she did)*

**Where did you get them?**

*The Embassy gave them to me to give away  
to Americans in friendship - they seem to like  
to smoke. There is nothing harmful about that.*

**Are you sure someone didn't give  
them to you earlier tonight?**

*Yes*

**I think you are lying. Vitali Pavlov  
did you give the cigarettes  
to the Colonel?**

*I claim diplomatic immunity.*

**What are you in the United  
States for Colonel?**

*to look at planes*

**Did you know about the plans  
for the atomic bomb?**

*what bomb?*

**Are you a member of the NKVD?**

*No. I am merely a soldier.*

**Tell me Colonel. Isn't it true that  
members of the Red Army carry  
up-to-date pay books?**

*Yes*

**Why is your pay book out of date?**

*A mere oversight. I have been  
in the field.*

**Hum. Colonel, there are only  
two reasons why you would kill  
someone for the plans if they were  
already on their way to Moscow  
via Harry Gold. You were planning to  
defect or you made a little deal  
on your own?**

**Those plans must be worth a fortune.**

**Colonel you are under arrest for  
International espionage  
and suspicion of murder. Pat keep  
an eye on him.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen. I think I know who our murderers are. But before I reveal any more information, I must phone General Groves to confirm my suspicions. You might want to consider these clues.**

**Was Betty bewitched by the colonel's behavior and make a bargain to betray Frank ?**

**or**

**Is the charming Colonel a classical cold blooded killer who calculated the crimes and chose the cigarette case as a clever cover-up?**

**What about Penelope Primrose? Did she promise to pacify the professor or put up with his pursuit to protect her past?**

**Speaking of science,**

**Did the doctor diligently diagnose Frank's disease or deliberately dole out too much dope? What about his wife the nurse? Did she neutralize Frank with a numbing number of narcotics?**

**Finally, simply put - Pavlov has a pension for performing; Rose is an active agent; Dr. Nunn is noble but nostalgic; the Dorees deal out doom and disaster; Hedda has great hats; T. R. lies through her lipstick; Helen has helped in the hunt; Harry and Olga are soviet saboteurs and the Squadron Leader is a SPY!**

**It is now up to you.**

**Professor, would you please field questions from our guests for the next few minutes?**

**Prof :** Zis is very interesting. I think I am finding out who is who but I am not sure. It is like making ze bomb, we have to all think very hard to find the solution. Do any of you have questions? (*professor controls audience asking questions of the actors for no more than a few minutes*) Good! You also would like to guess who did these murders? Ya. Stage manager kindly distribute a form for everybody to fill in. There will be a prize for ze winner.

## **ENDING**

*(Background: Voronsky has murdered the waitress with a poisoned needle hidden inside a cigarette and Nurse Smith killed Frank with an overdose of medicine by changing the prescription of digitoxin from .1 mg. once a day to 3 times a day which slows down the heart. She did this in the hopes of framing her husband thereby getting even with him for trying to run away with Frank's ex-secretary, Kristen Woolfe.)*

*(As soon as most forms are filled in.)*

**Professor:** Ladies and Gentlemen I have to tell you zat I know who did zees murders. Miss Primrose will you stand up please? You are not what you appear to be.

**Primrose:** I don't know what you are talking about.

**Prof:** You are not yust a secretary. You were carrying on with Mr. Spencer. Confess.

**Primrose:** Absolute poppycock!

**Prof:** Poppycock? You were doing poppycock vis Mr. Spencer?

**Primrose :** No, Professor Grubiehindie or whatever you're called, I am trying to tell you I had nothing to do with the murders.



**Prof:** I saw you talking wiz ze waitress. Did anyone see her? You see. You were trying to get ze secrets from her. And you were ze one wiz ze pills. You were stealing ze plans and killing your employer. You were jealous ya....because he was in love wiz ze French songbird..so you changed ze prescription. Ze waitress would not give you the plans so you killed her wiz pin of your broach...zat account for ze small pinprick on her hand. Confess Miss Primrose. Confess.

**Primrose:** This is ridiculous Professor. *(Takes off wig and reveals himself.)* I am Captain Peter Prendergast of his Britannic Majesty's Intelligence.

**Prof:** But you are...*(gulps)* not a woman....you are ...a man!

**Primrose :** Quick thinking Professor.

**Prof:** *(slowly)* You were ze young man at the Atomic Research Station - so you did not kill...

**Primrose:** No Professor, I did not kill anyone. I'm working for the British government. I was placed here to keep an eye on British scientists working at Los Alamos.

*(Enter Nora Noble)*

**Nora:** Alright everybody, I've found out what I needed to know.

**Prof:** Miss Noble. I have found out Miss Primrose is not a woman.

**Nora:** Yes, Professor! I know. He's been working undercover and has been a great help to me. He even faked being shot so he could get Frank's most recent prescription.

**Prof:** But ziz is very confusing.

**Nora:** Not really. Is it Mrs. Smith? Do you know what this is (*holds up the prescription*) Notice the signature has a small circle to dot the i. You look pale Mrs. Smith. And what is this? Yes, this is your husband's signature and this (*holds up driver license*) is yours. You forged the prescription and changed the dosage for digitoxin from once a day to three times a day. You would have gotten away with it too if it wasn't for your distinct dotting of i's. Tell us why you did it Mrs. Smith. Why did you kill Frank Spencer? (*if she doesn't answer, proceed with the following*) Jealousy wasn't it? You never forgave your husband for wanting to run away to Acapulco with Kristen Wolfe so you thought that you'd get rid of Frank and lay the blame on your husband sending him to the gallows.

**Nora:** Very clever Mrs. Smith but not clever enough. You are under arrest for the murder of Frank Spencer. Pat keep an eye on her.

(*Nora meets up with Primrose in the middle of the room. Stage Manager comes up to Primrose and gives him a note*)

**Primrose:** (*opening the note*) Who is this from? (*Stage Manager says it was given to him/her by the dead waitress*) (*Primrose reads the letter*)

“If you read this letter I shall be dead. (*Nora and Primrose look at each other.*) My brother at Los Alamos stole some very important scientific discoveries and entrusted them to me with instructions to pass them on to a man who responds to the code name Raymond and who will be carrying a brown book. He swore on our mother's bible that it is for the good of all mankind. On three occasions a young man with a strange accent approached me and demanded information. He told me that if I refused to help him I would be handed over to the authorities and executed. I fear for my life. Were it not for ...

Voronsky: (*Knocking Primrose and Nora out of the way, he pulls his gun*) Give me your guns.

Nora and Primrose (*at the same time*): I don't have one.

Voronsky: Hum, I thought all Americans had guns. (*to Nora*) Unfortunately, no time to search you. Now, everybody sit down. You too (*to Peter and Nora*) Nobody is to move. Reach for the sky! I always wanted to say that. Everybody. Go on. That's it. (*grabs a hostage*) I will shoot this innocent person if anyone dares to follow me. Yes, I killed the waitress. She recognized me as the man who had approached her and she would not give me the plans of the bomb so I had to kill her. Luckily, thanks to Mr. Pavlov, I had the means - the poisoned cigarettes. (*grabs brown book from clue table*) These plans of the bomb will make me a very rich man. Free enterprise I think you Americans call it. Thank you Mr. Gold for getting them for me. Mr Pavlov, I regret, I shall not be able to return to Soviet Union. I have other plans. I have a plane waiting for me. It seems the Brazilian government is very anxious to come to an agreement. Mrs. Spencer, Betty, I am sorry... it would have been so much easier for me if you had helped me to leave earlier. If anyone dares to follow me I shall shoot this person. (*edges towards the door with hostage.*) Nobody move. I warn you I will shoot the hostage. (*exits with hostage*)

Betty: Primrose, do something. Go rescue that poor hostage!

Primrose : Oh alright. I tell you though. This job's getting a bit much! First I have to dress up like a woman, then work as your secretary, which was not easy, pretend to get shot and now run after a spy in high heels! (*exit Primrose as he pulls his gun*)

**Nora:** Pat, keep your eye on Gold, Pavlov and Mrs. Smith. I'm going after Voronsky. *(She produces her gun and goes for the door and exits.)*

*(There's a shot.)*

**Betty :** Heavens who's been killed now? *(looks back to the audience)* Maybe Voronsky has another wound. *(exit)*

**Prof:** Don't be worrying. I have rescued ze real plans for ze atomic bomb thanks to *(refers to team captain who gave him plans after substituting the false ones)*. Ze secrets are safe zank goodness. It doesn't matter who gets shot now. *(exits.)*

**Stage Manager:** Now I would like to introduce your cast **(introduces cast):** *(As he/she introduces Voronsky, the hostage comes on with a gun and says.)* I shot him.*( Voronsky follows with a bullet hole in his head – just blood dripping down from his forehead. The professor is the last one in.)*

Now, I would like our supporting cast **(the audience)** to stand and take a bow.

**Ladies and Gentlemen** I have here all of the correct answers and we will now select one. **(Reads answer and awards prize)**

*(The professor explains who the real characters are and their history.)*