

Mama Mia! Murder In the Meatballs Audition Material

Request: This is year 6th year that MCA has requested we perform a murder mystery for their annual fund raiser **October 17, 2026**. They have requested an Italian theme perhaps in a family-owned, Italian restaurant. Location will be the Elks Lodge.

Setting the Scene: Tony's Italian Restaurant is a proud, family-owned Italian restaurant in a questionable part of town. The atmosphere is thick with old-world charm, garlic, and existential dread.

The Characters 2-3 men; 3-4 women; 1 inspector (male or female); 1 sound tech. (7-9 cast/crew)

Chef Papa Tony. Male 60ish. The patriarch, a man whose temper was as volatile as the deep fryer.

Auntie "Glitter-Guts" (Female 60ish) Papa Tony's BFF (Best Friend Forever) from kindergarten, whom the family now just refers to as Glitter Guts.

Filomena "Fifi" (22, Female) The perpetually confused, part-time waitress. She got the job because Lucia, her mother, quit and insisted that Tony hire her daughter.

Sofia Antonelli (Female 50ish) Hostess and General Manager. Papa Tony's estranged-but-still-runs-the-front-of-house x-wife. Still the business partner: Sofia is a sharp, no-nonsense businesswoman who invested a significant sum in the trattoria a few years back. She handles the finances and often clashes with Tony over his free-spending habits.

Marco "The Muscle" Romano (30-50) - The Bouncer/Enforcer. Grew up the 'hood' with Tony's family and considers him to be an uncle although there is no blood relations. Can be big and bulky or a Barney Fife kinda guy.

Jo O'Malley (Age Indeterminate: male or female) - The Bookie: Jo is an elusive figure who often sits in a secluded booth, taking bets on everything from local football games to the outcome of political elections. **Actor must be familiar** with all sorts of betting and the street talk terminology. Horse racing: win, place, show, points on football games, pool game bets, etc. etc.

Scene 1: A scream from the kitchen. Inspector runs into the dining room holding a poster of Tony dead in a plate of spaghetti & meatballs. "He's dead!!! Poisoned by one of his own famous meatballs. It's hanging out of his mouth, still on the fork! Don't go in there, it's a hideous scene and the cops are on their way."

(This triggers the floodgates. All five suspects immediately erupt, yelling over one another): ALL CAST

Sofia (Shouting at Glitter Guts, who is yelling at her): It's Glitter Guts! She's obsessed with her vintage kitchen tools and she needed Tony's inheritance to pay off her debts from buying all that crap!! AND she hates me for owning a significant share of the house.

Marco (the loudest) It's Fifi. She hates Tony and his rules. particularly the hairnet. She's so stupid she didn't realize that the rule to wear the hairnet was a joke on her. Everyone knew it was a joke and she thought it was for real. Now she's been totally humiliated in front of the staff and all her friends.

Auntie Glitter Guts (High pitched, weeping): MARCO! Keep your voice down, my sequins are rattling! FIFI, stop looking at your beanie! I overheard a conversation between Tony and Jo in the alley yesterday when Jo threatened Tony to pay up or go meet his maker. Jo had to have done it!

Jo: It's MARCO! Enzo was arrested on a drug charge. Tony, who had was going to help him out using his ties in the criminal underworld. Tony promised to "make it disappear" in exchange for \$10G. Marco paid him, but Tony pocketed the cash and did nothing, leading to Enzo's harsh sentencing yesterday. Marco saw this as an unforgivable double-cross.

Fifi (Quietly, then rising in volume, yelling at no one in particular): I don't know who did it, but I think it was Sofia. You were always involved in the finances and had to know that Tony always had his hand in the till. You're the most likely killer of all these crazy people!

Inspector speaking clearly over the continuous din): *Mama mia, enough!* Silence! You all sound like a pot of forgotten Sunday sauce boiling over. I am Inspector Rico. I am not related to anyone here, thankfully. My only stake in this is determining which one of you is going to prison for using Tony's meatballs to knock him off."

(To the Audience): Folks, let me walk you through this greasy crime scene. We have a victim, Papa Tony, poisoned by what we suspect is high-grade rat poison disguised as worchestershire sauce, found in the meatball in question. This is key. Who had access to the meatballs, and who had a motive that outweighs the sheer hassle of cleaning up after a murder?"

Inspector: Glitter Guts, where were you when Tony was poisoned this evening?

Glitter: I was upstairs in the office, "auditing the balsamic vinegar stock."

Jo: Which we all know means drinking cheap Chianti and trying on Sofia's wigs. (Glitter reacts as though being tattled on.)

Inspector: And were you again looking for your missing Tiffany timer that disappeared, what 2-3 weeks ago?

Glitter: I loved that Tiffany timer and Tony “borrowed” it and then claimed he never saw it. He’s a liar and a cheat and I’ll never forgive him for that!

Scene 2: Audition only. Inspector, Sofia and Marco

Inspector: Sofia, I've heard that you recently discovered some missing money – a significant amount. It seems to match up to the \$100,000 that you invested into the trattoria several years ago. What and when did you discover this?

Sofia: Tony has always helped himself to cash from the register but I only discovered yesterday that he has embezzled my \$100,000. I'm so angry I could just SPIT! His blasted addiction to online bingo and whatever he owes to Jo, certainly brought him down and where does that leave me? I'm out my \$100,000 and left with a dying restaurant that has little hope of keeping the doors open. HOW COULD HE DO THIS TO ME?

Inspector: And just where were you this afternoon when the meatballs were simmering? Did you have access to the kitchen and the worchestershire?

Sofia: Well, of course I had access to the kitchen: all of us do! I will periodically wander through and check out the sauces for the evening. I have no interest in Tony's meatballs... my grandmother had a much better meatball recipe that he would never even look at. He insisted on claiming the restaurant was his family enterprise and he would only serve his family recipes. Even if they were awful.

Inspector: Marco, the bouncer. Did you go anywhere near the meatballs this afternoon?

Marco: I can't believe he double crossed me. My little brother, Enzo, was arrested on drug charges and since Tony had connections to the underworld, he said he could make it all better for Enzo but I had to pay him \$10,000. I paid it and then Enzo was condemned to prison for 18 years! What happened to the deal!!! I trusted Tony to take care of it. I wish I had killed him but I can't even say worchestershire.

Inspector: I doubt that pronouncing worchestershire in a line-up would be a requirement. Were you in the kitchen this afternoon at all?

Marco: I can't deny it. I go into the kitchen every afternoon before the doors open and sample the meatballs. I loved Tony's meatballs and would never desecrate a perfect recipe!

Scene 3 (for auditions only) Inspector, Jo & Fifi

Inspector: Jo, why did you insist staying at the trattoria knowing that Tony didn't want you here. You brought in a pretty rough crowd and Tony was convinced that your clients were bad for business.

Jo: But Tony was one of my clients and really had no reason to question their character. Tony owed me a significant sum of money from a series of bad bets and on-line Bingo, and the debt is long overdue. I was tired of Tony's excuses and continued stalling, so I came to silence him for good, sending a message to others.

Inspector: Did you just admit that you murdered Tony? That certainly sounds like a confession to me.

Jo: Nah! My plans were for tomorrow night when the restaurant wasn't so busy. After all, these folks would have heard the gunshot and Marco and I are the only ones who carry guns.

Inspector: So poisoning the meatballs wouldn't be in your "toolkit?" Why resort to violence when you could have easily poisoned the meatballs.

Jo: Poisoning is for weenies. Look to one of the women for that sort of weapon.

Inspector: That brings us to Fifi. Would you know how to poison a meatball? Did you mess with the worchestershire? You certainly would have been in the kitchen helping with prep this afternoon? Did you see Marco test the meatballs?

Fifi: I can't believe that Uncle Tony would play a mean trick on me by saying that I had to wear the stupid hairnet all the time. I thought he was serious and then all my "friends" told me that it was all a joke--- on me! Because I'm too stupid to realize the joke. He was a really mean man who hated my mother, Lucia and me. Why did he even hire us?

Inspector: Let's stick to the subject. Did you go near the meatballs at all this afternoon?

Fifi: I do help with prep but I'm only allowed to chop the veggies for salad... it's all very healthy stuff and I do take a few bites here and there. But I can't say worchestershire either. That's something Marco and I have in common although he loves those meatballs and I think they're too fatty.

Inspector: Now it's your turn. You have a solution sheet on your table where you yada yada yada.....

ACTOR INFORMATION &
MURDER MYSTERY AUDITION FORM
PLEASE COMPLETE ALL ANSWERS

Name (First & Last): Cell Phone: Text? Y N

Age if under 18 years old Home Phone:

Mailing Address:

Email: print clearly! Gender?

Age range for acting: (ex: 20-35)

What show are you auditioning for and which character(s)?

Show _____

Character(s) _____

Dates you are NOT available between today and the date of the show:

Days and times you are generally available. Please circle the days that work for you. X through days/times that absolutely never work for you.

Evenings: (generally starting at 6 or 6:30) Mon Tues Wed Thu Fri

Weekends: Sat Mornings Sat Afternoons Sunday Afternoons

Are you new to Magic Circle? Yes No Other?

A short list of theatre experience:

Would you be interested in helping with any other aspects of any of our performances? (ex: script writing, sound, lights, stage crew, costumes, ushering, prompting, etc. Please circle or list)

Have you participated in or attended a murder mystery? Y N Where? When?

Have you attended the MCP Intro Murder Mystery Workshop? Y N

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS
LINE _____