Death at the Velvet Rose - Clues

Here's a set of detailed clues to use for "Death at the Velvet Rose". These clues can be handed out gradually throughout the night or hidden for guests to find.

Clue 1: Torn Note - Found in Rose's Office

A piece of paper torn in half, with the following text:

"If you don't pay up by tonight, everyone will know your dirty little secret. Consider this your final warning." (Unsigned, but the handwriting matches Johnny "Ace" O' Malley's bold script.)

If you don't pay up by tonight, everyone will know your dirty little warning.

Clue 2: Broken Necklace - Discovered near the crime scene A pearl necklace with its clasp broken, scattered pearls nearby. (*Belongs to Gloria Glam, who claims Rose grabbed it during a heated argument.)





Clue 3: Ledger Entry - Found behind the bar

A page from the club's financial ledger showing a large unpaid debt to Constance Crown.

Entry reads: Loan: \$10,000

Due Date: Last month

Status: Unpaid

Constance claims she was "giving Rose time," but others suggest otherwise.

Clue 4: Uncorked Bottle - Found in the storage room

A bootleg whiskey bottle labeled with Professor Plum's chemistry lab insignia. The professor denies involvement but seems nervous about being linked to illegal activity.

Clue 5: Scarf with Lipstick Stain - Found in the back room near the stage

A silk scarf with a distinctive red lipstick mark. The shade matches Milly Belle's signature lipstick. Milly claims she was nowhere near Rose's office but becomes defensive when questioned.

Clue 6: Blackmail Photograph - Hidden in Rose's Desk Drawer

A photograph showing Detective Sam Slater accepting a bribe from a known gangster. It's unclear how Rose obtained it, but Sam insists it's not what it seems.

Clue 7: Threatening Whisper - Witness Testimony

Felicity "Flick" Farrow, the journalist, overheard Eddie "Quick Hands" Malone whisper to Rose earlier:

"You're in over your head, Rose. This will end badly for you."

Eddie says it was a warning, not a threat, but suspicion rises.

Clue 8: The Key - Discovered in Rose's pocket

A key marked with "Storage Room #3." Inside the room, guests find more whiskey bottles and records of illegal sales. These implicate Rose, but also hint that someone else may have been involved in the operation.

Clue 9: Rose's Diary Entry - Found in her office drawer

An entry from the night before the murder:

"I don't know who to trust anymore. Everyone wants something from me—money, secrets, or worse. I'm tired of looking over my shoulder."

Clue 10: Bullet Casing - Found at the crime scene

The casing is from a small handgun. Upon investigation, Gloria Glam has a similar gun in her purse, which she claims is "just for protection."

How to Use These Clues

Distribute clues in phases as guests investigate.

Place physical clues (like the torn note, broken necklace, or scarf) around the room for discovery.

Use witness testimonies (Clue 7) and evidence (Clues 6, 10) to create red herrings.

Tie it all together: The murderer could be determined by a pre-set outcome or based on the group's votes at the end.

Final Reveal for "Death at the Velvet Rose" KEEP HIDDEN FROM GUESTS!!!

Murderer: Constance Crown

Motive: Constance had loaned Rose a substantial sum of money to keep the speakeasy afloat. Rose promised to pay her back, but instead, she used the funds to expand her bootlegging operation. When Rose's debt became overdue, Constance felt betrayed. To protect her reputation and recover her investment, she decided to silence Rose permanently.

How the Reveal Unfolds

Climactic Scene:

After accusations are made, Detective Sam Slater gathers everyone and reveals the critical evidence:

The ledger entry showing Rose's debt to Constance.

The key to Storage Room #3, which revealed the illegal bootlegging operation, further angering Constance.

A partial fingerprint on the bullet casing matching Constance's glove.

Constance tries to deny it, but under pressure, she confesses.

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Dialogue for the Final Reveal

Detective Sam Slater:

"Ladies and gentlemen, the truth is clear as day—or as clear as moonshine, in this case. Rose owed a lot of people money, but only one person had the motive, opportunity, and evidence linking them to the crime. Constance, the game's up. Care to explain why your glove's fingerprint was on the bullet casing?"

Constance Crown (Murderer):

"I warned her! I gave her every chance to pay me back, but she laughed in my face and flaunted her success. That speakeasy, that empire, should have been mine! I couldn't let her ruin me!"

Gloria Glam:

"You always thought money could solve everything, Constance. But look where greed got you."

Johnny "Ace" O' Malley:

"Well, that's one way to collect a debt. But you're gonna wish you stuck to sending threatening notes, sweetheart."

Milly Belle:

"And to think, I thought it was Gloria! Turns out, the most dangerous dame in the room was wearing pearls and a smile."

Bonus: Red Herring Dialogue

Use these lines throughout the evening to throw guests off the trail:

Johnny "Ace" O' Malley:

"Rose had it coming. She was playing a dangerous game, and everyone knows it."

Gloria Glam:

"Rose and I fought, sure. But I'd never harm her—she made me the star I am today."

Eddie "Quick Hands" Malone:

"Rose wasn't perfect, but she was the only one who gave me a chance when no one else would."

Felicity "Flick" Farrow:

"This is the biggest scoop of my career! Too bad Rose isn't here to see the headlines."