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