



The Mysterious Case of A Quarterback in Space

by Carolyn Boyden
with contributions from Jack Pachuta

8 Role Players - 9 To 24 Players can participate.

Because several of the roles can be played by either a boy or a girl, the gender mix can be:

6 boys and 2 girls

5 boys and 3 girls

4 boys and 4 girls

3 boys and 5 girls

Each player will have a role in solving the mystery whether as the news reporter, one of the eight suspects, or as a deputized citizen from the town of Possum Valley.

The news reporter, who plays the part of the moderator, and the suspects will each be reading statements as the game begins. The deputized citizens will have less demanding roles, but all players will be involved in solving the crime.

During the game, players mingle and clarify information from individual suspects. Playing time is approximately 60-75 minutes. The person with the most complete solution is the "Super Sleuth" and wins the game.

This packet contains:

- instructions for playing the game,
- the answer sheet that must be completed to solve the crime,
- the statements of the moderator and suspects,
- a timeline of events,
- a map of the crime scene, and
- the solution to the crime.



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AN UNUSUAL INCIDENT

There is really no good time to be abducted by space aliens. Certainly the worst time, though, is when you are the star quarterback on your high school team and it is the night before the big homecoming game.

It was a rainy Thursday night in Possum Valley. Witnesses saw Possum Valley High School quarterback, Kent Passerby disappear from the town square in a cloud of smoke and flashing lights. Citizens were frantic. The sheriff jumped into action. No aliens in flying saucers were going to get away with kidnapping young athletes in his county.

Everyone was relieved and everything seemed okay when, after an absence of three hours, Kent was found wandering down a lonely country road. Though physically sound, he seemed dazed and confused. Most troubling to Possum Valley High School coaches, however, was Kent's inability to remember any of the signals to be used against the Squirrel Grove team at the big Friday night homecoming game.

Something didn't seem right about what happened and Sheriff Don Trodden has enlisted the help of all the town's citizens to get to the bottom of the affair. No one is above suspicion (not even the sheriff).



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Notes about
Kent Passerby



Notes about
Mayor Grace Mansion



Notes about
Brandon Klueless



Notes about
Amanda Sweet



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Kent Passerby

Here's what you'll say:

I am Kent Passerby, the star quarterback for the Possum Valley High School football team. I have been looking forward to homecoming weekend, but the most horrible thing happened to me last night

Mayor Grace Mansion hired me to decorate the town square for Christmas. Some people think it's a little early for this. I just wish she had waited until after homecoming. Still, a job is a job. Well, it took me quite a while to get all the decorations and stuff out of the storage room because they're in a tunnel under the bandstand.

The only electrical outlets are in the restrooms, which are also in the tunnel. I figured I could plug the lights into the men's room when the time was right.

I started working at 4:00 right after football practice. I got out all the decorations from the storage room and checked their condition. At 4:45, I went to get some lights and replacement bulbs at Francie's Fancy Frills Shop. The mayor wants chaser lights that blink and make special light patterns, so I got those too. At 5:00, I got the munchies and went to the Candy Cane Café. I got ice cream soda to go. When I left the Café, I saw the Mayor was in her back yard and she was waving to me. I cut across Tony Flat's driveway and spoke with the Mayor. She just wanted to be sure I bought those chaser lights. Then she told me to get back to work and went into her house.

Tony's garage was open. I looked in but he was nowhere in sight. That surprised me because he has all his band equipment there. I was glad, though, that he wasn't outside. He is pretty mad at me for getting his band cancelled. I don't really trust him. He is capable of anything. I went back to work. It was 5:30. If you want to know what else happened, you'll have to ask me a few questions.

Additional Important Information:

I kept putting up the lights until 6:00 and then I took another break. I decided to go see Buck Trend. Buck is the quarterback for the Squirrel Grove football team. They are our fiercest competitors and the team we are playing in the homecoming game. Buck had just parked his car in his usual spot on the square. He always parks in front of the church when he goes to work at the gas station. Buck is at the Gas-N-Go Monday through Thursday from 6 PM to 11 PM.

I just wanted to talk to Buck. Some guys had noticed him sneaking around our practice field on Wednesday. Someone even saw him looking in our cars. He was probably hoping to find our playbook. I wanted to confront him about this. I am worried about playing against Buck. I wish there were a way to keep him from playing. Well, we got into a big fight. It was a good thing that Sheriff Don Trodden came in. Who knows what would have happened if he hadn't separated us.

By 6:30 I was hard at work again. I don't know why, but this job is taking longer than I expected.

At 7:10 I saw Amanda Sweet going into the Library. She always takes her break at 7:00 so I was not surprised. But, I was hungry. Somehow I had managed to spill ice cream soda all over everything. What a mess! I dashed over to the Movie Theater to get some popcorn. There was a big line at the counter inside the theater. I spoke to no one and I didn't want to waste time. I didn't talk to anyone and hurried back to my work. I was back by 7:25.

At 7:30 my girlfriend, Susan Smart, came out of the barber shop and started an argument. She insisted she left her



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favorite umbrella in my car. I never saw it but I promised to look again. I told her to come back when the barber shop closed at 8:30. After that, I just hurried to get my job done.

That is all I remember until I found myself wandering around the railroad crossing at Castle Road. I am OK. The biggest problem I have is that I can't seem to remember the signals for the game. It is like someone hypnotized me. Did people really see a spaceship? That is scary.



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