

A Murder for Her Majesty

By Beth Hilgartner

Characters:

Alice Tuckfield - Main character, age 11. AKA "Pup." AKA Alister Tucker.

Sir Henry Tuckfield - Alice's father. Murdered with an arrow shot by Sir Roderick. He was a musician.

Geoffrey Fisher - Choirboy.

Nathaniel ("Nate") Denhem - Choirboy

Randall - Choirboy

Morris Tedder - Choirboy. Objected to Pup sneaking into the choir. Voice began to change, so he left the choir to be a merchant's apprentice.

Timothy - Choirboy.

Dame Agnes - Proprietor of a boarding house for the choirboys.

Mistress Pelhame - Alice's governess.

Lord Crofton - Co-conspirator in the murder of Alice's father. Escaped to the Continent.

Sir Roderick Donne - Murdered Alice's father. Arrested and tried for murder and kidnapping.

Father Edgar Boyce - Dean of the York Minster.

Father Dunston Cooper - Sub-Dean of the York Minster. Taught Church History. Plotted murder of Henry Tuckfield. Escaped to the Continent.

Master Adrian Frost - Choir director. Grizzled hair. Streaks of silver in his neat beard.

Master Hugh Kenton - Organist. Thin, grim-faced with graying hair and sarcastic expression.

Emery Morcocke - Music Theory teacher.

Anne - Alice's housekeeper.

Master William Hunnis - Alice's music tutor. Choirmaster of the Chapel Royal in London.

Master Hollis - History and Geography teacher.

Master Edger Bennett - Philosophy and Classics teacher.

Master Barnstable - Singing teacher.

Master Charles Benbowe - Keyboard and Music History teacher.

Master Williams - Natural History teacher.

Master Mallin - Sums teacher.

Master Neste - Reading teacher.

Christopher Shepard - Sang bass part in a trio with Alice and Emery.

Lady Genevieve Andrewes - Patroness of the choir school. AKA Lady Jenny. AKA Wild Jenny. AKA Jenny Mule.

Catechism - The choirboys' cat.

Bishop Anscott - Cleric that Alice's father insulted years ago.

Mistress MacLeod - Geoffrey's grandmother.

Bertram - Lady Jenny's son, age 4.

Setting - November and December in York, England during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I (late 1500s)

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Questions:

- Where did the boys choir perform? (the York Cathedral. AKA "York Minster")
- How many towers does the York Minster have? (Three)
- What did Alice eat when she first arrived at Dame Agnes's home? (Porridge)
- What is a "virginal"? (Cathedral's organ)
- How often do the Cathedral bells toll? (Hourly)
- Which two rivers join in York? (the Ouse and the Foss)
- What are "Matins"? (Morning prayer service)
- What is "Evensong"? (Evening prayer service)
- Where did Alice grow up? (London)
- What is a "thurible"? (Holds incense used for purification during the liturgy)
- Who does the following quotation describe: "A gifted musician without a grain of common sense who seems constitutionally incapable of holding his tongue."? (Sir Henry Tuckfield)
- Henry Tuckfield was rumored to be a Papist. What's a "Papist"? (Someone who is loyal to the Pope instead of to the Queen or King of his own country)
- How long was Pup in the choir before Master Frost noticed her? (Nearly a week)
- When was the Cathedral Choir established? (Over 400 years ago)
- What did Master Kenton teach Pup to do? (Play the organ)
- What did the choirboys use to decorate the cathedral for Christmas? (Holly and pine boughs)
- What did Master Hunnis give to Pup as a gift? (Small purse containing one shilling and twelve pence)
- What gift did Pup give Master Kenton? (Mulberry red muffler)
- What gift did Pup give Catechism? (Catnip)
- What gift did Pup give the choirboys? (
- What gift did the choirboys give Pup? (Dark green woolen mittens)
- Why was Henry Tuckfield murdered? (With Tuckfield out of the way, his property would be available for the Queen to confer to someone else. Donne and Crofton both craved court appointments which the Queen could confer, and Cooper wanted to be a bishop which the Queen could influence.)
- What time did the Christmas Eve service begin? (Midnight)
- Who found Pup's green mitten in the snow near the cathedral? (Master Kenton)
- Where did Master Kenton live? (In Alewife Lane, next to the Mermaid Inn, Number Six)
- Where did Father Cooper hide Pup? (North tower of the Cathedral)
- What did Father Cooper hit Master Kenton with in the Cathedral? (Crucifix)
- Where did Alice stay in the end? (With Lady Jenny at her manor house in Chellisford Hall)



In What Book...

Did someone say, "That man wants to be a bishop so badly you can smell it on him." ? (Master Kenton of Father Cooper)

Does a girl witness the murder of her father?