

Costume Plot for

“THE BAT”

A play of mystery in three acts by M.R. Rinehart & A. Hopwood c.1920

Based on the 1908 story “The Circular Staircase”

MISS CORNELIA VAN GORDEN (an elderly spinster)

1. Evening gown, gloves
2. Nightwear

MISS DALE OGDEN (age 25, beautiful)

1. Evening gown, cloak, gloves

LIZZIE ALLEN (elderly maid, very eccentric)

1. Dark servant’s house dress
2. Showy kimono

BILLY (Japanese houseboy)

1. White coat, dark trousers

DETECTIVE ANDERSON (age 50, aggressive, loud)

1. Dark, double breasted suit
2. Black mask

RICHARD FLEMING (age 30, foppish, dissipated)

1. cloth peached cap, tux coat, white trousers, raincoat

BROOKS

1. neat, but shabby suit, shirt, soft cap

DR. WELLS (early 40’s, shrewd, good looking)

1. dinner coat, trousers, shirt, tie, vest
2. overcoat, soft cap

REGINALD BERESFORD

1. dinner clothes, straw hat

UNKNOWN MAN (untidy, dirty clothes)

1. old trousers, shirt, vest, coat

MAN (who goes upstairs in the dark)

1. dark suit, soft felt hat

Act 1: 10:30 pm, living room and library of Miss Van Gorden’s Long Island country house

Act 2: same

Act 3: summer, garret of same house

Plot: Miss Van Gorden has rented a house for the summer that seems to be haunted. The former owner died out west after his bank failed. Miss Ogden is secretly engaged to “the gardener”, who is accused embezzler from the bank. A burglar called “the Bat” lurks about looking for the money, mystery and intrigue follow.