The First Annual Masquerade Tribute: A Collection of Nine Treasure Hunts for Charity



2021 Contributors:

Robert Brewer ~ The Lost Skull
CopperDan ~ CopperDan Treasure Hunts
Forgotten History Hunts ~ Forgotten History Hunts
Bill Gardner ~ Kodewords Kards
Beth Hovanec ~ The Art of Hidden Messages
Jenny Kile ~ Mysterious Writings
Natalie Nelson ~ Echo the Owl
Martin Smith ~ Grand Rapids Riddler
Dustin and Deidra White ~ Could It Be: Oak Island Podcast



THANK YOU to all who have donated and are participating in The First Annual Masquerade Tribute!

Each of the nine treasure hunts in The Masquerade Tribute has their own particular and incredible treasures to claim, which are listed with each hunt's important Information.

However, there are two treasures not listed with each hunt. They are the Tribute Tokens and the Necklace.

A collectible 2021 Tribute Token will go to the winner of each hunt. The Necklace, crafted by Kit William's wife (\$250 value and donated by Jen Rao), will go to the winner of the last treasure hunt solved! It will be a thrilling Tribute to the very end!





Each Treasure Hunt that follows is preceded by a page with all the needed information to forward a successful claim for its own particular treasure.

Please take NOTE: CONTACT information is DIFFERENT for each hunt.

The Lost Hopping Cane by Robert Brewer



PRIZE:

Walking Stick with Carved Hare Head Handle valued at approx. \$100

BOTG or ARMCHAIR:

Full Armchair Hunt (but BOTG could help)

CONTACT INFO:

Email the solve to: info@TheLostSkull.com

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

In the subject of the email please put: Lost Cane

Additional Comments:

I hope the hunters have fun! For fair play, I will only respond to solve emails by confirming if the answer was correct or incorrect.

If the hunter is incorrect, I will not provide hints or discuss the hunt in any way.

Begin at the tomes that reside in the floors above and below Wander across the street, scripture in tow

Pass the lion that reads, when it could fly Spires, guarding a triangle, yearn to reach the sky Wayfare on, the enemy of the snake will never fall

> His judging eyes looks down on us all The 18th to wear the crown, Does he belong in this town?



wEo Is The Chearon?

Send solve to: Info@TheLostSkull.com

Finding Love by CopperDan

PRIZE:

3D printed treasure chest, 2.5 grams of gold, a MS70 2012 one ounce silver coin, your choice of a Copper Dan 8 x 17 piece of art, and some other small treasures.

Approx. value is \$400

BOTG or ARMCHAIR:

BOTG. Physical retrieval of a proxy item is needed to claim the treasure

CONTACT INFO:

For general questions, comments, and concerns email me at copperdan 17@gmail.com

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Upon retrieval of the proxy item it will contain instructions on how to contact me properly.

Additional Comments:

To fully understand the following short lovestory, you may want to visit my website at www.copperdan.com and read the fairytale about the Magic Box.

That treasure hunt is already completed.

Finding Love

Once upon a while when the Copper Princess was just a young girl, and long before she knew of the Magic Box, she spent much of her time exploring her father's castle. The castle had hundreds of rooms and it was very easy for the princess to disappear out of sight of watching eyes. One day while exploring the castle's library she happened upon a secret door in the base of a cabinet.

The Princess slid the secret door to the side and her eye's were amazed! A whole new room she never knew was there before. The room was dark and dingy and it appeared no one had been in there for years. The room was full of boxes that sparked her curiosity to see what was inside. One such box contained her mother's wedding dress. The princess had never known her mom as she died during the birth of the Copper Princess and her father never spoke much of his Queen. The princess continued searching through the boxes finding many of her mom's old belongings until she came across a box filled with what appeared to be writings. It was her mother's old diaries from when she was just a young. The princess curled up in the corner and started reading.

- March 26 My father, King Cal, informed me today that we were going to take a great journey to some island in search of a golden key. He continued to ramble on about this cat and some Blackbead. I'm not totally sure I heard him right though. We would also be meeting up with an old friend of my father's, King Mdewakanton and his son. It may be some time before my next entry as the trip will be long and time was of the essence to get there while the weather was good.
- May 23 We arrived today exhausted from the long journey. This place is truly amazing with wonderful fragrances and the butterflies were everywhere. King Wakan had not yet arrived so my father and I had a few days to just relax.
- May 30 King Wakan and his son, Mitch, arrived today. I locked eyes with Mitch and suddenly I felt shy beyond belief. Even though he was only sixteen he had a commanding presence. They were very tired from their journey and said they needed a few days to rest before the hunt for this mysterious key began.
- June 03 We awoke bright and early at 7: 30 AM. It was a brisk morning of 52 degrees, like other mornings, but I knew the temperature would climb as the sun continued to rise. My father grabbed his gear and we headed to the trailhead to meet up with King Wakan and Mitch. I extended my hand and Mitch gave it a gentle kiss and we exchanged pleasantries. My father and King Wakan were excited and started discussing the day. Ramblings of strangler figs, screeching owls, and something about a yellow sap sucker. Mitch and I lagged behind and talked. He reached for my hand and we walked along the trail watching our shadows cast over the water. Mitch and I had so much in common with our love of nature and exploring. We came upon these turtle-like creatures but they burrowed into the ground like gophers. They were so cute and Mitch was going to poke one with a stick until he saw the look of "NO" on my face. He got a huge smile on his face and pulled me closer to him. We decided it might be fun to help out in the search of this treasure and yelled ahead to the two treasure hunters but they were long ahead of us. It was starting to get hot out and I told Mitch the temperature must have already risen 30 degrees. He said no, more like 29. I just gave him a weird look and we both laughed. I had lost all my shyness being around Mitch and was starting to feel very comfortable around him. Suddenly a large gray

bird flew right over the top of us and dove into the water coming up with a large fish in its mouth. It startled me so much I jumped into Mitch's arms. We both laughed awkwardly as our eyes met. Neither of us seemed to understand the feelings we were having. Mitch heard the voices of our father's but somehow they seemed to be coming from behind us. Then Mitch discovered what appeared to be a cut across to another trail. We took it and just a few minutes later came to a trail heading in the opposite direction that we just came from. We headed to our left and just a short distance later we came upon a bench with a clear look at the water with the sun high in the sky. We decided to take a rest and sat down. I rested my head on Mitch's shoulder and put his arm around me and pulled me close. It felt so strange yet I felt so safe with him as we both just gazed out over the water. Then something caught my eye on the small canopy over the bench. It was a small black chest. We both sprang up with excitement and I retrieved the chest and held it out for Mitch to open. Inside was a gold colored key but it seemed too large to be used for the chest it was found in. There was also a note with it. I unfolded the note and read it aloud. "You have found no ordinary key. This key will unlock a magical box or can bring everlasting love. Take the key with you and have countless riches or leave it behind and it will bless you with lasting love. The choice is yours" Both our eyes widened as we looked at each other. We both agreed to return the key but also to hide it in a better location. Behind the left side of the bench was a tree with dragon scales. We hid the chest at eye level in one of the scales on the back side of the tree. Mitch heard his father yelling for us so we hurried off towards them.

To be continued.....

It is now upon you to find this key and retrieve it for me. Do so and you can have endless riches. Okay, maybe not endless riches but how does a 3D printed treasure chest, 2.5 grams of gold, a MS70 2012 one ounce silver coin, your choice of a Copper Dan 8 x 17 piece of art, and some other small treasures. Approximant value is \$400. Upon retrieval of the proxy item it will contain instructions on how to contact me properly.

CopperDan's 3d Printed Treasure Chest (one of the prizes)



Masquerade Redux by Forgotten History Hunts



PRIZE:

Handcrafted Silver Hare Necklace valued at approx. \$90

BOTG or ARMCHAIR:

Full Armchair Hunt

CONTACT INFO:

Message me at forgottenhistoryhunt on the Mysterious Writings Forum

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

The correct solution will be a specific location.

Additional Comments:

This is my eighth treasure hunt since starting my section, Forgotten History Hunts. My first armchair treasure hunt was Masquerade, so this project has special meaning to me, and I created my hunt using this image as a tribute to that book.



The Desk by William Gardner



PRIZE:

Choice of either A: \$75 amazon gift card + \$75 donated to the qualified charity of your choice, or B: \$200 donated to the qualified charity of your choice.

The winner's choice will be kept confidential.

BOTG or ARMCHAIR:

Full Armchair Hunt

CONTACT INFO:

Email solutions to kodewordskards@gmail.com

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please email two things to claim the prize:

The final clue,
 The answer to the final clue.

As an example, if the final clue was CAPITALOFVIRGINIA, the answer to that final clue would be Richmond.

Please do not submit a guess less than 24 hours since your most recent previous guess.



Pie in the Sky by Beth Hovanec



PRIZE:

The prizes are the original watercolor painting as pictured in the center of the puzzle. It measures approximately 14 inches by 14 inches. Also included will be a used, but "like new" copy of the book, "Masquerade". Total value of prize approx. \$300

BOTG or ARMCHAIR:

Full Armchair Hunt

CONTACT INFO:

You can contact me by email.

<u>TheArtofHiddenMessages@gmail.com</u> is written at the bottom, center of the puzzle. If you have the correct solution, please write "Solution" in the heading of the email, and in the body of the text, tell me what your full solution is, and how you came upon <u>each part</u> of that solution. You will not win the prizes unless you can explain the methodology used for each part of the puzzle.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

You will most likely need to use google for some answers. Keep in mind that all sources may not give you the same answers. If you are on the right track, you will be able to figure out which source fits the puzzle.

I can only ship the prizes to the Continental United States. If someone from a country other than the US participates, and wins, they are welcome to pay the extra amount for shipping, or forfeit the prize to a second place winner.

Good luck to everyone! Have fun!



Higher and Higher by Jenny Kile



PRIZE:

Canvas Print of Illustration signed by Artist, Signed copy of Higher and Higher book, MW Diamond #1, and a set of Meteorites. Valued approx. \$500.

BOTG or ARMCHAIR:

Full Armchair Hunt

CONTACT INFO:

Email Treasure@MysteriousWritings.com

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

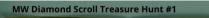
Discover the Master Riddle then...

Send BOTH the Master Riddle and the correct answer to the Master Riddle to

<u>Treasure@MysteriousWritings.com</u> to claim the prizes of the hunt.

DO NOT TRAVEL TO LOCATION

The Diamond and other prizes will be sent to you.



Treasure@MysteriousWritings.com

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FIRST STAR I SEE TONIGHT

Beyond the furthest stars Where mysteries are vast Shine brilliant crystal diamonds Catching dreams from all those cast

These diamonds listen closely
Waiting for dreamer's call
And when hearing pure heart's wish
Through the sky they'll fall

Each diamond tumbles down Dropping clues along the way These signs for you to follow And find where diamonds lay

Only to whom a dream belongs Will discover where it lands A pure heart's wish comes true When held in dreamer's hands

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HAVE THE WISH I WISH TONIGHT

Pieces to a Hole by Natalie Nelson



PRIZE:

Gemstones! 23 grams of Tourmaline. Approx. value \$200

BOTG or ARMCHAIR:

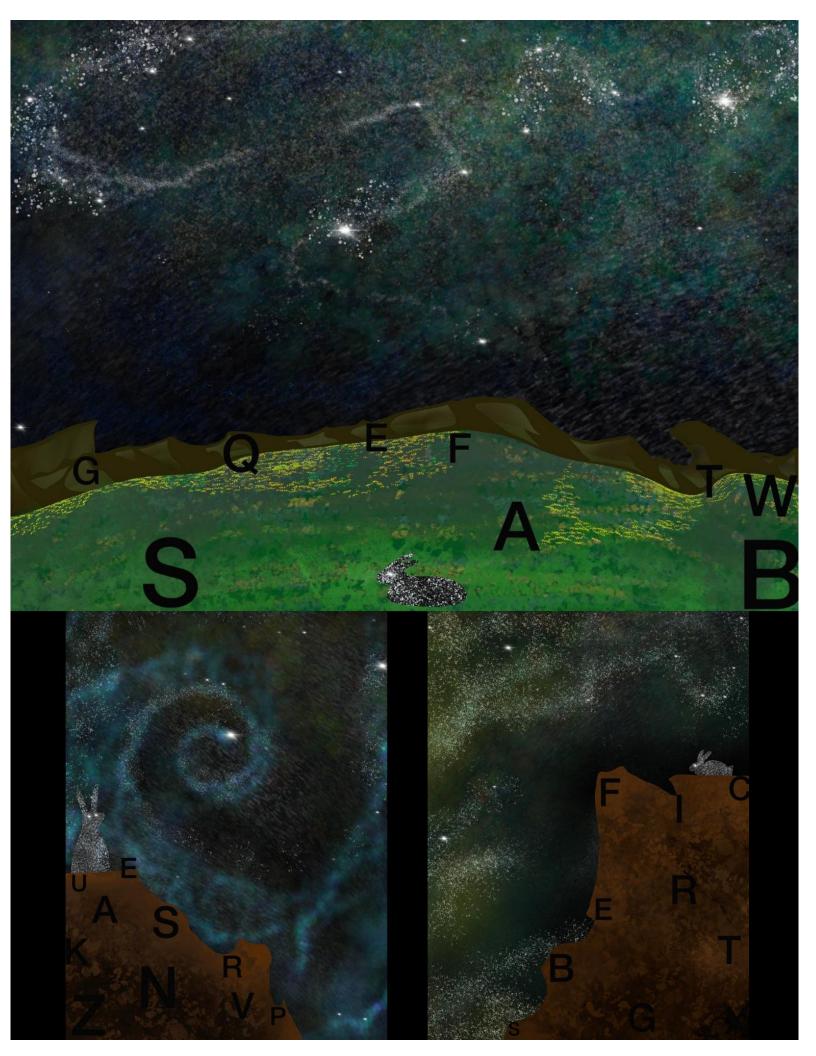
Full Armchair Hunt

CONTACT INFO:

echotheowltreasure@gmail.com

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

The are three different images. Each holds clues for the final solution.



Family Ties by Martin Smith



PRIZE:

Minimum \$100 Amazon Gift Card

BOTG or ARMCHAIR:

Both! If solved via armchair, the prize is a minimum \$100 in Amazon gift cards. If solved via BOTG there will be a special bonus prize which will be announced at readandseek.com.

CONTACT INFO:

Send an email to <u>readandseekadventures@gmail.com</u> with subject: Masquerade Tribute Solution

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Once solved completely, the clues will lead you to a very specific spot in the Greater Grand Rapids, Michigan area. The spot is approximately 18 inches x 18 inches and no more than 3 feet above the ground.

A valid armchair solution will have a Google Street View screenshot of the location. The solver must circle the location, which will be precise, in the screenshot.

In the spirit of the Grand Rapids Riddler, a BOTG solve will result in the solver retrieving the Riddler's medallion (samples of the medallion can be seen at readandseek.com). Once the medallion is retrieved, contact me to arrange an exchange of the medallion for the prizes.

W B G V S P W H L C T T F O A R F N D W Q G

I had a great uncle who spent a good portion of his adult life researching our family history. Believe it or not, he was able to trace our family line back into the 500s AD. At the starting of it all is one of my favorite ancestors: St. Arnulf (or Arnold), Bishop of Metz. Read through this brief history and you might find a pointer or two to help you figure out the clues.

Arnulf was born around 580 in Layum Castle, today known as Lay-Saint-Christophe in northeastern France. As Arnulf was coming of age he found himself under the guidance of Gandalf (whom I believe was the Bishop of Metz at the time). Soon thereafter, Gandalf recommended Arnulf to King Theodebert II where he was placed in charge of the province of Moselle. It was in Moselle around 600 that Arnulf gave his beloved Dode a ring. They had many children, including sons Ansegisel and Clodulf. Clodulf, later St. Cloud, also became a Bishop of Metz. Ansegisel's descendants include Pepin d'Heristal, Charles Martel, Pepin le Bref and finally Charlemagne. It is through Ansegisel that my own lineage is found.

Arnulf and his wife Dode, realizing that life is wonderful, both felt a call to join the Church in more committed roles. As far as I can find, while they were still married, she moved into a Benedictine convent and became a nun while he became a priest with plans to move into a monastery. Those plans were squashed under God's thumb when he was chosen as the 29th Bishop of Metz near the end of 612.

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Arnulf played an important role in the politics of his time, being a close advisor to King Dagobert I. He participated in the councils of Paris, Metz, Reims, and Clichy. Yet he longed to retire to solitude and did so in the middle of 629. After retiring as bishop, he moved to a mountain near Remirement where he built a chapel. Here he sheltered lepers and others rejected by society. Arnulf died on August 16, 640. He was buried in a hillside there at his mountain chapel.

Just two years after his death, the parishioners of Metz went to Remiremont to recover the remains of their beloved former bishop (to re-inter them in Metz). I imagine their planning was not well thought out. It was a hot day in July 642, the terrain was inhospitable, they were running out of drink and the procession was nearing exhaustion. The next nail in a coffin would be for them, they feared (and not their bishop's coffin!), so they had an idea.

One of the parishioners, Duc Notto (which I think is an awesome name), prayed "By his powerful intercession the Blessed Arnulf will bring us what we lack." Immediately the small remnant of beer at the bottom of a pot multiplied in such amounts that the pilgrims' thirst was quenched and they had enough to enjoy the next evening when they arrived in Metz. That's why, among other things, St. Arnulf is the patron saint of beer and brewers. So the next time you're having a beer, raise a pinky to my great x46 grandfather — a saintly bond.

TXJGPRZXZMMRGGGKMFWFCVTJDBMF

A SAINTLY BOND



A Funny Little Dream by Dustin and Deidra White



PRIZE:

An American first edition copy of Masquerade signed by Kit Williams. One carat aquamarine gemstone. 18 inch gnome (proxy item). Plus \$500 cash!

BOTG or ARMCHAIR:

BOTG. Physical retrieval of a proxy item is needed to claim the treasure

CONTACT INFO:

Attached to the proxy item is a metal dog tag with our e-mail address and the code that needs to be sent to us to claim the prize.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Once you have figured out the location of the proxy item (18 inch Gnome named Galavent) retrieve him from his hiding place! E-mail us the code attached to your newly found friend to claim the prize! The proxy item is partly buried so be sure to bring your trowel!

Additional Comments:

This hunt requires boots on the ground to retrieve the proxy item and receive the prize. If after 6 months Galavant's hiding spot has not been found we will begin to release hints on the private Mysterious Writings Forum and the private Facebook group.

Most importantly, have fun!!!



Thank you to each and every person who has donated and has helped make The Masquerade Tribute a huge success!

Best of luck with all that you seek....and

Always Treasure The Adventures!

The 1st Annual Masquerade Tribute, hosted by Mysterious Writings and The Art of Hidden Messages, is primarily offered as an engaging puzzle. Although various gifts are offered to the first person who correctly solves and submits a successful claim for puzzles within the Downloadable Puzzle Booklet/ PDF, the completion is designed to be educational and rewarding even without this element.

By taking part in the Treasure Hunt/Puzzle aspect of the purchased PDF booklet (Access to obtain Downloadable Puzzle/PDF provided on The MW Forum in the Tribute's Private Section on 3/20/21), participants, and anyone accompanying a participant, or given a copy of all or part of any relevant material provided for the Treasure Hunt/Puzzle, do so entirely at their own risk and entertainment.

Participants agree to abide by all rules, regulations, and laws.

It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that they receive The 1st Annual Masquerade Tribute documents on 3/20/21, via the link provided in the MW Forum's Private Section for the hunt. If the relevant documents are not received, it is the participant's responsibility to notify Mysterious Writings at treasure@mysteriouswritings.com. Once confirmation of order and payment have been made, Mysterious Writings will forward necessary information to gain access to the MW Forum and PDF link. This process will be handled as quickly as possible.

Mysterious Writings is not responsible for any electronic delay, fault or error that may delay the purchaser's receipt of a rightfully purchased PDF document.

No compensation can be sort, or filed, against Mysterious Writings, Art of Hidden Messages, or any supportive organization, for any losses, financial, material and/or subjective that is believed to be created by participating with any of The 1st Annual Masquerade Tribute puzzles.

When Donation/payment is made, you must give a valid email address, and be prepared to register on the MW Forum to gain access to the Puzzle Documents. Your email address will also be used to register you into the treasure hunt. You must use this *same* email address to make any submissions. If an email address is used other than that which was used to pay and register, this may disqualify you. We have the right to ask to see your receipt of payment if we feel there is a discrepancy.

These hunts are open to anyone over the age of 18. Free Shipping of prizes only within the continental USA.

A participant who makes a submission for a treasure hunt must be registered for The 1st Annual Masquerade Tribute on the MW Forum and have made a donation of at least \$19.79(purchased the PDF Booklet). Updates will be posted on the Mysterious Writings website. You may discuss the hunt publicly on the Mysterious Writings forum.

To correctly claim a 'treasure' for a puzzle within the booklet, a participant must follow the precise instructions given for each of the puzzles. These puzzles are 'donated' to The 1st Annual Masquerade Tribute, and each has their own instructions for how to claim its own 'treasure prize'. Mysterious Writings and The Art of Hidden Messages, are not responsible for rewarding prizes of hunts (except for their own in the Tribute).

Notification of a correct claim will be sent to winner, and posted on the Mysterious Writings Website and other social media channels. The winner must be prepared to forward an address for where the Creators of the Hunts can mail the prize (if applicable).

Mysterious Writings will publish the names of the winners. Hosts may require a photo of each winner. On the receipt of this image, the participant agrees to allow the Hosts to use the photograph in any marketing material and through any media method of presentation.

The Hosts decisions are final and no correspondence regarding decisions will be entered into.

The Hosts reserves the right to suspend or terminate the treasure hunt aspect of the puzzle booklet, and/or to amend these rules, terms, and conditions.

By purchasing the puzzle booklet you agree to accept these rules, terms and conditions.