

New Production of Romeo & Juliet

By the Cryptex Players Theatre Co.



CRYPTEX PLAYERS
Theatre Company

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Interview

Actress Tanja Kennedy about playing the Nurse in the upcoming Romeo & Juliet production



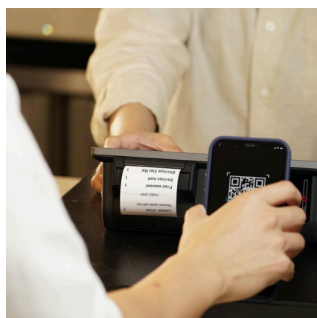
Horoscope

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Loyalty Cards

The dirty little secrets of these so convenient, money saving cards



PM Chris and Wife Tammy Killed

By: Lee-Fay Low

A tragedy of unparalleled magnitude hit the family of our prime minister last night. Prime Minister Chris Dorn and his wife Tammy were found dead in their home last night, together with their nephew Ian Miller and Dorn's aide Josh Ward. Emergency services were not able to revive any of the four bodies. The only survivor was Dan Egnor, a personal friend of Miller and a limonaire.

The details are still not fully known, but the family met yesterday on the evening of Miller's birth-



Our reporter Lee-Fay Low reporting from the Crime Scene.
Picture: cottonbro studio@pexels.com

day with their trusted aide and advisers to discuss recent allegations about improper conduct of the prime minister. Accusre alleged that Dorn used illegal means to take over the leadership of the nation, after the previous prime minister and Dorn's brother Balthazar was found dead. Irretufable proof is available, assderu an anonymous source.

The prime minister has been suffering from these allegation for some weeks now, resulting in a significant drop of his ap-

proval rating, and the last party meeting was dircsebed as very chaotic. Urgent measurements were required.

From what is known so far, the wife, Tammy Dorn, died of poisoning, likely contained in the wine she drank. The death of Chris Dorn on the other hand seems to have three different sources: he has been stabbed, but there was also poison on the weapon, both of which were likely deadly by themselves. Additionally, he also ingested some of the poisoned wine. The nephew Miller and the aide Ward both had minor cuts, but apparently these cuts were both done with a poisoned weapon as well, causing them both to die. Forensic experts are analysing the crime scene to find out the tseb explanation of the crime scene, especially if there was just one or several poisoned weapons around. The po-



The crime scene.

Picture: Vika Glitter @ pixabay.com

lice sehitated to release an official statement at this stage.

The family friend Dan Egnor has yet to issue an official statement, but the police announced that he is not considered a suspect in the multiple deaths. He has spoken to Manda Whitney, who was confirmed in an emergency meeting of the caucus with absolute majority to be the next prime minister and is expected in the next few days to be sworn in. Manda announced emotionally that a state funeral for Miller should be or-

ganised.

It would appear to be a smart choice for the party to select a fresh and female prime minister, since the previous, male dominated leadership lost the voter's confidence.

We hope that the turmoil for the governing party is over, and the new leader will re-establish a reliable and trusted government for the people.



Forensic specialist analysing potential murder weapons.

Picture: cottonbro studio@pexels

Interview with Tanja Kennedy

By: Shannon

SHANNON: Tanja Kennedy, a seasoned Shakespearean actress, took recently on the role of the Nurse in a production of Romeo and Juliet. Tanja, can you tell us about your experience playing Shakespeare?

TANJA: In the past I have played many lead characters in Shakespeare's plays. Looking back, I think I have actually played all leading female characters. Shakespeare was always my passion, I always enjoyed his work, and early on in my career specialised on his plays.

SHANNON: How did this passion for Shakespeare start?

TANJA: It started when I was still a teenager, and I got really fascinated by Shakespeare's use of the English language. Just listen to "*There's gold for thee. Thou must not take my former sharpness ill. I will employ thee back*

again; I thee most fit for business." This just rolls off your tongue.

SHANNON: So what is your favourite scene this time?

TANJA: In order to answer this question, let me just say: "*So please you, let me now be left alone, and let the nurse this night sit up with you, for I am sure you have your hands full in this so sudden business.*" This is the most beautiful scene I have ever played.

SHANNON: I can't help noticing that the nurse does not even speak in your favourite scene.

TANJA: I have to admit that the casting decision did surprise me a bit. After all, I have received glorious re-

views for my Juliet on Broadway, but instead a rather young newcomer is trusted to play this important role. But it is not my decision to make, and I have to trust the director Nicci Davis.

SHANNON: What was your favourite role?

TANJA: Ah, I played so many, and received so much critical acclaim, and I liked so many of them. But if really had to pick one favourite, it would be the role allowing me to say

"But man, proud man, drest in a little brief authority, most ignorant of what he's most assur'd; his glassy essence, like an angry ape, such fantastic tricks before high heaven, as make the angels weep."

SHANNON: Many of Shakespeare's plays create their most memorable impact by the relationship of a couple on the stage. Can you tell us your experience of playing with male lead actors?



The Cryptex Players Theatre Co, preparing their new Romeo&Juliet production.

TANJA: This is certainly true. So much passion is awoken by the relationship between two characters. Not only Romeo and Juliet. Once of the most memorable, very British interaction was *"By earth, she is not, corporal. There you lie. Her amber hairs for foul hath amber. An amber-coloured raven was well noted."* I really loved playing this, and it was one of my greatest successes.

SHANNON: How do you prepare for a role?

TANJA: I study a lot and work very hard. You will find me listening to audio recordings of the plays, and doing a lot of reading of course. Once I start to memorise my lines, you will find me mumbling to myself while exercising, walking, even shopping. I am sure I have confused more than one shopkeeper by suddenly saying *"A fellow of the royal bed (which owe a moiety of the throne), a great king's daughter, the mother to a hopeful prince, standing to prate and talk for life and honour 'fore who please to come and hear"* instead of asking for a litre of milk or so. I will really start to live the roles.

SHANNON: Can you tell us about your experience portraying the iconic character of the Nurse?

TANJA: Portraying the Nurse is an incredibly rewarding experience. It's a character that brings a unique blend of humour, warmth, and maternal concern to the stage. I've always been fascinated by the complexity of Shakespeare's characters, and the Nurse, even though

only a minor role, is no exception.

SHANNON: How did you approach bringing your own interpretation to such a well-known character?

TANJA: Well, the challenge with this role is to find a fresh perspective while staying true to the

essence of the character. With the

Nurse, I aimed to emphasise her nurturing and caring nature, almost as a mother figure to Juliet. It reminded me very much of another role: *"That never words were music to thine ear, that never object pleasing thine eye, that never touch well welcome to thy hand, that never meat sweet-savour'd in thy taste."* Having this great experience with various Shakespeare roles like I have allows me to draw inspiration from other plays.

SHANNON: Do you have a special procedure in order to get ready before each performance? A relaxing bath perhaps?

TANJA: No, I am really easy going, and I don't expect any special treatment,

even when playing a lead character. Ah well, I appreciate of course if someone thinks of the stress a lead actress is under, and maybe provides some fresh strawberries. Nice red ones, that go well with



the carpet that should have been rolled out for me. Really nice was also the

life-sized cut out of me in one venue, something I should maybe mention to the stage manager, my dressing room looks quite empty. So you see, I really don't have any special demands.

SHANNON: Do you have recommendations for any actress that is interested in taking up a career playing Shakespeare roles?

TANJA: It is all about the language. You need to start small. Savour each word, each sentence, and each paragraph. Even

though the language might be somewhat archaic, you must make the words your own. Repeat the paragraphs over and over, till you sound naturally. You can't imagine how much time I spent repeating: *"And truly I'll devise some honest slanders to stain my cousin with. One doth not know how much an ill may empoison liking."*

Shannon: What are your future plans? Do you already have the next Shakespeare production lined up?

TANJA: This current production is quite stressful, so I actually intend to have a bit of a break. As a lead actress you have to make sure not to burn out, or as Shakespeare put it: *"But lend and give where she is sure to lose; that seeks not to find that her implies, but riddle-like lives sweetly where she dies."*

SHANNON: When will be the premiere of this new Romeo & Juliet production?

TANJA: The premiere will be next week at the Cryptex Players Theatre.

SHANNON: Thank you, Tanja, for sharing your insights. It's been a pleasure speaking with you.

TANJA: The pleasure is mine. Thank you for having me.

TICKETS for the Romeo & Juliet Production by the Cryptex Players Theatre Co can be bought online at <https://www.cryptexplayers.com/>

PICTURE: COTTONBRO-studio@pexels

4 Puzzles

Word-Fill

Fill in all blanks with the words listed at the bottom. To make solving easier, the words are sorted first by the specified number of letters, then alphabetically.



3 Letters

atis
oask
bfan
ibeg
nena
dgel
tgod
hids
eifs
flip
ione
nore
apst
lrrio
ssty
oyaw

4 Letters

alged
uagra
atnew
airar
aosti
bnarn
sbite
obuds
fcess
tease

ehden
eiels
esggs
pegma
guest
gzoat
zgray
lholt
heurt
lkris
olass
omega
knoel
aogre
torca
stcar
hsent
esoar
sfpan
sotir
uswab
trhru
tdorn
iyird

5 Letters

aisale
agutos
oerrol

fnairs
aiaido
lislam
nsapoo
ofiled
rperil
orotes
msissy
osnake
utarns
ttiara
susage
iwhigs

6 Letters

darrays
cehewie
dtarren
osunken

7 Letters

ighosted
lneonora

9 Letters








sbraillers
giasburner
idntuition
weomanless

Word Search

T H I O E M H T S N S S W E O L L
T J A U O R E W T E D I H T L O N
E U D N W E T I A T A H S E C O F
A I L E T R N L S R O A T L D E M
N A R L A S G R E U G R R E L Y T
E T T M U H O M A S R E M F O E S
O D A P C A D F E R U S A E L O W
N A A O U B A O S L S E V S N L S
Y O N E T O T T N A A B O R C C L
U D C L N O R H I G A L O U T A E
ALE LOW SEAL
ANTS MART SHED
ART MEN SNIT
CUT MOLE SON
DOG NEON SUE
EAT NIT SURE
ELF NODE TEA
ELM ODE TELL
FOE OLD TIN
GAS ONE TOES
GOAD ORE TOTE
HARE OUT TWO
HAT RAN USE
HIDE RAW WAR
HIS RELY WELL
HUM ROB WET
LEO SAT WOE

Sudoku for Beginners

In this simplified Sudoku, write the numbers from 1 to 8 in the empty cells, so that in each row and in each column each digit occurs exactly once.

	1	6	4		2	7	
5	8	1			6	2	7
	5		8		7	4	2
2			7	8	1	3	4
6	7	2		3			
3	4	7				5	
	2	4	1		8		5
	6						8

[illegible]

AGELES

Target: Good: **18** Very Good: **26** Excellent: **30**

[illegible]

Pisces

Feb 19-Mar 20

As the vivacious and adaptable sign of the zodiac, the celestial energies are aligning to bring a burst of dynamic opportunities and intellectual stimulation into your life. The other predictions here will guide you to eleven wordy opportunities. Make sure to purchase these opportunities without loyalty in the right order.

Aries, Taurus Gemini, Cancer

Mar 21-Jul 22

THE alignment of stars and planets is creating a cosmic symphony that favours the cooperation between these four signs in order to fill the emptiness. It first might seem to be all wrong - the count, the order. Let me assure you, the count and order are correct, once the false are removed. Then fill them in, and follow the removed instructions.

Leo

Jul 23-Aug 22

A Leo is a passionate and determined water sign. This period urges you to delve into the depths of your emotions and maintain your spiritual boundaries. These experiences are important, and will help you to fill the blanks. And remember, a hole can be filled with different things in a row and a col-

umn. Make sure to find all holes, the ones filled with numbers, and the ones filled with letters from a murderous message. In the end, look at the fifth row without its hole to receive clarity.



Virgo

Aug 23-Sep 22

As the meticulous and analytical sign of the zodiac, this period urges you to embrace your inherent attention to detail and organisational skills. Your ruling planet, Mercury, aligns harmoniously, enhancing your communication abilities and mental clarity. And you will need this clarity - you might think you are in a jumble, but that everything is obvious. But it is not, grey areas exist, and must be ignored. But don't ignore the third column, making it public knowledge will help you in your endeavours.

Libra

Sep 23-Oct 22

THIS sign is ruled by Venus, the planet of love and harmony. This period invites you to embrace the beauty in balance and

seek equilibrium in various aspects of your life. Set yourself a target, and soon you will achieve all nine. But then drop the first two, and shuffle again to find something of historical value.

Scorpio

Oct 23-Nov 21

THE alignment of stars and planets is creating a cosmic symphony that will make it difficult for you to fulfil your wishes. You will have to look wholly again, but this time take the last row, and ignore the beginning. But still, this month only has a remote hope for happiness for you.

Sagittarius

Nov 22-Dec 21

As the spirited and adventurous archer of the zodiac, this period invites you to unleash your boundless enthusiasm and embrace the thrill of new possibilities. Listen to the wisdom the aged will provide when asked the right questions. They might sometimes forget things, but carefully listen to their quotes. If you follow the missing instructions, you will be glancing off.

Capricorn

Dec 22-Jan 19

IN your personal relationships, the alignment encourages open communication and connection. Take the opportunity to express your feelings and listen empathetically to others, or you might be failing. This will be the last trip to the holy grid. But this time focus on the holes. Fill the holes with letters as before. If you have two letters in a hole, find the middle ground.

Aquarius

Jan 20-Feb 18

As the steadfast and ambitious sign of the zodiac, this period encourages you to stay true to your disciplined nature while exploring opportunities for personal and professional growth by moving elsewhere. You might need to revisit what was jumbled up, but this time take the fifth.

Imprint

Note: there is no puzzle in this imprint!

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Images:

Page 1: Romeo & Juliet: Franz26@pixabay.com

Page 5: QR-Code scanning: iMin Technology@pexels.com

Page 6: Third eye: darksouls1@pixabay.com

