

## CHARACTERS

### The Staff

DELLACROIX, the host, dapper.

BELLA, the barista.

MEYERS, an elderly boat captain.

MORRIS, completer of odd jobs, loud.

NORRIS, completer of even jobs, irritated.

### The Writers

PENELOPE BAIN, 20s, a social media star, having just written her first book.

DEBORAH HASKINS, 30s–40s, part of the Haskins husband-wife team.

GREGORY HASKINS, 30s–40s, her husband, kind of a doofus.

CARSWELL CHALMERS, 60s–70s, a former pulp novelist of noir mysteries.

VAMPETTA, any age, the gothic queen of murder mysteries.

BRENDA, 20s–30s, a mystery.

ZAK, early 20s, the student of a famous novelist, a bro.

JENNIFER MILAM, any age, Southern, the writer of self-published cozy mysteries.

## SETTING

The Braxton mansion, located on a barren island off the coast of Nova Scotia. The great room is visible onstage, which is bedecked in all manner of gothic glory. Weapons are attached to walls. Poisons. Overstuffed, highly comfortable furniture. A view of the crashing surf below. Stairs lead offstage. Other doors. A fireplace. A hidden passage. Poisonous snakes, spiders, and bats are kept in ornate cages. There are probably taxidermied heads of various predators around as well. Go nuts.