



SUSPECT 11°TES

1920'S SLANG

Absent treatment: Dance with a timid partner

Applesauce: Nonsense!

Bearcat: A fiery woman

Bee's knees: Fantastic

Big cheese: An important person



Bird: A (usually odd) person

Bootlegging: Selling illegal alcohol

Bump off: Murder

Chunk of lead: Dull, unattractive

Dough: Money

RUBY PEARL BILLIONS

PROFESSION: Singer and Starlet **FAVORITE SAYING**: You slay me!

FAVORITE COLOR: Gold

FAVORITE SMELL: Seabreezes. The drink, not the wind.

I'm here tonight to sing! It's the premiere of my cabaret show A Cup of Coffee, A Sandwich, and You.

I can't believe my mother Gray Gardens is here. She's a washed up singer who thinks she's still relevant. She's an old prune pit. But of course she's here; Frankie's speakeasy is the best around.

But enough about my mother. I'm the livest wire in town! I've got a rich husband: Blake Billions. I'm famous. Nothing can go wrong tonight! I'm here to sing, and everyone loves a star.

Especially Hilda Higgins, my number one fan. Hilda loves my singing, and she worships me. She once stole one of my shoes. She might've sneaked in tonight, because sometimes the police aren't able to keep her away. I've got a restraining order against her for stalking me, but now and again she manages to slip through.



RUBY PEARL BILLIONS

HOW I KNEW THE DEAD FELLOW: Blake was my husband.

Oh no, oh no! Everything went wrong. Blake is dead! Who will marry me now that I'm a widow? My life is kaput. I'm going to sell my wedding ring for at least twice its original value. I'm not asking for anything less. I'm not a sap.

And get this: I wasn't Blake's only dame! Three days ago, I caught Dr. Sarah Riley stepping out of my bathroom shower. She had used my shampoo! That bottle cost \$50 an ounce!

How dare Blake cheat on *me*. That chunk of lead! I *did* only marry Blake for the money and to further my career--a billionaire and a starlet, a tabloid dream--but still, Blake could have been the real deal. I think I'm going to almost maybe cry.

I searched through Sarah's bag before Blake was murdered to see if she had stolen any more of my shampoo, and I found a bunch of bottles labeled with XXX, skull and crossbones, and red lettering spelling out "This Bottle Contains Deadly Poison." I left them there because they weren't my shampoo.

WHAT I DRINK TO FORGET: Seabreezes



RUBY PEARL BILLIONS

I saw Ronald Riley and Professor Agatha Quinn smoothing in the corner a few minutes after I arrived. Why is everyone having an affair except me?

Bruce Hunter and I belong to the same country club: The Fat Cat. I confided in him last week that I once accidentally sang a note so high that I killed a fella. Broke his brain right in two. Some men are as breakable as glass.

I carry a little pistol under my hat. But I figure, if all I need to do is sing to kill a fella, why do I even bother? I was chatting with Bruce before Blake was murdered, and I saw a glint of steel from inside his breast coat pocket: a knife. Bruce's singing voice is horrendous, so I can understand the need.