

## REFERENCES

- [Adina E. White biography](#). Brunetta, L. (May 1, 2020). Friends of Mt. Auburn Cemetery.
- [Dr. Mary Crutchfield Thompson biography](#). Cambridge Black History Project Cambridge Black Trailblazers (n.d.).
- Harry Houdini. Multiple sources including: *The Cambridge Tribune, Volume XXII, Number 46, 20 January 1900*; [The Cambridge Chronicle, 2 May 1908](#).
- [Why Was One of Hollywood's First Female Film Directors, Dorothy Arzner, Forgotten?](#) (July 13, 2015). Smithsonian.
- **Music:** 50 Hits. Ben Bernie & His Orchestra. (1927).

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

There are four real historical figures in this play: Dr. Mary Crutchfield Wright Thompson, Adina White, Harry Houdini, and Dorothy Arzner. All of their actions in this play are purely products of the author's imagination.

The author would like to thank Jim Spencer of the [Cambridge Black History Project Black Trailblazers Initiative](#) for his ongoing sharing of information gathered by this volunteer organization about so many Black leaders in our city, including [Dr. Mary Crutchfield Wright Thompson](#), featured in this play.

The author also thanks Jim Vetter, a cast member of the Cambridge Vintage Mystery Theatre Players, for his research on Harry Houdini and vaudeville in Cambridge and Boston.



# The Singularly Sneaky Speakeasy Swindle

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*A 1940's-style radio mystery play by Siobhan Bredin*  
SATURDAY, NOV 16, 2024 | 2:00–2:30PM  
CCTV CAMBRIDGE, CENTRAL SQUARE

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**It's 1929 in Cambridge MA and once again the Marshall sisters are in the middle of a mystery**

- why has Mrs. Meyers reopened her Scenic Temple Vaudeville Theater?
- What is causing Queenie's "Refined Ladies Tea Shoppe" Speakeasy to have less customers?
- And why are dueling Hollywood talkie directors still lurking about shooting "reality" films?

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**Yes, it's case number 14 for the Marshall Sisters Detective Agency!**

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES CAMBRIDGE MA-1929

A C T I	
Scene 1	WCMB Radio Station
Scene 2	Refined Ladies Tea Shoppe
Scene 3	Marshall Detective Agency
A C T II	
Scene 1	Scenic Temple Vaudeville Theater
Scene 2	Refined Ladies Tea Shoppe
Scene 3	Madame Mystica's Salom
A C T III	
Scene 1	Scenic Temple Vaudeville Theater
Scene 2	Tunnels
Scene 3	Refined Ladies Tea Shoppe

In this performance, actors will read from the script as though they and the audience were in a radio studio, as in the golden days of radio. This performance will be recorded and posted at

<http://www.cambridgevintagemysterytheatre.net>

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Announcer	Damon Singletary
Foley (Sound Effects)	Alice & Siobhan Bredin
Louise Marshall	Laurie Singletary
Mrs. Meyers	Linda Pizzotti
Dr. Mary Crutchfield*	Lauren Foster
Harry Houdini*	Jim Vetter
Madame Mystica	Betty Bredin
Alice Marshall	Linda Pizzotti
Queenie	Siobhan Bredin
Joe	Jim Vetter
Adina White*	Lauren Foster
Vaudeville performers & audience	Cast
Dorothy Arzner*	Laurie Singletary
Professor Winslow	Damon Singletary