

“Crime Does Pay” is, in actuality, a feature length crime thriller/mystery film.

But, before getting into all of that, we need to *way* back in time. Before even 1929 has rolled around. The true beginning of this story starts back in 1719, where the main source of conflict for a specific group manifests itself in the first systematic census of Europe as a continent ever conducted by Prussia. This was to finally keep counts and get good clues on what the populations were like back in the day, but this proved to be a problem for some. Who were those that were negatively affected by such a simple, practical development in societal norms?

Vampires.

These terrifying factions had always been living amongst the human population. Not really in plain sight, but always in the shadows, ready to prey on unsuspecting humans. Disappearing countless people for their bloody feasts by either outright killing them or by going for straight up vampirification. However, as of now, all humans could do was develop folklore based on hearsay or go paranoid and try to weed out the vampires in their own communities. They were a menace on societies, either through terrorizing small villages discreetly or owning up large castles, the usual deal with vampires. This wasn't due to any inherent malice, but due to the fact that vampires have always been the natural predator to human beings. To them, this was just the natural order. The food chain. How things worked. Yet, even so, they were still capable of befriending any human crazy enough to be chill with that, hold conversations, be elegant, and all while being the main scourge of many communities.

The vampires themselves, in fact, had a rather tightly knit societal order that they all respected. It was similar to a monarchy, but not carried out by bloodline. Due to the immortality of the creatures themselves, they never really had to worry about a natural death, and as a result, the leadership of the vampires was unable to be passed down by death like kings and queens. Instead, they used a different method after several years had passed in order to ordain who would show them their goals, make big decisions for their species as a whole, as vampires were far less plentiful than humans were. This was done through a council of vampire representatives from almost every country at the time meeting up and taking a vote on who would be most capable (oftentimes having the prestige of a previous leader in the family bloodline helped). But, these royal, respected beings were revered amongst all vampirekind, often resulting in others genuflecting before them, looking up to them for wisdom, and carrying out their orders on their whims. Sort of Count Dracula types, if you will. This being lived in the most regal, grand castles in all of Europe upon the highest peak

of a cliff overlooking a large city, often feared and regarded as dangerous to even set foot in. As of 1719, the **Lord of the Vampires** is the **mastermind** of this story.

For the most part, the vampire population was contained to Europe as that's where they first began to originate from unmarked graves, all holding corpses that were buried unceremoniously in grounds that were unprotected from demonic curses. A lack of respect for the dead acted almost like a signal towards wandering demonic spirits to seep their malicious spells and curses into the uncared bodies, mixing black magic with the corpses into an unholy abomination of a creature now able to rise up out of the cursed grounds. One of the earliest known catalysts for this occurred around one of the largest pandemics to ever happen in human history: **The Black Plague**. The immense containment of pure death and large collective burials of corpses into holes in the ground was like a buffet for these malevolent spirits to spread their hell onto the Earth. Thus, the uprising of vampires as a large collective, elegant species capable of forming communities and not just one off monsters that pop up every so often lies around the **mid-1300s**.

Now, back to the topic of this **1719 continental census**. The Lord of the Vampires was concerned with this happening for a simple reason. All the people they were killing and making go missing would finally be noticed on a grander scale by some of the European continent's governments, and not just by random towns that swore someone was a vampire or that they saw one. No longer would it be a rumor, but rather an epidemic they'd need to take care of after countless accounts of vampiric attacks began to pile up. Now, Prussia wasn't where the main concentration of vampires were, though there certainly were some active there. That honor belongs to good ol' Romania where they all usually came together to meet in a castle in a secluded cliff on Transylvania. There, the Lord of the Vampires had gotten word that now that these disappearances and stories were being collected, governments were meeting in secret to discuss a way to off these monsters in a way that wouldn't inspire terror across all of Europe. They were now teaming up with several churches to choose a select few skilled warriors or strong townsfolk with good reputations to arm them with the proper weaponry needed to eradicate the vampire menace. Basically, several folk heroes were in the making as **vampire hunters** were rising up to the noble occasion to protect the towns and storm the vampire strongholds. They were being straight up Castlevania'd and everyone was looking to their Lord on what they should do to protect themselves.

Unfortunately for the Lord of the Vampires, humans far outnumbered their own species. It was like the prey had wisened up and teamed up to wipe out the predators.

But, as a first solution, the Lord was arrogant and told them all to merely fight back. They had powers after all! They might not be able to live in the shadows much longer like this, but let the humans storm their hideouts! They could beat them, and get free meals to boot! Yet, the Lord had underestimated the vampire hunters, and this proved to be a fatal mistake. Whether it be through silver, stakes, holy water, garlic, crucifixes, or just plain blessed weapons, **the vampires were beginning to be wiped out**. Their powers only got to their max potential at night, otherwise they went into hiding within coffins of their choosing, but some hunters even wisened up and tried to attack coffins when there was still sunlight too. The fight back was **not** working.

Now under immense pressure for their failure of their people, the Lord of the Vampires was beginning to look like the last Lord the vampires would ever have. Their numbers were dwindling, and at around **1729**, they had to make the call to not surrender, but to go for a different means of protecting their species' survival. Instead, they would have to **go into hiding**. Stay away from the vampire hunters that were now a massive threat to them. However, this was a wide scale European operation, and given their own limits even with their bat powers thanks to nightfall only lasting so long, they were forced out of their home countries. They needed to flee to a place not connected to Europe, and thus, **the vampires set their sights on America**.

They embarked on a journey by boat, mostly hiding in cargo holds in their bat forms, and arrived in colonial America in the midst of the rising tension between Britain and their colonies. Which means, that the mastermind has essentially watched America grow into the country that it is today ever since the beginning of their own revolution. The vampires were forced to be secretive about their existence due to their low numbers. They lent their focus on feasting on the blood of livestock and the like rather than alarming any humans that something supernatural was going on. And with the vampires disappearing from Europe, the tales of vampire hunters and vampires faded into folklore and legend, only ever passed around by superstition. The Lord of the Vampires managed to live a relatively peaceful life now, just passively observing this country grow and face hardship over and over again, finding themselves both **fascinated** and **resentful** of how a country that was born at such a disadvantage was able to prosper when *they* failed when needing to fight back.

Eventually, about a century passes with the vampires having to stay submissive and afraid. They began to move further west in the United States and ended up settling mostly in California. The reason being that the Gold Rush that moved westward ended up providing mines and caves for the vampires to reside in, ultimately sweeping them to the other shoreline opposite of the East Coast. They likely all decided to settle in

Beverly Hills to live out their glory days of regal and wealthy atmosphere. The Lord of the Vampires had moved into a large mansion there, likely to mimic their castle up on Transylvania. The vampires worked together to add secret chambers, special rooms, and really just vampire up the place to their liking. This was their new meeting place after about 100 years of scattered uncertainty. However, they were unfortunate enough to do this at around **1929**, right around the corner of the **Stock Market Crash**. The onset of the **Great Depression** spelled nothing but hell for the vampires attempting to reside in the mansion that they worked so hard on.

So many additions were added to the manor, and they finally had a place to live in the shadows peacefully. Yet, the collapsing economy creeping up on them ended up with the Lord of the Vampires being unable to afford the expensive home anymore, and eventually they ended up evicted. Not even vampires can combat homelessness, which is what ended up plaguing the last remaining vampires. Whenever dawn came by, they had to find shade, empty coffins, some sort of refuge to be able to not disintegrate upon the sunlight making contact with their skin. Unfortunately, most were not so lucky. A good chunk of the remaining vampires were killed in the sun while they struggled to get by for the next few decades. Until, only about a small crew were left. A handful of the thriving vampire society that used to exist eons ago, all thanks to the way that America and, on a grander scale, humanity had treated them. The Lord of the Vampires was obviously distraught at their dying species being so damn low in numbers by now, and it all started as a result of the hell that was the Great Depression.

However, with time passing by in California, the media monster that was Hollywood was gradually growing and growing, and technology advanced and advanced. The movie business was HUGE in Los Angeles, and as the years went by, the Lord of the Vampires began to take notice. All these famed actors and celebrities were listened to, around so many important people, garnered respect, stardom, and wealth. Menial jobs just weren't sustainable anymore for creatures that needed to drink blood to survive and shelter for a solid chunk of the day. So, in a last ditch attempt to save their dying species, all the vampires pooled their money together and began to advertise auditions for a **film** all around Hollywood. Like many starving artists, the vampires were quite literally putting all their chips in on this movie to get them money, shelter, and future victims to put through vampirification. Because by now, being subtle wasn't enough anymore. They were going to spread vampires across America. They were going to prosper again! And all it would take, was a small, **shady side to the deal** in their movie for the actors.

Now, California is wrought with actors caught in the oversaturated world of Hollywood, desperately trying to climb their way to the top and become household names like many others have. But, it was hard to find a job. So, whenever a response to their auditions showed up, the vampires (disguised of course) began to offer them a method that would benefit them all at once. **Ultimate Method Acting**. Where the actors would just have to kick back and relax and let the vampires help them through the process by allowing them to coast on by to stardom with guaranteed stellar performances with no effort put in on their end. Unbeknownst to them, this would involve the Lord of the Vampires, whose powers were the most powerful and reliable of them all, using their **hypnosis** in order to affect ALL of the actors in their film (except for the three actual big names that they managed to get, which play the kumas in the movie). Was this basically cheating to give their careers a free boost that it needs? Yes, yes it was. But, what the hypnosis entailed for the film, **"Crime Does Pay"**, was the following:

Every single actor now genuinely, 100% believed that they were the characters they were cast to play, and they completely believe that they are all living in 1929 despite the movie being filmed in 2019.

This meant that while every single emotion expressed by the people in the story was as real as genuine trauma can get, **not a single person actually died in the making of this film**. Once their roles were done with and their characters died or never show up in the movie again, the hypnosis wears off, that character disappears forever having never existed, and the actors would be on their merry way with their stellar performances and none of the trauma lingering around. The hypnosis would also wear off at the end of their work day (they always had to work at night, wonder why!) so that they could go home with people being none the wiser about the true intent behind the film! (Though sometimes they'd go home with small aches in their necks from a few quick bites for sustenance). The way the hypnosis works is that their brains physically block out all the cameras and film equipment they see on set, alongside all modern objects that may break the illusion and basically drive their characters insane to acknowledge. Thanks to the Lord's and vampires' personal experience in the 1920s, it was fairly easy to inject their minds all with the proper knowledge of the era, alongside with giving them all their own proper *fake backstories that never actually happened*. **The hypnosis also allows them to see and sense all the death scenes as realistically as possible**, even if it is all just movie magic and fake blood that the actors are all actually reacting to. It also means that the entire film crew is made up of the remaining vampires left on Earth. The only actors not hypnotized? The big name ones playing the kumas. They are so very confused.

Now, where did they choose to film? Why, it just so happens that the vampires all chose to get the rights to film back at their old mansion in Beverly Hills that's still standing. There, they could take refuge again, but it still felt somewhat taunting that they never truly owned the house again. So, as they met with the owners, a rather rich wife and husband, that were taking the opportunity to go on a luxurious vacation through Europe, the past domain of the vampires, whilst the filming was going on. However, this wasn't about to sit well with the Lord of the Vampires...they wanted their damn home back. So, they killed the two owners for sustenance, hid their bodies, and stole the keys, effectively giving their home back to them again for the foreseeable future. The old vampire mansion is exactly where this RP takes place! All that was left was to do the filming themselves, and to pump out the movie that painted humanity in a bad light as arrogant species willing to try to defy fates they could not accept. An allegory for the eventual reign of terror vampires would once again have that would be nigh unstoppable. This is because the end goal would be to use the fame of the now bitten actors to activate them as vampires whenever they wish, like sleeper agents, and allow the film crew and Lord of the Vampires near influential figures and up and coming actors to also vampirify and spread their evil so that their species doesn't, you know, die out or anything. This plan can be molded or altered to fit the Mastermind's own motivations as they see fit once they have the context for the whole plot.

Speaking of context for the whole plot, the film has its own small plot going on as well. Here, the entire premise revolves around a killing game that starts on **April 1, 1929**, with the mastermind of this killing game, and the villain of the movie, being the character that the **traitor** is playing. Basically, in the context of the movie, the traitor is the mastermind behind the killing game. So, the traitor is essentially an infamous criminal known for carrying out shocking and daring acts of criminality in an era that can even overshadow Al Capone's own crimes, **the Hand of Fate**. They are notorious, known nationwide by anyone that happens to pick up a newspaper on whatever fateful day the traitor happens to do some crazy shit at. But, let's rewind a little bit before they became the pseudo-phantom thief that they are today. Before all of that, they were just their normal selves, living somewhere in America about a year or so before the day of the killing game, it really depends on how old they are, whether they've been at it for a long time or not.

However, there was one *key difference* that made them different from all other people. They were born with the power of **precognition**. Ever since that fateful day, the traitor was able to look into the future to see literally every single thing that was going to happen in the future as if they were predetermined and fated to happen. At

first, they obviously needed to learn how to handle it, but sure enough, historical events and newspaper headlines were soon confirming literally **all** of the visions that they were having. Now, this was immensely concerning to them, especially given the fact that now they could see all sorts of near future disasters and events. The Stock Market Crash, World War II, Presidential Elections, the abolishment of Prohibition, inventions and rising tensions in countries...they can see it all. But, **the traitor doesn't like the course of history that is apparently set in stone**. To them, with just the proper amount of chaos and crimes, they now are attempting to **challenge fate itself** and *alter the course of history on a path that they want to see*. Their motivations and what path they want to change history to go on would be up to the traitor to decide as this is pretty flexible. But, it's due to this power that they were able to convince themselves that by robbing banks, shanking some folk, and breaking certain things would be able to alter the course of history itself! Yet, somehow, things still ended up going as they were planned. In some form, no matter how much meddling they did, the on-rails ride of history continued as it should.

They grew stubborn, and they came to the conclusion that their crimes were aimless (though still brilliantly escapable as they never allowed themselves to get caught thanks to their own future sight powers), and that they needed a much grander, surefire way to mess with history itself. They needed to create a scenario where the butterfly effect would actually take effect. And so, using their precognitive abilities, they searched up the **cast of characters to be their victims** for their meticulously planned killing game that was receiving assistance in being run with their underground criminal connections. What was special about this cast was that **every single person there, in a small or a large way, is partially responsible for setting important events in the near future in motion**, and if they're removed from the equation, then surely now fate will have been successfully overturned! That is the purpose of the killing game, at least in the movie. They are all, according to the script, lured there with the famed annual giveaway of fortune and investments by one of the richest philanthropists in the Beverly Hills area, Charles Gatsby. The crazy old coot does this every year in an effort to give his fortune to several people that have caught his eye. But, it ends up being that the traitor managed to dupe everyone into showing up to the manor by disposing of the rich man and taking control of the mansion to trap everyone there.

Throughout the entirety of the filming process though, if anything goes off script, then time seemingly resets back a few seconds to give them time to rethink that action. This should be rare though, since for the most part, the Lord's hypnosis makes literally every action the characters in the cast takes **predetermined**, this includes all their

feelings and things that they do. However, one thing in the filming process goes wrong. The traitor just so happens to see a modern object on the set, and from their brain processing this small oversight, **their hypnosis begins to mess up**. The character, over the course of the RP, starts to become aware that something is up for several reasons. They start seeing shadow people, they start remembering a different course of events in history than from the film's version of the timeline, and they start to become aware that their actions are being puppeted somehow. Thus, effectively rendering the hypnosis null and void in certain areas, and **forcing the traitor to be one of the few characters doing legitimate acting** now that they have *some free will*. But, probably the most concerning thing that happens to them is now that they've basically been made subconsciously aware of the modern era, their precognition begins to show them that no matter what they do and no matter who dies or not, **absolutely nothing about the future is changing**. Not only that, but **they also begin to notice that the people in the cast and themselves have literally no future or impact** no matter where they look into the future timeline. It's like they were plucked out of history itself, and all their actions are inconsequential. Like this was some strange pocket universe separate from the real world's timeline.

Ultimately, this all comes to a head when on traitor week, they try to defy their ultimate fate of death by trying to truly get away with murder when it wasn't supposed to be their turn and go offscript. They'll try to break convention as much as possible. Because they've surmised that once they "die" or finish their "role" in whatever this is, they'll be gone forever, having accomplished nothing. They end up failing, but their actions ends up breaking the hypnosis of the survivors to a significant enough degree that the movie cannot continue with them now also becoming aware of the weird shit going on. That's where the Lord of the Vampires, the **director** of the film, lays it all out for them and why their fates are unavoidable. They were going to finish this film whether they like it or not.

That is the truth behind "Crime Does Pay"!