



Be different: buy direct  
from the author or  
[tslbooks.uk](http://tslbooks.uk)

## ACT 1

*3 p.m. The setting is a small inn. A dripping tap is heard.*

**SHERYL:** Good morning. Hamlet Inn. Torbay or not Torbay! [Pause] No, this is Torbay. It's just what we say on account of it being called "The Hamlet Inn" [Pause] Like Shakespeare? [Pause] To be or not to be? [Pause] No, I know Shakespeare wasn't born in Torbay. Yes, I know Agatha Christie was. I just don't think the "Sparkling cyanide hotel" or "The mouse trap" has quite the same ring to it. Roger Ackroyd died? Oh, I'm sorry to hear that. So, it's just Mrs Ackroyd, is it? [Pause] Oh, it's an Agatha Christie novel, no, I don't know that one. So, would you like to make a reservation? What name shall I put it under and when is it for?

Names, Victoria, Emma, Ginger, Mel B... Oh really! I do know you're naming the Spice Girls. [Pause] Heather, is that you? Oh, very funny. What's up? Don't tell me the hen weekend has been cancelled! [Pause] Oh, Jane can't come, well never mind. At least we won't have to listen to her going on about all her allergies and rashes. Why isn't she coming? She's worried about feathered pillows... And if the hotel has made sure there are no nuts on sight, or if the room is too high up. Well, best she stays at home then. [Pause] Why would Steve mind me going away? Have you met my husband? The football's on TV, the fridge is full of beer and reaPy meals [Pause] and I got him his favourite cereal [Pause] the one with the toy. He can't wait! [Pause] Ok, the house will look like we've been burgled, he won't have changed his socks, but so what? I'll be too busy having a wonderful weekend!