



THE HOST GUIDE

Very Interesting People Party™

Everything you need to throw one in your own front room. Eight steps, one evening, and a roomful of people who leave more interested in each other than when they walked in.

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WHERE IT CAME FROM

Networking events are flat. This party is not that.

With friends, I dreamed up a party designed to build connection faster than the flat, self-focused networking events we all know. I wanted something that would make people more interested in one another, and bring out their most interesting Self.

The Very Interesting People Party was born. It works because it removes the two things that make a room go quiet: not knowing who anyone is, and not knowing what to ask. The bios solve the first. The pairing solves the second.

You do not need a big house, a budget, or a talent for hosting. You need a few friends willing to vouch for people, a bell, and a printer.

WHAT HAPPENS

Do not be surprised if the night is electric.

People have become friends, landed interviews, picked up client referrals, gone on dates, and left lifted. The first one was a hit, and the ones since have been too.

**Connection is a skill, and a party is
just a very good excuse to practise it.**

Eight steps, one evening.

Steps one to three happen in the week before. Everything from four onwards happens on the night, in this order.

1

Gather your co-hosts

Two or more friends. Each of you invites people you genuinely find very interesting. That is the only bar. Co-hosts matter: they double the room and they halve the work.

2

Write a bio for every guest

Short, warm, specific. Each one on its own sheet of paper. There is a template at the back of this guide. The bios are the engine of the whole night, so write them like you are introducing someone you are proud to know.

3

Pre-match the pairs

Before the night, pair up people who have never met. Print the bios and match them to their pairs. Doing this in advance is what keeps the evening from drifting.

4

Open with appetizers and name tags **30 MINUTES**

Everyone arrives, eats, mingles, gets introduced. Let the room warm up before you ask anything of it.

5

Start the game **60 TO 90 MINUTES**

Hosts explain how it works, and teach the room how to get to know someone. Tell them to expect the person in front of them to be the most interesting person in the world, then go and find the proof. Three things to teach: ask questions, find out what they have done, then ask why they did it. The why is their values, and that is what they will brag about. There is a script to read out on page 5.

HOW IT WORKS, CONTINUED

The part people remember.

6

Swap bios and talk **20 MINUTES**

Each pair reads the other person's bio, then talks. Ten minutes each way, with a bell at the halfway mark. The bios do the heavy lifting: they hand you the questions.

7

Introduce your partner to the room **5 MINUTES EACH**

Everyone comes back together. Each person introduces the other: *This is ___, and they are a very interesting person because ___*. Bell again, then the second person goes. Every pair gets a turn.

8

Thank everyone, then get out of the way

Close it out and let people keep talking. That part takes care of itself.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

The details that decide the night.

Name tags. Always.

No exceptions, no matter how small the group feels.

Print the bios.

Nerves and memory both need something to hold.

Pick a beautiful room.

Seating, lighting and acoustics matter more than people expect.

Food and drinks.

They are what make it a livelier memory.

Take pictures.

Tag them #BEPEOPLERICH, @emilyannepage and @bepeoplerich. I'll repost them.

Teach your guests how to brag.

Your job is to teach people how to be interested in someone else, and then how to make that person look good. That is the whole assignment, and almost nobody arrives knowing it.

The most interesting person is the most interested.

Some of your guests were never taught this. They are not shy, they are unbriefed, and the question in their head is: how do I take part in this and not look like an idiot? Answer that out loud and watch the nerves go.

SAY THIS OUT LOUD, BEFORE THE PAIRS SPLIT UP

In a few minutes you will sit with one person and read a short bio about them. Then you talk, ten minutes each way. Your only job is to find out what makes them interesting, and then to brag about them to the rest of us. The most interesting person in this room is the most interested one, so assume the person in front of you is fascinating and go and find the proof. Ask questions. Listen for what they care about, not just what they do. When it is your turn, make them look good. Nobody is being tested and nobody has to be clever. You just have to be curious about one person for ten minutes.

THE THREE MOVES

Give them something to do with their hands.

1 Ask questions.

Real ones. "How did you end up doing that?" gets you somewhere. "What do you do?" does not.

2 Look for values, experiences and beliefs.

Anyone can recite a job title. You are listening for the choices: what they walked away from, what they kept, what they are quietly proud of.

3 Then ask why.

Why did that matter? Why that, and not the easier thing? Their values are the most interesting thing about them, and that is what you will brag about.

SHOW THEM, DO NOT JUST TELL THEM

Do one out loud first.

Take a co-host and demonstrate it before anyone sits down. Ninety seconds is plenty. People copy what they have seen.

THE FLAT VERSION

This is Marcus. He is an accountant in Plano.

THE BRAG

This is Marcus, and he is a very interesting person because he left a job he was good at to build something he believed in. He does the books for three family restaurants, and he will tell you that is boring, and it is not: he says he can tell when a family is about to fall apart before they can. He values loyalty over money, and he has the tax returns to prove it.

Same man, same facts. The difference is that the second one went looking for why, then said it generously in front of other people.

IF SOMEONE FREEZES

Hand them a sentence.

Give them the frame.

"This is ___, and they are a very interesting person because ___." Nobody has to invent an opening line.

One thing is enough.

Tell the room they only need a single true, specific thing. Length is not the point, and nobody is scoring.

Let a host go first.

Whoever is least nervous starts. It sets the bar, and the bar should be warm, not clever.

Say the obvious part.

Nobody in the history of parties has been upset about being bragged about.

BEFORE THE NIGHT

What to prepare.

ONE WEEK OUT

- ☐ Lock your co-hosts, two or more
- ☐ Agree the guest list, everyone vouched for
- ☐ Send the invitation with a firm start time
- ☐ Ask each guest for three lines about themselves
- ☐ Choose the room and where people will sit

TWO DAYS OUT

- ☐ Write a bio for every guest
- ☐ Pair people who have never met
- ☐ Print the bios, one per sheet
- ☐ Print or write the name tags
- ☐ Buy the food and drinks

ON THE DAY

- ☐ Find your bell, a phone timer works
- ☐ Set out chairs in pairs, facing each other
- ☐ Lay the bios face down at each seat
- ☐ Name tags and pen by the door
- ☐ Appetizers out before the first knock
- ☐ Decide which host explains the game and demonstrates a brag

NICE TO HAVE

- ☐ A quieter second room for overflow
- ☐ Music low enough to talk over
- ☐ A photo, taken before people leave, tagged #BEPEOPLERICH
- ☐ Somewhere to write down what happened

ON THE NIGHT

The evening at a glance.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 0:00 | Doors, appetizers, name tags. Arrive, eat, mingle, get introduced. |
| 0:30 | Hosts explain the game. Two minutes, then everyone finds their pair. |
| 0:35 | Swap bios and talk. Ten minutes each way, bell at the halfway mark. |
| 0:55 | Introductions to the room. Five minutes each, bell between. |
| 1:40 | Thank everyone. Then get out of the way and let the room keep going. |

The guest bio sheet.

Print one per guest. Short, warm, specific. Write it the way you would introduce someone you are proud to know, then hand it to the person they are paired with.

GUEST BIO

Name

What they do, in one line

The thing about them that made you say yes

Ask them about

Paired with

GUEST BIO

Name

What they do, in one line

The thing about them that made you say yes

Ask them about

Paired with

AFTER THE PARTY

Tell me how it went.

I collect these stories. If you throw one, send me what happened: who met whom, what surprised you, what you would do differently. It is the best part of my inbox.

Take pictures on the night and tag them **#BEPEOPLERICH** and **@emilyannepage** and **@bepeoplerich**. I'll repost them.

emilyannepage.com/community

PEOPLE RICH

The book behind all of this. Build relationships that change your life, and stop leaving connection to chance. On sale October 1.

emilyannepage.com/people-rich-book

People Rich Monthly

Short, useful notes on turning human connection into real influence and growth, about once a month.

emilyannepage.com/newsletter

FIND YOUR PEOPLE

Instagram

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