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Dodd Mead (US) Collins (UK) - 1947-09 sc The Rose and the Yew Tree 1947-12 Good Housekeeping (sr) Mary Westmacott abridged, serialised in 2 parts Dec 1947 - Jan 1948. As book: Farrar & Rinehart (US) - 1948-03 circa Collins (UK) - 1948-11 nv Butter in a Lordly Dish 1948-01 BBC 13 Jan 1948 pl Taken at the Flood 1948-03 Dodd Mead (US) Collins (UK) - 1948-03 There is a Tide... Collins (UK) - 1948-11 nv Three Good Mice (short) 1948-05 Cosmopolitan vol. 124 No. 5 Mar 1948 ss The Witness for the Prosecution and Other Stories 1948-09 Dodd Mead (US) US only sc Hooked House 1948-10 Cosmopolitan Stories, Oct 1948 (Vol. 125 No. 4), As book: Dodd Mead (US) - 1949-03 Collins (UK) - 1949-05 nv Three Blind Mice and Other Stories 1950-02 Dodd Mead (US) 1950-02 circa, US only Collection of ss already published elsewhere sc A Murder is Announced 1950-02 Daily Express (sr) abridged, serialised 11 parts 28 Feb - 11 Mar 1950. As book: Collins (UK) - 1950-06 Dodd Mead (US) - 1950-06 nv They Came to Baghdad 1951-01 John Bull (sr) serialised 8 parts 13 Jan (Vol. 89 No. 2324) to 3 Mar 1951 (Vol. 89 No. 2331). As book: Collins (UK) - 1951-03 Dodd Mead (US) - 1951-03 circa nv The Hollow (play) 1951-02 Arts Theatre, Cambridge 10 Feb 1951 pl The Under Dog and Other Stories 1951-09 Dodd Mead (US) 1951-09 circa, US only Collection of ss already published elsewhere sc Mrs McGinty's Dead 1951-10 Chicago Tribune (sr) serialised 13 parts 7 Oct - 30 Dec 1951. As book: Collins (UK) - 1952-02 Dodd Mead (US) - 1952-03 nv Best of the Year 1952-01 Sight and Sound Contribution to article. British Film Institute Sight and Sound Jan-Mar 1952 Vol. 21 (New Quarterly Series) No. 3 ar They Do It with Mirrors 1952-04 Cosmopolitan condensed, April 1952 (Vol. 132 No. 4) as "Murder with Mirrors. As book: Dodd Mead (US) - 1952-09 circa Collins (UK) - 1952-11 nv The Mousetrap 1952-10 Theatre Royal, Nottingham 6 Oct 195225 Nov 1952 at West End Ambassadors Theatre pl A Daughter's a Daughter 1952-11 Heinemann (UK) Mary Westmacott Not published in US until much later. Dell 1963-09 nv After the Funeral 1953-03 Chicago Tribune (sr) serialised 47 parts 20 Jan - 14 Mar 1953. As book: Dodd Mead (US) - 1953-03 Collins (UK) - 1953-05 nv A Pocket Full of Rye 1953-09 Daily Express (sr) serialised 14 parts 28 Sep - 13 Oct 1953. As book: Collins (UK) - 1953-11 Dodd Mead (US) - 1954-03 circa nv Witness for the Prosecution (play) 1953-09 Theatre Royal, Nottingham 28 Sep 1953 pl Personal Call 1954-05 BBC 31 May 1954 BBC Light Programme broadcast pl Destination Unknown 1954-09 John Bull (sr) abridged, serialised 5 parts 25 Sep (Vol. 96 No. 2517) to 23 Oct (Vol. 96 No. 2521). As book: Collins (UK) - 1954-11 Dodd Mead (US) - 1955-02 nv Spider's Web (play) 1954-09 Theatre Royal, Nottingham 27 Sep 1954 pl Sanctuary 1954-11 This Week (sr) 2 parts 12 Sep and 19 Sep 1954 as "Murder at the Vicarage" (not to be confused with her full-length novel) ss Hickory Dickory Dock 1955-05 John Bull (sr) abridged, serialised 6 parts 28 May (Vol. 97 No. 2552) to 2 Jul (Vol. 98 No. 2557). As book: Collins (UK) - 1955-10 Dodd Mead (US) - 1955-11 nv A Daughter's a Daughter (play) 1956-07 Theatre Royal, Bath 9 Jul 1956 pl Dead Man's Folly 1956-07 Collier's Weekly (sr) abridged, serialised 3 parts 20 Jul (Vol. 138 No. 2) - 17 Aug 1956 (Vol. 138 No. 4). As book: Dodd Mead (US) - 1956-10 Collins (UK) - 1956-11 nv Towards Zero (1956 play) 1956-09 Theatre Royal, Nottingham 6 Aug 1956 Collaborative work with Gerald Verner pl The Burden 1956-11 Heinemann (UK) Mary Westmacott. Published in the US much later Dell (US) 1963-09 nv Greenshaw's Folly 1956-11 Star Weekly ss 4.50 from Paddington 1957-10 John Bull (sr) abridged, serialised 5 parts 5 Oct (Vol. 102 No. 2675) to 2 Nov (Vol. 102 No. 2679). As book: Collins (UK) - 1957-11 Dodd Mead (US) - 1957-11 as "What Mrs McGillicuddy Saw!" nv Verdict (play) 1958-02 Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton 25 Feb 1958 pl The Unexpected Guest (play) 1958-08 Bristol Hippodrome 4 Aug 1958 pl Ordeal by Innocence 1958-09 John Bull (sr) abridged, serialised 2 parts 20 Sep (Vol. 104 No. 2725) to 27 Sep (Vol. 104 No. 2726). As book: Collins (UK) - 1958-11 Dodd Mead (US) - 1959-02 nv The Dressmaker's Doll 1958-10 Star Weekly 25 Oct 1958 ss Cat Among the Pigeons 1959-09 John Bull (sr) abridged, serialised 6 parts 26 Sep (Vol. 106 No. 2771) to 31 Oct (Vol. 106 No. 2776). As book: Collins (UK) - 1959-11 Dodd Mead (US) - 1960-03 nv Go Back for Murder (play) 1960-02 King's Theatre, Edinburgh 27 Feb 1960 pl The Mystery of the Spanish Chest 1960-10 Woman's Illustrated (sr) 3 parts 17 Sep - 1 Oct 1960 ss The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding 1960-09 This Week (sr) 2 parts 25 Sep - 2 Oct 1960 ss The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding and a Selection of Entrées 1960-10 Collins (UK) UK only sc Double Sin and Other Stories 1961-07 Dodd Mead (US) US only sc The Pale Horse 1961-08 Woman's Mirror (sr) abridged, serialised 8 parts 29 Aug - 16 Oct 1961. As book: Collins (UK) - 1961-11 Dodd Mead (US) - 1962-09 nv Thirteen for Luck 1961-09 Dodd Mead (US) Collins (UK) - much later 1966. See Thirteen for Luck for details. sc The 1961-11 His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen 6 Nov 1961 pl The Mirror Crack'd from Side to Side 1962-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1963-03 nv The Mirror Crack'd from Side to Side 1962-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1964-09 nv A Caribbean Mystery 1964-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1965-08 nv Surprise! Surprise! 1965-07 Dodd Mead (US) Collection of ss already anthologised. Not published in UK. sc Star Over Bethlehem and other stories 1965-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) 1965-11 circa:First publication of contents except Star Over Bethlehem which was first published in 1946. posc. At Bertram's Hotel 1965-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1966-09 circa nv Third Girl 1966-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1967-09 circa nv Endless Night 1967-10 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1968-03 circa nv Margery Allingham - a Tribute 1968-03 Penguin Book News ar By the Pricking of My Thumbs 1968-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1968-12 nv Hallowe'en Party 1969-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1969-11 circa nv Sir Allen Le - a Flair for Success 1970-07 The Spectator 18 Jul 1970 ar Passenger to Frankfurt 1970-09 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1970-11 nv Fiddlers Five 1971-06 King's Theatre, Southsea 7 Jun 1971 pl The Golden Ball and Other Stories 1971-08 Dodd Mean (US) US only sc Nemesis 1971-09 Woman's Realm (sr) Abridged 7 parts 25 Sep (Vol. 27 No. 702) to 6 Nov 1971 (Vol. 27 No. 708). As book: Collins (UK) - 1971-11 Dodd Mead (US) - 1971-11 circa nv The Harlequin Tea Set 1971-01 Winter's Crimes 3 ss Fiddlers Three 1972-08 Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford 1 Aug 1972 pl Elephants Can Remember 1972-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1972-11 nv Akhnaton (play) 1973-05 Collins (UK) not performed in Christie's lifetime pl Poems 1973-10 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1973-10 reprints poems from The Road of Dreams in 1st part, others published for the first time. See Poems for details, po Postern of Fate 1973-10 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1973-11 nv Poirot's Christmas 1973-10 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1974-09 circa as "Hercule Poirot's Early Cases" sc Curtain 1973-09 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1975-09 circa nv Posthumous Sleeping Murder 1976-09 Dodd Mead (US) Collins (UK) - 1976-10 nv An Autobiography 1977-11 Collins (UK) Dodd Mead (US) - 1977-11 nf Miss Marple's Final Cases and Two Other Stories 1979-10 Collins (UK) not published in US sc Problem at Pollensa Bay and Other Stories 1991-11 HarperCollins (UK) not published in US sc The Harlequin Tea Set and Other Stories 1997-04 Putnam (US) not published in UK sc While the Light Lasts and Other Stories 1997-08 HarperCollins (UK) not published in US sc The Captive by Cerberus (rejected short story) 2009-08 Daily Mail 28 Aug 2009 ss The Incident of the Dog's Ball 2009-09 Agatha Christie's Secret Notebooks ss The Case of the Caretaker's Wife 2011-09 Agatha Christie's Murder in the Making ss The Man Who Knew 2011-09 Agatha Christie's Murder in the Making ss The Grand Tour 2014-09 HarperCollins collected correspondence of The Big Four (Detective Club Edition) 2016-12 HarperCollins sc Murder in the Studio 2019 Samuel French collection of 3 radio play scripts pl The Last Séance: Tales of the Supernatural 2019-10 HarperCollins The Wife of the Kenite anthologised for the first time sc Gap - work in progress (work in progress) Agatha Christie novels on a shelf at her holiday home, Greenway House, in Devon, England.Universal Images Group via Getty Images British writer Agatha Christie has been hailed as "the greatest mystery writer of all time" and the "Queen of Mystery." It's unlikely any other serious crime writer has published more classic novels since the First World War, certainly not 74 of them, 66 of which were detective novels. Christie published her first novel, The Mysterious Affair at Styles, in 1920, featuring the fan-favorite character Hercule Poirot, a detective whose sharp intellect would make him one of the most iconic and recurring characters in Christie's repertoire. Although she began writing as a second career while working as a volunteer nurse during the First World War, her career as a writer quickly took off and the Torquay-born author forayed into romance, poetry, children's books, autobiographies and playwrighting. All these contributed to her repertoire, which includes over 130 published pieces. Over the past century, readers have been drawn to Christie's art form because she has a familiar formula that they have come to know and trust. As a whodunnit novelist, each story has many puzzles that make every plot gripping and pulse-pounding. Her uncanny ability to breathe life into characters through mysterious themes and the crimes that drive them is stellar and has made her the best-selling author of all time. The refreshing plots of Christie's novels and the multi-dimensional nature of her characters' personalities continue to fascinate millions of readers to this day. It might be said that the melodies of those plots have become to the mystery genre what Bach's compositions are to a pianist, and have made Christie's writings the Gold Standard of mystery literature. The rankings of her 10 best books also speak to their continuing popularity — essentially across the board — for critics and fans alike to recommend them consistently to one another. Christie's geographical settings have transported readers all over planet Earth, from drawing rooms in British country houses to sun-kissed shores in exotic countries. With over 66 detective novels under her belt, this ranking highlights 10 of Christie's best books based on commercial success, critical acclaim and the impact of her work on the mystery genre. Christie's superpower is her psychological depth. In Five Little Pigs, the English author reminds her reader of the formula she will adhere to in her subsequent novels: nothing is what it seems. The plot revolves around the reopening of a murder case that had been closed 16 years prior. Although Caroline Crale was convicted of poisoning her husband, her daughter believes she is innocent and she is determined to get to the bottom of it. To determine the truth, Hercule Poirot must get creative by gathering psychological evidence, rather than physical evidence that was destroyed years prior. Just like the nursery rhyme "Five little pigs," when Caroline was accused of killing her husband, there were five other suspects who may have potentially committed the crime, but it is up to Poirot to find the real culprit. Who should read: Five Little Pigs is an excellent read for mystery fans who like stories centered around psychological rather than sensational plots. It is available on HarperCollins Publishers.Agatha Christie in 1926.Bettmann Archive Christie's Endless Night centers around the life of impoverished 20-year-old Michael Rogers, who believes he has hit the jackpot when he stumbles upon Gypsy's Acre, a piece of land that is later acquired by Fenella (Ellie) Guteman, a wealthy heiress who he falls in love with and marries, much to the chagrin of Ella's well-to-do family. The couple disregards this disapproval and continues to build their home on Gypsy's Acre together, regardless. Michael believes that he has found an oasis with a single bullet. Lin Ridgeaway, as the murdered woman is called, seemed to have a perfect life until she was abruptly murdered. Christie uses themes of wealth, envy, obsession and greed to reveal the underlying of human nature, and her fan-favorite fictional muse, Poirot, gets to work unraveling it all. Who should read it: Christie's signature suspense with rich descriptions of Egyptian scenery make Death on the Nile an ideal pick for readers who enjoy mystery and exotic life. The book is available from HarperCollins Publishers. 5. A Murder is Announced, 1950 When it comes to turning the buzz of everyday life into something eerie, no one can match Christie. In A Murder is Announced, the quaint English village of Chipping Cleghorn becomes the crime scene for a gutsy experiment in murder. After the local paper prints an advertisement announcing that a murder will take place "on Friday, October 29th, at Little Paddock's at 6.30 p.m.," villagers are surprised, yet curious. As the hour draws near, the village crowd assembles awaiting a game or a joke. The hour approaches, the lights go out, there is a sound of a gun, and the entire place is plunged into darkness. When the lights come back on, there is a body and a puzzling conundrum that seems too fictional to be true. It is one of Christie's finest works. Who should read it: A Murder Is Announced is a good read for anyone who cleverly crafted mysteries that blend suspense with insightful social commentary. The book is available from HarperCollins Publishers.Agatha Christie with Richard Attenborough at the 10th anniversary of the play Mousetrap. November... More 25. 1962.Mirrorpix via Getty Images 4. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd, 1926 In the Murder of Roger Ackroyd, Christie breaks the rules of the mystery genre and challenges her readers to reimagine their preconceived ideas about the genre. When the widow Mrs Ferrars dies of a self-inflicted overdose, residents of King's Abbot are stunned. Shortly after her death, however, Roger Ackroyd, her fiancé, is murdered, and this further rattles the community. With the help of Hercule Poirot, Christie guides readers through the puzzling deaths that unravel the quiet village of King's Abbot. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd is regarded as one of the most influential mystery books of all time. Who should read it: Murder mystery enthusiasts who enjoy unconventional approaches to storytelling will appreciate this book. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd is available from HarperCollins Publishers. 3. The Murder at the Vicarage, 1930 The Murder at the Vicarage, 1930 The Murder at the Vicarage introduces readers to the feisty and quick-witted Miss Marple, who finds a murder to investigate in St Mary Mead, where beneath the seeming simplicity of small-town living resides crime, guilt, deceit and murder. 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It's the quintessential "locked-room" mystery: On the Orient Express railcar, snowbound in luxury, Hercule Poirot is faced with a murder committed by one of the train's passengers, whose locked bedroom seems to be the only possible place from which the crime could have been committed In Christie's hands, this plot line turns into something far more accomplished than a mystery story. The array of motives and backstories that she must now fit together to explain what happened may be more complex than the crime at Poirot's neck, but Christie makes no concession to her reader; she is determined to satisfy her hero's intelligence as well. Into the bargain, she provides enough lovely detail of place to make her novel as atmospheric as it is ingenious. It remains the most filmable of all whodunnits and, with each new screen version, another version of Poirot appears, ready to be adapted. Who should read it: Readers who enjoy mystery and historical fiction will enjoy this book. It is available from HarperCollins Publishers. 1. And Then There Were None, 1939 Dark in theme and appalling in its storyline, And Then There Were None can be seen as the apex of narrative craft — a sort of gothic apotheosis where justice and crime, guilt and innocence are examined alongside the dark sides of our human existence. It is one of the most compelling mysteries ever written and a crowning glory of Christie's work. The plot of the book kicks off with 10 strangers, each invited — for different reasons — to a place called Soldier Island — a rock off the coast of England. On arrival, they are greeted by a gramophone recording that accuses each guest of a specific murder: a crime for which he or she had escaped justice. The guests discover that none of them know the person who supposedly invited them, and the host himself is no longer there. A frenzy ensues after one of the guests dies at dinner and then another in the middle of the night. 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Agatha Christie Books In Order Below are Christie's books, listed in order of release: The Mysterious Affair at Styles - 1920 The Secret Adversary - 1922 The Murder on the Links - 1923 The Man in the Brown Suit - 1924 Poirot Investigates - 1924 The Secret of Chimneys - 1925 The Murder of Roger Ackroyd - 1926 The Big Four - 1927 The Mystery of the Blue Train - 1928 The Seven Dials Mystery - 1929 Partners in Crime - 1929 Giant's Bread - 1930 The Mysterious Mr Quin - 1930 The Murder at the Vicarage - 1930 The Sittaford Mystery - 1931 Peril at End House - 1932 The Thirteen Problems -1932 Lord Edgware Dies - 1933 The Hound of Death - 1933 Murder on the Orient Express - 1934 Unfinished Portrait - 1934 The Listerdale Mystery - 1934 Why Didn't They Ask Evans? - 1934 Parker Pyne Investigates - 1934 Three-Act Tragedy - 1934 Death in the Clouds - 1935 The ABC Murders - 1936 Murder in Mesopotamia - 1936 Cards on the Table - 1936 Dumb Witness - 1937 Death on the Nile - 1937 Murder in the Mews - 1937 Appointment with Death - 1938 Hercule Poirot's Christmas - 1938 Murder is Easy - 1939 And Then There Were None - 1939 The Regatta Mystery - 1939 So Big Cypress - 1940 One, Two, Buckle My Shoe - 1940 Evil Under the Sun - 1941 N or M? - 1941 The Body in the Library - 1942 Five Little Pigs - 1942 The Moving Finger - 1942 Towards Zero - 1944 Absent in the Spring - 1944 Death Comes as the End - 1944 Sparkling Cyanide - 1945 The Hollow - 1946 The Labors of Hercules - 1947 Taken at the Flood - 1948 Witness for the Prosecution- 1948 The Rose and the Yew Tree - 1948 Crooked House - 1949 A Murder is Announced- 1950 Three Blind Mice - 1950 They Came to Baghdad - 1951 The Under Dog - 1951 Mrs McGinty's Dead - 1952 They Do It with Mirrors - 1952 A Daughter's a Daughter - 1952 After the Funeral - 1953 A Pocket Full of Rye - 1953 Destination Unknown - 1954 Hickory Dickory Dock - 1955 Dead Man's Folly - 1956 The Burden - 1956 4.50 from Paddington - 1957 Ordeal by Innocence - 1958 Cat Among the Pigeons - 1959 The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding - 1960 The Pale Horse - 1961 Double Sin - 1961 The Mirror Crack'd from Side to Side - 1962 The Clocks - 1963 A Caribbean Mystery - 1964 Star Over Bethlehem - 1965 At Bertram's Hotel - 1965 Third Girl - 1966 Endless Night - 1967 By the Pricking of My Thumbs - 1968 Hallowe'en Party - 1969 Passenger to Frankfurt - 1970 Nemesis - 1971 Elephants Can Remember - 1972 Postern of Fate - 1973 Poirot's Early Cases - 1974 Curtain - 1975 Sleeping Murder - 1976 Miss Marple's Final Cases and Two Other Stories - 1979 Problem at Pollensa Bay and Other Stories - 1991 The Harlequin Tea Set - 1997 While the Light Lasts and Other Stories - 1997 Hercule Poirot and the Greenshore Folly - 2013 Bottom Line Christie is largely known for her ability to turn mundane details, people and places into colorful, authoritative, page-turning dramas with alarming shocks, thrilling twists and unexpected revelations. Her two most famous detectives, the Belgian Hercule Poirot and the lovable Miss Jane Marple, embody the kind of entertaining, sharp-witted characters that many associate with 1930s popular mass media; yet all her novels feature complexity as a barely controlled essence, an intricate puzzle that unravels to become a printed, sanitized way of stimulating the human senses, while triggering curiosity, annoyance and excitement. Introducing the Complete Agatha Christie reading list, the community. With the help of Hercule Poirot, Christie guides readers through the puzzling deaths that unravel the quiet village of King's Abbot. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd is regarded as one of the most influential mystery books of all time. Who should read it: Murder mystery enthusiasts who enjoy unconventional approaches to storytelling will appreciate this book. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd is available from HarperCollins Publishers. 3. The Murder at the Vicarage, 1930 The Murder at the Vicarage introduces readers to the feisty and quick-witted Miss Marple, who finds a murder to investigate in St Mary Mead, where beneath the seeming simplicity of small-town living resides crime, guilt, deceit and murder. Colonel Protheroe, a tyrannical magistrate and village landowner, is widely disliked in the village and has many enemies, when he is finally murdered, Miss Marple is faced with weeding out multiple suspects. Although The Murder at the Vicarage seems like a plot that would be straightforward and predictable to the average, unassuming reader, it is anything but. Who should read it: Readers who like plot twists and are hard-core fans of one of her most famous characters, Miss Marple, will enjoy this book. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd is available from HarperCollins Publishers. 2. Murder on the Orient Express, 1934 For many readers, Murder on the Orient Express, is the raison d'être of Agatha Christie, possibly the first thing that comes to mind when anything else of hers is mentioned, and its very first word tends to get short shrift when that happens. It's the quintessential "locked-room" mystery: On the Orient Express railcar, snowbound in luxury, Hercule Poirot is faced with a murder committed by one of the train's passengers, whose locked bedroom seems to be the only possible place from which the crime could have been committed In Christie's hands, this plot line turns into something far more accomplished than a mystery story. The array of motives and backstories that she must now fit together to explain what happened may be more complex than the crime at Poirot's neck, but Christie makes no concession to her reader; she is determined to satisfy her hero's intelligence as well. Into the bargain, she provides enough lovely detail of place to make her novel as atmospheric as it is ingenious. It remains the most filmable of all whodunnits and, with each new screen version, another version of Poirot appears, ready to be adapted. Who should read it: Readers who enjoy mystery and historical fiction will enjoy this book. It is available from HarperCollins Publishers. 1. And Then There Were None, 1939 Dark in theme and appalling in its storyline, And Then There Were None can be seen as the apex of narrative craft — a sort of gothic apotheosis where justice and crime, guilt and innocence are examined alongside the dark sides of our human existence. It is one of the most compelling mysteries ever written and a crowning glory of Christie's work. The plot of the book kicks off with 10 strangers, each invited — for different reasons — to a place called Soldier Island — a rock off the coast of England. 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