

Murder Is Easy

Superintendent Battle of Scotland Yard struggles to find the person who penned the details of a vicious murder.

Soon after Gwenda moved into her new home, odd things started to happen. Despite her best efforts to modernize the house, she only succeeded in dredging up its past. Worse, she felt an irrational sense of terror every time she climbed the stairs. In fear, Gwenda turned to Miss Marple to exorcise her ghosts. Between them, they were to solve a “perfect” crime committed many years before.

Mary Russell and her famed sleuthing spouse, Sherlock Holmes, journey to one of Britain's stately homes as they investigate a dark secret whose origins reach deep into the very soul of England.

In Agatha Christie's classic, *Five Little Pigs*, beloved detective Hercule Poirot races to solve a case from out of the past. Beautiful Caroline Crale was convicted of poisoning her husband, but just like the nursery rhyme, there were five other “little pigs” who could have done it: Philip Blake (the stockbroker), who went to market; Meredith Blake (the amateur herbalist), who stayed at home; Elsa Greer (the three-time divorcée), who had her roast beef; Cecilia Williams (the devoted governess), who had none; and Angela Warren (the disfigured sister), who cried all the way home. Sixteen years later, Caroline's daughter is determined to prove her mother's innocence, and Poirot just can't get that nursery rhyme out of his mind.

INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER! "Reading a perfectly plotted Agatha Christie is like crunching into a perfect apple: that pure, crisp, absolute satisfaction."
—Tana French, New York Times bestselling author of the *Dublin Murder Squad* novels

An all-new collection of winter-themed stories from the Queen of Mystery, just in time for the holidays—including the original version of “Christmas Adventure,” never before released in the United States! There's a chill in the air and the days are growing shorter . . . It's the perfect time to curl up in front of a crackling fire with these wintry whodunits from the legendary Agatha Christie. But beware of deadly snowdrifts and dangerous gifts, poisoned meals and mysterious guests. This chilling compendium of short stories—some featuring beloved detectives Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple—is an essential omnibus for Christie fans and the perfect holiday gift for mystery lovers.

“Agatha Christie [is] the maestro of murder tales.” —*People*

A quiet English village is plagued by a fiendish serial killer in Queen of Mystery Agatha Christie's classic thriller, *Murder is Easy*. Luke Fitzwilliam does not believe Miss Pinkerton's wild allegation that a multiple murderer is at work in the quiet English village of Wychwood and that her local doctor is next in line. But within hours, Miss Pinkerton has been killed in a hit-and-run car accident. Mere coincidence? Luke is inclined to think so—until he reads in the *Times* of the unexpected demise of Wychwood's Dr. Humbleby....

Death and danger stalk undercover investigator DJ Smith when she is seconded to the Portuguese Drug Enforcement Agency on Madeira, island of orchids and flamboyant bird of paradise flowers. After Luís Gomes' body is found floating in Funchal harbour, Comandante Figueira blames a security lapse by her for jeopardizing the success of anti-drug operation *Boa Morte*. Given a deadline to get results, DJ narrows down the list of suspects, each of them with something to hide. But her investigations draw the

attention of a ruthless killer to herself and to her sniffer cat Gorgonzola. A tense endgame takes place on the two thousand foot high cliffs of Cabo Girão, when DJ is faced with the hardest decision of her life.

Agatha Christie's ingenious murder mystery thriller, reissued with a striking cover designed to appeal to the latest generation of Agatha Christie fans and book lovers. Hercule Poirot observed his fellow passengers on the Orient Express: a Russian princess, an English colonel, an American with a strange glint in his eye and many more. He was looking forward to the journey. But it was not to be. After a restless night, he awoke to find that tragedy had struck.

It was just Luke Fitzwilliam's luck to be stuck next to a dotty old woman like Miss Fullerton on the London-bound train--although he found himself quite entertained with her tall tales about a series of perfect murders in the quaint village of Wychwood. But when he reads the next day of the freak accident that killed her, too, Fitzwilliam's amusement turns to grave concern. A visit to the isolated village confirms his worst fears. For Wychwood seems to be divided by an eccentric lot of locals: those who are in on a dark and dangerous secret--and those who don't live long enough to share it.

The Sittaford Mystery is Dame Agatha at her most intriguing, as a séance in a snowbound house predicts a particularly grisly murder. In a remote house in the middle of Dartmoor, six shadowy figures huddle around a table for a seance. Tension rises as the spirits spell out a chilling message: "Captain Trevelyan . . . dead . . . murder." Is this black magic or simply a macabre joke? The only way to be certain is to locate Captain Trevelyan. Unfortunately, his home is six miles away and, with snowdrifts blocking the roads, someone will have to make the journey on foot. . . .

Five complete, unabridged books in one volume.

It's 1987 and life as normal is ending for the Malone family. With their sterile Dallas community a far cry from the Bronx of their youth, Pat and Anne have reached a breaking point. Pat, faced with a debilitating MS diagnosis, has fallen into his drinking. Anne, his devoutly Catholic wife, is selected as a juror for a murder trial that raises questions she has buried her entire life. Together, they try to raise their only son, Daniel, a bright but unmotivated student who is shocked into actual learning by an enigmatic English teacher.

The definitive work on Stalin's purges, the author's *The Great Terror* was universally acclaimed when it first appeared in 1968. It was "hailed as the only scrupulous, nonpartisan, and adequate book on the subject". And in recent years it has received equally high praise in the Soviet Union, where it is now considered the authority on the period, and has been serialized in *Neva*, one of their leading periodicals. Of course, when the author wrote the original volume two decades ago, he relied heavily on unofficial sources. Now, with the advent of glasnost, an avalanche of new material is available, and he has mined this enormous cache to write a substantially new edition of his classic work. It is remarkable how many of the most disturbing conclusions have borne up under the light of fresh evidence. But the author has added enormously to the detail, including hitherto secret information on the three great "Moscow Trials," on the fate of the executed generals, on the methods of obtaining confessions, on the purge of writers and other members of the intelligentsia, on life in the labor camps, and many other key matters. Both a leading Sovietologist and a highly respected poet, the author blends research with prose, providing not only an authoritative account of Stalin's

purges, but also a compelling chronicle of one of this century's most tragic events. A timely revision of a book long out of print, this is the updated version of the author's original work.

A low-priced collection of five unabridged mysteries includes Miss Marple's first case, *The Murder at the Vicarage*, along with *Sad Cypress*; *N or M?*; *Towards Zero*; and *Dead Man's Folly*.

When the Parson declares rather carelessly 'Anyone who murdered Colonel Prothero would be doing the world at large a service !', he does not realise his words will come back to haunt him. From several potential murderers, Miss Marple must find the real killer

After her father's death, young Anne Beddingfeld moves to London with her meagre inheritance, hopeful and ready to meet adventure. She witnesses a fatal accident at a Tube station and picks up a cryptic note dropped by the anonymous doctor who appeared on the scene. When Anne learns of a murder at the estate that the dead man was on his way to visit, it confirms her suspicion that the man in the brown suit who lost the note was not a real doctor. With her clue in hand she gains a commission from the newspaper leading the search for the "man in the brown suit," and her investigation leads her to take passage on a South Africa-bound ocean liner. On board, she meets a famous socialite, a fake missionary, a possible secret service agent, and the M.P. at whose estate the second murder occurred. She learns about a secretive criminal mastermind known only as the Colonel and of stolen diamonds connected to it all. During the voyage, she evades an attempt on her life, and in South Africa she escapes from a kidnapping and barely survives another attack on her at Victoria Falls. She falls in love, finds the diamonds, and discovers the truth about the two deaths in London that started it all. Finally, she confronts the mysterious criminal mastermind, the Colonel. Published in 1924 by the Bodley Head, *The Man in the Brown Suit* is Agatha Christie's fourth novel. Unlike the classic murder mysteries that made her famous, *The Man in the Brown Suit*, like her second novel *The Secret Adversary*, is an international crime thriller. This book is part of the Standard Ebooks project, which produces free public domain ebooks. While other children were devouring the works of Enid Blyton and Beatrix Potter, Carla Valentine was poring through the pages of Agatha Christie novels - and that early fascination lead to her job as a pathology technician working in mortuaries and trained in forensics. Nearly every Agatha Christie story involves one - or more commonly several - dead bodies, and for a young Carla, a curious child already fascinated with biology, these stories and these bodies were perfect puzzles. Of course Agatha herself didn't talk of 'forensics' which, in the way we use it now, but each tale she tells twists and turns with her expert weave of human observation, ingenuity and genuine science of the era. Through the medium of the 'whodunnit', Agatha Christie was a pioneer of forensic science, and in *Murder Isn't Easy* Carla illuminates all of the knowledge of one of our most beloved authors.

One by one, the guests arrived at the mansion on Indian Island, summoned by a mysterious host. And one by one, with terrifying meticulousness, they were stalked by a cunning murderer. Utterly baffling...and yet there was a pattern, concealed in a nursery rhyme hanging over the fireplace.

Some are born to sweet delight, Some are born to endless night . . . When penniless Michael Rogers discovers the beautiful house at Gypsy's Acre and then meets the heiress Ellie, it seems that all his dreams have come true at once. But he ignores an old woman's warning of an ancient curse, and evil begins to stir in paradise. As Michael soon learns: Gypsy's Acre is the place where fatal "accidents" happen.

"Writing *Crooked House* was pure pleasure and I feel justified in my belief that it is one of my best." --Agatha Christie Described by the queen of mystery herself as one of her favorites of

her published work, *Crooked House* is a classic Agatha Christie thriller revolving around a devastating family mystery. The Leonides are one big happy family living in a sprawling, ramshackle mansion. That is until the head of the household, Aristide, is murdered with a fatal barbiturate injection. Suspicion naturally falls on the old man's young widow, fifty years his junior. But the murderer has reckoned without the tenacity of Charles Hayward, fiancé of the late millionaire's granddaughter.

'A literary celebrity with few rivals ... she wrote more bestselling novels ... over a longer period than almost any other American writer' WASHINGTON POST Everyone agrees that Herbert Wynne wasn't the type to commit suicide. But he has been found, shot dead, the only other possible killer his bedridden aunt. Inspector Patton of the Homicide Division sees this as the perfect opportunity to send in Hilda Adams, a nurse with a very special talent for detection. But when the sleuthing nurse arrives at the mansion, she finds more intrigue than anyone outside could possibly have imagined - and a killer on the loose...

When a dinner between Inspector Maigret and friends ends abruptly at the discovery of a body, the detective must plumb the darker side of human nature to discover what motivates a killer. Maigret and wife have always enjoyed their occasional dinners with Mr. and Mrs. Pardon on the Boulevard Voltaire. But one of the congenial meals is interrupted by a neighbor who has stumbled across the body of a young man in the nearby Rue Popincourt. Maigret answers the call with his friend Dr. Pardon, and their pleasant evening is quickly brought to an end by the commencement of a complicated murder case. And when a tape recorder is discovered on the victim's body, it only complicates matters. Maigret's investigation leads to the discovery of another crime altogether and the fascinating story of the murdered man's life. *Killer* is a taut, engrossing mystery that shows off Georges Simenon's flair for creating complex characters with deeply human problems and his ability to make a senseless crime understandable.

SHE WRITES. HE WATCHES. HE WAITS. HE KILLS... Romance novelist Stacey Holland doesn't believe in love; marriage to a manipulator taught her as much. So she hides away in her fictional world, penning the perfect romance, intertwining the perfect crime. Excitement is for her books—worlds where the mortality of her characters is governed by a tap on her keyboard and the heroine always gets her happy ever after. Homicide detective Chase Durant's cases are real and gritty and one wrong move could be his last. The Force is his life—he doesn't have room for more. Love and relationships hold no place for a man whose fate is predetermined by the genetic roll of a dice. With uncertainty on the horizon, he won't promise a future he can't guarantee. Then a sadistic killer breathes Stacey's gruesome murders to life and the pair are thrown together in a sick game of murder and lies. When tempers flare, and the murders get personal, can author and detective fight their growing attraction all-the-while fighting the killer determined to destroy them both? *Murder Most Unusual* is a seductive romantic suspense set in Melbourne, Australia, written by Michelle Somers, award-winning author of *Lethal in Love*.

Shortlisted for the BMA Book Awards and Macavity Awards 2016 Fourteen novels. Fourteen poisons. Just because it's fiction doesn't mean it's all made-up ... Agatha Christie revelled in the use of poison to kill off unfortunate victims in her books; indeed, she employed it more than any other murder method, with the poison itself often being a central part of the novel. Her choice of deadly substances was far from random – the characteristics of each often provide vital clues to the discovery of the murderer. With gunshots or stabbings the cause of death is obvious, but this is not the case with poisons. How is it that some compounds prove so deadly, and in such tiny amounts? Christie's extensive chemical knowledge provides the backdrop for *A is for Arsenic*, in which Kathryn Harkup investigates the poisons used by the murderer in fourteen classic

Agatha Christie mysteries. It looks at why certain chemicals kill, how they interact with the body, the cases that may have inspired Christie, and the feasibility of obtaining, administering and detecting these poisons, both at the time the novel was written and today. *A is for Arsenic* is a celebration of the use of science by the undisputed Queen of Crime.

After receiving a letter from beyond the grave, Carla Crale believes her mother, who died in prison, was wrongly convicted of her father's murder. In a passionate attempt to clear her name, she persuades those present on the day of her father's death to return to the scene of the crime and "go back" 16 years to recount their version of events. An unusual take on the traditional murder mystery, the action of the play slips seamlessly from past to present, examining the danger of relying on personal testimony warped by time, prejudice and perception. By studying each suspect's testimony, and the various inconsistencies between them, the drama arrives at a disturbing and terrible truth.

"Demonstrates the author's uncanny skill. The answer to the riddle is brilliant." THE TIMES

"Agatha Christie's indelibly etched characters have entertained millions across the years and a love of her work has brought together generations of readers—a singular achievement for any author and an inspiration to writers across the literary landscape."—Jacqueline Winspear, New York Times bestselling author of the Maisie Dobbs novels In this official edition featuring exclusive content from the Queen of Mystery, Hercule Poirot comes out of retirement in one of Agatha Christie's ten favorite novels, which was also voted by the British Crime Writers' Association as the "Best Crime Novel of all Time." Roger Ackroyd knew too much. He knew that the woman he loved had poisoned her brutal first husband. He suspected also that someone had been blackmailing her. Then, tragically, came the news that she had taken her own life with an apparent drug overdose. However, the evening post brought Roger one last fatal scrap of information, but before he could finish reading the letter, he was stabbed to death. Luckily one of Roger's friends and the newest resident to retire to this normally quiet village takes over—none other than Monsieur Hercule Poirot . . . Not only beloved by generations of readers, *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* was one of Agatha Christie's own favorite works—a brilliant whodunit that firmly established the author's reputation as the Queen of Mystery.

Murder Is Easy Harper Collins

The murder of a world-famous physicist raises fears that the Illuminati are operating again after centuries of silence, and religion professor Robert Langdon is called in to assist with the case.

Nearly 4,000 years ago in Egypt, Nofret, the beautiful concubine, was murdered. The possible murderers in the master's family were the next to die.

The story of an anonymous Englishman who, in the spring of 1963, was hired by the Operations Chief of O.A.S. to assassinate General de Gaulle.

A handful of grain is found in the pocket of a murdered businessman...Rex Fortescue, king of a financial empire, was sipping tea in his 'counting house' when he suffered an agonising and sudden death. On later inspection, the pockets of the deceased were found to contain traces of cereals. Yet, it was the incident in the parlour which confirmed Jane Marple's suspicion that here she was looking at a case of crime by rhyme...

The Secret of Chimneys Agatha Christie - *The Secret of Chimneys* is a work of

detective fiction by British writer Agatha Christie, first published in the UK by The Bodley Head in June 1925 and in the US by Dodd, Mead and Company later in the same year. It introduces the characters of Superintendent Battle and Lady Eileen "Bundle" Brent. Agatha Christies *The Secret of Chimneys*, starring her occasional sleuths Superintendent Battle and Lady Eileen Bundle Brent, is a murder mystery-treasure hunt crossover, considered to be one of her best early novels. The plot should be delightful to traditionalists: there are a bunch of people staying at a mansion when one of the guests is murdered! (Apparently, theres a chance it might also be a bit racist, so just a heads up on that front.) It also features the fun-sounding fake-country name Herzoslovakia, which I think is one of the better sounding fake country names in fiction.

Renowned activist Andy Parker's account of the story that shocked America, the murder of his daughter, reporter Alison Parker, on live television, and his extraordinary ensuing fight for commonsense gun safety legislation and doing "Whatever It Takes" to end gun violence. On August 26, 2015, Emmy Award-winning twenty-four-year-old reporter Alison Parker was murdered on live television, along with her colleague, photojournalist Adam Ward. Their interviewee was also shot, but survived. People watching at home heard the gunshots, and the gunman's video of the murder, which he uploaded to Facebook, would spread over the internet like wildfire. In the wake of his daughter's murder, Andy Parker became a national leader in the fight for commonsense gun safety legislation. The night of the murder, with his emotions still raw, he went on Fox News and vowed to do "Whatever it Takes" to end gun violence in America. Today he is a media go-to each time a shooting shocks the national consciousness, and has worked with a range of other crusaders, like Congresswoman Gabby Giffords, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and Lenny Pozner, whose son was killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School and brought suit against Alex Jones and Infowars, who claimed the shooting was staged. In *For Alison*, Parker shares his work as a powerhouse battling gun violence and gives a plan for commonsense gun legislation that all sides should agree on. He calls out the NRA-backed politicians blocking the legislation, shares his fight against "truthers," who claim Alison's murder was fabricated, and reveals what's ahead in his fight to do whatever it takes to stop gun violence. Parker's story is one of great loss, but also resilience, determination, and a call to action. Senator Tim Kaine, also a fierce advocate for commonsense gun laws, contributes a moving foreword.

On her way to Scotland Yard to report several murders in her village, an elderly woman encounters retired policeman Luke Fitzwilliam. He dismisses her ravings about the murderer finding it easy to kill, as long as no one knows who he is--until two more killings occur, one of which is the old lady's. Previously titled *Easy to Kill*.

Agatha Christie's famous Miss Marple mystery, reissued with a striking new cover designed to appeal to the latest generation of Agatha Christie fans and book

lovers. Lymstock is a town with more than its share of shameful secrets - a town where even a sudden outbreak of anonymous hate-mail causes only a minor stir. But all that changes when one of the recipients, Mrs Symmington, commits suicide. Her final note said 'I can't go on'. Only Miss Marple questions the coroner's verdict of suicide. Was this the work of a poison-pen? Or of a poisoner?

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