

Agatha Christie Books in Order

By Checklist.com

☐ The Mysterious Affair at Styles

A poisoning at an English country house brings Hercule Poirot into print for the first time. Captain Hastings narrates a case shaped by family tensions, money and carefully timed movements.

☐ The Secret Adversary

Tommy and Tuppence turn their search for work into a dangerous hunt for a missing woman and secret papers. Their first adventure combines espionage with the energy of two young amateur sleuths.

☐ The Murder on the Links

Poirot and Hastings travel to France after a businessman asks for protection. A death beside a golf course draws them into a case where old secrets matter as much as the physical clues.

☐ Poirot Investigates

Poirot and Hastings tackle thefts, disappearances and murders in short, self-contained cases. The UK and US editions have different contents, so check your edition before matching individual stories.

☐ The Man in the Brown Suit

Anne Beddingfeld follows a mysterious death into an adventure aboard a ship bound for South Africa. Expect stolen diamonds, mistaken identities and a more adventurous pace than Christie's country-house mysteries.

☐ The Secret of Chimneys

A favour involving a manuscript and some letters takes Anthony Cade into international intrigue at a country estate. This is the first of the two Chimneys novels and introduces Superintendent Battle.

☐ The Murder of Roger Ackroyd

Poirot's retirement in a village is interrupted by the murder of a wealthy neighbour. Read this one with as little advance plot information as possible.

☐ The Big Four

Poirot and Hastings pursue a criminal organisation whose influence reaches across countries. Its linked episodes favour conspiracy and adventure over a single enclosed murder investigation.

☐ The Mystery of the Blue Train

A passenger is killed on a luxury train to the French Riviera, and valuable jewels disappear. Poirot investigates a circle of wealthy travellers with conflicting loyalties.

☐ The Seven Dials Mystery

A practical joke at a country house takes a sinister turn, sending Bundle Brent after a secretive organisation. Reading The Secret of Chimneys first provides background to the setting and returning characters.

☐ Partners in Crime

Tommy and Tuppence run a detective agency and try out methods inspired by famous fictional detectives. The linked short cases follow The Secret Adversary in their reading sequence.

☐ The Mysterious Mr Quin

The sociable Mr Satterthwaite encounters the elusive Harley Quin in mysteries where an overlooked emotion can change the meaning of an event. These stories mix detection with an uncanny atmosphere.

☐ Giant's Bread

A young man's relationship with music shapes a story of ambition, love and sacrifice. This is the first of Christie's six novels published as Mary Westmacott.

☐ The Murder at the Vicarage

A disliked colonel is found dead in a vicar's study, and St Mary Mead has plenty to say about it. Miss Marple's first novel shows how closely she observes the people around her.

☐ The Sittaford Mystery

A séance appears to announce a murder in a snowbound Dartmoor community. Emily Trefusis investigates when someone close to her falls under suspicion.

☐ Peril at End House

On holiday in Cornwall, Poirot meets a young woman who has survived several narrow escapes. He must decide whether apparent accidents conceal a deliberate attempt on her life.

☐ **The Thirteen Problems**

A group of friends takes turns presenting puzzling cases at evening gatherings. Miss Marple draws on village experience to interpret behaviour that others overlook.

☐ **Lord Edgware Dies**

An actress wants to be free of her husband, who is then found murdered. Poirot has to reconcile apparently reliable witnesses with a baffling sequence of appearances and alibis.

☐ **The Hound of Death**

These stories explore strange powers, unsettling experiences and the possibility of the supernatural. The collection also includes the courtroom story *The Witness for the Prosecution*.

☐ **Murder on the Orient Express**

A passenger is murdered while a luxurious train is stranded by snow. Poirot questions the travellers one by one in a tightly contained mystery best approached without spoilers.

☐ **Unfinished Portrait**

A woman in emotional crisis recounts the experiences that have brought her to a turning point. This Westmacott novel explores memory, relationships and the difficulty of starting again.

☐ **The Listerdale Mystery**

An unusually affordable house rental opens this collection of adventures, deceptions and unexpected opportunities. Its stories show Christie's lighter, more romantic side alongside her interest in crime.

☐ **Why Didn't They Ask Evans?**

A dying man's puzzling question sends Bobby Jones and Frankie Derwent into an amateur investigation. Their partnership gives this standalone mystery an adventurous, playful tone.

☐ **Three Act Tragedy**

A death at an actor's dinner party initially seems difficult to explain as murder. Poirot investigates when another gathering produces a disturbing echo of the first.

☐ **Parker Pyne Investigates**

Parker Pyne offers solutions to unhappy clients rather than presenting himself as a conventional detective. The stories move from carefully arranged interventions to mysteries encountered on his travels.

☐ **Death in the Clouds**

A woman dies during a flight from Paris to London while Poirot is among the passengers. The restricted cabin makes the method, opportunity and witnesses central to the puzzle.

☐ **The ABC Murders**

Letters addressed to Poirot precede killings that appear to follow an alphabetical pattern. The investigation tests whether a striking pattern explains the crimes or distracts from them.

☐ **Murder in Mesopotamia**

A nurse joins an archaeological expedition in Iraq where fear and personal tension have unsettled the household. Poirot investigates a murder within the expedition's closely connected circle.

☐ **Cards on the Table**

A host invites four detectives and four people he believes have escaped justice to dinner. A death during bridge gives Poirot a small suspect list and an unusually revealing set of scorecards.

☐ **Murder in the Mews**

Four longer Poirot stories provide room for substantial puzzles without a full novel. Cases range from an apparent suicide to stolen plans, a holiday triangle and a troubling witness account.

☐ **Dumb Witness**

Poirot receives a request for help only after its writer has died. His inquiry into a wealthy woman's household includes the behaviour of her dog, Bob.

☐ **Death on the Nile**

A honeymoon cruise through Egypt brings together travellers with tangled personal histories. Poirot investigates a murder aboard the boat as relationships and alibis come under pressure.

☐ **Appointment with Death**

A domineering woman's death during a trip to Petra leaves her family under scrutiny. Poirot must untangle dependence, resentment and the timing of the party's movements.

☐ **Hercule Poirot's Christmas**

A wealthy patriarch's Christmas gathering ends in a violent death behind a locked door. Poirot investigates a family reunion filled with grievances and questions of inheritance.

☐ **Murder Is Easy**

On a train, a woman tells a former policeman that several village deaths were murders. When her warning gains new significance, he investigates the apparently peaceful community.

☐ **And Then There Were None**

Ten strangers arrive on an island after receiving invitations from an elusive host. Isolation and accusations turn their visit into a suspense story with no recurring detective.

☐ **Sad Cypress**

A woman stands accused of poisoning a romantic rival. Poirot examines the relationships and assumptions behind a case that seems persuasive before he begins.

☐ **One, Two, Buckle My Shoe**

The death of Poirot's dentist draws him into a case involving patients from very different walks of life. A nursery-rhyme structure accompanies a mystery with political implications.

☐ **Evil Under the Sun**

At a seaside hotel, a glamorous guest attracts attention, resentment and eventually a murder investigation. Poirot studies what the holidaymakers could see and where they could have been.

☐ **N or M?**

Tommy and Tuppence investigate wartime espionage at a seaside boarding house. The couple's middle-aged partnership adds a different perspective to their earlier adventures.

☐ **The Body in the Library**

The Bantroys wake to discover an unfamiliar young woman's body in their library. Miss Marple helps connect a respectable household with the very different world of a seaside hotel.

☐ **Five Little Pigs**

Poirot is asked to reconsider a poisoning for which a woman was convicted years earlier. He compares five people's memories and written accounts rather than relying on a fresh crime scene.

☐ **The Moving Finger**

Anonymous letters unsettle an English village where a brother and sister have recently arrived. Miss Marple enters a story of gossip, appearances and growing suspicion.

☐ **Towards Zero**

A gathering at a seaside house brings former partners and new relationships into close proximity. Superintendent Battle investigates a crime whose preparation matters as much as the moment it occurs.

☐ **Absent in the Spring**

Stranded alone while travelling, a woman begins to reconsider her family and the life she believes she understands. The drama lies in self-examination rather than an external investigation.

☐ **Death Comes as the End**

Set in ancient Egypt, this mystery follows a family disturbed by the arrival of its patriarch's new companion. Its historical setting offers a change from Christie's contemporary English cases.

☐ **Sparkling Cyanide**

A woman's death at a birthday dinner is revisited when someone begins to question the original conclusion. Colonel Race becomes involved in a case built around the people at the table.

☐ **The Hollow**

Poirot arrives at a country house to find a scene that seems almost staged for him. The investigation explores complicated emotional loyalties as well as the evidence surrounding a shooting.

☐ **The Labours of Hercules**

Poirot chooses twelve cases whose themes echo the labours of his mythological namesake. The collection offers a linked reading project while each investigation remains a separate story.

☐ **Taken at the Flood**

A wartime death and a disputed inheritance unsettle a family that had expected financial security. Poirot investigates questions of identity, dependence and survival in post-war England.

☐ **The Rose and the Yew Tree**

An observer recounts the relationship between a privileged young woman and an ambitious man. This Westmacott novel examines class, aspiration and the distance between public appearances and private feelings.

☐ **Crooked House**

A young man becomes involved when the head of his fiancée's wealthy family is poisoned. The distinctive family household is the focus of this standalone mystery.

☐ **A Murder is Announced**

A village newspaper advertises a murder at a precise place and time, attracting curious neighbours. When the gathering turns deadly, Miss Marple examines the assumptions everyone brought with them.

☐ **They Came to Baghdad**

A young woman travels to Baghdad and becomes entangled in a conspiracy around an international meeting. This standalone leans towards espionage, impersonation and adventure.

☐ **Mrs McGinty's Dead**

Poirot investigates the death of a village charwoman after doubts arise about the convicted man's guilt. An old newspaper story helps him look more closely at the lives of her employers.

☐ **They Do It with Mirrors**

Miss Marple visits a friend whose large household includes a rehabilitation project for young offenders. A shooting forces her to question what the witnesses actually saw and heard.

☐ **A Daughter's a Daughter**

A mother's chance of a new relationship collides with her daughter's wishes. The novel explores the costs of possessiveness and sacrifice within a close family bond.

☐ **After the Funeral**

A relative's blunt remark after a funeral casts doubt on an apparently natural death. Poirot investigates the family, its inheritance and the consequences of that remark.

☐ **A Pocket Full of Rye**

A businessman dies with rye in his pocket, and further details suggest a nursery rhyme. Miss Marple takes a particular interest when the case touches someone she once knew.

☐ **Destination Unknown**

A woman with little left to lose accepts an unusual assignment involving a missing scientist. This standalone follows an international trail of secret identities and Cold War intrigue.

☐ **Hickory Dickory Dock**

Odd thefts at a student hostel attract Poirot's attention through his secretary, Miss Lemon. The missing objects become more troubling when the incidents escalate.

☐ **Dead Man's Folly**

Ariadne Oliver asks Poirot to attend a country-house murder hunt because something feels wrong. When the staged entertainment meets a real crime, the estate and its occupants become central.

☐ **The Burden**

Two sisters' relationship is shaped by love, responsibility and the consequences of a childhood crisis. The last Westmacott novel considers how devotion can become a burden for both people.

☐ **4.50 from Paddington**

A passenger glimpses a strangling on a passing train, but no body is immediately found. Miss Marple enlists practical help to investigate the houses near the railway.

☐ **Ordeal by Innocence**

A belated alibi arrives after a man convicted of murder has died. Clearing his name reopens painful questions for the family that believed the case was settled.

☐ **Cat Among the Pigeons**

Trouble reaches an exclusive girls' school following political upheaval abroad. Poirot enters a mystery combining school life, secret possessions and international intrigue.

☐ **The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding**

Five Poirot stories and Miss Marple's Greenshaw's Folly make up this collection. The title case brings Poirot to an English country house for a Christmas celebration.

☐ **The Pale Horse**

An investigation into a priest's death leads towards an old inn associated with sinister rumours. This standalone combines an atmosphere of occult menace with a practical mystery.

☐ **The Mirror Crack'd from Side to Side**

A film star's arrival changes village life, and a reception at her house ends in death. Miss Marple considers the significance of a fleeting expression witnessed at the gathering.

☐ **The Clocks**

A typist arrives at a house to find a dead man and several unexplained clocks. Poirot considers the puzzle alongside a younger investigator's work.

☐ **A Caribbean Mystery**

A holiday in the Caribbean gives Miss Marple a change of scenery but no shortage of people to observe. An elderly guest's interrupted story takes on new importance after a death.

☐ **At Bertram's Hotel**

Miss Marple returns to a London hotel whose old-fashioned perfection recalls an earlier era. Beneath the reassuring surface, she notices details that do not quite fit.

☐ **Third Girl**

A young woman approaches Poirot believing that she may have committed a murder, then leaves before explaining. With Ariadne Oliver's help, he investigates her life and uncertain recollections.

☐ **Endless Night**

A young man dreams of a beautiful house and a life beyond his circumstances. This standalone blends romance, social ambition and mounting unease rather than following a familiar detective.

☐ **By the Pricking of My Thumbs**

A disturbing conversation at a care home sends Tuppence searching for the story behind a painting. She and Tommy investigate a mystery rooted in an apparently quiet rural community.

☐ **Hallowe'en Party**

A girl's claim that she once witnessed a murder is followed by a death at a Halloween party. Ariadne Oliver calls on Poirot to investigate the village's past.

☐ **Passenger to Frankfurt**

An encounter during a disrupted journey draws a diplomat into an international conspiracy. This standalone is one of Christie's political thrillers rather than an enclosed murder puzzle.

☐ **Nemesis**

An unexpected bequest gives Miss Marple a mystery to investigate with very few instructions. Read *A Caribbean Mystery* first for the background to the person setting her this challenge.

☐ **Elephants Can Remember**

A question put to Ariadne Oliver reopens a couple's deaths many years earlier. She and Poirot gather recollections from people whose memories may preserve different pieces of the story.

☐ **Postern of Fate**

Tommy and Tuppence discover a troubling message in a book while settling into a new home. Their final novel returns the older couple to a mystery connected with the past.

☐ **Poirot's Early Cases**

This collection gathers shorter investigations from Poirot's earlier career, many narrated by Hastings. Its publication date is much later than the original appearance of the individual stories.

☐ **Curtain: Poirot's Last Case**

Poirot and Hastings return to Styles for their final investigation together. Save this novel until the end of your Poirot reading for the fullest effect of that reunion.

☐ **Sleeping Murder**

A young woman's new house seems disturbingly familiar, prompting her to investigate memories she cannot explain. Miss Marple helps her examine a mystery reaching back into childhood.

☐ **Miss Marple's Final Cases**

Posthumously collected cases show Miss Marple interpreting everyday behaviour, small inconsistencies and village connections. Editions may also include stories without Marple, so the title does not describe every tale.

☐ **Problem at Pollensa Bay**

Parker Pyne, Harley Quin and Poirot appear across this varied short-story collection. Its holiday settings and contrasting investigators make it a useful way to sample several sides of Christie.

☐ **While the Light Lasts**

Early stories explore jealousy, deception, romance and uncanny experiences, with Poirot appearing among the selections. The collection offers a view of Christie experimenting with different kinds of fiction.