

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie

The Mysterious Affair at Styles by Agatha Christie: A Timeless Detective Classic

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie marks the debut of one of literature's most iconic detectives, Hercule Poirot. This novel, first published in 1920, not only introduced readers to Poirot's meticulous investigative style but also set the stage for Agatha Christie's legendary career as the "Queen of Mystery." If you're a fan of classic detective stories, or simply curious about the origins of one of the most beloved mystery series, diving into this novel offers a fascinating glimpse into early 20th-century detective fiction.

Unraveling the Plot of The Mysterious Affair at Styles by Agatha Christie

At its core, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* by Agatha Christie revolves around a gripping murder mystery set in an English country house during World War I. The story begins when the wealthy Emily Inglethorp is found poisoned, and suspicion quickly falls on the various residents and guests at Styles Court. Enter Hercule Poirot, a Belgian refugee and former police officer with a sharp mind and an eye for detail, who is called upon to investigate the crime.

This novel's plot is a masterclass in classic whodunit storytelling. Christie carefully constructs a closed circle of suspects, each with potential motives and secrets. From family disputes to hidden affairs, the layers of deception keep readers guessing until the final, satisfying reveal. The narrative style, featuring Captain Hastings as the story's narrator, adds a personal touch and allows readers to follow Poirot's deductive reasoning closely.

The Setting and Atmosphere

Styles Court itself is almost a character in the story. The imposing country manor, with its intricate layout and secluded location, creates a perfect backdrop for a murder mystery. Christie's detailed descriptions provide a vivid sense of place, transporting readers to the English countryside during a time of social change and wartime anxiety. This atmosphere enhances the suspense and makes the unfolding drama even more captivating.

Who is Hercule Poirot? The Detective Behind the Mystery

One of the most compelling reasons to read *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* by Agatha Christie is to meet Hercule Poirot for the very first time. Unlike the brash, action-oriented detectives often seen in fiction, Poirot is methodical, cerebral, and deeply observant. His approach to solving crimes relies heavily on understanding human psychology and noticing the smallest inconsistencies that others overlook.

Poirot's Unique Traits and Methods

Poirot's fastidious nature and distinctive appearance – with his neat mustache and precise mannerisms – have become iconic. In this novel, readers see his investigative methods in full force: careful interviews, attention to physical evidence, and logical deduction. Poirot's ability to piece together disparate clues into a coherent narrative is a hallmark of Christie's writing and a central appeal of the story.

The Role of Captain Hastings

The story is narrated by Captain Arthur Hastings, who serves as both a companion and a foil to Poirot. Hastings' more conventional and sometimes naive perspective contrasts with Poirot's brilliance, making the detective's insights even more striking. This dynamic duo would go on to feature in many more of Christie's novels, cementing their place in detective fiction history.

The Mysterious Affair at Styles and Its Place in Agatha Christie's Legacy

As Agatha Christie's first published novel, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* by Agatha Christie holds a special place in literary history. It not only introduced readers to Poirot but also established many conventions of the mystery genre that Christie would refine throughout her career.

Innovations and Influences

Christie's novel was innovative for its time, blending traditional detective story elements with a more psychological approach to character motives. The use of a closed setting and a cast of suspects with intertwined relationships

became a staple of her later works. Moreover, the clever plot twists and red herrings keep readers engaged, demonstrating Christie's skill as a storyteller.

Enduring Popularity and Adaptations

The enduring appeal of *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* is evident in its numerous adaptations across various media. From radio dramas and stage plays to television series and audiobooks, the story continues to captivate audiences worldwide. These adaptations often highlight different aspects of the novel, such as Poirot's character or the atmospheric setting, allowing new generations to discover Christie's genius.

Why Readers Should Revisit *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* Today

Despite being over a century old, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* by Agatha Christie remains relevant and enjoyable. The novel offers more than just a puzzle to solve; it provides insight into early 20th-century society, the evolution of detective fiction, and the timeless appeal of a well-crafted mystery.

Tips for First-Time Readers

If you're picking up *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* for the first time, here are a few tips to enhance your reading experience:

- **Pay close attention to details:** Christie's clues are often subtle, so noticing small inconsistencies can be rewarding.
- **Consider the historical context:** Understanding the social and wartime backdrop adds depth to character motivations.
- **Keep an open mind:** Christie expertly uses misdirection, so be prepared for surprising twists.

What Makes This Novel a Must-Read for Mystery Lovers

For anyone passionate about detective stories, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* offers a perfect blend of intellectual challenge and engaging

narrative. It's a foundational work that shaped the genre and introduced one of its most enduring characters. The novel's balance of suspense, character development, and clever plotting makes it a rewarding read, whether you're a seasoned Christie fan or new to her work.

The Mysterious Affair at Styles by Agatha Christie is more than just a murder mystery; it's a gateway into the world of classic detective fiction and the mind of one of its greatest creators. Exploring this novel is like stepping into a timeless puzzle, where every detail counts and the satisfaction lies in uncovering the truth alongside Hercule Poirot.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the significance of 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles' in Agatha Christie's career?

'The Mysterious Affair at Styles' is significant as it marks the debut of Agatha Christie's famous detective, Hercule Poirot, and was her first published novel, establishing her as a prominent mystery writer.

Who is the main detective character introduced in 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles'?

The main detective introduced in the novel is Hercule Poirot, a Belgian private detective known for his meticulous and methodical approach to solving crimes.

What is the central mystery in 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles'?

The central mystery revolves around the murder of Emily Inglethorp, who is poisoned at Styles Court, and the investigation to uncover the murderer among the household members.

How does Agatha Christie use red herrings in 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles'?

Agatha Christie cleverly uses red herrings by presenting multiple suspects and misleading clues, which divert the readers' attention and heighten suspense before revealing the true culprit.

In what year was 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles' first published?

'The Mysterious Affair at Styles' was first published in 1920.

What role does Captain Hastings play in 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles'?

Captain Hastings serves as Poirot's friend and assistant, often acting as the narrator of the story and providing a contrast to Poirot's analytical mind.

How does 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles' reflect the social context of its time?

The novel reflects post-World War I England's social context, including class distinctions and the impact of the war on individuals, which adds depth to character motivations and the setting.

Additional Resources

The Mysterious Affair at Styles by Agatha Christie: A Timeless Classic in Detective Fiction

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie marks a seminal moment in the annals of detective literature. Published in 1920, this novel introduced the world to one of fiction's most enduring characters, Hercule Poirot. The book not only heralded the arrival of a new detective archetype but also set a high standard for the mystery genre with its intricate plotting and psychological depth. As a debut novel for Christie, "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" embodies the ingenuity and narrative craftsmanship that would become hallmarks of her prolific writing career.

In-depth Analysis of The Mysterious Affair at Styles by Agatha Christie

Agatha Christie's first published novel is a meticulously constructed whodunit that unfolds in an English country manor, Styles Court. The narrative is presented through the eyes of Captain Arthur Hastings, whose perspective offers readers a lens of skepticism and curiosity. This narrative choice allows Christie to weave suspense with measured revelations, engaging the audience in the intellectual exercise of solving the crime alongside Poirot.

From a literary standpoint, the novel demonstrates Christie's mastery in pacing and misdirection. The murder of Emily Inglethorp, the wealthy matriarch of Styles, is shrouded in ambiguity, with numerous characters possessing plausible motives. The subtle clues scattered throughout the text showcase Christie's skill in balancing fairness with complexity—readers are challenged but not deceived. This approach has set the template for countless mysteries that followed.

The Introduction of Hercule Poirot and His Methodology

One of the most significant aspects of "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" is the debut of Hercule Poirot. Unlike the traditional hard-boiled detectives of the era, Poirot is a Belgian refugee with a fastidious nature and a keen psychological insight. His emphasis on "the little grey cells" underscores a deductive method rooted in logic and human behavior rather than brute force or circumstantial evidence.

Poirot's character contrasts with Captain Hastings, who often relies on intuition and emotional responses. This dynamic enriches the narrative, highlighting different investigative approaches. Moreover, Poirot's distinctive personality—marked by his meticulous grooming and idiosyncratic mannerisms—adds a layer of charm and sophistication, elevating the novel beyond a mere procedural.

Plot Structure and Use of Red Herrings

The plot of "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" is a textbook example of classical detective fiction, employing red herrings and multiple suspects to maintain suspense. Christie expertly manipulates reader expectations through misleading clues and character interactions. Each suspect, from the scheming Alfred Inglethorp to the secretive Evelyn Howard, is portrayed with plausible motives and opportunities.

This layering of suspicion encourages readers to engage actively with the narrative, analyzing each piece of evidence critically. The ultimate revelation is both surprising and logical, a testament to Christie's careful plotting. This balance between surprise and plausibility is one reason why the novel remains a benchmark in mystery writing.

Contextual Significance and Legacy

"The Mysterious Affair at Styles" holds a pivotal place not only in Agatha Christie's oeuvre but also in the broader context of early 20th-century literature. Released in the aftermath of World War I, the novel reflects contemporary societal shifts, including the changing roles of women and the anxieties of the post-war period. Emily Inglethorp's death can be read symbolically, evoking themes of inheritance, social status, and the fragility of the English upper class.

Moreover, the novel's success established Christie's reputation, leading to a prolific career that spanned over five decades. It also contributed significantly to the Golden Age of Detective Fiction, influencing contemporaries and successors alike. The character of Poirot became a

cultural icon, adapted extensively in radio, television, and film, perpetuating the novel's relevance.

Comparative Analysis with Other Christie Works

When compared to later Christie novels, "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" offers a more restrained and classical approach to storytelling. Subsequent works like "Murder on the Orient Express" or "Death on the Nile" exhibit more elaborate settings and complex character webs. However, the foundational elements introduced in Styles—such as Poirot's deductive prowess and the closed-circle mystery format—remain consistent.

Additionally, this debut novel lacks some of the psychological depth and moral ambiguity found in later works. Nonetheless, its straightforward narrative and tight plotting are strengths that appeal to readers who appreciate traditional detective stories. The novel also serves as an excellent entry point for those new to Christie's extensive bibliography.

Key Features and Themes

Several features distinguish "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" within the detective genre:

- **Closed-circle mystery:** The confined setting limits suspects and heightens tension.
- **First-person narration:** Hastings' viewpoint offers an accessible and relatable perspective.
- **Logical deduction:** Poirot's methodical approach emphasizes intellect over action.
- **Social commentary:** The novel subtly critiques class structures and gender roles.
- **Foreshadowing and misdirection:** Skillful use of clues keeps readers guessing until the climax.

Themes of justice, deception, and the pursuit of truth permeate the narrative, inviting reflection on human nature and societal norms. The interplay between appearance and reality is central, with characters often concealing motives behind facades of respectability.

Relevance in Contemporary Literature and Popular Culture

Despite being over a century old, "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" continues to resonate with modern audiences. Its enduring appeal lies in the universal fascination with puzzles and the human psyche. Contemporary adaptations and reprints keep the story accessible, while academic studies explore its contributions to genre conventions.

The novel also serves as a pedagogical tool in understanding narrative structure and character development in crime fiction. For aspiring writers and enthusiasts, it exemplifies how to craft a compelling mystery that balances complexity with clarity.

In the digital age, discussions surrounding "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" often emphasize its role in shaping detective archetypes and its influence on mystery storytelling techniques. Its presence in online literary forums and book clubs attests to its lasting impact.

The mysterious affair at Styles by Agatha Christie remains a cornerstone of detective literature. It not only introduced one of the most beloved fictional detectives but also set a narrative standard that continues to inspire writers and captivate readers worldwide. Through its intricate plot, memorable characters, and deft exploration of human motives, the novel endures as a masterclass in mystery storytelling.

[The Mysterious Affair At Styles By Agatha Christie](#)

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 1920 The heiress of Styles has been murdered, dying in agony from strychnine slipped into her coffee. And there are plenty who would gain from her death: the financially strapped stepson, the gold digging younger husband, and an embittered daughter-in-law. Agatha Christie's eccentric and hugely popular detective, Hercule Poirot, was introduced to the world in this book, which launched her career as the most famous and best loved of all mystery writers.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* Agatha Christie, 2017-02-22 Poirot, a Belgian refugee of the Great War, is settling in England near the home of Emily Inglethorp, who helped him to his new life. His friend Hastings arrives as a guest at her home. When the woman is killed, Poirot uses his detective skills to solve the mystery. Agatha Christie is the best-selling author of all time. She wrote eighty crime novels and story collections, fourteen plays, and several other books. Her books have sold roughly four billion copies and have been translated into 45 languages. She is the creator of the two most enduring figures in crime literature-Hercule Poirot and Miss Jane Marple-and author of *The Mousetrap*, the longest-running play in the history of modern theatre.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* Agatha Christie, 1948 Hercule Poirot: The first investigation. Agatha Christie: The first lady of crime. A woman utters the name of her late husband as she lays dying. Why? It'll take a master detective to

answer that question. Introducing Hercule Poirot.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2009-03-17 Hercule Poirot solves his first case in the Agatha Christie novel that started it all, now in a fully restored edition that features a “missing chapter” along with commentary from Christie expert John Curran. Who poisoned the wealthy Emily Inglethorp and how did the murderer penetrate and escape from her locked bedroom? Suspects abound in the quaint village of Styles St. Mary—from the heiress's fawning new husband to her two stepsons, her volatile housekeeper, and a pretty nurse who works in a hospital dispensary. With impeccable timing, and making his unforgettable debut, the brilliant Belgian detective Hercule Poirot is on the case.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2024-10-29 A refugee of the Great War, Hercule Poirot settles in England near Styles Court, the country estate of his wealthy benefactress, the elderly Emily Inglethorp. When Emily is poisoned and the authorities are baffled, Poirot puts his prodigious sleuthing skills to work. Suspects are plentiful, including the victim's much younger husband, her resentful stepsons, her longtime hired companion, a young family friend working as a nurse, and a London specialist on poisons who just happens to be visiting the nearby village. All of them have secrets they are desperate to keep, but none can outwit Poirot as he navigates the ingenious red herrings and plot twists that earned Agatha Christie her well-deserved reputation as the queen of mystery.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: THE MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR AT STYLES AGATHA CHRISTIE, 2022-10-27 THE MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR AT STYLES, BY AGATHA CHRISTIE Agatha Christie's debut novel was also the first to feature Hercule Poirot, her famously eccentric Belgian detective. A refugee of the Great War, Poirot has settled in England near Styles Court, the country estate of his wealthy benefactor, the elderly Emily Inglethorp. When Emily is poisoned and the authorities are baffled, Poirot puts his prodigious sleuthing skills to work. Suspects are plentiful, including the victim's much younger husband, her resentful stepsons, her longtime hired companion, a young family friend working as a nurse, and a London specialist on poisons who just happens to be visiting the nearby village. All of them have secrets they are desperate to keep, but none can outwit Poirot as he navigates the ingenious red herrings and plot twists that contribute to Agatha Christie's well-deserved reputation as the queen of mystery. KEY FEATURES OF THIS BOOK · Unabridged reprint of the original content · Available in multiple formats: eBook, original paperback, large print paperback, hardcover and audiobook · Proper paragraph formatting with Indented first lines and Justified Paragraphs · Properly formatted for aesthetics and ease of reading. · Custom Table of Contents and Design elements for each chapter · The Copyright page has been placed at the end of the book, as to not impede the content and flow of the book. ABOUT THE BOOK: Original publication: 1920 Book 1 of the Agatha Christie Collection Chapters: 13 Words: 57,000 This book is great for schools, teachers and students or for the casual reader, and makes a wonderful addition to any classic literary library ABOUT US: At Pure Snow Publishing we have taken the time and care into formatting this book to make it the best possible reading experience. With more than 500 book listings, we specialize in publishing classic books and have been publishing books since 2014. Enjoy!

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the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles by Agatha

Christie : (Annotated Edition) Agatha Christie, 2021-06-24 The Mysterious Affair at Styles is a detective novel by British writer Agatha Christie. It was written in the middle of the First World War, in 1916, and first published by John Lane in the United States in October 1920 and in the United Kingdom by The Bodley Head (John Lane's UK company) on 21 January 1921. Styles was Christie's first published novel. It introduced Hercule Poirot, Inspector (later, Chief Inspector) Japp, and Arthur Hastings. Poirot, a Belgian refugee of the Great War, is settling in England near the home of Emily Inglethorp, who helped him to his new life. His friend Hastings arrives as a guest at her home. When the woman is killed, Poirot uses his detective skills to solve the mystery. The book includes maps of the house, the murder scene, and a drawing of a fragment of a will. The true first publication of the novel was as a weekly serial in The Times, including the maps of the house and other illustrations included in the book. This novel was one of the first ten books published by Penguin Books when it began in 1935. This first mystery novel by Agatha Christie was well received by reviewers. An analysis in 1990 was positive about the plot, considered the novel one of the few by Christie that is well-anchored in time and place, a story that knows it describes the end of an era, and mentions that the plot is clever. Christie had not mastered cleverness in her first novel, as too many clues tend to cancel each other out; this was judged a difficulty which Conan Doyle never satisfactorily overcame, but which Christie would

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* Agatha Christie, 2021-08-18 The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie's first novel, The Mysterious Affair at Styles, was the result of a dare from her sister Madge who challenged her to write a story. The story begins when Hastings is sent back to England from the First World War due to injury and is invited to spend his sick leave at the beautiful Styles Court by his old friend John Cavendish. Here, Hastings meets John's step-mother, Mrs Inglethorp, and her new husband, Alfred. Despite the tranquil surroundings Hastings begins to realise that all is not right. When Mrs Inglethorp is found poisoned, suspicion falls on the family, and another old friend, Hercule Poirot, is invited to investigate.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles By Agatha Christie Annotated Novel Agatha Christie, 2021-02-10 The Mysterious Affair at Styles is a detective novel by British writer Agatha Christie. It was written in the middle of the First World War, in 1916, and first published by John Lane in the United States in October 1920 and in the United Kingdom by The Bodley Head on 21 January 1921. Styles changed into Christie's first posted novel. It delivered Hercule Poirot, Inspector (later, Chief Inspector) Japp, and Arthur Hastings. Poirot, a Belgian refugee of the Great War, is settling in England near the house of Emily Inglethorp, who helped him to his new life. His pal Hastings arrives as a visitor at her domestic. When the lady is killed, Poirot makes use of his detective abilities to remedy the thriller. The e-book consists of maps of the house, the murder scene, and a drawing of a fragment of a will. The true first book of the unconventional became as a weekly serial in The Times, which include the maps of the house and different illustrations included inside the book. This novel was one of the first ten books posted through Penguin Books when it began in 1935.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2004-06 Who poisoned the wealthy Emily Inglethorpe, and how did the murderer penetrate and escape from her locked bedroom? Suspects abound in the quaint village of Styles St. Mary--from the heiress's fawning new husband to her two stepsons, her volatile housekeeper, and a pretty nurse who works in a hospital dispensary. Making his unforgettable debut, the brilliant Belgian detective Hercule Poirot is on the case. The key to the success of this style of detective novel, writes Elizabeth George in her Introduction, lies in how the author deals with both the clues and the red herrings, and it has to be said that no one bettered Agatha Christie at this game.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2019-07-07 The Mysterious Affair at Styles is the very first mystery novel by Agatha Christie, and is said to have launched her prolific career. According to rumor, it was originally written on a bet that Dame Christie would not be able to write a book without the reader being able

to guess a murderer. In this, there are many red herrings and crisscrosses. It takes a logical mind to keep pace. Inspector Hercule Poirot, a Belgian refugee of the Great War, is settling in England near the home of his friend, Emily Inglethorp. Only he discovers shockingly, this woman is soon killed and must apply his detective skills to solve the mystery. This American English book translation contains full illustrations to help the reader solve the crime along side the brilliant detective and includes historical commentary.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: AGATHA CHRISTIE Collection Agatha Christie, 2024-02-22 This ebook collection contains the following works of Agatha Christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles The Secret Adversary The Murder on the Links The Man in the Brown Suit The Jewel Robbery at the Grand Metropolitan The Disappearance of Mr. Davenheim The Adventure of the Western Star The Tragedy at Marsdon Manor The Million Dollar Bond Robbery The Adventure of the Cheap Flat The Mystery of the Hunter's Lodge The Kidnapped Prime Minister The Adventure of the Egyptian Tomb The Adventure of the Italian Nobleman The Case of the Missing Will The Chocolate Box The Veiled Lady The Lost Mine The Affair at the Victory Ball The Adventure of the Clapham Cook The Cornish Mystery The Adventure of Johnnie Waverly The Double Clue The King of Clubs The Lemesurier Inheritance The Plymouth Express The Submarine Plans The Market Basing Mystery The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: *The Mysterious Affair at Styles: A Hercule Poirot Mystery* (Agatha Christie Collection Agatha Christie, 2011-03 In 1920 Agatha Christie introduced a quirky little Belgian detective to the world in this book she wrote on a dare from her sister. The time is World War I and Poirot is one of a small group of Belgian refugees who has come to live in a rural English village. With his egg-shaped head and well-groomed moustache, Hercule Poirot enters and soon becomes one of fiction's best-loved detectives. Also in this novel, the reader is introduced to his cohort, Captain Arthur Hastings, recovering from a war injury at the upper-class household known as Styles Court. The mistress of the manor is Emily Inglethorpe, an elderly woman who has just married a much younger man. The family members occupying the house all become suspects when Mrs. Inglethorpe is murdered and it is up to Poirot's little grey cells to sift through all the red herrings and, in the final chapter, reveal all in true detective fashion. High on Poirot's list of suspects are: John Cavendish, the elder stepson; Mary Cavendish, his wife; Lawrence Cavendish, the younger stepson; Evelyn Howard, Mrs. Inglethorpe's companion; Cynthia Murdoch, her protegee; and Dr. Bauerstein, a mysterious stranger who lives in Essex. All have motive and opportunity but only Poirot can discover the truth. The Mysterious Affair at Styles sets the tone for many Christie novels to follow. The wealthy family inhabiting a country house, the non-violent method of murder (poisoning) so favored by Mrs. Christie, and the light-hearted but often serious romance all became hallmarks of many of her later works. Have a cup of hot chocolate with Hercule Poirot and enjoy the adventure.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2020-12-24 In her first published mystery, Agatha Christie introduced readers to her Belgian detective, Hercule Poirot. When the wealthy mistress of Styles Court is murdered, Poirot is on hand to wade through the confusing clues and long list of suspects! A classic whodunit. This special edition is loaded with bonus content...reviews of the era, a filmography, and a complete bonus Agatha Christie novel, The Secret Adversary. The Mysterious Affair at Styles is a detective novel by British writer Agatha Christie. It was written in the middle of the First World War, in 1916, and first published by John Lane in the United States in October 1920 and in the United Kingdom by The Bodley Head (John Lane's UK company) on 21 January 1921. Styles was Christie's first published novel. It introduced Hercule Poirot, Inspector (later, Chief Inspector) Japp, and Arthur Hastings. Poirot, a Belgian refugee of the Great War, is settling in England near the home of Emily Inglethorp, who helped him to his new life. His friend Hastings arrives as a guest at her home. When the woman is killed, Poirot uses his detective skills to solve the mystery.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: *The Mysterious Affair at Styles by Agatha Christie* Agatha Christie, 2017-09-21 The Mysterious Affair at Styles is a detective novel by Agatha

Christie. It was written in the middle of the First World War, in 1916, and first published by John Lane in the United States in October 1920 and in the United Kingdom by The Bodley Head (John Lane's UK company) on 21 January 1921. Styles was Christie's first published novel. It introduced Hercule Poirot, Inspector (later, Chief Inspector) Japp, and Arthur Hastings. Poirot, a Belgian refugee of the Great War, is settling in England near the home of Emily Inglethorp, who helped him to his new life. His friend Hastings arrives as a guest at her home. When the woman is killed, Poirot uses his detective skills to solve the mystery. This is also the setting of *Curtain*, Poirot's last case. The book includes maps of the house, the murder scene, and a drawing of a fragment of a will. The true first publication of the novel was as a weekly serial in *The Times*, including the maps of the house and other illustrations included in the book. This novel was one of the first ten books published by Penguin Books when it began in 1935. This first mystery novel by Agatha Christie was well received by reviewers. An analysis in 1990 was positive about the plot, considered the novel one of the few by Christie that is well-anchored in time and place, a story that knows it describes the end of an era, and mentions that the plot is clever. Christie had not mastered cleverness in her first novel, as too many clues tend to cancel each other out; this was judged a difficulty which Conan Doyle never satisfactorily overcame, but which Christie would.:22-23

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2020-01-14 "It's tempting to say that Agatha Christie is a genius and let it go at that, but the world's had plenty of geniuses. Agatha Christie is something special."—Lawrence Block, New York Times bestselling author In this official and fully restored edition, Hercule Poirot solves his first case in the Agatha Christie novel that started it all, now featuring a "missing chapter" and exclusive content from the Queen of Mystery. Who poisoned the wealthy Emily Inglethorp and how did the murderer penetrate and escape from her locked bedroom? Suspects abound in the quaint village of Styles St. Mary—from the heiress's fawning new husband to her two stepsons, her volatile housekeeper, and a pretty nurse who works in a hospital dispensary. With impeccable timing, and making his unforgettable debut, the brilliant Belgian detective Hercule Poirot is on the case. One of the best-loved classic mysteries of all time, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* will continue to enchant old readers and introduce Agatha Christie's unique storytelling genius to a host of new readers.

the mysterious affair at styles by agatha christie: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Illustrated Agatha Christie, 2020-04-24 Agatha Christie's debut novel was the first to feature Hercule Poirot, her famously eccentric Belgian detective. A refugee of the Great War, Poirot is settling in England near Styles Court, the country estate of his wealthy benefactress, the elderly Emily Inglethorp. When Emily is poisoned and the authorities are baffled, Poirot puts his prodigious sleuthing skills to work. Suspects are plentiful, including the victim's much younger husband, her resentful stepsons, her longtime hired companion, a young family friend working as a nurse, and a London specialist on poisons who just happens to be visiting the nearby village. All of them have secrets they are desperate to keep, but none can outwit Poirot as he navigates the ingenious red herrings and plot twists that earned Agatha Christie her well-deserved reputation as the queen of mystery.

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includes editorial revisions.

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