

poirot a styles court

poirot a styles court is one of the most celebrated detective stories penned by the legendary Agatha Christie, featuring the iconic Belgian detective Hercule Poirot. This novel, which debuted in 1920, introduces readers to a compelling murder mystery set against the elegant and refined backdrop of Styles Court, a grand estate in Essex. As one of Christie's earliest works, "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" not only established Poirot as a memorable detective but also set the stage for countless mysteries that would follow. In this article, we delve into the intricacies of "Poirot at Styles Court," exploring its plot, characters, thematic elements, and its significance within the broader context of detective fiction.

Overview of "Poirot at Styles Court"

Plot Summary

At its core, "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" revolves around the death of Emily Inglethorp, the wealthy owner of Styles Court. Her sudden demise sparks suspicion among the household members, each with their own motives and secrets. The story unfolds as Hercule Poirot, a meticulous and brilliant detective, is called upon to unravel the truth.

The narrative begins with the arrival of Poirot and his friend Hastings, who is also the story's narrator. As Poirot begins his investigation, he meticulously examines the crime scene, interviews the household staff and family members, and uncovers a web of secrets and lies. The murderer's identity is concealed beneath layers of deception, but Poirot's keen intellect gradually pieces together the puzzle, leading to a surprising and satisfying resolution.

Setting and Atmosphere

Styles Court, the primary setting of the novel, is depicted as an elegant and somewhat secluded country estate. Its Victorian architecture, lush gardens, and opulent interiors create an atmosphere of wealth, tradition, and underlying tension. The isolated location amplifies the suspense, as all suspects are confined within the estate, making it a classic closed-circle mystery.

The setting plays a vital role in shaping the story's mood. The grandeur of Styles Court contrasts with the dark secrets lurking beneath its polished surface, emphasizing themes of appearances versus reality—a recurring motif in Christie's work.

Characters of "Poirot at Styles Court"

Hercule Poirot

The Belgian detective Hercule Poirot is characterized by his distinctive mannerisms, meticulous attention to detail, and logical approach to solving crimes. In "Styles Court," Poirot's methods are on full display as he scrutinizes every piece of evidence, from the victim's personal belongings to subtle behavioral cues of the suspects.

Hastings

Captain Arthur Hastings serves as the story's narrator and Poirot's confidant. His perspective provides readers with a relatable and often humorous insight into the investigation. Hastings admires Poirot's brilliance but often struggles to grasp the intricacies of his methods.

Emily Inglethorp

The victim, Emily Inglethorp, is portrayed as a wealthy, strong-willed woman. Her death acts as the catalyst for the investigation and reveals the complex dynamics within the household.

Other Key Characters

- Alfred Inglethorp: Emily's younger second husband, whose motives are questioned.
- Mary Cavendish: Emily's stepdaughter, who has her own secrets.
- John Cavendish and Lawrence Cavendish: Emily's stepsons, both with potential motives.
- Mrs. Reynolds: The loyal housekeeper with a mysterious past.
- Evelyn Howard: Emily's companion and confidante.

Each character's background and relationships contribute to the layered mystery, offering multiple avenues for suspicion and deduction.

Thematic Elements and Literary Significance

Themes Explored

- Deception and Secrets: Many characters harbor secrets that influence their behavior and motives.
- Justice and Morality: The novel examines the moral responsibilities of justice, often questioning appearances versus reality.
- Class and Society: The setting and characters reflect the social stratification of early 20th-century England.

Innovations in Detective Fiction

Agatha Christie's "Styles Court" introduced several elements that would become staples of detective fiction:

- The closed-circle mystery, where suspects are confined within a specific location.
- The professional detective character—Poirot—whose methods contrast with amateur sleuths.
- The use of logical deduction as the primary tool for solving the crime.

Impact and Legacy of "Poirot at Styles Court"

Introduction of Hercule Poirot

"The Mysterious Affair at Styles" marked the debut of Hercule Poirot, who would go on to become one of the most recognizable figures in detective fiction. His methodical approach, attention to detail, and distinctive personality set a new standard for fictional detectives.

Influence on Detective Genre

Christie's innovative structure and character development influenced countless writers and fostered a new appreciation for the puzzle-solving aspect of mysteries. The novel's success helped establish the "whodunit" genre as a popular literary form.

Adaptations and Cultural Impact

The story has been adapted into various formats, including:

- Radio dramas
- Stage plays
- Television series
- Films

These adaptations have introduced Poirot and the Styles Court story to new generations, cementing its place in popular culture.

Why Read "Poirot at Styles Court" Today?

Timeless Appeal

Despite being nearly a century old, "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" remains engaging due to its clever plot, well-drawn characters, and atmospheric setting. Its themes of deception and morality continue to resonate with modern readers.

Understanding the Origins of Modern Detective Fiction

Reading this novel offers insight into the evolution of detective stories and appreciation for Agatha Christie's craftsmanship.

Educational Value

The novel encourages logical thinking and deductive reasoning, making it an excellent choice for readers interested in puzzles, mystery-solving, and literary analysis.

Conclusion

"Poirot at Styles Court" is more than just a detective story; it is a foundational piece of detective fiction that introduced Hercule Poirot to the world and set standards for mystery storytelling. Its richly developed characters, intricate plot, and atmospheric setting continue to captivate audiences, proving that Christie's work remains relevant and influential. Whether you're a seasoned mystery enthusiast or a newcomer to the genre, exploring "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" offers a rewarding journey into the art of deduction and the timeless allure of a well-crafted whodunit.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the plot of 'Poirot at Styles Court'?

In 'Poirot at Styles Court', Hercule Poirot investigates the mysterious death of Emily Inglethorp, uncovering secrets and motives among the residents of Styles Court estate.

Who is the main detective in 'Poirot at Styles Court'?

The main detective is Hercule Poirot, the famous Belgian detective known for his brilliant deductive skills.

When was 'Poirot at Styles Court' first published?

'Poirot at Styles Court' was first published in 1920 as part of Agatha Christie's collection 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles'.

Is 'Poirot at Styles Court' the first appearance of Hercule Poirot?

Yes, 'Poirot at Styles Court' is the first novel featuring Hercule Poirot, introducing his character and detective methods.

What are some key themes in 'Poirot at Styles Court'?

Key themes include justice, deception, social class differences, and the intricacies of human relationships.

Has 'Poirot at Styles Court' been adapted into any TV or film productions?

Yes, the story has been adapted into various adaptations, notably the 1984 TV movie 'Agatha Christie's Poirot: The Mysterious Affair at Styles'.

What makes 'Poirot at Styles Court' a significant work in detective fiction?

It is significant as the debut of Hercule Poirot and showcases Agatha Christie's innovative plotting and character development in detective stories.

Who are the main characters in 'Poirot at Styles Court'?

Main characters include Hercule Poirot, Emily Inglethorp, her stepson Alfred Inglethorp, her husband, and other residents of Styles Court.

What is the setting of 'Poirot at Styles Court'?

The story is set in the English countryside at Styles Court, a large country estate.

Why is 'Poirot at Styles Court' still popular today?

Its timeless detective storytelling, memorable characters, and clever plot twists continue to captivate readers and audiences today.

Additional Resources

Poirot at Styles Court is a phrase that resonates deeply within the annals of detective fiction, emblematic of the legendary Belgian detective Hercule Poirot and the quintessential setting of his first appearance: the manor at Styles Court. This confluence of character and locale has cemented itself as a cornerstone in mystery literature, inspiring countless adaptations and analyses. To truly appreciate the significance of "Poirot at Styles Court," one must explore its origins, setting, character dynamics, thematic elements, and its enduring influence on detective storytelling.

The Origins of Poirot at Styles Court

Agatha Christie's Introduction of Hercule Poirot

Agatha Christie introduced Hercule Poirot to readers in her 1920 novel, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*. This work marked the debut of one of the most iconic detectives in literary history. Christie crafted Poirot as a meticulous, logical thinker with a distinctive Belgian accent, a keen eye for detail, and an unshakeable confidence in his deductive abilities. His character was inspired by various sources, including Christie's own experiences and her fascination with European detective traditions.

The Significance of Styles Court as a Setting

Styles Court is not just a backdrop but a character in its own right. Situated in Essex, England, it is a sprawling country estate that exudes the grandeur and mystique of early 20th-century aristocratic life. Its detailed description in the novel provides a confined yet complex environment that fosters the development of the mystery. The estate's layout, with its various rooms, hidden passages, and secluded gardens, offers ample opportunities for intrigue and misdirection.

Detailed Analysis of Styles Court as a Setting

Architectural and Environmental Features

Styles Court is depicted as an elegant, somewhat antiquated manor, reflective of Edwardian architecture. Its rooms are described vividly, with cozy libraries, ornate drawing rooms, and discreet corridors. The estate's grounds include extensive gardens, a greenhouse, and servant quarters, which serve as crucial locations within the narrative. The physical environment plays a significant role in the story's suspense, providing secluded spaces where secrets can be hidden.

Symbolism and Atmosphere

The estate's atmosphere contributes to the overall tone of mystery. Its isolated location fosters a sense of confinement, intensifying the suspense. The contrast between the opulence of the estate and the darker, hidden aspects of its inhabitants symbolizes the duality often explored in detective fiction: appearances versus reality. Styles Court becomes a microcosm of societal structures, class distinctions, and hidden motives.

Characters of Styles Court and Their Roles

Hercule Poirot

As the detective, Poirot embodies order and rationality. His methodical approach contrasts sharply

with the more emotional or impulsive characters. His keen observational skills and logical deductions form the core of the story's progression.

Veteran and Resident Characters

- John Cavendish: The heir to Styles Court, often portrayed as a responsible and earnest man burdened by family secrets.
- Evelyn Howard: John's wife, whose motives and relationships add complexity to the narrative.
- Dr. Bauerstein: A guest at the estate, whose presence and background contribute to the story's intrigue.
- Mrs. Inglethorp: The matriarch whose sudden death sparks the investigation, and whose relationships with other characters are pivotal to the plot.
- Major Rich and Cynthia Murdoch: Supporting characters whose interactions and secrets deepen the mystery.

Each character's background, motives, and relationships are intricately woven into the plot, reflecting the social fabric of the period and adding layers to the narrative.

The Plot of Poirot at Styles Court

The Murder and Its Context

The novel revolves around the mysterious death of Emily Inglethorp, the wealthy owner of Styles Court. Her sudden demise is initially presumed to be natural, but Poirot's arrival uncovers a web of secrets, jealousy, and greed. The murder is crafted with precision, employing misdirection and red herrings to challenge both characters and readers.

Poirot's Deductive Process

Poirot's method involves meticulous observation, understanding character psychology, and logical deduction. He notices inconsistencies in testimonies, scrutinizes physical evidence, and interprets subtle behavioral cues. His famous use of "little grey cells" exemplifies the importance of intellectual rigor in solving mysteries.

Climax and Resolution

The climax reveals the murderer through a carefully orchestrated deduction, emphasizing the importance of attention to detail and moral justice. Poirot's resolution not only solves the crime but also explores themes of justice, societal hypocrisy, and human folly.

Thematic Elements and Literary Significance

Order Versus Chaos

Poirot's logical approach contrasts with the chaos of human passions and secrets. Styles Court, as the setting, becomes a battleground where reason aims to impose order on disorderly motives.

Class and Society

The novel subtly critiques the social hierarchies of the time. The characters' interactions reflect class distinctions, with Poirot's outsider status allowing him to see beyond societal masks.

Science and Rationality

The story champions rational thought over superstition or emotion, aligning with modern detective fiction's emphasis on empirical evidence and logical deduction.

Legacy and Impact of Poirot at Styles Court

Influence on Detective Fiction

The Mysterious Affair at Styles set many conventions for detective stories. Poirot's character introduced the idea of a "professional sleuth" with a distinctive personality, and the estate setting provided a template for future mysteries—confined environments with complex social dynamics.

Adaptations and Cultural Significance

The story has been adapted into numerous formats, including radio dramas, stage productions, and films, notably portraying Poirot by actors such as David Suchet. The setting of Styles Court has been recreated in various productions, emphasizing its iconic status.

Enduring Appeal

The combination of a compelling detective, a richly detailed setting, and a tightly woven plot ensures that Poirot at Styles Court remains a benchmark in detective fiction. It exemplifies how a well-crafted environment can enhance narrative complexity and reader engagement.

Conclusion: The Enduring Charm of Poirot at Styles Court

The phrase "Poirot at Styles Court" encapsulates a fundamental chapter in detective literature, representing the genesis of one of the genre's most beloved detectives and the quintessential setting that brought his methods to life. Through detailed descriptions, character complexity, and a masterful plot, Agatha Christie created a universe where environment and intellect intertwine. Styles Court is more than a mere location; it is a symbol of the meticulous craft of mystery storytelling, embodying themes of order, societal critique, and human psychology. Its legacy endures, inspiring generations of writers, filmmakers, and mystery enthusiasts, cementing Hercule Poirot's place in literary history as an archetype of logical deduction and sharp observation. As long as the allure of a locked-room mystery and the charm of a grand estate persist, "Poirot at Styles Court" will remain a touchstone of detective fiction's golden age.

Poirot A Styles Court

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poirot a styles court: *Poirot a Styles Court* Agatha Christie, 2011

poirot a styles court: 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.

poirot a styles court: The Mysterious Affair at Styles: Hercule Poirot's First Case (Special Edition) Agatha Christie, 2016-03-16 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*.

poirot a styles court: *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* Agatha Christie, 2019-05-07 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.

poirot a styles court: *The Mysterious Affair at Styles (Painted Edition)* Agatha Christie, 2022-11-08 Agatha Christie's first Hercule Poirot detective novel, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*, is now available in a fine exclusive collector's edition featuring beautiful cover art from artist Laci Fowler and distinctive interior treatments, making it ideal for fiction lovers and book collectors alike. Each collectible volume will be the perfect addition to any well-appointed library. The Harper Muse Classics: Painted Edition of *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* is perfect for special-edition book collectors, Agatha Christie lovers, fans of literary fiction and classic literature, and people who appreciate both the books and the many cinematic adaptations Christie's works have inspired. *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* introduces not only famed author Agatha Christie to the world, but also her beloved detective Hercule Poirot. When the family matriarch overseeing the beautiful mansion Styles Court is found poisoned, suspicion falls on the relatives who stand to benefit from her last will and testament, and Poirot is called in to investigate. *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* is the astounding result of a challenge from Christie's sister Madge, who dared her to write a detective story in which the reader would be unable to spot the perpetrator, although given access to the same clues as the detective. Whether you're buying this as a gift or for yourself, this remarkable edition features: A beautiful high-end hardcover featuring Laci Fowler's distinctive hand-painted art, perfect for standing out on any discerning fiction-lover's bookshelf Decorative interior pages featuring pull quotes distributed throughout Matching ribbon marker and gold page edges Part of a 4-volume collection including *Persuasion*, *Jane Eyre*, and *Little Women*. *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* by Agatha Christie is a title in the Harper Muse Classics: Painted Editions collection and is being released alongside *Persuasion* (Jane Austen), *Jane Eyre* (Charlotte Brontë), and *Little Women* (Louisa May Alcott).

poirot a styles court: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2014-05-27 The debut of Mystery Writers of America Grand Master Agatha Christie and her remarkable Belgian detective, Hercule Poirot Invalided home from the Western Front, Arthur Hastings arrives at Styles Court anticipating a relaxing sojourn in the English countryside. It turns out to be anything but. Late one night, Hastings is summoned to the locked bedroom door of Emily Inglethorp, mistress of the manor. A terrible commotion is happening inside, and by the time her family forces the door open it is too late—Emily is in the final, violent throes of strychnine poisoning and nothing can save her. As fate would have it, Belgium's most celebrated detective, a refugee from the war, resides in the neighboring village. Hercule Poirot may look, in the words of Hastings, like a "quaint dandyfied little man," but he possesses one of the finest minds in Europe and an extraordinary flair for solving the most baffling of cases. Half a dozen people—including Alfred, Emily's much younger second husband; her slacker stepsons, John and Lawrence; and Mary, her beautiful but bored daughter-in-law—had the means and the motive to poison Emily. While Hastings and the rest of Styles Court rush to judgment, Poirot painstakingly sifts through the clues and considers each of the suspects in turn. The answer at which he arrives will shock them all. Agatha Christie wrote *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* because her sister wagered that she could not plot a mystery. Not only did Christie win that bet, she created one of the greatest detectives in all of literature and established herself as the undisputed Queen of Crime. This ebook has been professionally proofread to ensure accuracy and readability on all devices.

poirot a styles court: 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.

poirot a styles court: *A Hercule Poirot Trio* Agatha Christie, 2021-04-05 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.

poirot a styles court: Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2011-06 The novel is set in England during World War I at Styles Court, an Essex country manor (also the setting of Curtain, Poirot's last case). Upon her husband's death, the wealthy widow, Emily Cavendish, inherited a life estate in Styles as well as the outright inheritance of the larger part of the late Mr. Cavendish's income. Mrs. Cavendish became Mrs. Inglethorp upon her recent remarriage to a much younger man, Alfred Inglethorp. Emily's two stepsons, John and Lawrence Cavendish, as well as John's wife Mary and several other people, also live at Styles. John Cavendish is the vested remainderman of Styles; that is, the property will pass to him automatically upon his stepmother's decease, as per his late father's will. The income left to Mrs Inglethorp by her late husband would be distributed as per Mrs. Inglethorp's own will.

poirot a styles court: *Th A Hercule Poirot Trio* Agatha Christie, 2020-12-18 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.

poirot a styles court: *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.

poirot a styles court: The Mysterious Affair at Styles by Agatha Christie Agatha Christie, 2020-07-19 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 Inglethorpe. 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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poirot a styles court: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Illustrated Agatha Christie, 2020-05-27 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 Inglethorpe. 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.

poirot a styles court: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2021-02-10 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 Inglethorpe, and her new husband, Alfred. Despite the tranquil surroundings Hastings begins to realise that all is not right. When Mrs Inglethorpe is found poisoned, suspicion falls on the family, and another old friend, Hercule Poirot, is invited to investigate.

poirot a styles court: The Mysterious Affair at Styles Agatha Christie, 2019-08-27 In her first published mystery, Agatha Christie introduces readers to the heroic detective, Hercule Poirot. This is a classic murder mystery set in the outskirts of Essex. The victim is the wealthy mistress of Styles Court. The list of suspects is long and includes her gold-digging new spouse and

stepsons, her doctor, and her hired companion.

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