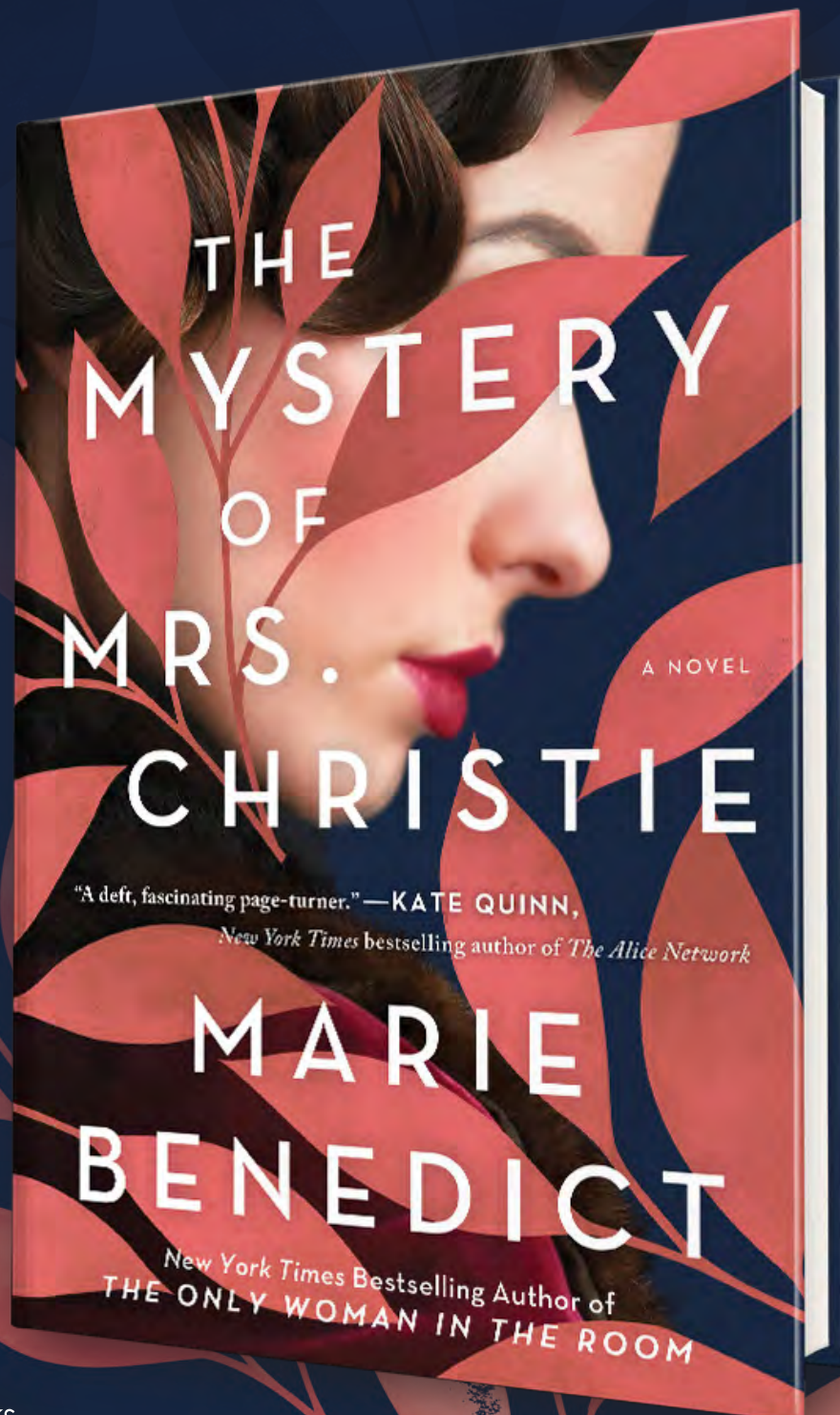
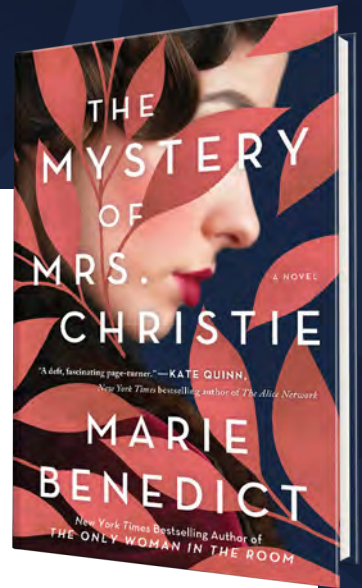


# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## BOOK CLUB GUIDE



# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE



## Contents

<b>PERSONAL NOTE FROM MARIE BENEDICT</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>EXCLUSIVE EXCERPT</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>FOR YOUR BOOK CLUBS</b>	<b>8</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agatha Christie-Inspired Cocktail Recipe</li><li>• A Conversation with the Author</li><li>• Reading Group Guide</li></ul>	
<b>FURTHER READING</b>	<b>12</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An Agatha Christie Reading List</li><li>• More by Marie Benedict</li></ul>	
<b>AGATHA CHRISTIE PHOTOS</b>	<b>16</b>



# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## A NOTE FROM MARIE BENEDICT

As you may know, I am a writer on a mission to excavate the most important, complex women from history and bring them into the light of the present day, where we can finally perceive the breadth of their contributions as well as the insights they bring to modern-day issues.

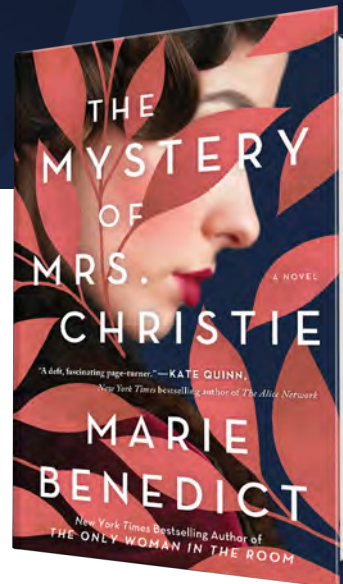
I've long been a fan of Agatha Christie's mysteries—since my middle-school years, in fact—and I became curious about the background of the woman who became the most successful novelist of all time and the creator of the modern mystery novel.

When I learned that she disappeared for eleven days in 1926 in circumstances seemingly torn from the pages of one of her own novels, I knew I had to turn to her story next.

I couldn't help but wonder what happened to her during the eleven days she went missing, a disappearance that led to the largest manhunt in England's history.

How could a writer that talented in the art of plotting have been a victim in her own vanishing? Could she have been that rare example of a historical woman who used her talents and courage to escape from the limitations her era placed on women to write herself back into the narrative? I hope you join me in unraveling *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*.

—Marie Benedict



# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## EXCERPT THE MANUSCRIPT

*December 3, 1926*

*Styles, Sunningdale, England*

Three months. Ninety days. Two thousand one hundred and sixty hours. This was what Archie had allotted me to save our marriage, and when I returned to Styles after the debacle of the Pyrenees, I realized that I had only forty-five days left to convince Archie to stay. Only one thousand and eighty of those original hours remained, and the mere thought of the dwindling minutes was enough to start my heart racing. But how could I win my husband back when he was rarely to be seen?

Over the preceding forty-five of those ninety days, there had been times when I felt like giving up. There had been entire days when I felt like relinquishing him to Nancy [Archie's mistress] and losing myself in my writing, my family, and my daughter. *Would it really be so terrible?* I asked myself. After all, if I were honest with myself, our marriage had been empty for some time; golf seemed to play a more robust role in Archie's life than I did. Yet when I thought about Rosalind [the Christies' daughter], I knew I had to stay the course. I couldn't let the stain of divorce taint my beautiful daughter and strain our relationship.

I resolved to wait for him to return. This waiting was different from all the waiting I'd undertaken before. Somehow, waiting for him for leaves during his military training, waiting for him to come home from the Great War, even waiting for him to appear on our London doorstep from Spain after Mummy died did not compare to waiting for him to return my love.

I felt the clock ticking constantly, and more and more, I took walks around the Silent Pool to calm my nerves. Despite the macabre history of the place—legends about dead maidens and rumors about the odd suicide—I found the still body of emerald water and the quiet woods surrounding it strangely soothing. Not to mention that it was the one place where I could indulge in my sobs without a witness.

By the time December arrived, the days left to attempt reconciliation were numbered, and I was in a frenzied state. When Archie was absent—he frequently stayed at his London club on weekdays—I would worry about whether Nancy was with him despite his promise, and Charlotte [the Christies' governess] would have to urge me to stay at Ashfield and not drive into the city to surprise him.

# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

When he made his brief, unannounced visits to Styles on weekends and rare weekday evenings, primarily to see Rosalind, my nerves would shred even further as the pressure mounted to be charming and lighthearted in an effort to make Styles—and me—appealing to him.

I worked on my new book, *The Mystery of the Blue Train*, at a feverish pace. My publisher, Collins, was desperate for a new Hercule Poirot book and wielded my contract as the means to insist. The recently released *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* had not only been critically well received but had sold well, and they hoped to ride that success with an immediate follow-up publication, along with the release of a collection of short Hercule Poirot stories that I'd serialized in magazine and newspaper publications. But every time I sat down at my typewriter, my mind clouded with emotion, and even the internal pressure to produce out of financial necessity should my marriage implode didn't clear my thoughts. More than anything, more even than Mummy's comforting and sage presence, I wished for more time.

Archie and I stared at each other across the breakfast table. *How ordinary the room looks*, I thought for a surreal second, *for such an extraordinary morning*. The sunlight filtered through the curtain, dappling the tablecloth with an attractive pattern. The table gleamed with Mummy's sweet rosebud china and a perfect semicircle of toasted bread spread across the silver serving tray. Tiny puffs of steam rose from our teacups, and a jar of ruby-red jam sat at the center of it all. It could be any regular morning in any regular home of any regular family. But it wasn't.

"Please," I begged, "please don't do this. Let's talk about it this weekend, after dinner tonight. I made a reservation for us at a lovely inn in Yorkshire where we can discuss the future in privacy."

"There is no sense begging, Agatha. It only makes you appear less attractive than you already are, and that doesn't help your cause. I will not be joining you in Yorkshire this weekend. I will be spending the weekend with the Jameses," Archie answered, his tone firm and his posture erect such that his suit had not a single crease. He spoke as dismissively as he did when responding to Rosalind's endless requests for a pony.

"And Nancy will be there as well, I'm guessing? She's good friends with Madge James, isn't she?" I asked, and although it was certainly true, I immediately regretted my words. Archie's face darkened with anger, and I knew I wouldn't win him back like that. "Please listen, Archie." I reached for his hand, but he pulled it away and stepped backward. I proceeded with my case, although I could hear Charlotte's voice in my head, cautioning me against pleading. She believed it only brought out a cruel streak in him, and she'd implored me not to beg him after she witnessed an unpleasant



# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

altercation. “You promised me three months. Three months of reconciliation before deciding. But we barely saw you. You just need more time, that’s all—Christmas at Abney Hall, a New Year’s trip to Portugal with our neighborhood friends, the full three months that we discussed.”

“I don’t need any more time to make my decision, and I do not want to keep up this charade any longer. I am finished.” His voice didn’t waver, and neither did his gaze. *Had he practiced this composure in the mirror?* I wondered.

“How can you say you’re finished with our family when you haven’t even tried?” I asked, my voice cracking.

He didn’t bother to answer my question. Instead, he repeated the hateful words he had first uttered back in Ashfield. “I want a divorce.”

“I don’t want a divorce, Archie. I want our family and our marriage back.” The tears came, and I began to sob. “Rosalind loves you. I still love you. When you were fighting in the Great War, you used to write that you’d do anything to keep me. How has it come to this?”

“Agatha, I will be meeting with a lawyer to begin the divorce proceedings. My marriage to Nancy will happen as soon as the divorce is finalized.” He sounded as if he were conducting a business meeting for Austral Limited, not ending his marriage and ruining his family.

For the very first time, rage instead of desperation took hold of me. How dare he? How could he talk of marriage to Nancy in the same breath as he spoke of our divorce? *By God, I thought, if he wants this shameful divorce, I will get what I want as well.* I will make him give me the very thing he wants to protect. Otherwise, it will be the undoing of me.

Pulling a handkerchief from the pocket of my silk dressing gown, I dabbed at my eyes and nose in an effort to compose myself. “I will only agree to a divorce if you name Nancy Neele as your adulteress and the reason for the dissolution of our marriage.” I kept my tone as unruffled and businesslike as he’d been all morning, repressing the fury kindling within me.

With this statement, his carefully assembled countenance of calm and determination cracked. His eyes widened in disbelief at my request, and in that moment, I knew that I had struck him in his very core, a heart that I thought he no longer had. “I will not name Nancy in the divorce. Under no circumstances.”

# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

How dare he refuse me? Who did he think he was to deny me this request? My incredulity and my volume rose alongside my anger. “Can you really believe that I would agree to a divorce in which the reason isn’t explicitly articulated? So everyone would fill in that gap with me as the cause? They’ll think I was an unreasonable wife. Or that I was the unfaithful one! Imagine what Rosalind would think one day.” I straightened my dressing gown and robe, tucked a curl behind my ear, and very slowly and very distinctly said, “I want Nancy Neele named as the reason for our divorce. Or I will not grant you one.”

His eyes narrowed, and he walked toward me for the first time that morning. “Nancy is the woman I love, and I plan on marrying her. I will not besmirch her name.”

I laughed, not caring for the first time in months how loud or unladylike my guffaw sounded. Because in that moment, I did not care about his opinion of me. “That’s rich, Archie. You won’t besmirch the reputation of your mistress, but you find it perfectly acceptable to betray your wife and drag her name through the mud?” I stared at him right in the eyes. “No Nancy, no divorce.”

A menacing expression, familiar from our trip to Guéthary, appeared on his face. He grabbed my shoulders—as if he wanted to shake *his* sense into me—and as I pulled away, my hand swung across the breakfast table, sending Mummy’s rosebud teapot crashing to the floor and me along with it. When I tried to stand up, he pushed me back down, grinding my leg into a shard of shattered china. The next thing I remembered was the sound of his footsteps storming out of the dining room and out of Styles. I felt the vibration of those footsteps across the floor, followed in quick succession by the rapid clip of Charlotte’s no-nonsense step and Rosalind’s patter.

Rosalind shrieked at the sight of me on the floor amid the broken china as Charlotte raced to my side. As she kneeled down to help me up, she asked, “Mrs. Christie, are you quite all right?”

“It’s nothing, Carlo.” I tried to muster up a smile. “Clumsy, that’s all.”

“You’re not clumsy, Mama,” Rosalind’s high-pitched voice chirped. “You and Papa were having a row. We heard it.”

“It was nothing to concern yourself with, Rosalind,” I said as I struggled to my feet with Charlotte’s aid. “It’s nothing to do with you. Not to worry.”

“Oh, I know that, Mama,” she answered, all confidence and assurance. “After all, Papa likes me, but he doesn’t much like you.”

# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## THE BOOK CLUB GUIDE COCKTAIL RECIPE

### *The Atypical Christie*

The Atypical Christie is a delicious nod to the Queen of Crime served by Pasquale Ferrillo at Manetta's Bar in the Fleming Hotel in London.

#### INGREDIENTS

- 8 fresh basil leaves
- 10 teaspoons Rémy Martin VSOP Cognac
- 4 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1 brown sugar cube
- 3 teaspoons Graham's 10 Year Old Port

#### METHOD

Build in a highball glass, served with crushed ice.

Top with lemon and basil leaves.

#### GLASS

Highball glass

#### GARNISH

Lemon and basil leaves



Visit Manetta's Bar: <https://www.flemings-mayfair.co.uk/fine-dining-london/manettas-bar>



# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## A CONVERSATION WITH MARIE BENEDICT

**Unlike a few of your previous heroines, many readers are familiar with Agatha Christie. What prompted you to look into her less public life?**

Actually, the very fact that Agatha Christie is so famous and successful—she's sold more books than any other writer!—nearly stopped me from writing *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*. I questioned whether I should focus on excavating from the past a lesser-known woman who has made important contributions. But when I started to research the circumstances and history around her 1926 disappearance, I had the uncanny sense that it played a key role in her journey to becoming the most successful writer in the world, and I felt compelled to explore that idea. One of the questions I like to explore in each of my books is how a woman at the story's core transformed into the person who made such an extraordinary bequest, one that continues into modern times.

**What were the most surprising details you uncovered in your research process? Was there anything you found particularly fascinating that didn't make it into the final book?**

Oh, there are so many astonishing facts I learned about Agatha! I particularly loved the fact that she was one of the first Europeans to learn surfing, and I *had* to include that little nugget in the book, even though it wasn't really necessary for the story! The same applies to her extensive knowledge of poisons, which she acquired from her World War I work in a hospital dispensary; I knew I needed to find a home for that in the story, as that experience turned out to be useful in many of her mysteries. Some of the intriguing particulars that did not make it to the page are, of course, the many hypotheses proposed about her disappearances, ranging from amnesia to a fugue state to a plot against her husband's alleged mistress, among many suppositions. That, and the fact that Agatha wrote a series of romance novels under the pseudonym Mary Westmacott.

**At what point in the research process do you decide who will be your supporting cast? How do you develop characters like Detective Chief Inspector Kenward or Agatha's mother?**

In writing historical fiction, I am constantly encountering fascinating period details and people that I would adore adding to my books. But I always have to pause and ask myself whether the detail or person is important to either creating the setting or moving the story forward. In the case of Agatha's mother, I knew that Agatha's attachment to her was key not only to the development of her personality but also to her emotional state around the time of her disappearance, and thus really needed to be included. As for Detective Chief Inspector Kenward, I believed that Archie needed an antagonist to propel forward Agatha's version of her disappearance, even though Kenward did not realize he was doing so.

**How did you balance the dual timelines of the manhunt and the manuscript? Was it difficult to write about the early blushes of Agatha and Archie's attraction knowing where the two were headed?**

Crafting the dual stories of the manhunt and the manuscript certainly meant that my office was papered

# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

with timelines and lists of dates and flow charts! And I certainly experienced some painful moments knowing what history had in store for Agatha and Archie—and what Agatha had in store for Archie! But I thoroughly enjoyed the plotting and the intricacy of writing this unusual sort of historical fiction. I'll never be as masterful at suspense and mystery as Agatha, but it was fun to try, and I viewed it as an homage to her.

**Agatha's manuscript is critical for her to triumph over Archie. Did she ever write a manuscript that bore such a resemblance to her own life?**

In terms of writing her own life story, Agatha did publish her autobiography, which was enormously helpful in my own research and an inspiration for her voice. It provided some interesting insights into her upbringing and her early writing, but it says *nothing* about the disappearance. Nothing. She skips over it entirely, much as she refused to talk about those eleven days for the rest of her life. So her autobiography shares only selective pieces of her past.

**How did you feel investigating the societal expectations that Agatha's mother continuously flung her way? Do you think the demands of husband and child are still at odds in the modern day?**

I really felt for Agatha when I learned about the sort of messages her mother imparted over and over again about the sort of relationship she needed to foster with her husband—namely, putting her husband first above all else. Given the closeness of the mother-daughter relationship they shared, I knew that advice would have an enormous impact on Agatha's relationship with Archie—and, consequently, on Agatha's relationship with her own daughter—and would affect Agatha's feelings about pursuing her career. While I think modern women struggle with the demands of balancing work and family, I do not think it necessarily stems from the sense that women must put their husbands first, but that women still bear much of the burden of both work and home.

**What advice do you have for other historical fiction writers, especially those who are just starting out?**

I would suggest that, as with all writing, aspiring writers focus on topics for which they have a real and abiding passion, rather than pursue presumed fads in readers' tastes. The enthusiasm for their subject will be clear and appealing to the readers, and may even start its own trend!

**How would you describe Agatha Christie's legacy, both for her contemporaries and for women today?**

The most obvious aspect of her legacy is her role at the center of the Golden Age of mystery fiction, where she was central to the creation of the classic mystery novel. Her astounding skill and talent is such that her books continue to sell today, stemming in part from the elusive nature of her puzzles. Those enigmas, coupled with her morally ambiguous characters and the alluring settings often placed in that critical but sometimes overlooked period between the two world wars, make the books compelling and justifiably bestselling. But in order to achieve that success, Agatha had to overcome the limitations imposed upon women of her era, and it is her act of leaping over that hurdle that I explore in *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*.

# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## READING GROUP GUIDE

1. Agatha Christie is one of the most celebrated mystery writers of all time. What did you know about her personal history before you read *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*? Did the book challenge any of your preconceived notions about her life?
2. Agatha Christie was a successful writer within her lifetime, quite unusual for a woman of her time. How did her desire for independence shape the course of the story, both obviously and more subtly?
3. Do you think Agatha Christie is a good representative of the issues that women faced in her era? Did she have any privileges or responsibilities that set her apart from other women of her period?
4. Describe the night Archie and Agatha first met. How did their relationship change over time, and why? Do you think Agatha's manuscript told the full story? What details do you think she changed or left out? Why do you think she might have altered the "truth"?
5. Archie spends much of the story trying to protect his reputation. Do you think that would be the case if the story took place today? Would it be easier or more difficult for him to deflect guilt in the modern news cycle?
6. What differences did you see between the Agatha within the manuscript and the Agatha who appears at the end of the book? What creative licenses did she take with her own personality and story? Were they justified?
7. Toward the end of the book, Agatha mourns the mother she could not be for Rosalind. What forces dominated their relationship? Do you think Agatha's struggle to balance husband and child was common in her historical period? How do you expect her relationship with Rosalind to evolve after the events of the book? How does this compare with parental struggles mothers face now?
8. Which characters, if any, did you find to be most relatable? Did you connect with Agatha? Were there any characters you wished you knew more about?
9. Agatha left an enormous mark on the mystery community and on the world of books more generally. Do you think her marriage had an effect on her success? Or her disappearance? If so, what was it? How would you characterize her personal and professional legacies?



# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## FURTHER READING

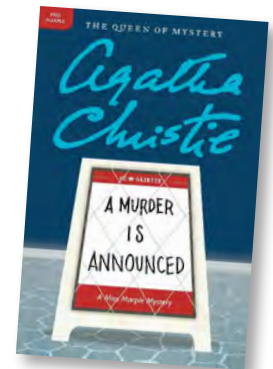
### AN AGATHA CHRISTIE READING LIST, CURATED BY MARIE BENEDICT

Full disclosure. I have been reading Agatha Christie novels since a beloved aunt—who was also an English professor, a poet, and a bit of a rebellious nun—began gifting them to me while I was in middle school. Over the years, I've grown to adore these mysteries for a variety of reasons—sometimes for their unsolvable puzzles, often for their quirky, brilliant “detectives,” and occasionally for the exotic or luxurious settings. More recently, I've come to love the mysteries all over again as I've delved deep into the real-life world of their author and her own disappearance for my own novel *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*, which afforded me a new understanding of Agatha's life and legacy. Below are highlights only. I actually recommend a reading of *all* sixty-six novels.

#### *Favorite Miss Marple*

##### *A Murder Is Announced*

Villagers in Chipping Cleghorn assumed that when the local newspaper ran an ad announcing a murder at a local home, a parlour game was in the works. In a brilliant display of both her fierce intellect and the understated mask behind which she hides—not unlike Agatha herself—Miss Marple solved the thorny murder that actually occurred by unlocking the real identities of the characters in this fraught, post-World War II setting.



#### *Favorite Hercule Poirot (impossible to pick only one!)*

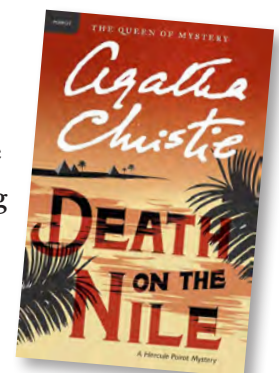
##### *Murder on the Orient Express*

From the moment the characters stepped foot into the opulent world of 1930s first-class train travel, this mystery captivates. The compelling backstory and interconnected web of characters—not to mention one of the most ingenious murders of all time, solved by Poirot at his annoying, ingenuous best—certainly makes this one of my favorites.



##### *Death on the Nile*

A cruise down the Nile, an Egyptian holiday set against the backdrop of the Pyramids, the death of a beautiful heiress, the “little grey cells” of Hercule Poirot. What's not to love about this classic Agatha Christie? Especially since it plays to one of my fantasies of being an Egyptian archaeologist.



# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## *Best Unreliable Narrator (maybe ever)*

### *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*

A seemingly typical murder of an affluent widower in the village of King's Abbot became anything but typical with the turn of each page. Without spoiling the unguessable end, Agatha's innovative use of the unreliable narrator makes this one of the best mysteries of all time. Not to mention that this was the novel Agatha wrote before her disappearance, which made it all the more intriguing as I wrote *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*, and it served as something of an inspiration.

## *Sentimental Favorite*

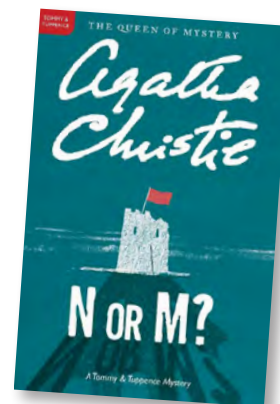
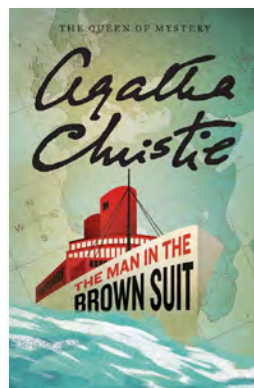
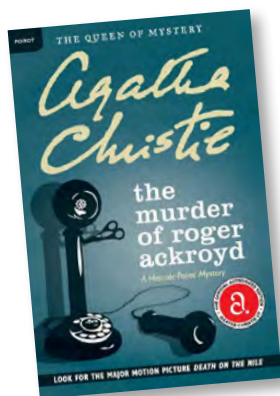
### *The Man in the Brown Suit*

This little-known novel about a young woman who witnesses a murder and becomes wrapped up in the South African underworld of politics and diamonds is not Agatha's best, but it holds a special place in my heart. It was inspired by an early, hopeful period in Agatha's life—before her disappearance—when she went on a round-the-world tour with her first husband, Colonel Archibald Christie, to promote the 1924 British Empire Exhibition. The light it sheds on the younger Agatha is priceless.

## *Best (and Only) Christie Spy Thriller*

### *N or M?*

Two of Agatha's lesser-known recurring characters—Tommy and Tuppence, previously with British intelligence—resurface in this World War II spy thriller, desperate to play a more significant role in the world instead of remaining sidelined in their middle age. Compelling in its own right, I found it especially intriguing because the issues and references made in the book caused MI5 to investigate Agatha for her possible knowledge of top-secret code-breaking hub Bletchley Park.



# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## MORE BY MARIE BENEDICT

### *Lady Clementine*

In 1909, Clementine Churchill steps off a train with her new husband, Winston. An angry woman emerges from the crowd to attack, shoving him in the direction of an oncoming train. Just before he stumbles, Clementine grabs him by his suit jacket. This will not be the last time she will save her husband.

*Lady Clementine* is the ferocious story of the ambitious woman beside Winston Churchill, the story of a partner who did not flinch through the sweeping darkness of war, and who would not surrender to expectations or to enemies.

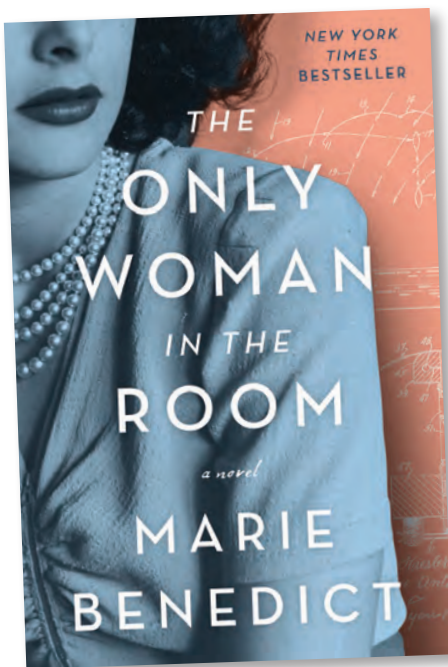


### *The Only Woman in the Room*

**The New York Times Bestseller & USA Today Bestseller!**

Her beauty almost certainly saved her from the rising Nazi party and led to marriage with an Austrian arms dealer. Underestimated in everything else, she overheard the Third Reich's plans while at her husband's side and understood more than anyone would guess. She devised a plan to flee in disguise from their castle, and the whirlwind escape landed her in Hollywood. She became Hedy Lamarr, screen star.

But she kept a secret more shocking than her heritage or her marriage: she was a scientist. And she had an idea that might help the country fight the Nazis and revolutionize modern communication...if anyone would listen to her.





# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## MORE BY MARIE BENEDICT

### *Carnegie's Maid*

**The *USA Today* Bestseller!**

Clara Kelley is not who they think she is. She's not the experienced Irish maid who was hired to work in one of Pittsburgh's grandest households. She's a poor farmer's daughter with nowhere to go and nothing in her pockets. But the woman who shares her name has vanished, and assuming her identity just might get Clara some money to send back home.

Clara must rely on resolve as strong as the steel Pittsburgh is becoming famous for and an uncanny understanding of business, attributes that quickly gain her Andrew Carnegie's trust. But she still can't let her guard down, not even when Andrew becomes something more than an employer. Revealing her past might ruin her future—and her family's.



### *The Other Einstein*

Mileva "Mitza" Marić has always been a little different from other girls. Most twenty-year-olds are wives by now, not studying physics at an elite Zurich university with only male students trying to outdo her clever calculations. But Mileva is smart enough to know that, for her, math is an easier path than marriage. Then fellow student Albert Einstein takes an interest in her, and the world turns sideways.

Theirs becomes a partnership of the mind and of the heart, but there might not be room for more than one genius in a marriage.

Marie Benedict illuminates one pioneering woman in STEM, returning her to the forefront of history's most famous scientists.

# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## AGATHA CHRISTIE PHOTOS



Credit: Public Domain

**You probably recognize this photo of Agatha Christie. This is how she looked in her middle years, when she had already solidified her legacy as the Queen of Crime.**



Credit: Public Domain

**In her younger years, before she became a crime novelist, she volunteered for the World War I effort as a member of the Red Cross. During this time—on Christmas Eve 1914—she married Archie Christie, who would become a celebrated war hero.**

# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

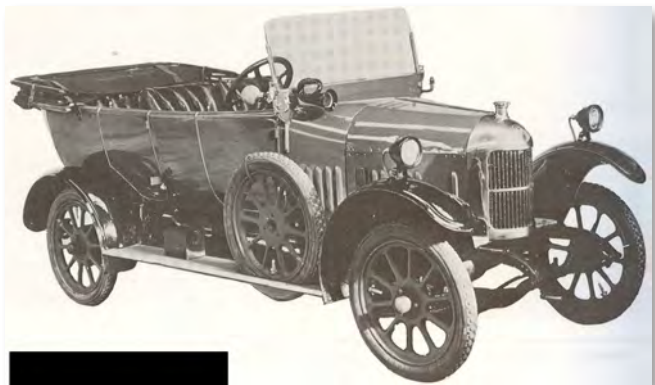
## AGATHA CHRISTIE PHOTOS



Credit: Public Domain

In 1919, after the war ended, Agatha Christie and Archie Christie welcomed their daughter, Rosalind, to the world. The next year, her first novel, *The Mysterious Affair of Styles*, was published. In 1926, she, Archie, and Rosalind purchased a home in Sunningdale, Berkshire, which they named “Styles,” an homage to Christie’s first novel. Later that year, she disappeared from that very house...

This advertisement shows the home after the Christies’ separation.



Credit: Public Domain

After Agatha Christie disappeared in 1926, her car, a Morris Cowley tourer, was found running and empty next to a deep, still lake called the Silent Pond near her home. Left behind was a fur coat—strange for a frigid night.



# THE MYSTERY OF MRS. CHRISTIE

## AGATHA CHRISTIE PHOTOS



Credit: Public Domain

Eleven days later, Agatha Christie was found—but the mystery of those eleven days persists. In *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*, Marie Benedict invites you to uncover the truth...