

# Guilt, Suspicion and Justice in Agatha Christie's Select Novels

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**Abstract:** Agatha Mary Clarissa Christie was an English writer. She is extremely renowned for her detective novels. Agatha Christie has written a total of sixty-six detective novels. Detective fiction comes under the genre of crime fiction. In Detective Fiction, the detective who could either be a professional or an amateur who investigates a crime. This paper studies some of her critically acclaimed works.

**Key Words:** Agatha Christie, Murder On The Orient Express, Death On The Nile.

## I. Introduction

Agatha Mary Clarissa Christie was an English writer. She is extremely renowned for her detective novels. Agatha Christie has written a total of sixty-six detective novels. Detective fiction comes under the genre of crime fiction. In Detective Fiction, the detective who could either be a professional or an amateur who investigates a crime. Some famous fictional detectives of literature include Doyle's Sherlock homes and Christie's Hercule Poirot. Agatha Christie created two famous fictional detectives, namely, Miss Marple and Hercule Poirot. Miss Marple is from St. Mary Mead and is an amateur detective. Agatha Christie gained fame for Murder On The Orient Express and Death On The Nile, two detective fiction novels.

## II. *Murder On The Orient Express*

*Murder On The Orient Express* is a detective fiction novel, published in 1934. The Orient Express, a train stopped due to heavy snowfall. A murder is soon discovered and Hercule decides to solve the case. The setting of the initial is Istanbul, a city in Turkey. The Other chapters are set in Yugoslavia. The other passengers aboard the train include Caroline Hubbard (widow of American origin), Mary Debenham (an English governess), Great Ohlsson (Swedish missionary), Samuel Ratchett (an ambitious businessman), Hector MacQueen (Ratchett's secretary), Edward Masterman (Ratchett's valet), Antonio Foscarelli (Aakar salesman of Italian American origin), Natalia Dragomiroff (a Russian princess), Hildegard (her maid of German origin), Count Rudolph Andrenyi and his wife, Colonel John Arbuthnot, Cyrus Hardman (a salesman of American origin), and a doctor of Greek origin named Stauros Constantine.

Samuel Ratchett requests Hercule to protect him from his enemies, but he turns him down. Later, Ratchett is found stabbed to death. There are no footprints in the snow, which proves that the motor was committed by someone who is aboard the train. The coroner says that Ratchett had been stabbed twelve times. The main themes of the novel are guilt, suspicion and justice.

## III. *Death On The Nile*

*Death On The Nile* is a detective fiction novel by Agatha Christie, published in 1937. Hercules Poirot from Belgium is the protagonist. Linnet Ridgeway is a wealthy heiress from an English country village. Her friend, Jacqueline requests her to find a job for Simon, her poor fiancé. However, Linnet soon marries Simon, and the couple decide to go on a honeymoon to Egypt. Linnet's lawyer, James Fanthorp and her trustee, Andrew Pennington also leave for Egypt. Hercule is on a vacation in Egypt and is staying at the Cataract Hotel. Linnet goes to meet him. She tells Hercule that Jacqueline had follow her and Simon to Egypt. Linnet is increasingly nervous and anxious about Jacqueline's presence.

Even though Jacqueline hasn't done anything dangerous to Linnet yet, Linnet is afraid that Jacqueline might turn violent. All of the characters later travel on a Nile steamer boat. Linnet is shot dead aboard the steamer boat, and Hercule starts to investigate the crime. The crime was planned by Jacqueline and Simon and that Jacqueline had made the plans, with Simon executing them. Simon wanted Linnet's wealth, so Jacqueline came up with the plans and later, Jacqueline and Simon could get back together. Justice, guilt and suspicion are the main themes of Christie's works.

**REFERENCES:**

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