



EDITORIAL CONTINUITY REPORT

The Murder at the Vicarage

Agatha Christie

Continuity and consistency observations found in the manuscript, grouped by theme, with chapter citations. Every item is a question for the author, not a correction.

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In this report

Character Names and Identities

Consider this report a friendly companion for your revision passes, sequel planning, and any adaptation work ahead. Its only job is to hold a mirror to the manuscript's internal details so you can make every choice deliberately, nothing here is a verdict, and every item below is yours to resolve exactly as the story needs.

Character Names and Identities

6 observations

Two characters named **Gladys** appear across the manuscript and are worth keeping visually distinct for readers: **Gladys Cram** and the kitchenmaid referred to as **Gladdie**. A brief distinguishing beat the first time each appears in a scene could save a reader from doubling back.

Archer (the poacher) and **Mrs. Archer** (the charwoman) are related, she is his mother, but function as separate characters in the narrative. Any scene that references one in the other's context might benefit from a quick relational anchor so the connection reads as intentional rather than confusing.

Mary the maid is a distinct person from the inquest bystanders **Mary Adams** and **Mary Hill**. In crowd or inquest scenes where more than one of these names appears close together, a small identifying detail for each would help readers track them without effort.

Dr. Stone as he appears in the village is an impostor; the real **Dr. Stone** is a separate individual. This is a meaningful distinction, and any scene that names him without context might be worth a glance to confirm the impostor/authentic framing is clear at that point in the reader's journey.

Mrs. Lestrangle, **Estelle**, and **the first Mrs. Protheroe** are confirmed as one person, a deliberate and satisfying authorial reveal, corroborated by the "**E. P.**" **trunk** and **Lawrence's remark** about the first Mrs. Protheroe. As you revise, it may be worth tracing every early mention of these names to ensure the clues are seeded with exactly the weight you intend, neither too transparent nor too buried for the reveal to land.

The narrator, **Leonard Clement**, is a single consistent identity across all the forms of address he receives throughout the manuscript (**Leonard**, **Len**, **Mr. Clement**, and so on). No action needed here beyond confirming that any new scenes or sequel material use whichever form of address fits the speaker's relationship to him.