



The Murder at the Vicarage

Agatha Christie

A generated view of the Master Reference: the facts and paste-ready strings you commit on day one, and what is still owed from you or from live data. Depth stays in the **Master**.

1 Book at a Glance

TITLE	The Murder at the Vicarage
AUTHOR	Agatha Christie
PUBLISHER	Public Domain
TYPE · WORDS	fiction
STATUS	prepub
DISTRIBUTION	amazon, ingramspark, direct, other

Primary description **s3**

2 Commit Block A: Amazon KDP

Paste-ready for the KDP dashboard.

BROWSE CATEGORIES: KINDLE

§2

Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Traditional Detectives
Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Cozy
Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Women Sleuths
Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Amateur Sleuth
Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Historical

BROWSE CATEGORIES: PRINT

Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Traditional Detectives
Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Cozy
Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Women Sleuths
Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Amateur Sleuths
Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > International Mystery & Crime

SEVEN KEYWORD BOXES

canonical copy block §2C

spinster detective village whodunit clues
clergyman narrator parish country crime
golden age cozy english mystery
classic fair play puzzle solving
1920s british small town gossip
amateur sleuth women investigator
quaint rural manor house intrigue

Box 1: 41/50 chars Box 2: 39/50 chars Box 3: 31/50 chars Box 4: 32/50 chars
Box 5: 31/50 chars Box 6: 33/50 chars Box 7: 33/50 chars

BOOK DESCRIPTION

§10

Subtitle & Listing Line

- **Current subtitle:** none supplied.
- **Assessment:** with no subtitle, a cold reader looking at the title alone cannot tell the genre, the era, or the tone. "The Murder at the Vicarage" signals a mystery and little else: nothing marks it as a classic English village puzzle, nothing promises the gossip, the comedy, or the beloved sleuth waiting inside.
- **Recommended (best first):** 1. *A Classic English Village Murder Mystery Where Everyone Wanted Him Dead* 2. *A Golden Age Cozy Mystery of Gossip, Lies, and One Very Sharp Old Lady* 3. *A Miss Marple Mystery* (for readers who already know the series; it earns its place for fans and for search, and only for them)
- **Why:** the top option tells a total stranger the genre, the setting, and the hook in one line, and the promise that the victim was universally hated invites the immediate question of who finally did it.

Primary description

The vicar of St. Mary Mead joked at luncheon that anyone who murdered Colonel Protheroe would be doing the world a service. By the next evening, the Colonel lies shot dead across the vicar's own writing desk, nobody in the village is sorry, and the only person who can untangle the lies is the white-haired spinster watching from the garden next door.

The evidence refuses to behave. A clock that tells the wrong time. A note the dead man never wrote. A shot heard where no shot was fired. Then two people confess to the murder, and neither of them is believed.

While the police chase the obvious, Miss Marple studies human nature the way other people study birds. She can already count seven people glad to see the Colonel dead. All she needs is proof.

For readers of *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* and *The Sittaford Mystery*, this is the classic English village puzzle at its sharpest.

Everyone in St. Mary Mead sees everything. Only one gentle old lady understands what she is looking at.

Start reading tonight and try to solve it before she does.

Above-the-fold hook

The vicar of St. Mary Mead joked at luncheon that anyone who murdered Colonel Protheroe would be doing the world a service. By the next evening, the Colonel lies shot dead across the vicar's own writing desk, nobody in the village is sorry, and the only person who can untangle the lies is the white-haired spinster watching from the garden next door.

Back cover blurb

The vicar of St. Mary Mead joked that anyone who murdered Colonel Protheroe would be doing the world a service. By the next evening, the Colonel lies shot dead across the vicar's own writing desk.

Nobody mourns him. Half the village wanted him gone, and the evidence refuses to behave. A clock that tells the wrong time. A note the dead man never wrote. Two confessions, and neither one believed.

While the police chase the obvious, Miss Marple watches from her garden next door. She has studied human nature all her life, and she counts seven people glad to see the Colonel dead. She only needs proof.

Everyone in St. Mary Mead sees everything. Only one gentle old lady understands what she is looking at.

One-line promise

A pure fair-play village puzzle: settle in with tea, match wits with a white-haired spinster, and feel the deep satisfaction of every clue clicking into place.

Tagline

Everyone wanted him dead. Only the old lady in the garden knows who obliged.

Short summary (about 50 words)

When the widely hated Colonel Protheroe is found shot in the vicar's study, two false confessions and a tampered clock confound the police. Elderly Miss Marple, watching village life from her garden, quietly reasons her way to the truth in Agatha Christie's classic St. Mary Mead whodunit.

Medium summary (about 150 words)

The Reverend Leonard Clement narrates the case that upends quiet St. Mary Mead. Colonel Protheroe, magistrate, churchwarden, and the most disliked man in the village, is found shot dead at the writing desk in the vicar's own study. A note fixes the time of death. So does an overturned clock. Both are lying.

Then the confessions begin. First the charming young artist Lawrence Redding gives himself up. Then Anne Protheroe, the dead man's wife, insists she fired the shot. The medical evidence clears them both, and Inspector Slack is left with a village full of motives: a vengeful poacher, a nervous curate, a mysterious newcomer who visited the Colonel the night before he died.

Next door, elderly Miss Marple tends her garden and misses nothing. She has spent a lifetime studying human nature, and she suspects everybody just a little. The question is whether she can turn certainty into proof before the murderer strikes again.

Long summary (about 300 words)

On a Wednesday at luncheon, the Reverend Leonard Clement remarks that anyone who murdered Colonel Protheroe would be doing the world a service. On Thursday evening, the Colonel is found shot through the head at the writing desk in the vicar's own study.

Nobody in St. Mary Mead mourns him. The Colonel was a bullying magistrate and an officious churchwarden, and half the village had cause to wish him gone. The evidence should be simple. A farewell note gives the time. A fallen clock confirms it. Yet the vicar knows the clock was kept fifteen minutes fast, and the police will not listen.

Then two people confess. Lawrence Redding, the charming young artist, walks into the police station with a pistol. Anne Protheroe, the dead man's wife, calmly claims the crime for herself. The doctor's evidence clears them both, and the field widens: a vengeful poacher, a twitching curate, a bogus archaeologist, and a beautiful stranger who quarrelled with the Colonel the night before he died.

Watching it all from her garden is Miss Marple, a white-haired spinster who has studied human nature the way other people study birds. She can count seven suspects on her fingers, and she is convinced the police have the whole shape of the thing wrong. What she lacks is proof, and while she waits for it, the killer is preparing to strike again.

Featuring one of detective fiction's most beloved sleuths, this is the definitive English village mystery, a fair-play puzzle in the tradition of *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* and *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*, told with wry parish comedy and closing on one of the genre's most satisfying reconstructions. Every clue is on the page. Few readers will beat Miss Marple to the answer.

Promo description (200 characters, including spaces)

Colonel Protheroe was hated by the whole village. Now he lies shot dead in the vicar's study, two people have confessed, and both are lying. Miss Marple already suspects the truth.

Promo description (250 characters, including spaces)

Everyone in St. Mary Mead wanted Colonel Protheroe dead. Someone obliged, in the vicar's study. A lying clock, a forged note, two false confessions. Only the white-haired spinster next door can see the shape of the truth. Christie at her sharpest.

Promo description (300 characters, including spaces)

The vicar of St. Mary Mead joked that murdering Colonel Protheroe would be a public service. The next evening the Colonel lay shot dead across the vicar's desk. Two lovers confess, the clock lies, the note is forged, and Miss Marple counts seven suspects from her garden. Solve it if you can.

Promo description (350 characters, including spaces)

Colonel Protheroe was the most hated man in St. Mary Mead, so when he is found shot dead in the vicar's study, nobody weeps and everybody talks. A clock that tells the wrong time. A note the dead man never wrote. Two confessions nobody believes. From her garden next door, white-haired Miss Marple watches, listens, and closes in on the truth.

Seasonal gift description

Some books are made to be given. A handsome print edition of a classic village whodunit has real weight in the hand, promises a fireside evening the moment it is unwrapped, and starts conversations at the dinner table about who guessed the killer and who never stood a chance.

Give it to the reader who has worn out their copy of *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, the puzzle lover who times themselves against the detective, the anglophile who dreams of stone churches and garden gates, or anyone who wants comfort and cleverness in the same parcel.

Inside waits St. Mary Mead, where the detestable Colonel Protheroe is found shot in the vicar's study, two people confess, and neither is believed. It falls to Miss Marple, the sharp-eyed spinster next door, to see what the police cannot. A gift that ends with the happiest words a mystery lover knows: solved, and satisfied.

Who to gift it to

For the person who rereads *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* every winter and swears this time they will spot the trick.

For the person who pauses the detective show to announce the killer before the reveal, and is usually right.

For the person who likes their murders served with tea, village gossip, and a creaking garden gate.

Seasonal swap-in note

Run the seasonal gift description on the print listing from approximately October 15 through December 18, then revert to the primary description. Keep the ebook listing on the primary description throughout the season. Set a calendar reminder for the December 18 revert so the gift copy does not run into January.

All assets above are drafts for the author to finalize.

Items still carrying a Pending or Proposed status are flagged in \$6 below.

3 Commit Block B: IngramSpark

Paste-ready for the IngramSpark record; feeds B&N, libraries, Apple, Kobo, Google Play. Different fields from KDP.

BISAC SUBJECT CODES

§2A

FIC022030 FICTION / Mystery & Detective / Traditional
FIC022100 FICTION / Mystery & Detective / Amateur Sleuth
FIC022040 FICTION / Mystery & Detective / Women Sleuths
FIC022070 FICTION / Mystery & Detective / Cozy / General
FIC004000 FICTION / Classics

THEMA SUBJECT CODES

FFC Classic crime and mystery fiction
FFS Crime and mystery: women sleuths / detectives
FFJ Crime and mystery: cosy mystery
FFH Historical crime and mysteries

INGRAMSPARK KEYWORD FIELD ONE SEMICOLON STRING

st mary mead; english village life; interwar england; vicar narrator sleuth; false confession plot; tampered clock alibi; country house murder; gossip and secrets; elderly woman detective; fair play whodunit; rural parish setting; secret lovers conspiracy

255 chars

TRADE METADATA

§1

TITLE
The Murder at the Vicarage

CONTRIBUTOR
Agatha Christie

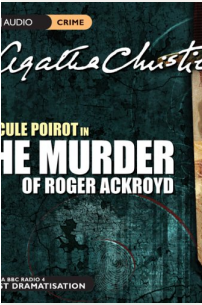
AUDIENCE
adult

BOOK DESCRIPTION

Same as the Amazon KDP description above (one source, two paste destinations). See Commit Block A.

4 Comps

12 comps found; first 6 shown. Full set + live data in Master §3A.

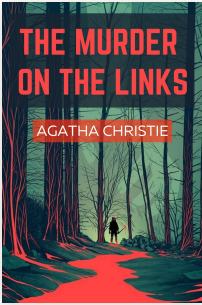


**The Murder of Roger Ackroyd:
Hercule Poirot Mysteries, Book 4**

Agatha Christie, Richard Armitage,
Audible Studios



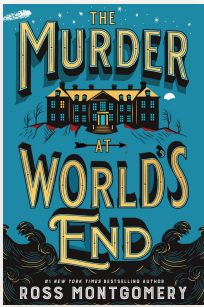
The Sittaford Mystery
Agatha Christie, Hugh Fraser, William
Morrow Paperbacks



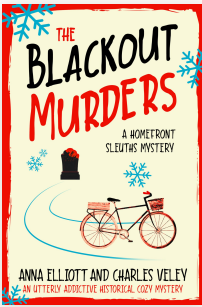
The Murder on the Links
Agatha Christie



**Murder at Blackburn Hall:
1920s High Society Lady
Detective Mystery, Book 2**
Sara Rosett, Elizabeth Klett, McGuffin Ink



**The Murder at World's End: A
Novel**
Ross Montgomery, Derek Jacobi, Joe
Jameson, William Morrow



**The Blackout Murders: A
Homefront Sleuths Mystery
(The Homefront Sleuths Cozy
Mystery Series Book 1)**
Anna Elliott, Charles Veley

6 Your Decisions & Data Gaps

PENDING CONFIRMATION 1

- Best use Marketing Assets