

a is for arsenic the poisons of agatha christie bloomsbury sigma

[#arsenic](#) [#agatha christie](#) [#poisons in literature](#) [#bloomsbury sigma](#) [#crime fiction toxicology](#)

Explore the chilling role of arsenic and other poisons, famously depicted in the masterful detective novels of Agatha Christie. This insightful Bloomsbury Sigma publication delves into the historical and fictional toxicology that captivated readers and defined the Queen of Crime's iconic stories.

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A is for Arsenic

Investigates the poisons Christie employs in fourteen of her mysteries, discussing why the poisons kill, how they interact, obtainability of such poisons, and which cases may have inspired Christie's stories.

A is for Arsenic

Shortlisted for the BMA Book Awards and Macavity Awards 2016 Fourteen novels. Fourteen poisons. Just because it's fiction doesn't mean it's all made-up ... Agatha Christie revelled in the use of poison to kill off unfortunate victims in her books; indeed, she employed it more than any other murder method, with the poison itself often being a central part of the novel. Her choice of deadly substances was far from random - the characteristics of each often provide vital clues to the discovery of the murderer. With gunshots or stabbings the cause of death is obvious, but this is not the case with poisons. How is it that some compounds prove so deadly, and in such tiny amounts? Christie's extensive chemical knowledge provides the backdrop for A is for Arsenic, in which Kathryn Harkup investigates the poisons used by the murderer in fourteen classic Agatha Christie mysteries. It looks at why certain chemicals kill, how they interact with the body, the cases that may have inspired Christie, and the feasibility of obtaining, administering and detecting these poisons, both at the time the novel was written and today. A is for Arsenic is a celebration of the use of science by the undisputed Queen of Crime.

Sleuthing Miss Marple

Sleuthing Miss Marple mirrors the structure and playful analytic style of a detective novel. Beginning at the 'scene of the crime', this investigation places Agatha Christie and the clue-puzzle in historical context, casting light on the methods, the motives, and, in a sense, the alibis that underpin Christie's crime fiction. In keeping with the clue-puzzle analytical method devised for this book, each chapter builds towards a conclusion that delivers a surprising intellectual payoff. This enquiry is unapologetically textual in approach. It constructs a rigorous evidence base drawn from the Marple short stories and novels, and presents a useful interpretation of crime fiction scholarship. This provides a foundation for original literary analyses that reveal Christie's engagements with gender roles and genre rules, and

the sleights of hand that they conceal. Christie's modus operandi is uncovered, as are the narrative strategies and literary devices that she deployed to ambush unwary readers. Crucially, this investigation shows how Christie's ingenious methods made it possible for an elderly spinster to get away with solving murder. Sleuthing Miss Marple will be invaluable for students and researchers of crime fiction, twentieth-century literature, and creative writing.

Elementary!

Whether tritium or trivium, this periodically puzzling collection of over 400 different quiz questions, word games and brain teasers will challenge the chemist in you.

Superspy Science

The adventures of James Bond have thrilled readers since Ian Fleming's novel *Casino Royale* was published in 1953, and when the movie of *Dr No* was released in 1962, Bond quickly became the world's favourite secret agent. Science and technology have always been central to the plots that make up the world of Bond, and in *Superspy Science* Kathryn Harkup explores the full range of 007's exploits and the arms, technologies, tactics and downfalls of his various foes. From the practicalities of building a volcano-based lair, to whether being covered in gold paint really will kill you, and - if your plan is to take over the world - whether it is better to use bacteria, bombs, or poison - this book has all the answers and more. Could our favourite Bond villains actually achieve world domination? Were the huge variety of weapons and technology in Bond's arsenal from both the films and books ever actually developed in real life? And would 007 actually escape all those close shaves intact? From the plots to the gadgets to the ludicrous ways that his life is threatened, *Superspy Science* takes an in-depth look at the scientific world of James Bond.

Sherlock Holmes Mystery Magazine #30

Sherlock Holmes Mystery Magazine #30 is back with a special fiction issue featuring 6 Sherlock Holmes stories and a Mr. Moto story! FEATURES: FROM WATSON'S NOTEBOOKS, by John H Watson ASK MRS HUDSON, by (Mrs) Martha Hudson SCREEN OF THE CRIME, by Kim Newman I'LL TAKE A PASS ON THE CURRIED MUTTON, THANK YOU, by O'Neill Curatolo BARTITSU, THE REVIVED MIXED-MARTIAL ART OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, by Elizabeth Crowens FICTION: THE PARIS BARGAINS, by Hal Charles THE ADVENTURE OF THE BOOBY-TRAPPED BOOTS, by Jeffrey A. Lockwood THE SIGN OF THE THREE, by MYCROFT HOLMES AND THE BLACK HEART OF LONDON, by J.G. Grimmer THE LAST COLONEL MORAN STORY, by Rafe McGregor THE PROBLEM AT THE MUSÉE DU LOUVRE, by Gary Lovisi ONE MEDIUM, WELL DONE, by Frank Emerson MR. MOTO AT MANZANAR, by George Zebrowski

Death By Shakespeare

William Shakespeare found dozens of different ways to kill off his characters, and audiences today still enjoy the same reactions – shock, sadness, fear – that they did more than 400 years ago when these plays were first performed. But how realistic are these deaths, and did Shakespeare have the knowledge to back them up? In the Bard's day death was a part of everyday life. Plague, pestilence and public executions were a common occurrence, and the chances of seeing a dead or dying body on the way home from the theatre were high. It was also a time of important scientific progress. Shakespeare kept pace with anatomical and medical advances, and he included the latest scientific discoveries in his work, from blood circulation to treatments for syphilis. He certainly didn't shy away from portraying the reality of death on stage, from the brutal to the mundane, and the spectacular to the silly. Elizabethan London provides the backdrop for *Death by Shakespeare*, as Kathryn Harkup turns her discerning scientific eye to the Bard and the varied and creative ways his characters die. Was death by snakebite as serene as Shakespeare makes out? Could lack of sleep have killed Lady Macbeth? Can you really murder someone by pouring poison in their ear? Kathryn investigates what actual events may have inspired Shakespeare, what the accepted scientific knowledge of the time was, and how Elizabethan audiences would have responded to these death scenes. *Death by Shakespeare* will tell you all this and more in a rollercoaster of Elizabethan carnage, poison, swordplay and bloodshed, with an occasional death by bear-mauling for good measure.

Making the Monster

The year 1818 saw the publication of one of the most influential science-fiction stories of all time. *Frankenstein: Or, Modern Prometheus* by Mary Shelley had a huge impact on gothic horror and science fiction genres. The name Frankenstein has become part of our everyday language, often used in derogatory terms to describe scientists who have overstepped a perceived moral line. But how did a 19-year-old woman with no formal education come up with the idea for an extraordinary novel such as *Frankenstein*? The period of 1790-1820 saw huge advances in our understanding of electricity and physiology. Sensational science demonstrations caught the imagination of the general public, and newspapers were full of tales of murderers and resurrectionists. It is unlikely that Frankenstein would have been successful in his attempts to create life back in 1818. However, advances in medical science mean we have overcome many of the stumbling blocks that would have thwarted his ambition. We can resuscitate people using defibrillators, save lives using blood transfusions, and prolong life through organ transplants--these procedures are nowadays considered almost routine. Many of these modern achievements are a direct result of 19th century scientists conducting their gruesome experiments on the dead. *Making the Monster* explores the science behind Shelley's book. From tales of reanimated zombie kittens to electrical experiments on human cadavers, Kathryn Harkup examines the science and scientists that influenced Mary Shelley and inspired her most famous creation, Victor Frankenstein. While, thankfully, we are still far from being able to recreate Victor's "creature," scientists have tried to create the building blocks of life, and the dream of creating life-forms from scratch is now tantalizingly close.

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Agatha Christie on Screen

This book is a comprehensive exploration of 90 years of film and television adaptations of the world's best-selling novelist's work. Drawing on extensive archival material, it offers new information regarding both the well-known and forgotten screen adaptations of Agatha Christie's stories, including unmade and rare adaptations, some of which have been unseen for more than half a century. This history offers intriguing insights into the discussions and debates that surrounded many of these screen projects – something that is brought to life through previously unpublished correspondence from Christie herself and a new wide-ranging interview with her grandson, Mathew Prichard. *Agatha Christie on Screen* takes the reader on a journey from little known silent film adaptations, through to famous screen productions including 1974's *Murder on the Orient Express*, as well as the television series of the Poirot and Miss Marple stories and, most recently, the BBC's acclaimed version of *And Then There Were None*.

The Case of the Murderous Dr. Cream

"A tour de force of storytelling." —Louise Penny, #1 New York Times bestselling author of the Chief Inspector Gamache series "Jobb's excellent storytelling makes the book a pleasure to read." —The New York Times Book Review "When a doctor does go wrong he is the first of criminals," Sherlock Holmes observed during one of his most baffling investigations. "He has nerve and he has knowledge."

In the span of fifteen years, Dr. Thomas Neill Cream murdered as many as ten people in the United States, Britain, and Canada, a death toll with almost no precedent. Poison was his weapon of choice. Largely forgotten today, this villain was as brazen as the notorious Jack the Ripper. Structured around the doctor's London murder trial in 1892, when he was finally brought to justice, *The Case of the Murderous Dr. Cream* exposes the blind trust given to medical practitioners, as well as the flawed detection methods, bungled investigations, corrupt officials, and stifling morality of Victorian society that allowed Dr. Cream to prey on vulnerable and desperate women, many of whom had turned to him for medical help. Dean Jobb transports readers to the late nineteenth century as Scotland Yard traces Dr. Cream's life through Canada and Chicago and finally to London, where new investigative tools called forensics were just coming into use, even as most police departments still scoffed at using science to solve crimes. But then, most investigators could hardly imagine that serial killers existed—the term was unknown. As the *Chicago Tribune* wrote, Dr. Cream's crimes marked the emergence of a new breed of killer: one who operated without motive or remorse, who "murdered simply for the sake of murder." For fans of Erik Larson's *The Devil in the White City*, all things Sherlock Holmes, or the podcast *My Favorite Murder*, *The Case of the Murderous Dr. Cream* is an unforgettable true crime story from a master of the genre.

Morderstwo nie jest takie proste. Agatha Christie mi dzy kryminaBem a true crime

Agatha Christie to jedna z najpopularniejszych autorek kryminaBów na [wiecie. Okazuje si , |e byBa równie| ekspertem kryminalistyki. W Morderstwo nie jest takie proste technik patologii Carla Valentine odsBania rozlegB wiedz Agathy Christie, kreuj c j niejako na pionierk kryminalistyki. Christie, tworzc legendarne dzi| zagadki kryminalne, korzystaBa z najnowszych w tamtych czasach technik kryminalistycznych: od balistyki przez toksykologi po analiz odcisków palców, interpretacj odcisków stóp lub [ladów opon, analiz plam krwi i na etapie autopsji - samych ofiar. W niektórych dziedzinach, zwBaszcza w technice analizy odcisków palców, wprowadzaBa w fabuB innowacje, zanim zostaBy one formalnie przyj te. Agatha Christie byBa zagorzaB czytelniczka doniesieD prasowych o sprawach kryminalnych, [ledziBa nowe techniki [ledztw i anga|owaBa si w debaty z innymi wybitnymi pisarzami kryminalnymi, wymieniaj c si pomys|ami i informacjami na ich temat. W ksi |ce Morderstwo nie jest takie proste Carla udowadnia, jak wielk wiedz dysponowaBa jedna z najbardziej uwielbianych pisarek w historii. Ksi |ka ta rzuca nowe [wiatBo na metody i badania Christie i przybli|a kryminalistyk , która wpByn Ba na pokolenia pisarzy i naukowców.

Making the Monster

The year 1818 saw the publication of one of the most influential science-fiction stories of all time. *Frankenstein: Or, Modern Prometheus* by Mary Shelley had a huge impact on gothic horror and science fiction genres. The name Frankenstein has become part of our everyday language, often used in derogatory terms to describe scientists who have overstepped a perceived moral line. But how did a 19-year-old woman with no formal education come up with the idea for an extraordinary novel such as *Frankenstein*? The period of 1790-1820 saw huge advances in our understanding of electricity and physiology. Sensational science demonstrations caught the imagination of the general public, and newspapers were full of tales of murderers and resurrectionists. It is unlikely that Frankenstein would have been successful in his attempts to create life back in 1818. However, advances in medical science mean we have overcome many of the stumbling blocks that would have thwarted his ambition. We can resuscitate people using defibrillators, save lives using blood transfusions, and prolong life through organ transplants--these procedures are nowadays considered almost routine. Many of these modern achievements are a direct result of 19th century scientists conducting their gruesome experiments on the dead. *Making the Monster* explores the science behind Shelley's book. From tales of reanimated zombie kittens to electrical experiments on human cadavers, Kathryn Harkup examines the science and scientists that influenced Mary Shelley and inspired her most famous creation, Victor Frankenstein. While, thankfully, we are still far from being able to recreate Victor's "creature," scientists have tried to create the building blocks of life, and the dream of creating life-forms from scratch is now tantalizingly close.

Vampirology

Our fascination with the vampire myth has scarcely diminished since Bram Stoker's publication of the classic *Dracula* tale in 1897, but how much of the lore is based in fact and can science explain the origins of horror's most famous fiend? *Vampirology* charts the murky waters of the vampire myth - from stories found in many cultures across the globe to our sympathetic pop-culture renditions today - to

investigate how a scientific interpretation may shed light on the fears and phenomena of the vampire myth.

The Poisonous Solicitor

SHORTLISTED FOR THE ALCS GOLD DAGGER FOR NON-FICTION 'METICULOUSLY RE-SEARCHED ... A GLORIOUSLY ENGAGING ROMP' JANICE HALLETT, THE SUNDAY TIMES 'IMMERSIVE AND COMPELLING' DAVID KYNASTON 'A PAGE-TURNER' ROBERT LACEY 'CAREFUL AND COMPELLING' KATE MORGAN 'YOU WILL READ IT IN ONE SITTING' MARC MULHOLLAND 'A REAL-LIFE GOLDEN-AGE CRIME NOVEL' SEAN O'CONNOR A brilliant narrative investigation into the 1920s case that inspired Agatha Christie, Dorothy Sayers and Margery Allingham. On a bleak Tuesday morning in February 1921, 48-year-old Katharine Armstrong died in her bedroom on the first floor of an imposing Edwardian villa overlooking the rolling hills of the isolated borderlands between Wales and England. Within fifteen months of such a sad domestic tragedy, her husband, Herbert Rowse Armstrong, would be arrested, tried and hanged for poisoning her with arsenic, the only solicitor ever to be executed in England. Armstrong's story was retold again and again, decade after decade, in a thousand newspaper articles across the world, and may have also inspired the new breed of popular detective writers seeking to create a cunning criminal at the centre of their thrillers. With all the ingredients of a classic murder mystery, the case is a near-perfect whodunnit. But who, in fact, did it? Was Armstrong really a murderer? One hundred years after the execution, Agatha-Award shortlisted Stephen Bates examines and retells the story of the case, evoking the period and atmosphere of the early 1920s, and questioning the fatal judgement.

Murder Isn't Easy

Fascinating - Prima Engaging and informative - Guardian Agatha Christie is one of our most beloved authors - a storyteller unparalleled in her clever plots and twisting tales. But Agatha was also a forensic expert; in each of her books she employs an expert weaving of human observation, ingenuity and genuine science of the era. In Murder Isn't Easy Carla Valentine illuminates all of Agatha's incredible knowledge, showing how she stayed at the cutting edge of forensics from ballistics to fingerprint analysis, as seen through much-loved characters such as Poirot and Miss Marple. From the glamour and grit of Agatha Christie's stories, to the real-life cases that inspired them, Murder Isn't Easy will immerse you in the forensics that influenced generations of writers and scientists alike.

Agatha Christie

Tuore kattava elämäkerta osoittaa, että Agatha Christien elämä oli yhtä vaiheikasta ja jännittävää kuin hänen kuuluisilla henkilöhahmoillaan neiti Marplella ja Hercule Poirotilla. Rikosten kuningatar oli seikkailija, joka ei piitannut sovinnaisuudesta, vaikka muuten oli elämänasenteiltaan varsin "viktorianinen". Alkuperäiset ranskalaiset lähteet tuovat uutta tietoa Agatha Christien elämästä. Agatha syntyi Millerien perheen kolmantena lapsena vuonna 1890. Perheen taloudellisten vaikeuksien takia hän ei saanut lainkaan muodollista koulutusta. Ensimmäisen rikostarinansa hän kuitenkin kirjoitti jo pikkutyttönä, ja hänestä tuli lopulta William Shakespearen jälkeen kaikkien aikojen myydyin kirjailija. Ensimmäisen maailmansodan sytyttyä vuonna 1914 Agatha ryhtyi työskentelemään sairaanhoitajana. Sairaalan apteekissa hän oppi myös paljon myrkyistä, joilla tulisi olemaan merkittävä osa monissa hänen romaaneissaan. Joulukuussa 1914 24-vuotias Agatha Miller meni naimisiin Kuninkaallisten ilmavoimien upseerin Archibald Christien kanssa. Avioliiton hajoaminen toisen naisen takia vuonna 1926 oli Agathalle kova isku. Hän katosi tietymättömiin kymmeneksi päiväksi koko Englannin etsiessä häntä. Sanomalehdet - ja varsinkin keltainen lehdistö - tarttuivat hanakasti aiheeseen ja yksityinen avio-ongelma muodostui valtakunnan ykkösuutiseksi. Agatha Christien toinen avioliitto häntä 14 vuotta nuoremman arkeologin Max Mallowanin kanssa muutti elämän suunnan. Christie vietti paljon aikaa Irakissa ja Syyriassa osallistuen kaivauksiin ja kirjoittaen samalla suuren määrän salapoliisikirjallisuuden klassikoita.

The Aggie Morton Mystery Queen Collection

Every book in the critically acclaimed Aggie Morton, Mystery Queen series — now available in one digital collection! Aspiring writer Aggie Morton lives in a small town on the coast of England in 1902. Imaginative but deeply shy, Aggie longs for adventure after the death of her beloved father. One fateful day, she crosses paths with twelve-year-old Belgian immigrant Hector Perot and discovers a dead body on the floor of the Mermaid Dance Room! That is just the beginning of Aggie and Hector's sleuthing

endeavors. The year will take them to an elegant, snowbound manor, home to a puzzling murder . . . a luxury health spa where guests and staff confront two suspicious deaths . . . and an expedition to uncover an ancient skeleton that digs up more tension than bones. Aggie and Hector, joined by Aggie's indomitable Grannie Jane, must use logic, wit, and bravery as they race against time to solve every case! Inspired by the early life of Agatha Christie, one of the world's most popular authors, and her two most beloved literary creations Hercule Poirot and Miss Jane Marple, this e-book set brings together all four of Aggie's thrilling, cozy mysteries into one collection, including: · The Body under the Piano · Peril at Owl Park · The Dead Man in the Garden · The Seaside Corpse

Murder by Numbers

What is the connection between the number 13 and Jack the Ripper? Why was the number 18 crucial in catching Acid Bath murderer John George Haigh? And what is so puzzling about the number 340 in the chilling case of the Zodiac killer? The answers to all these questions and many more are revealed in a unique, number-crunching history of the ultimate crime. James Moore's *Murder by Numbers* tells the story of murder through the centuries in an entirely new way ... through the key digits involved. Each entry starts with a number and leads into a different aspect of murder, be it a fascinating angle to a case or revealing insights into murder methods, punishments and, of course, the chilling figures behind the most notorious killers from our past. From the grizzly death toll of the world's worst serial killer to your own odds of being murdered, this guide will appeal to the connoisseur of true crime and the casual reader alike.

Putting the Science in Fiction

Science and technology have starring roles in a wide range of genres--science fiction, fantasy, thriller, mystery, and more. Unfortunately, many depictions of technical subjects in literature, film, and television are pure fiction. A basic understanding of biology, physics, engineering, and medicine will help you create more realistic stories that satisfy discerning readers. This book brings together scientists, physicians, engineers, and other experts to help you: • Understand the basic principles of science, technology, and medicine that are frequently featured in fiction. • Avoid common pitfalls and misconceptions to ensure technical accuracy. • Write realistic and compelling scientific elements that will captivate readers. • Brainstorm and develop new science- and technology-based story ideas. Whether writing about mutant monsters, rogue viruses, giant spaceships, or even murders and espionage, *Putting the Science in Fiction* will have something to help every writer craft better fiction. *Putting the Science in Fiction* collects articles from "Science in Sci-fi, Fact in Fantasy," Dan Koboldt's popular blog series for authors and fans of speculative fiction (dankoboldt.com/science-in-scifi). Each article discusses an element of sci-fi or fantasy with an expert in that field. Scientists, engineers, medical professionals, and others share their insights in order to debunk the myths, correct the misconceptions, and offer advice on getting the details right.

Aggie Morton, Mystery Queen: The Dead Man in the Garden

For young detective Aggie Morton and her friend Hector, a spa stay becomes a lot more thrilling when TWO dead bodies are found in this third book in the Aggie Morton, Mystery Queen series, inspired by the life of Agatha Christie as a child and her most popular creation, Hercule Poirot. For fans of Enola Holmes. Aspiring writer Aggie Morton is ready to enjoy an invigorating trip to a Yorkshire spa, where her widowed mother can take the waters and recover from a long mourning period. Having solved yet another murder and faced extreme peril with her best friend Hector over Christmas, Aggie's Morbid Preoccupation is on alert when rumors abound about the spa's recently deceased former patient . . . and then another body appears under mysterious circumstances. Together with Grannie Jane, and often in the company of George, a young patient at the spa, Aggie and Hector take a closer look at the guests and staff of the Wellspring Hotel, and venture into the intriguing world of the local undertaker. Has there been a murder—or even two? As Aggie and Hector ignite their deductive skills, their restful trip takes a sudden, dangerous turn.

Agatha Christien murhat rikostutkijan silmin

Todellista herkkua Agatha Christien mysteerien faneille. Kirja kertoo, miten taitavasti Agatha Christie sisällytti rikosteknisen tutkinnan varhaiset edistysaskeleet romaaneihinsa, ja miltä murharouvan punomat juonet näyttävät modernin oikeuslääketieteen valossa. Agatha Christie loi romaaneihinsa jännitystä ja uskottavuutta kytkemällä juoneen aikakautensa todellisia rikostutkinnan metodeja. Hän seurasi

tarkasti alan edistysaskeleita ja toi ne suuren yleisön tietoisuuteen kirjoissaan. Carla Valentine osoittaa miten hyvin Agatha Christie oli ajan hermolla, olipa sitten kyse toksikologiasta, sormenjälkitutkimuksesta, käsiala-analyysistä, ballistiikasta, verijälkitutkimuksesta tai ruumiinavauksesta. Kirja käy läpi kaikki Agatha Christien kirjojen murhat ja niiden toteutustavat. Lukija pääsee seuraamaan Hercule Poirotin ja Neiti Marplen tutkimuksia modernin rikostekniikan valossa. Tapauksia myös verrataan tosielämän vastaaviin hyytäviin rikoksiin. Carla Valentine on englantilainen patologi, tietokirjailija ja Lontoon patologisen museon kuraattori. Valentine on tehnyt koko työuransa kuolleiden parissa. Hän on työskennellyt niin kuolemansyyn tutkijana ruumiinavauksissa kuin vainajien käsittelijänä hautaus-toimistossa. Ammatin valinta oli Agatha Christien innoittama. Oikeuslääketieteen tutkimon jälkeen hän ryhtyi opiskelemaan myös rikosteknistä arkeologiaa. Oikeuslääketieteen ja teknisen rikostutkinnan historia on Carla Valentinen erikoisalaa.

Anagram Solver

Anagram Solver is the essential guide to cracking all types of quiz and crossword featuring anagrams. Containing over 200,000 words and phrases, Anagram Solver includes plural noun forms, palindromes, idioms, first names and all parts of speech. Anagrams are grouped by the number of letters they contain with the letters set out in alphabetical order so that once the letters of an anagram are arranged alphabetically, finding the solution is as easy as locating the word in a dictionary.

The Cornish Mystery

Mrs Pengelley visits Hercule Poirot because she suspects that her husband is poisoning her. When the Belgian detective arrives at the house to investigate the case the next day, discovers that he is late because Mrs. Pengelley is dead. Poirot feels so guilty for not believing Mrs. Pengelley that he will do everything possible to solve this tricky case.

Sparkling Cyanide

A beautiful heiress is fatally poisoned in a West End restaurant... Six people sit down to dinner at a table laid for seven. In front of the empty place is a sprig of rosemary - in solemn memory of Rosemary Barton who died at the same table exactly one year previously. No one present on that fateful night would ever forget the woman's face, contorted beyond recognition - or what they remembered about her astonishing life.

The Poisonous Pen of Agatha Christie

Poisoning occurs in over half of Agatha Christie's many novels and stories. In fact, she used a larger number and broader selection of poisons and medicines, for a wider variety of purposes, with greater frequency, ingenuity, and scientific accuracy than any other detective fiction writer. Yet very little has been written on the use of drugs, poisons, and chemicals in Christie's fiction. The Poisonous Pen of Agatha Christie entertainingly and authoritatively fills this gap. Michael Gerald explores the use of poisons and drugs in Christie's fiction not only to commit murder and suicide but also to incapacitate a victim, alter behavior, treat disease, or support addiction. He also analyzes her views, as expressed in her fiction and autobiography, on drug addiction, the health professions, the value of medicines, and scientific discoveries. Especially valuable is Gerald's exhaustive listing of all drugs, poisons, and chemicals mentioned in Christie's novels and stories, with references to the work(s) in which each appears and the ways in which each is used. Other tables list all the novels and short stories and the chemicals that are used in each. Throughout, the properties of all drugs are clearly explained so that the reader needs no special scientific or medical knowledge. The Poisonous Pen of Agatha Christie illuminates the fictional uses Christie made of her real-life experiences as a hospital drug dispenser and as a provider of nursing care. It will be of interest to fans and scholars alike.

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Crossword Lists

'A delightful and engaging treasure trove of a book that brings the chemical elements to life and gives them personalities of their own. A wonderful read for young and old alike to get you inspired by chemistry.' Jim Al-Khalili 'The perfect book to escape our human-sized existence and take a tour

of the atomic world instead.' Helen Arney, science comedian and broadcaster When we think of the periodic table we picture orderly rows of elements that conform to type and never break the rules. In this book Kathryn Harkup reveals that there are personalities, passions, quirks and historical oddities behind those ordered rows, and shows us that the periodic table is a sprawling family tree with its own black sheep, wayward cousins and odd uncles. The elements in the periodic table, like us, are an extended family - some old, some newborn, some shy and reticent, some exuberant or unreliable. Dr Harkup tells the weird and wonderful stories of just fifty two members of this family - remarkable tales of discovery, inspiration and revolution, from the everyday to the extraordinary. Some elements are relatively anonymous; others, already familiar, are seen in a new light; and old friends have surprising secrets to share. From our green-fingered friend magnesium to the devil incarnate polonium, this eclectic collection of engaging and informative stories will change the way you see the periodic table for ever.

The Secret Lives of the Elements

A beautiful heiress is fatally poisoned in a West End restaurant...

Sparkling Cyanide

Thirteen Guests Arrived At Dinner At The Actor S House. It Was To Be A Particularly Unlucky Evening For The Mild-Mannered Reverend Stephen Babbington, Who Choked On His Cocktail, Went Into Convulsions And Died. But When His Martini Glass Was Sent For Chemical Analysis, There Was No Trace Of Poison Just As Poirot Had Predicted. Even More Troubling For The Great Detective, There Was Absolutely No Motive&

Three Act Tragedy

An elderly spinster has been poisoned in her country home... Everyone blamed Emily's accident on a rubber ball left on the stairs by her frisky terrier. But the more she thought about her fall, the more convinced she became that one of her relatives was trying to kill her. On April 17th she wrote her suspicions in a letter to Hercule Poirot. Mysteriously he didn't receive the letter until June 28th... by which time Emily was already dead...

Dumb Witness

Thirteen guests arrive at the actor's house for dinner. Reverend Stephen Babbington chokes on his cocktail, goes into convulsions and dies. But when his Martini glass is sent for chemical analysis, there is no trace of poison - just as Poirot had predicted.

Three Act Tragedy

Il y a mille et une facons de tuer. Ce n est pas a Agatha Christie qu on va l apprendre. Mais a chacun ses preferences. Chez la reine du crime, le poison est la methode qui revient le plus, au point de devenir un personnage a part entiere dans ses romans. A comme Arsenic est l abecedaire aussi glacant que fascinant de ses choix en matieres de substances letales. Loin d etre aleatoires, ils rendent compte de l etendue de son savoir scientifique; chaque poison possede des caracteristiques precises permettant l obtention d indices majeurs pour la resolution de ses intrigues. Un livre a ne pas laisser entre toutes les mains Traduit de l anglais par Philippe Bonnet "

A comme arsenic

In England's stately manor houses, murder is not generally a topic for polite conversation. Mallowan Hall, home to Agatha Christie and her husband, Max, is the exception. And housekeeper Phyllida Bright delights in discussing gory plot details with her friend and employer . . .

A Trace of Poison

An elderly spinster has been poisoned in her country home... Everyone blamed Emily's accident on a rubber ball left on the stairs by her frisky terrier. But the more she thought about her fall, the more convinced she became that one of her relatives was trying to kill her. On April 17th she wrote her suspicions in a letter to Hercule Poirot. Mysteriously he didn't receive the letter until June 28th... by which time Emily was already dead...

Dumb Witness

When an airplane steward finds a dead woman shortly after takeoff, Hercule Poirot, aboard the same flight, discovers a blowpipe for a poison dart pushed behind his seat. Instead of being stung by a wasp, the woman has been murdered, and Poirot becomes the suspect.

Death in the Air

Il y a mille et une façons de tuer. Ce n'est pas à Agatha Christie qu'on va l'apprendre. Mais à chacun ses préférences. Chez la reine du crime, le poison est la méthode qui revient le plus, au point de devenir un personnage à part entière dans ses romans. A comme Arsenic est l'abécédaire aussi glaçant que fascinant de ses choix en matières de substances létales. Loin d'être aléatoires, ils rendent compte de l'étendue de son savoir scientifique ; chaque poison possède des caractéristiques précises permettant l'obtention d'indices majeurs pour la résolution de ses intrigues. Un livre à ne pas laisser entre toutes les mains... Traduit de l'anglais par Philippe Bonnet

APPOINTMENT WITH DEATH.

Agatha Christie's first ever murder mystery, reissued with a striking new cover - includes for the first time the original courtroom climax as an alternate ending. 'Beware! Peril to the detective who says: "It is so small - it does not matter..." Everything matters.' After the Great War, life can never be the same again. Wounds need healing, and the horror of violent death banished into memory. Captain Arthur Hastings is invited to the rolling country estate of Styles to recuperate from injuries sustained at the Front. It is the last place he expects to encounter murder. Fortunately he knows a former detective, a Belgian refugee, who has grown bored of retirement ... The first Hercule Poirot mystery, now published with a previously deleted chapter and introduced by Agatha Christie expert Dr John Curran.

A comme Arsenic

The Mysterious Affair at Styles