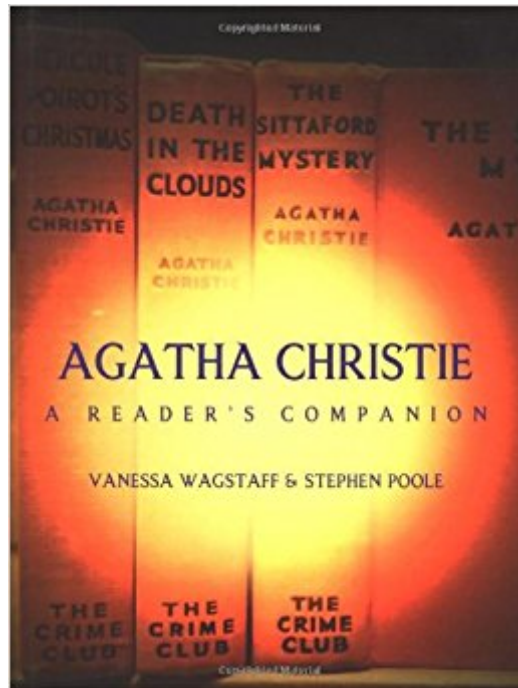




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Agatha Christie: A Reader's Companion



Synopsis

Other crime writers may come and go, but Agatha Christie maintains her enduring appeal, and for her millions of fans, this book is the next best thing to a new Christie novel. The authors have assembled a mouthwatering feast of period memorabilia—jackets and bindings of first editions from both sides of the Atlantic, stills from films and television series, photographs of the places and buildings that Christie used as settings for her stories, reviews and magazine features—all of which transports the reader back into the world inhabited by Christie and her characters. Each of her novels is discussed in the order of its publication, with a plot summary, background information on Christie's own life at the time the book was written, an account of its critical reception, and details of subsequent films and TV series. The reader is thus able to trace Christie's career as an author, and the way in which her detectives were introduced and developed, while following, in parallel, her own life and travels.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Agatha Christie Book Covers is a more suitable title for this book. I was looking for a book with photos to cover the background of the Agatha Christie mysteries, and show me what life was like at the time, what events, people, or places, inspired the stories, etc. Instead, about 70% of the photographs are of book covers and dust jackets of the first edition. Of the remainder, some are stills from the BBC Poirot series, and other photos are repeated twice or more within the book. While some covers can be fascinating, cataloging every cover is of interest only to collectors.

Especially in today's Kindle era, most fans care about the stories and not the physical appearance of the book. The text itself is mediocre and boring. For example, here is half of the paragraph describing "Mrs. McGinty's Dead" (yes, nearly half the books are covered by a single paragraph each): "The volume measures 190 mm by 120 mm and consists of 192 pages including four advertisement leaves. It is bound in orange cloth, lettered in black. The mainly typographical dust-wrapper features rust-red lettering shadowed in black on a eau-de-nil ground and white lettering on black inside a [sic] axe-head shaped panel split diagonally." What a revelation! After breathtaking insight! I am so edified to know that this book is bound in orange cloth lettered in black, like every other Christie book, mind you, but still it is good to be sure for each and every book that it is bound in orange cloth lettered in black. For some books, they even show photos of the book without the dust jacket to prove that point. Wow! Sarcasm aside, there is very little here that cannot be found on Wikipedia or even on the [page](#) listing each book.

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