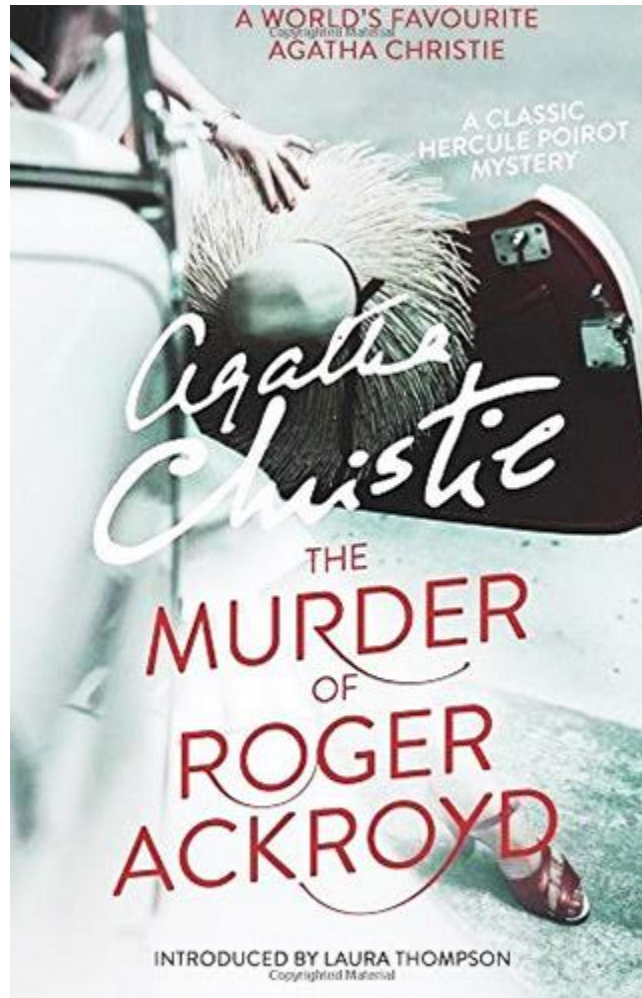


## Book Review: The Murder of Roger Ackroyd



**Genre: Mystery, Detective Fiction**

**Published on: June 1926**

The Murder of Roger Ackroyd is a mystery novel written by novelist Agatha Christie and first published when she was 35 years old. Unfortunately, Agatha Christie passed on the 12th of January in 1976 at age of 85 from natural causes at her own home in the Winter brook House. Agatha Christie is an author who has composed of many exquisite novels such as *The Hollow*, *Spider's Web*, etc. she also has explored various genres, for example, thriller, horror, mystery, detective fiction and others as well. Her first ever publication was *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* back in the year of 1916. Agatha Christie is a remarkable author who will make her readers think through the entire case, adding different diagrams and suspicion. She writes in a way that makes

everyone seem to have something to hide, making it hard to predict who the culprit actually is. By doing this she can intrigue the reader even further. Her books have an aspect that makes you want to know what happens next and keep reading to find out what happens next. Agatha Christie is one of the most famous authors in the mystery genre world along with Carolyn Keene and James Patterson as well as many more authors like Edgar Allan Poe.

In the book *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* we are first greeted by the introduction of many different characters, the main character being Dr Sheppard. We see the story through Dr Sheppard's eyes as one second, he's talking to Roger Ackroyd, and then next second he's getting a phone call saying that Mr. Ackroyd is dead. We also meet a considerable amount of other characters including detective Poirot even though there were several hired to detectives work on the case, Poirot, a detective hired by Mr. Ackroyd's own niece, Flora Ackroyd, contributed a lot to the case by finding all sorts of clues that made no sense yet clicked into the story later on, he helped Dr Sheppard with understanding different perspectives and ideas as well as showing him different little tricks he used to help improve his chance of solving his cases. Among others, some characters that were particularly striking to me were Dr Sheppard's sister, named Caroline, Miss Russel, and Flora Ackroyd. Each has some involvement of themselves in the case. There is a significant amount of British slang terms in the book which leads me to believe this book presumably takes place in an older century in the continent of Europe. The small town's name is King's Abbot though there were other towns mentioned as well.

In the book it first begins pre-murder and introduces us to a few characters such as Mrs. Ferrars, a woman who Caroline think caused the murder of Mr. Ferrars who died a year prior, unfortunately we don't hear much from Mrs. Ferrars as she's found dead caused by suicide pretty early on in the book. There was no written letter left by her, or was there? Later as the story goes on and we learn of other characters such as Ralph Paton and Major Blunt, we reach the time of the murder. Dr Sheppard is called at around 9:30 to 10:00. The call says Roger Ackroyd is in fact dead and Dr Sheppard assumes it's Parker however, upon reaching Mr. Ackroyd's manor, Parker seems to be unaware of Mr Ackroyd's state. They break down the door to see Mr. Ackroyd dead. So, who could have done it? Different investigators are called but could any of

them even be close to solving the disastrous incident. And could the so-called cold-blooded killer be as cold as we thought?

This book builds up suspense and suspicion as secrets are unraveled, a letter written by a woman who had just suicided is stolen and a man is murdered. There are many suspects in the book each with different suspicious behaviour and different clues leading to them, but at the same time, alibis as well, but could Hercule Poirot and the other investigators find the cold-hearted killer while getting to the bottom of all the nasty secrets being kept? Or would the town be left to suffer in the midst of a person who could possibly be a serial killer in the making. A blackmailing scheme can lead to so much, but can they get away with.

This is an exhilarating book and I would definitely recommend it to anyone who enjoys the prospect of mystery/thriller novels. It makes you confused and want to read more to find out who had done it, it creates an actual mystery by providing everyone their own mysterious secrets and alibis, it creates red herrings and it truly is an enjoyable read. I would say however that the start of the book can be confusing due to the heavy amount of British slang and it can make you feel like saying get to the point already but once it does get to the point around chapter 5, it can absolutely boggle your brain with all the clues and allegations. "The murder of Roger Ackroyd" is a mystery novel which proves the saying to not judge a book by its cover. Who knows, the killer could be the exact person you'd least expect, and in this way, this book is an exceedingly well written classic mystery detective novel, and I would definitely recommend it to kids in 7th graders and older. As most Agatha Christie novels do, this story has an astonishing plot twist which is sure to leave you running your hands through your hair and your mouth gaping in surprise, this novel is a story that I would love to experience again for the first time as it is truly an interesting experience that truly stumped me and left me out words, the true dedication to the story, the plot and writing made this book all in all worth reading and it will definitely be on my list for books to recommend.

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