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Murder On The Orient Express: A BBC Radio 4 Full-Cast Dramatisation (BBC Radio Collection)



Synopsis

An international cast of suspects, all passengers on the crowded train, are speeding through the snowy European landscape when a bizarre and terrible murder brings them to an abrupt halt. One of their glittering number lies dead in his cabin, stabbed a mysterious 12 times. There is no lack of clues for Poirot—but which clue is real and which is a clever plant? Poirot realizes that this time he is dealing with a murderer of enormous cunning and that in a case fraught with fear and inconsistencies only one thing is certain—the murderer is still aboard the train waiting to strike again. . . John Moffatt stars as Hercule Poirot, with a stellar cast including Joss Ackland, Sylvia Syms, Francesca Annis, and Siân Phillips. 2 CDs. 2 hrs 10 mins.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'Need it be said - the little grey cells solve once more the seemingly insoluble. Mrs Christie makes an improbable tale very real, and keeps her readers enthralled and guessing to the end.' Times Literary Supplement --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Just after midnight, the famous Orient Express is stopped in its tracks by a snowdrift. By morning, the millionaire Samuel Edward Ratchett lies dead in his compartment, stabbed a dozen times, his door locked from the inside. One of his fellow passengers must be the murderer. Isolated by the storm, detective Hercule Poirot must find the killer among a dozen of the dead man's enemies, before the murderer decides to strike again. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

I read and taught *And Then There Were None*, which I thought was an amazing book. I was hoping for a similar experience with *Murder on the Orient Express*, and I wanted to read it before the film was released. Unfortunately, I was pretty disappointed. There is very little action in this book, and it is mostly Poirot just talking to everyone who is a suspect. I did enjoy the resolution, but getting to that point seemed slow and painful at times. As far as audiobooks go, that could have been one of my issues with enjoying this book. I listened to the book on 1x, and there were still times when the voice actor was difficult to understand. I appreciate how he used a variety of different voices, but there were times when I couldn't understand him because he used too thick of an accent or spoke too quickly. There are a lot of characters and information to maintain, and maybe reading the book would have been better than listening to it. At least the audiobook is only about six hours, so at least it's a quick listen!

While the opening & set up were unique enough, the dreaded "sagging middle," was made worse by dragging out endless Q&A "interviews" with train passengers to gather clues & identify suspects. This read much like a dry police transcript. The whole thing became more garbled due to an unusually large cast of characters, making it hard to follow. In the end, I found the big reveal to be completely implausible.

An absolute classic. I confess, I saw the movie first, but that didn't detract from my enjoyment of this novel. True, I saw the film 30 years before I read the book, but that actually made the novel all the better, as I could assign the actors to their roles, which attests to how good the movie version was. At the time, I was impressed by Albert Finney's performance as Poirot (having read many of the books in high school), and impressed by the all-star cast. But, years later, reading the novel felt fresh and something to look forward to, rather than "Oh, I've seen it". Christie at the top of her game.

I read this book in high school over 30 years ago. I remember it being a thrilling memorable read then. Now 3+ decades later, I marvel that a book so brilliant then, continues to intrigue this man 30+ years later. Even though I knew the ending, I was actually completely intrigued by how Agatha Christie plotted this story. She was simply brilliant and so subtle. It's all so plain out there in retrospect, but it was originally so hard to figure out. This book really makes one appreciate the style and finesse that Christie put into her craft.

Looks just as I would imagine the original and had all of the advertisements in it as well. As always this story is a masterclass in crime fiction. Cannot wait for the movie and because of how this looked also bought the similar edition of *And Then There Were None!*

I have read and re-read every book or short story written by Agatha Christy. She was an amazing person. I believe this is one of her best. The next one would be "Ten Little Indians". I highly recommend any of her stories to everyone who loves murder mysteries.

This is a pretty classic murder mystery novel. Murder happens, evidence is reviewed, people are interviewed, and the detective solves. The writing was generally easy to follow and the ending was certainly interesting! I won't include any spoilers, but it wasn't how I thought it would end. I love a good twist! It's actually the first true murder mystery novel I've read, so I was pretty pleased. That said, I do wish I could have been able to solve the mystery on my own. In order to do that, it seems I would have had to know some facts that were impossible for me to know (because it's based around another fictional story, which we only receive little information on). Otherwise, worth a read, as it's a very highly regarded book.

This is, of course, one of the earliest and most celebrated "locked room" type mysteries within the "whodunit" genre. The archetype that inspired many of the detective stories since it's inception. If you are a beginner in this genre, you will be wholly amazed; but if you are a veteran, and can solve the mystery early, you will still love the quality of writing, plot and character development, and overall "feel" of the story. It is a book for all!

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