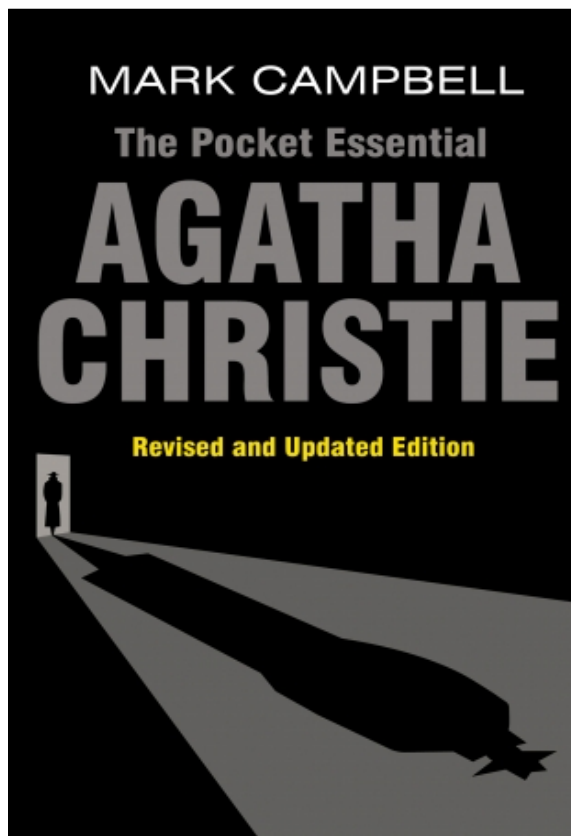




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AGATHA CHRISTIE

by MARK CAMPBELL

THE BOOK

Since her debut in 1920 with *The Mysterious Affair At Styles*, Agatha Christie has become the chief proponent of the English village murder mystery. Although she created two enormously popular characters - the Belgian detective Hercule Poirot, and the inquisitive elderly spinster and amateur sleuth Miss Jane Marple of St Mary Mead - it is not generally acknowledged that she wrote in many different genres: comic mysteries (*Why Didn't They Ask Evans?*), atmospheric whodunnits (*Murder On The Orient Express*), espionage thrillers (*N or M?*), romances (under the pseudonym of Mary Westmacott), plays (*The Mousetrap*) and poetry. She was never afraid to break the rules either, and provoked a storm of controversy with the unorthodox resolution of *The Murder Of Roger Ackroyd*, now acclaimed as one of the classics of British crime fiction.

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MARK CAMPBELL (Location: London, UK)

MARK CAMPBELL has written for various publications, including *The Independent*, *The Bookseller*, *Midweek*, *Girl About Town*, *The Dark Side* and *Infinity*; he was one of the main contributors to the exhaustive two-volume encyclopaedia *British Crime Writing* in 2009. He has written Pocket Essentials about *Doctor Who*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *Agatha Christie* (obviously) and *Carry On Films*. He was theatre critic for *The Kentish Times* for eight years. He lives near the river in Crayford, Kent and still hasn't got around to watching all those box sets.



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