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# Poirot's Finest Cases: Eight Full-Cast BBC Radio Dramatisations



## Synopsis

"John Moffatt stars as Hercule Poirot in eight full-cast dramas - as heard on BBC Radio 4 The ABC Murders An ABC railway guide is found by dead bodies, and Poirot is warned in advance by a taunting letter from someone signed 'ABC'. Who is ABC? After the Funeral When Richard Abernethie, last master of Enderby Hall, dies suddenly in his sleep, the family are eager to hear about his riches. Death on the Nile A happy couple set out on an idyllic honeymoon cruise on the Nile, and one of them is right to sense danger. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd When Roger Ackroyd is found murdered, there is little to go on. Luckily one of the newest residents is none other than Hercule Poirot. Murder on the Orient Express Passengers on the crowded train are speeding through the snowy European landscape when a terrible murder brings them to an abrupt halt. The Mysterious Affair at Styles The first story to feature Poirot and Hastings. Styles Court is not a happy household and in the blistering summer heat, tensions mount. Peril at End House Nick Buckley, the last in a long line of Buckley's to live at End House, has had three near-fatal accidents - in the past few days. Three Act Tragedy After two similar deaths, a third is waiting in the wings. Are natural causes to blame? Or murder? And can Poirot resist further investigation? "

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Agatha Christie, the acknowledged 'Queen of Crime' (The Observer) was born in Torquay in 1890. During the First World War she worked as a hospital dispenser, and it was here that she gleaned the working knowledge of various poisons that was to prove so useful in her detective stories. Her first novel was The Mysterious Affair at Styles, which introduced Hercule Poirot to the world. This

was published in 1920 (although in fact she had written it during the war) and was followed over the next six years by four more detective novels and a short story collection. However, it was not until the publication of *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* that Agatha Christie's reputation was firmly established. This novel, with its complex plot and genuinely shocking conclusion, attracted considerable public attention and has since been acknowledged by many experts as a masterpiece. In 1930 the sharp-witted spinster sleuth Miss Marple made her first appearance in *The Murder at the Vicarage*. In all, Agatha Christie published over 80 novels and short story collections. The brilliance of Christie's plots, and her enduring appeal, have led to several dramatisations of her work on radio, television and film. In 1930 she was one of a number of crime writers asked to contribute a chapter to a mystery, *Behind the Screen*, that was broadcast on BBC radio on 21st June that year. More recently, June Whitfield portrayed Miss Marple on BBC Radio 4, whilst John Moffat starred as Hercule Poirot. On screen, Peter Ustinov, David Suchet, Margaret Rutherford, Joan Hickson, Geraldine McEwan and Julia McKenzie have all memorably played Agatha Christie's famous sleuths. As her play *The Mousetrap* (the longest-running play in the history of theatre) testifies, Agatha Christie's detective stories are likely to appeal for a long time to come. Agatha Christie was awarded a CBE in 1956 and was made a Dame of the British Empire in 1971. She died in 1976.

good series

BBC Radio dramas are always top notch productions. Anyone wishing to enjoy an endless supply of comedies, documentaries, soaps, and dramas is highly encouraged to download the free BBC iPlayer Radio app for their tablet/smartphone. That being said, this is an excellently priced collection of eight radio dramas, adaptations of some of Agatha Christie's most well known – Hercule Poirot mysteries. John Moffat stars as the Belgian detective, and delivers an excellent leading performance in all the stories. Fans of David Suchet's television Poirot will find a very different man here, less fussy perhaps, but just as sharp & with a fixation on the smallest of details. Unlike many film and television adaptations, these audio dramas remain extremely faithful to Christie's original novels. They can, at times, seem a bit dry and slow paced, but they are excellent for a relaxed audio entertainment experience. It is worth bearing in mind these were originally broadcast in multiple installments, usually in half hour episodes over the course of a few days or weeks. I have docked one star only for how Audible has chosen to present this collection. Treating it like any other audiobook, the chapters are listed only by number, 1 through 16, making it a guessing game to navigate to a particular story. It may have been better to treat it as a multipart audiobook –,

with each story listed separately from the others for easy navigation & lighter downloads. For your convenience, here are the eight stories in the order in which they are presented in this Audible digital edition, with chapter numbers for the start each story:1. The ABC Murders3. After the Funeral5. Death On the Nile7. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd9. Murder On the Orient Express11. The Mysterious Affair at Styles13. Peril at End House15. Three Act Tragedy

These radio adaptations are EXCELLENT! You will not find the twittering Poirot of the 1990s TV program here. He is the serious (albeit conceited) private detective late of the Belgian police, renowned for cracking the most impossible mysteries.

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