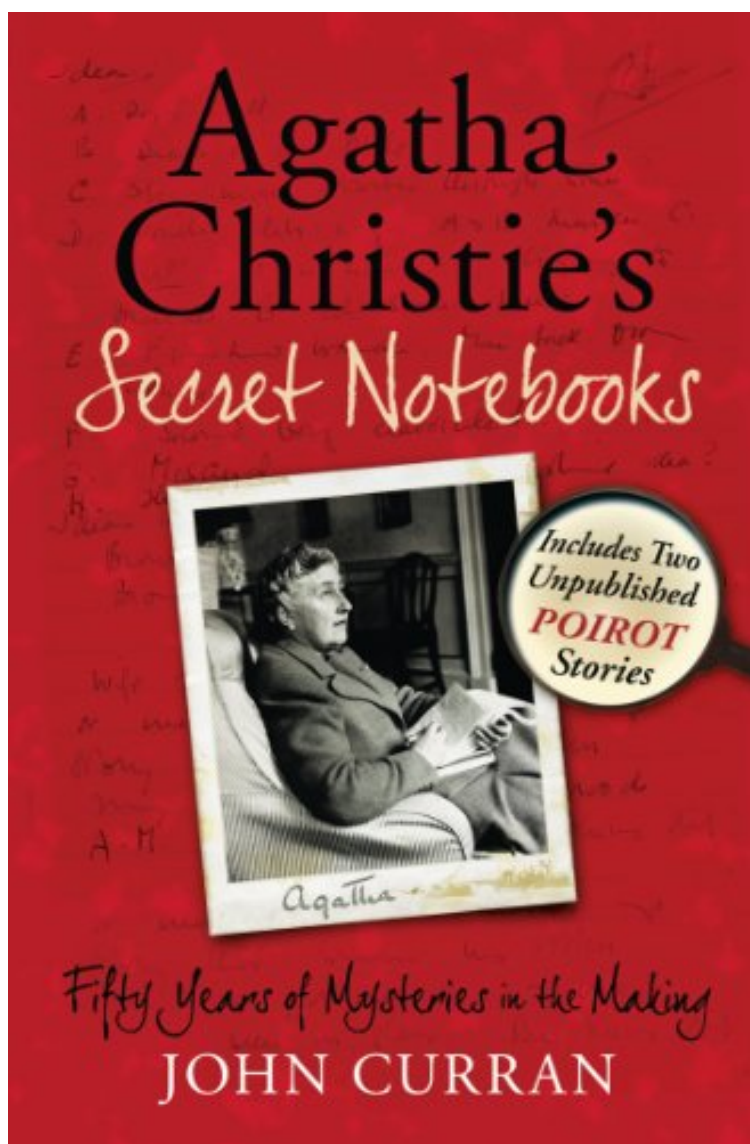


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# Agatha Christies Secret Notebooks: Fifty Years of Mysteries in the Making - Includes Two Unpublished Poirot Stories



*Par John Curran*

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## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurA fascinating exploration of the contents of Agatha Christies 73 recently discovered notebooks, including illustrations, deleted extracts, and two unpublished Poirot stories. When Agatha Christie died in 1976, aged 85, she had become the world's most popular author. With sales of more than two billion copies worldwide in more than 100 countries, she had achieved the impossible - more than one book

every year since the 1920s, every one a bestseller. So prolific was Agatha Christie's output - 66 crime novels, 20 plays, 6 romance books under a pseudonym and over 150 short stories - it was often claimed that she had a photographic memory. Was this true? Or did she resort over those 55 years to more mundane methods of working out her ingenious crimes? Following the death of Agatha's daughter, Rosalind, at the end of 2004, a remarkable secret was revealed. Unearthed among her affairs at the family home of Greenway were Agatha Christie's private notebooks, 73 handwritten volumes of notes, lists and drafts outlining all her plans for her many books, plays and stories. Buried in this treasure trove, all in her unmistakable handwriting, are revelations about her famous books that will fascinate anyone who has ever read or watched an Agatha Christie story. What is the 'deleted scene' in her first book, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*? How did the infamous twist in *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, really come about? Which very famous Poirot novel started life as an adventure for Miss Marple? Which books were designed to have completely different endings, and what were they? Full of details she was too modest to reveal in her own *Autobiography*, this remarkable new book includes a wealth of extracts and pages reproduced directly from the notebooks and her letters, plus for the first time two newly discovered complete Hercule Poirot short stories never before published.

Revue de presse The most fascinating aspect of the notebooks is the rare glimpse they allow into the mind of a writer, especially one as imaginative as Christie.... An appealing read for Christie-philes. (Publishers Weekly) A must-have for any ardent fan of Miss Marple or Hercule Poirot. (Washington Post) A must for all Christie fans. (Newark Star-Ledger) Provides a unique look into the mind and working habits of one of the worlds most successful authors. (Tulsa World) Meticulously detailed and scrupulous in its judgments. (Strand magazine on Agatha Christie's Secret Notebooks) A meticulously detailed study that is packed with shrewd perceptions about Christies fiction.... Curran has produced an enthralling miscellany of a book, in which her fans will rummage to their hearts content. (Sunday Times (London)) Many of Curran's discoveries will shape how Christie is read in future.... This book is fascinating. (The Independent on Sunday) [Curran] has organized his material as efficiently as an Agatha Christie mystery. [His] enthusiasm for his subject carries us along. (Irish Times) Presentation de l'auteur A fascinating exploration of the contents of Agatha Christie's 73 recently discovered notebooks, including illustrations, deleted extracts, and two unpublished Poirot stories. When Agatha Christie died in 1976, aged 85, she had become the world's most popular author. With sales of more than two billion copies worldwide in more than 100 countries, she had achieved the impossible - more than one book every year since the 1920s, every one a bestseller. So prolific was Agatha Christie's output - 66 crime novels, 20 plays, 6 romance books under a pseudonym and over 150 short stories - it was often claimed that she had a photographic memory. Was this true? Or did she resort over those 55 years to more mundane methods of working out her ingenious crimes? Following the death of Agatha's daughter, Rosalind, at the end of 2004, a remarkable secret was revealed. Unearthed among her affairs at the family home of Greenway were Agatha Christie's private notebooks, 73 handwritten volumes of notes, lists and drafts outlining all her plans for her many books, plays and stories. Buried in this treasure trove, all in her unmistakable handwriting, are revelations about her famous books that will fascinate anyone who has ever read or watched an Agatha Christie story. What is the 'deleted scene' in her first book, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*? How did the infamous twist in *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, really come about? Which very famous Poirot novel started life as an adventure for Miss Marple? Which books were designed to have completely different endings, and what were they? Full of details she was too modest to reveal in her own *Autobiography*, this remarkable new book includes a wealth of extracts and pages reproduced directly from the notebooks and her letters, plus for the first time two newly discovered complete Hercule Poirot short stories never before published.