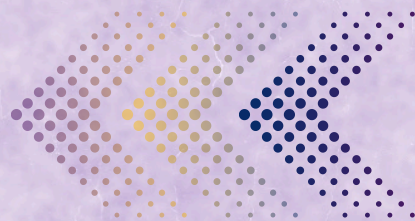




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NEWS AND ARTICLES

BOOK REVIEW: MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS

Author: Bebe Norlita Mohamed



In my opinion, *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie is one of her best and most creative mystery novels. The story centers on the renowned Belgian detective Hercule Poirot who becomes unexpectedly involved in a murder investigation while traveling aboard the luxurious Orient Express, which is halted by heavy snow in the Balkans. The plot is set when an American passenger named Samuel Ratchett is found murdered in his compartment after being stabbed.

This is a unique case for Poirot because it occurs on a train and is restricted to a small space. The brilliance of Christie is that she is able to create a complex and interesting mystery plot in such a confined setting with a diverse group of passengers of different nationalities and backgrounds. Each of them seems innocent and guilty at the same time, and it is up to Christie to create a plot that is full of suspense and intrigue. The investigation techniques used by Poirot are based on logic and careful observation of human behavior, and it is a welcome change from the emotional undertones of the plot.

One of the most memorable aspects of *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie is its unexpected ending. Instead of following the usual pattern of a detective story, the novel takes a shocking turn. I was genuinely surprised by the decision Poirot makes at the end, which feels very different from the rest of the novel. The end of the novel not only puzzles the reader but also makes one think about law and morality. It makes one realize that law and morality do not always go hand in hand and encourages reflection about what is right and wrong.

The writing style of Agatha Christie makes the novel easy to understand because it is simple and straightforward. The story unfolds the mystery at a slow pace, making the reader anxious with each interview and clue. The suspense peaks when Poirot summons all the passengers to explain the mystery. The reader will remain interested in the story from the beginning to the end of the novel. Although the novel reflects the social ideas of its time, its main ideas are still relevant to the current world. These ideas about justice, responsibility, and morality remain significant today. This is another reason why this novel is so highly regarded, even though it was published decades ago.

Overall, *Murder on the Orient Express* is more than just a clever mystery novel. It is a mystery novel that includes ideas about human nature. It is a good read that will leave a lasting impression on readers and show them why this novel is so great and why people all over the world continue to read it. So, if you have not read this novel, buy yourself a train ticket, but be careful of murderers in fancy suits.

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