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The Murder on the Links

Agatha Christie · *1923 · original English text*

It was a day in early June. I had been transacting some business in Paris and was returning by the morning service to London where I was still sharing rooms with my old friend, the Belgian ex-detective, Hercule Poirot. The Murder on the Links is Christie's complete second Poirot novel, now in the public domain in the United States.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

What can a friend learn from a second case beside Poirot, and how should a detective novel be mapped without naming the murderer or spending the last revelations?

"It was a day in early June. I had been transacting some business in Paris and was returning by the morning service to London where I was still sharing rooms with my old friend, the Belgian ex-detective, Hercule Poirot."

Chapter 1, A Fellow Traveller, after the opening anecdote

The hosted text is The Murder on the Links (1923, PG #58866), complete, public domain in the United States since January 1, 2019. Chapter 1 begins with a well-known anecdote about "Hell!" said the Duchess, then turns to the teller's own day: the June sentence is exact, including "Belgian ex-detective." Do not name the murderer or the last revelations on the map. Captain Hastings is the teller. Villa Geneviève appears with a grave accent in this file. For a wide older band. Quote this typography.

KEY CHARACTERS

Captain Hastings
The teller, returning from Paris on a day in early June to rooms shared with Poirot.

Hercule Poirot
The Belgian ex-detective, already an old friend in this second novel.

the household of the villa
The family and companions of the case; do not name the murderer here.

Giraud
The rival investigator of the later chapters, whose method tests Hastings's loyalty.

A DAY IN EARLY JUNE

> *"It was a day in early June. I had been transacting some business in Paris and was returning by the morning service to London where I was still sharing rooms with my old friend, the Belgian ex-detective, Hercule Poirot."*
>
> Chapter 1

Grades 7–12
Read the full text free at classicslaunch.org.

01

A Day in Early June

CHAPTER 1, AFTER THE ANECDOTE

It was a day in early June. Hastings is returning from Paris to rooms shared with Hercule Poirot, the Belgian ex-detective. The second Poirot novel begins as a journey, and as a fellowship already formed.

- The June sentence is exact in both witnesses.
- The chapter first quotes a well-known anecdote; the tale proper of this book turns at the June day.
- Do not name the murderer on the map.

> *"It was a day in early June. I had been transacting some business in Paris and was returning by the morning service to London where I was still sharing rooms with my old friend, the Belgian ex-detective, Hercule Poirot."*
>
> Chapter 1

02

An Appeal, and a Villa

THE EARLY CHAPTERS AT THE LINKS

An appeal for help takes Poirot and Hastings to a villa by the links. A body, a letter, and a household of suspects occupy the early case. Keep the investigation distinct; do not name the solution.

- Villa Geneviève appears with a grave accent in this file.
- Do not name the murderer or the last revelations.
- A wide older band can read this with help.

03

A Rival Method, and a Second Body

THE MIDDLE AND LATER CHAPTERS

Giraud, a second body, and a further tangle test Hastings's faith in Poirot's method. Map the rivalry and the friendship; do not spend the dénouement in the map's voice.

- Do not name the solutions on the map.
- The book is a complete second Poirot novel, not a short story.
- Cite this typography.

04

A Complete 1923 Novel

THE HOSTED FILE

PG #58866 and the site EPUB are this complete book, now PD in the United States. Quote stretches that appear in both.

- Complete The Murder on the Links.
- For a wide older band.
- Do not name the murderer on the map. Styles is a different first Poirot novel already mapped.

A Second Case · Friendship · A Villa by the Links · Two Methods · A Journey from Paris

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 7–12

1. The hosted text is The Murder on the Links (1923, Project Gutenberg #58866), complete, public domain in the United States since January 1, 2019. Chapter 1 begins with a well-known anecdote about "Hell!" said the Duchess, then turns to the teller's own day. The June sentence is exact: "It was a day in early June. I had been transacting some business in Paris and was returning by the morning service to London where I was still sharing rooms with my old friend, the Belgian ex-detective, Hercule Poirot."
2. Do not name the murderer or the last revelations on the map. Captain Hastings is the teller. Villa Geneviève appears with a grave accent in this file. For a wide older band. The Mysterious Affair at Styles is a different first Poirot novel, already mapped.
3. Quote stretches that appear in both the Gutenberg text and the site EPUB.