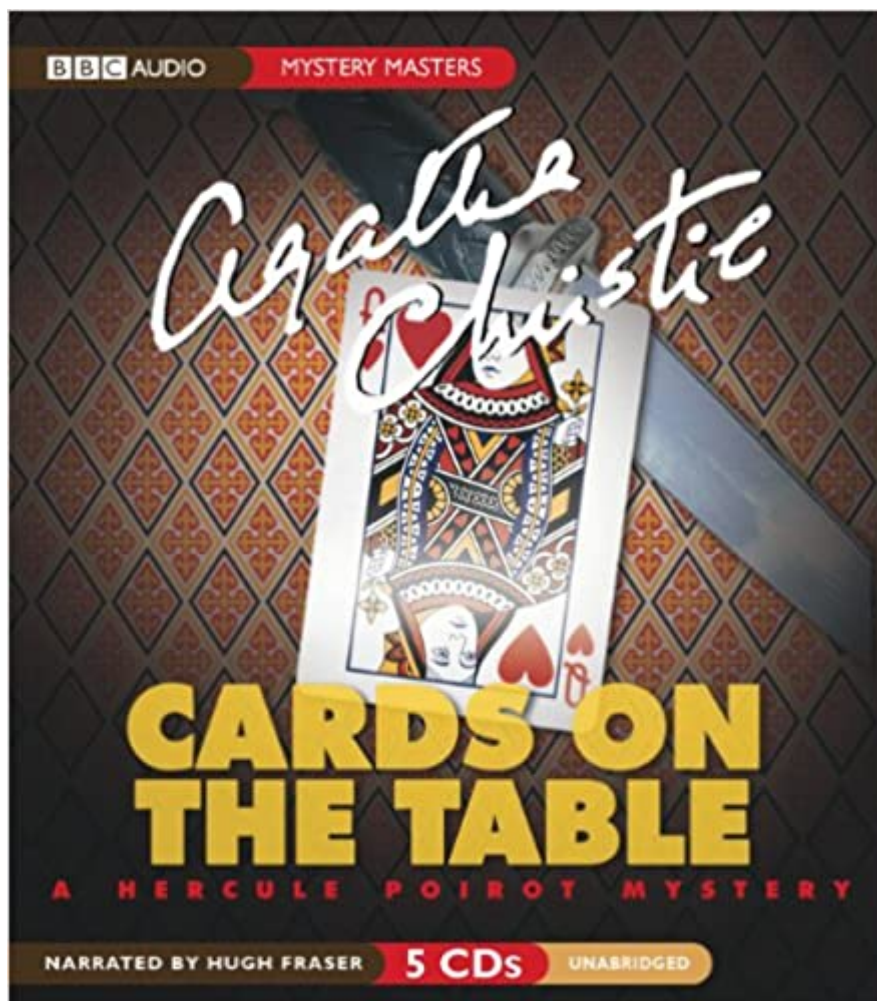


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# Cards On The Table: A Hercule Poirot Mystery



## Synopsis

Poirot is invited to a dinner party held by Mr. Shaitana, a strange old man who informs him that four of his fellow guests are murderers who have pulled off their crime without getting caught. After dinner the criminals assemble to play bridge in a separate room with their host, and Shaitana is promptly killed. It's up to Poirot to ensure that the murderer doesn't get off a second time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The best Agatha Christie has ever devised. -- Spectator  
The best Agatha Christie has ever devised. -- Spectator  
There's nobody quite like Agatha Christie when she puts her mind to it, and that's what she's done [here]. -- New York Herald Tribune  
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Agatha Christie is the most popular mystery writer of all time. With over two billion books published, her genius for detective fiction is unparalleled. She is truly the one and only Queen of Crime... --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Been reading & re-reading Christie for 50 years. Classic cozy British mysteries and this is one of my favorites. She should be read in the order in which she wrote the books, the characters age & circumstances change but the detectives (Hercule Poirot & Miss Marple, principally) are forever themselves. Christie is the best at misdirecting the reader and she outstrips every other author in terms of volume! Highly recommend reading her: she's a classic. And so is Cards on the Table.

Superintendent Battle, Hercule Poirot, Ariadne Oliver and Colonel Race are invited to dinner at Mr. Shaitana's house along with 4 other people who apparently had committed murder and gotten away with it. During the course of a Bridge game after dinner, Mr. Shaitana is murdered in front of everyone. It's up to the 4 sleuths to figure out who did it. Great writing. Interesting problem. Well-worth the read.

I love Poirot, I am reading a lot of the books because I have seen all of the shows on PBS. This book was excellent, there was so many twist and turns and I love it. I like twists cause I don't like guessing too soon. The characters were great and very colorful. The great Poirot with his insightful way of finding the right reason and person that had committed the crime it is AWESOME. YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED! Agatha Christie fans you will love it! It starts out with 8 people playing bridge, those who play WATCH OUT AND BEWARE of the people around you. You will after this book.

Agatha Christie, of course, is an icon of mystery writing. One of the reasons she is still so widely read is that she wrote well and that her stories were rarely, if ever, predictable. Just because you have read 10 of her books doesn't mean you can guess the solution to all her others. Cards on the Table is one of those stories where you realize how agile her brain was! The premise is great - you know at least one of the four suspects MUST be guilty of the murder - and so do the police. The problem is - which one? You become invested in certain of the characters and, it must be said, really hope that certain others may be guilty. Does it work out this way? Read the book to find out! The writing is classic, and so one doesn't mind the somewhat outdated references. The conversion to Kindle hasn't messed up the formatting. Words are not omitted or turned into something beyond Esperanto. It's a real pleasure to read this book, and I know you won't be disappointed.

Most of Agatha Christie's stories have been made into movies or t.v. episodes so we think we know all about them, but that isn't true! Reading the original story is so much better! She reveals so much more about her characters than can be shown on film, and some of her characters are cut out of the story altogether on film! So reading her original work is a real joy and because she writes such a carefully constructed mystery story it gives me a deeper appreciation for her work. I recommend reading her stories in chronological order (whatever series you choose to start with) so that you

don't miss any references her characters make to previous interactions with other characters. It just adds to the enjoyment when you feel you have grown to know the characters. This book is the 3rd book of the Superintendent Battle series, as well as being part of the Hercule Poirot series!

Mr. Shaitana is an evil man. He knows Poirot & Mrs. Oliver (a mystery writer), also Superintendent Battle & Captain Race of Scotland Yard. He invites them to dinner and a bridge party along with his collection of murderers who have escaped justice for their past crimes to see if his collection of sleuths can figure who did what to whom. During the party, Mr. Shaitana himself is murdered. Now, the sleuths have a present case to solve as well as the ones in the past. A real page-turner.

Having never read an Agatha Christie novel before, I wasn't entirely sure what to expect. What I got was a book that was very engaging and hard to put down. What kept me caught up in the book was the fact that it left me guessing right up until the end. Each of the four suspects had a great motive to commit the crime, and there was enough evidence there to really keep you pointing the finger at each one of them until the book's climax. What also got me was the character of Hercule Poirot. Fictional detectives usually have many idiosyncrasies that separate them from the rest of the characters (witnesses, suspects, police officers), and he's no different in that aspect. The Belgian detective seems like an interesting character, and I plan on reading more of Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot in the future.

This is one of my favorite Agatha Christie novels. I watched the made-for-TV movie after reading it and was very disappointed in the movie, though -- lots of things added and subtracted from the plot. The book is much, much better.

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