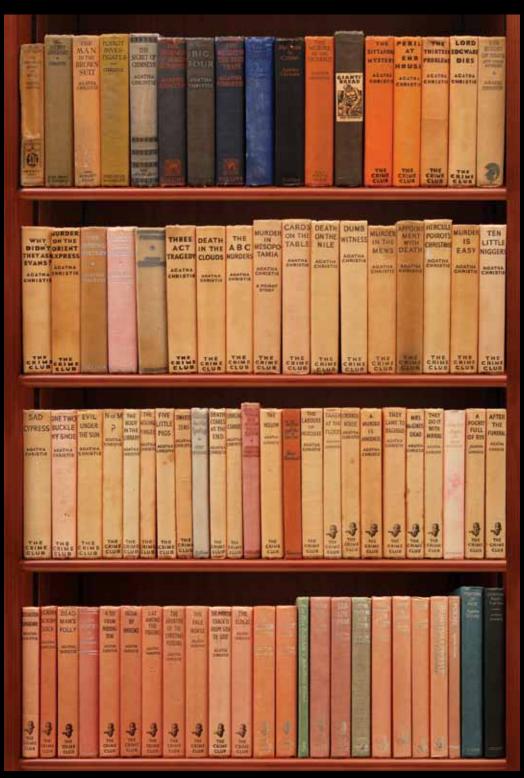
AGATHA CHRISTIE

Inscribed books from the library of Charlotte ('Carlo') Fisher

HER SECRETARY, AMANUENSIS, AND CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND





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Peter Harrington 100 Fulham Road, Chelsea, London SW3 6HS Tel + 44 (0)20 7591 0220 Fax + 44 (0)20 7225 7054 Email: mail@peterharrington.co.uk Opening Hours: Monday to Saturday, 10:00-18:00

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Peter Harrington

CHARLOTTE ("CARLO") FISHER (1895-1976)

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S SECRETARY, AMANUENSIS, AND CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND

In 1924 Agatha Christie, 34 years old, launched on her career as a writer and newly installed in a large flat in a house, Scotswood, at Sunningdale, about 30 miles from London, advertised for someone who would be a supervisor for Christie's five-year-old daughter Rosalind and, in the mornings while Rosalind was at school, a secretary and typist. Believing the Scots to be good disciplinarians, she added to the advertisement the words "Scottish preferred".

The advertisement was answered by Miss Charlotte Williamina Tait Fisher, the daughter of a highly respected Church of Scotland minister. She had previous employment as a children's nanny with a rich family in Park Lane.

Christie liked her immediately: "She was tall, brown-haired, about twenty-three, I judged; had had experience with children, looking extremely capable, and had a nice-looking twinkle behind her general decorum. Her father was one of the Chaplains to the King in Edinburgh, and Rector of St. Columba's [actually St. Cuthbert's parish church] there. She knew shorthand and typing, but had not had much experience recently in shorthand."

Miss Fisher quickly won over her young charge Rosalind, who allowed her to cut her unruly fringe and nicknamed her "Carlo". (To Carlo, Agatha Christie would become "Missus" .) Her adoption into the family was sealed when Peter the wire-haired terrier took to sleeping on her bed. Carlo quickly became Agatha Christie's only friend and confidante.

Carlo's appointment marked a turning point in Christie's compositional methods and her success as a writer. "As soon as Rosalind started school I began

LONDON

to prepare to start dictating a story. I was so nervous about it that I put it off from day to day. Finally the time came: Charlotte and I sat down opposite each other, she with her notebook and pencil. I stared unhappily at the mantelpiece, and began uttering a few tentative sentences. They sounded dreadful. I could not say more than a word without hesitating and stopping. Nothing I said sounded natural. We persisted for an hour. Long afterwards Carlo told me that she herself had been dreading the moment when literary work should begin. Although she had taken a shorthand-typing course she had never had much practise in it, and indeed had tried to refresh her skills by taking down sermons."

However hesitant the technique, both women found their stride together within the year and used the method to produce the first Christie masterpiece, The Murder of Roger Ackroyd, published in 1926 by her new publishers, Collins.

After the sudden collapse of her first marriage, Carlo stayed by Christie's side, nursing her through the misery of the marital breakdown and accompanying her and Rosalind on a recuperative trip to the Canary Islands in February 1928, where they laboured together to finish The Mystery of the Blue Train, the published version of which is dedicated "To the two distinguished members of the O[rder of the] F[aithful] D[ogs], Carlotta and Peter" (item 8 below). With her sister Mary, Carlo would also be the joint dedicatee of Ten Little Niggers (item 34).

After Christie's successful remarriage in 1930 Carlo continued to be a trusted friend and proof-reader, though after the war, stricken by severe arthritis, she moved to Eastbourne to live with her sister Mary. She continued to correspond with and receive presentation copies from her former employer throughout her life, dying later the same year as her old friend.



The books offered for sale in this catalogue are recently acquired from Carlo's descendants. The areat majority are inscribed to her by Agatha Christie, addressing her in a variety of forms: "Miss Fisher", "Carlo", or "Carlotta". All the inscriptions are in Agatha Christie's autograph and are written on the front free endpaper. Each book has a retrospective book label marking it as being from her library.

Carlo's collection is a remarkably complete representation of Christie's prolific output of fiction. mostly in their first British publications. Her collection omits Christie's plays and those story collections published only in the USA. But from the time of their first meeting in 1924, she retained copies of almost every one of Christie's books, including all those published under the Mary Westmacott pseudonym. Only three qualifying titles published during the years of their friendship are not present here: The Mysterious Mr Quin (1930), The Floating Admiral (1931; of which only one chapter is by Christie), and the late anthology Poirot's Early Cases (1974).

The collection comprises 82 titles, of which 73 are inscribed presentation copies from Christie to Carlo. 70 beina first editions and three either first US editions or later reprints. Of the remaining nine titles, four are first editions but uninscribed, probably because Christie was travelling abroad at publication date. To put this into context, auction records since 1975 show only 51 Christie inscribed books, several of which make more than one appearance in the records.

Carlo did not keep any of the original dust jackets in which the books were first issued to the public: where jackets are offered with these copies, they have been supplied from other copies, as noted in the individual descriptions.

All volumes are octavo format. "First edition" without further qualification means first edition, first impression. All titles are by Agatha Christie, including those published under the Mary Westmacott penname. The books are arranged in order of their first publication.

I.

The Mysterious Affair at Styles. A Detective Story.

London: John Lane The Bodley Head Limited, 1926

Original orange boards, titles and borders to spine and upper cover in black. Spine faded and cracked, covers almost loose (held by tape), head severely rubbed, corners bumped, edges browned, endpapers tanned. A poor copy.

First Cheap edition. First published in 1920. 75825

2.

The Secret Adversary.

New York: Dodd, Mead and Company, 1922

Original orange boards, titles to spine and upper cover in black. Covers faded and marked, spine more so, top edge of boards tanned, extremities rubbed, some spotting to bottom edge, small chip from rear endpapers. A very good copy.

First US edition, first printing. Previously published in the UK the same year. 75824

3.

The Man in the Brown Suit.

London: W. Collins Sons & Co Limited, 1926

Original orange cloth, titles and design to spine and upper cover in black. Spine faded, marked and rolled, extremities rubbed, lower cover marked, some spotting to edges and margins of early and late leaves, endpapers tanned. A very good copy.

First Popular edition. First published in 1924. 75827

4.

Poirot Investigates.

New York: Dodd, Mead and Company, 1925 Original orange pebble-grain cloth, titles to spine and upper board in black. Lightly rubbed at extremities, spine slightly faded. A very good copy.

First US edition, first printing. Inscribed "To Miss Fisher from Agatha Christie". Originally published in the UK the previous year. 75844

5.

The Secret of Chimneys.

London: John Lane the Bodley Head Limited, 1925 Original blue cloth, titles and geometric pattern to spine and upper board in black. Fore edge and term

inal leaves spotted, endpapers lightly browned, spine faded. Very good.

First edition. Inscribed "To Miss Fisher from Agatha Christie". 75845

6.

The Murder of Roger Ackroyd.

London: W. Collins Sons & Co. Ltd., 1926

Original blue cloth, titles to spine and upper board in red. Some occasional spotting, spine faded and with a snag at the head. Very good.

First edition. Inscribed "Miss Fisher from Agatha Christie May 1926. In memory of commas, colons & full stops!" A superb association commemorating the teamwork involved in producing the novel that is widely regarded as Christie's masterpiece. Inscribed copies of this book are of the utmost scarcity. We have never previously handled a copy. 75846

7.

The Big Four.

London: W. Collins Sons & Co. Ltd., 1934

Original black cloth, titles to spine in blue. Spine faded and slightly rolled, upper cover slightly marked, ends of spine rubbed, edges spotted with very slight spotting to margins of early and late leaves. A very good copy.

Reprint; first published in 1927. Signed by the author.

75811

8.

The Mystery of the Blue Train.

London: W. Collins Sons & Co Ltd, [1928]

Original blue cloth, titles and ruling to spine and upper board in red. Sporadic foxing to the early gatherings, spine somewhat faded. Very good indeed.

First edition, the dedication copy; inscribed "'Carlo' with love from Agatha (Poor old Missus)". The printed dedication reads, "To the two distinguished members of the O[rder of the]. F[aithful]. D[ogs]. Carlotta and Peter." Peter was Christie's wire-haired terrier. 75847

9. The Seven Dials Mystery.

London: W. Collins Sons & Co Limited, February 1930 Original blue boards, titles to spine and upper cover in black. Spine faded, marked, rubbed and rolled, extremities rubbed, covers marked. A very good copy.

First edition, second impression. First published December 1928. 75826

10.

Partners in Crime.

London: W. Collins Sons & Co Ltd., 1929

Original black cloth, titles to spine and upper board in orange. Spine a little faded, with a tear to head of spine, hinges weak, some spotting to edges, with a little to margins of early and late leaves. A very good copy.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from, Agatha".

75782

п.

The Murder at the Vicarage.

London: The Crime Club, 1930

Original orange cloth, titles to spine and upper board in black. Some fading to spine, small nicks to ends of spine, some spotting to edges. An excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "To my Carlo, from Agatha Christie". 75780

12. "WESTMACOTT, Mary."

Giant's Bread.

Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc. 1930

Original cloth. Spine a little faded, contents lightly spotted. Very good.

First US edition, first printing, signed by Agatha Christie with her pseudonym.

75855

The Sittaford Mystery.

London, for the Crime Club Ltd. by W. Collins Sons & Co Ltd., 1931

Original orange cloth, titles to spine and upper board in black. Fore edges spotted, endpapers partially browned, spine very lightly sunned. Excellent.

First edition. Inscribed "With love from Agatha".

75568

14.

Peril at End House.

London: The Crime Club, 1932

Original orange cloth, titles to spine and upper board in black. Some fading to spine and top edge of boards, corners lightly bumped, with some spotting to edges. An excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "With love from, Agatha Christie". 75779

15.

The Thirteen Problems.

London: The Crime Club, 1932

Original orange cloth, titles to spine and upper board in black. Spine faded and partially stained, with a closed tear to head, corners bumped, top edge of boards somewhat darkened, with some spotting to edges. An excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "With love from, Agatha Christie". Contains, loosely inserted, the compliments slip from Wyman and Sons Limited. 7577⁸

16.

Lord Edgware Dies.

London: The Crime Club, 1933

Original orange cloth, titles to spine and upper board in black. Top edge of boards a little darkened, top corners a little bumped, spine faded and faintly rolled, some spotting to edges and a little to margins of early and late leaves. An excellent, tight copy.

First edition. Inscribed "With love from Agatha".

75772

17.

The Hound of Death. And other stories.

London: Odhams Press Limited, 1933

Original purple cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded and rolled, covers unevenly faded, extremities faded, with spotting to edges and some to margins of early and late leaves; a very good copy in the chipped and creased but overall bright dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, from Missus". 75776

18.

Why Didn't They Ask Evans?

London: The Crime Club, 1934

Original orange cloth, titles to spine and upper board in black. Spine faded and rolled, partial fading to lower cover, corners faintly rubbed, top edge of boards darkened, some spotting to edges. A very good copy.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from, Agatha". 75781

19.

Murder on the Orient Express.

London: for The Crime Club by W. Collins Sons & Co Ltd, 1934 Original orange cloth, titles to spine and upper board in black. Some spotting to fore edge and contents, spine faded but an uncommonly nice copy.

First edition. Inscribed "To Carlo with love from Agatha Christie". 75849

20.

The Listerdale Mystery and Other Stories.

London, Collins, 1934

Original maroon cloth, titles to spine in silver. Minor spotting to the fore edge and prelims and final gathering, spine faded but an excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo with love from Agatha Christie (Missus)". A particularly scarce book in presentation state. 75565

21.

Parker Pyne Investigates.

London: Collins, 1934

Original purple cloth, titles to spine in silver. Spine faded and slightly marked, corners a little rubbed, top edge of boards spotted, edges spotted. An excellent copy.

First edition.

75808

22.

"WESTMACOTT, Mary."

Unfinished Portrait.

London: Collins, 1934

Original cloth. Spine faded, contents lightly spotted. Very good.

First edition, inscribed by Christie "To dear Miss Fisher from Mary Westmacott". Christie's adoption of a penname was an interesting psychological manoeuvre that allowed her license for self-revelation not to be found in her detective fiction or even in her autobiography. Unfinished Portrait, for example, offers an oblique picture of the dissolution of her first marriage. Christie took the imposture to the extent of deliberately adopting a different handwriting style for the presentations; Carlo was of course wise to this, as her chief confidante at the pivotal crisis in Christie's personal life. 77546

23.

Three Act Tragedy.

London: The Crime Club, 1935

Original orange cloth, titles to spine and upper cover in black. Spine faded and slightly rolled, covers partially faded, edges spotted with some spotting to margins of early leaves, endpapers partially tanned. A very good copy.

First edition. Christie was accompanying her second husband, Max Mallowan, on excavations in Syria at the time of publication, perhaps preventing her inscribing this copy. 75809

24.

Death in the Clouds.

London: The Crime Club, 1935

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. Top edge spotted, spotting to edges and some to margins of early and late leaves. Spine somewhat faded but an excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "With love from Agatha".

75770

25. The ABC Murders.

London: The Crime Club, 1936

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. Spine faded, rolled and partially darkened, top edge of boards somewhat darkened, spotting to edges. An excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "With love from, Agatha".

75775

26.

Murder in Mesopotamia.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1936

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. Spine a little faded, fore edge spotted but an excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "With love from Agatha".

75564

27.

Cards on the Table.

London: The Crime Club, Collins, 1936

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied pictorial dust jacket. Mild spotting to fore edges and the odd page, spine a little faded but an excellent copy in the lightly creased and frayed dust jacket, with loss at the ends of the spine panel and several further chips to the rear panel and at the tips.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo with love from Agatha Christie".

As with all the pre-war Christie titles published by Collins for the Crime Club acceptable examples in dust jacket are very hard to find. We have handled just two jacketed copies of this title in 15 years. The second impression dust jacket is said to resemble this printing in all but price; our copy crucially is not price-clipped and retains the portion of the front flap and the 7/6 price. 75526

Death on the Nile.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1937

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. Fore edge a little spotted, endpapers mildly browned, top of boards and spine somewhat faded. Excellent.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo with love from Agatha".

29.

Dumb Witness.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1937

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine and edges of boards faded, spotting to contents. A very good copy in the priceclipped, rubbed, and creased jacket with a chip for the head of the spine panel affecting the title and one from the tail affecting the imprint, and closed tears affecting the panels and the folds. The jacket has been trimmed a little shorter than the book.

First edition. With the jocular presentation inscription, "Carlo with love from Missus & Peter". On this occasion Peter the terrier who slept on Carlo's bed is the dedicatee of the book; his portrait graces the dust jacket. 75550

30.

Murder in the Mews.

London: The Crime Club, 1937

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. Spine faded with a small nick to head, top edge of boards a little darkened, some spotting to edges and a little to margins of early and late leaves. An excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "To my Carlo, from, Agatha". 75774

31.

Appointment with Death.

London: The Crime Club, 1938

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. Spine faded and tanned, covers partially faded, top edge of boards faded, edges spotted with very slight spotting to margins of early leaves, endpapers tanned. A very good copy. First edition. Agatha Christie spent much of 1938 on archaeological expeditions in the Middle East with her second husband, not returning to England until December, hence probably the reason that this volume is not inscribed. 75⁸¹⁰

32.

75540

Hercule Poirot's Christmas.

London: The Crime Club, 1939

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. White mark to spine, some fading to spine, top edge of boards and rear cover. An excellent, tight copy.

First edition. Inscribed "To dear Carlo, Xmas 1938, from, Agatha Christie". The book, though copyrighted 1939, was published the preceding Christmas. 75786

33.

Murder is Easy.

London: The Crime Club, 1939

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, corners a little bumped, top edge of boards tanned, edges very faintly spotted. An excellent copy in the dust jacket, chipped at ends of spine panel.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from Agatha". 75790

34•

Ten Little Niggers.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1939 Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. Spotting to the fore edges and prelims, spine faded but an unusually sharp copy.

First edition. The joint dedication copy, being inscribed "With love from Agatha Christie". The printed dedication reads "To Carlo and Mary This is their book dedicated to them with much affection".

75848

35.

Sad Cypress.

London: The Crime Club, 1940 Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. Spine faded. Top edge of boards rubbed and spotted, corners faintly rubbed. Some very faint spotting to edges. An excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "With love from Agatha".

36.

One Two Buckle My Shoe.

London: The Crime Club, 1940

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded and stained, corners bumped, top edge of boards tanned, very faint spotting to edges, small closed tear to half title. A very good copy in the dust jacket, marked to verso and a little chipped at extremities.

First edition. Inscribed "With love from Missus".

37.

Evil Under the Sun.

London: The Crime Club, 1941

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. Spine faded, corners a little rubbed, top edge of boards tanned, edges very faintly spotted. An excellent copy. First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, from Agatha".

38.

N or M?

London: The Crime Club, 1941

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded and stained, lower cover marked, top edge of boards tanned. An excellent copy in the price-clipped dust jacket, with only light creasing to extremities.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from, Agatha".

39.

The Body in the Library.

London: for the Crime Club by Collins, 1942

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the dust jacket. Contents a little toned, spine faded but an excellent copy in the little frayed and creased dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "To dear Carlo from Agatha".

75528

75793

40.

75789

75784

The Moving Finger.

London: The Crime Club, 1943

Original cloth. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded and stained, corners bumped, some spotting along top edge, still an excellent copy in the little frayed and marked dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo from Agatha. June 1943". 75788

41.

Five Little Pigs.

London: W. Collins Sons & Co Ltd., 1942

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in orange. Spine faded and marked, with a mark to lower board, top edge browned. An excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, from Agatha. Jan 1943". 75783

42.

Towards Zero.

London: The Crime Club, 1944

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, with a few small stains to upper joint, small mark to top edge of rear cover, extremities faded and bumped, top edge of covers tanned. An excellent copy in the rubbed and tanned dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from, Agatha." Towards Zero is dedicated to Robert Graves, with the request "that you should sternly restrain your critical faculties ... when reading it. This is a story for your pleasure and not a candidate for Mr. Graves' literary pillory!" 75⁸⁰³

43. "WESTMACOTT, Mary."

Absent in the Spring.

London: Collins, 1944 Original cloth. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, contents lightly spotted. Very good in the slightly faded dust jacket.

First edition.

44•

Death Comes as the End.

London: The Crime Club, 1945

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, top edge of boards faded and spotted. An excellent copy in the chipped dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, from, Agatha". 75804

45•

Sparkling Cyanide.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1945

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded but an excellent copy in the little frayed and rubbed dust jacket.

First UK edition, first impression. Inscribed "Carlo from Agatha". 75562

46.

Come, Tell Me How You Live. With sixteen illustrations and a map.

London: Collins, 1946

Original purple cloth, titles to spine in black. Map frontispiece, with four black and white photographic plates. Spine faded and a little rolled, covers somewhat stained, corners bumped, top edge of boards faded. A very good copy.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from, Agatha".

47•

The Hollow.

London: The Crime Club, 1946

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded with a few small marks, corners rubbed, top edge of boards faded, edges slightly spotted. An excellent copy in the tanned dust jacket with a few nicks and chips.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, from, Agatha, (Delayed in Transit!)". 75805

48.

The Labours of Hercules. Starring Hercule Poirot.

London: The Crime Club, 1947

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, with small stains along joints, small white mark to corner of upper cover, leaves clean. An excellent copy in the chipped and creased dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "To Carlo, from, Agatha. 1947". 75801

49.

"WESTMACOTT, Mary."

The Rose and the Yew Tree.

London: William Heinemann Ltd, 1948 Original cloth. Front board slightly marked. Very good.

First edition, pseudonymously inscribed by Christie, "C. F. from M. W. Nov. 1948". 77548

50.

Taken at the Flood. A full-length Poirot Novel by Agatha Christie.

London: The Crime Club, 1948

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, corners rubbed, top edge of boards faded, edges faintly spotted. An excellent copy in the tanned dust jacket, with a few nicks and chips.

First UK edition, first impression. Inscribed "Carlo, from, Agatha, Nov. 1948". Published eight months previously in the US under the title There is a Tide.

75806

51.

75785

Crooked House.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1949 Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Two leaves a little creased, fore edge and endpapers lightly spotted spine faded but an excellent copy in the rubbed and nicked jacket with tape residue to the verso.

First UK edition, first impression. Inscribed "Carlo from Agatha May 1949". 75545

52.

A Murder is Announced.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1950

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Contents lightly toned and with a few small marks, a little faded at the spine but an excellent copy in the little frayed and rubbed dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo with love from Agatha June 1950". 75559

53.

They Came to Baghdad.

London: The Crime Club, 1951

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, with a small stain to upper joint, small mark to upper cover, top edge of boards tanned. Very faint spotting to fore-edge. An excellent copy in the tanned and spotted dust jacket, with a few closed tears.

First edition. Inscribed "To Carlo, with love from, Agatha.". 75802

54.

Mrs McGinty's Dead.

London: The Crime Club, 1952

Original cloth. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded and stained, top edge of boards spotted, edges faintly spotted. An excellent copy in the bright, fresh dust jacket. First edition. 75⁸⁰⁷

55·

They Do It With Mirrors.

London: The Crime Club, 1952

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded and a little stained, top edge of boards tanned, edges faintly spotted with

77547

some spotting to endpapers. An excellent copy in the slightly marked dust jacket, with small chips to ends of spine panel.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, from, Agatha. Nov. 1952". 75797

56.

"WESTMACOTT, Mary."

A Daughter's a Daughter.

London: William Heinemann Ltd, 1952

Original cloth. Spine heavily faded, else very good.

First edition, pseudonymously inscribed by Christie, "Carlo with love from Mary Westmacott". 77549

57•

A Pocket Full of Rye.

London: for the Crime Club by Collins, 1953

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Some minor spotting throughout, spine faded but an excellent copy in the particularly bright dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "For Carlo with love from Agatha". 75543

58.

After the Funeral.

London: The Crime Club, 1953

Original orange cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, some spotting along top edge, corners faintly bumped. An excellent copy in the very lightly tanned dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo from Agatha. May 1953". 75787

59.

Destination Unknown.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1954

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Contents slightly toned, spine a little faded but an excellent copy in the somewhat spotted and tanned dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo from Agatha Oct 1954".

75538

Hickory Dickory Dock.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1955

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Edges spotted, endpapers lightly browned, spine a little faded but an excellent copy in the spine faded dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "For Carlo with love from Agatha". 75537

61.

Dead Man's Folly.

London: The Crime Club, 1956

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded with a few faint stains, edges spotted, endpapers partially tanned. An excellent copy in the chipped and marked dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "To Carlo, from, Agatha. Jun. 1956". 75800

62.

"WESTMACOTT, Mary."

The Burden.

London: William Heinemann Ltd, 1956

Original cloth. Spine a little sunned. Very good.

First edition, pseudonymously inscribed by Christie, "To Charlotte with love from Mary Westmacott".

77550

63.

4.50 from Paddington.

London: The Crime Club, Collins, 1957

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Faint spotting to edges and endpapers, mild toning to contents as usual, spine a little faded but a nice copy in the somewhat rubbed, sunned and frayed dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo from Agatha Nov. 1957". 75521

64.

Ordeal by Innocence.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1958

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spotting to endpapers and page edges, spine faded but a very good copy in the somewhat rubbed and little faded dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo from Agatha Oct 1958". 75555

65.

Cat Among the Pigeons.

London: The Crime Club, 1959

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded with a few small marks, top edge of boards tanned, edges very faintly spotted. An excellent copy in the chipped and creased dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from, Missus. Oct. 1959". 75798

66.

The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding, and a Selection of Entrées.

London: The Crime Club, 1960

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded and slightly rolled, some spotting to edges and margins of early and late leaves. An excellent copy in the dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, from, Agatha, Nov. 1960." 75⁸²⁰

67.

The Pale Horse.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1961

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Minor spotting to the fore edges, spine faded but a nice copy in the mildly tanned dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo from Agatha". 75553

68.

The Mirror Crack'd from Side to Side.

London: The Crime Club, 1962

Original red boards, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, some spotting to edges, endpapers tanned. An excellent copy in the dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "To Carlo, from, Agatha, Nov 1. 1962." 75⁸²¹

69.

The Clocks.

London: The Crime Club, Collins, 1963

Original red cloth, titles to spine in black. With the supplied dust jacket. Contents a little shaken and occasionally marked, spine faded but a very nice copy in the frayed and rubbed dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo with love from Agatha Nov 1963". 75532

70.

A Caribbean Mystery.

London: The Crime Club, 1964

Original red and black boards, titles to spine in silver. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine a little faded, edges faintly spotted with some spotting to margins of early leaves. An excellent copy in the lightly tanned and faintly creased dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from, Agatha".

71.

At Bertram's Hotel.

London: The Crime Club, 1965

Original red and black boards, titles to spine in silver. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine a little faded, small white mark to outer edge of upper board, edges faintly spotted. An excellent copy in the lightly tanned dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, from, Agatha (Missus!), Nov. 1965".

72.

Star Over Bethlehem and Other Stories. Decorations by Elsie Wrigley.

London: Collins, 1965

Original green quarter cloth over green pictorial boards, titles to spine gilt. Spine and top edge of boards a little faded, boards slightly bowed at head of spine. An excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed by the author on the half title, "To Carlo, from Missus, Xmas. 1965." 75⁸²²

7**3**• Third Girl.

London: The Crime Club, 1966

Original red and black boards, titles to spine gilt. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded, bottom corners rubbed, some spotting to edges and endpapers. An excellent copy in the price-clipped dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from, Agatha, Dec. 1966".

75813

74.

Endless Night.

London: The Crime Club, 1967

Original red and black boards, titles to spine in silver. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine and top edge of boards faded, some spotting to top edge. An excellent copy in the faintly marked dust jacket, a little rubbed at the extremities and with a closed tear to top of rear panel.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love, from, Agatha Christie".

75816

75.

75796

75795

By the Pricking of My Thumbs.

London: for The Crime Club by Collins, 1968

Original green and black boards, titles to spine gilt. With the supplied dust jacket. Top edge of boards and spine faded but an excellent copy in the somewhat faded and nicked dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo with love from Agatha Christie (Missus) November 1968". 75531

Hallowe'en Party.

London: The Crime Club, 1969

Original red boards, titles to spine in silver. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine and top edge of covers faded, mark to head of front joint, some spotting to top edge, endpapers slightly tanned. An excellent copy in the slightly marked dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "Carlo, with love from, Agatha, Oct. 31st. 1969". 75814

77.

Passenger to Frankfurt. An extravaganza.

London: The Crime Club, 1970

Original red boards, titles to spine in silver. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine and top edge of boards faded, some spotting to top edge. An excellent copy in the faintly tanned dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "To Carlo, with love from, Agatha Christie (Missus!). Sept. 1970". 75815

78.

Nemesis.

London: The Crime Club, 1971

Original red boards, titles to spine in silver. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine very slightly rolled, spine and top edge of boards faded, faint spotting to endpapers. An excellent copy in the rubbed and marked dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "To Carlo, with love from, Agatha, Oct. 1971." 75819

79.

Elephants Can Remember. A Hercule Poirot story.

London: The Crime Club, 1972

Original red boards, titles to spine in silver. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine faded and very slightly rolled, some slight spotting to top edge. An excellent copy in the very faintly marked dust jacket.

First edition. Inscribed "To Carlo, with love from, "Missus" (Agatha Christie), Nov. 1972." 75818

80.

Poems.

London: Collins, 1973

Original purple boards, titles to spine and upper cover in white. Spine and top edge of boards a little faded, front board bumped at bottom corner. An excellent copy.

First edition. Inscribed by the author on the half title, "To Carlo, with love from, Agatha Christie, Oct. 29th 1973." 75823

81.

Postern of Fate.

London: The Crime Club, 1973

Original green boards, titles to spine in silver. With the supplied dust jacket. Spine very slightly rolled, boards a little marked, some slight spotting to top edge. An excellent copy in the dust jacket a little creased at the extremities.

First edition. Inscribed "To Charlotte Fisher (Carlo!), with love from, Agatha Christie - and Hannibal, Oct. 1973." Hannibal was the name of a Manchester terrier, one of the leading characters in this, the last novel that Christie wrote. 75817

82.

Curtain. Poirot's Last Case.

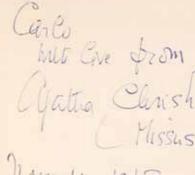
London: Collins, 1975

Original black boards, titles to spine gilt. With the dust jacket. An excellent copy in the nicked and lightly rubbed jacket.

First edition. Inscribed by the author on the front free endpaper in a frail and barely legible hand, "Carlo love Agatha Christie". Curtain was the final book published in Christie's lifetime. The publishers were insistent on production for the Christmas market. Christie was gravely ill and died on 12 January 1976, just a few short weeks after publication. This copy must have a claim to be among the final two or three books signed by Agatha Christie. 75850

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Peter Harrington, 100 Fulham Road, Chelsea, London, SW3 6HS Tel + 44 (0)20 7591 0220 Fax + 44 (0)20 7225 7054 Email: mail@peterharrington.co.uk