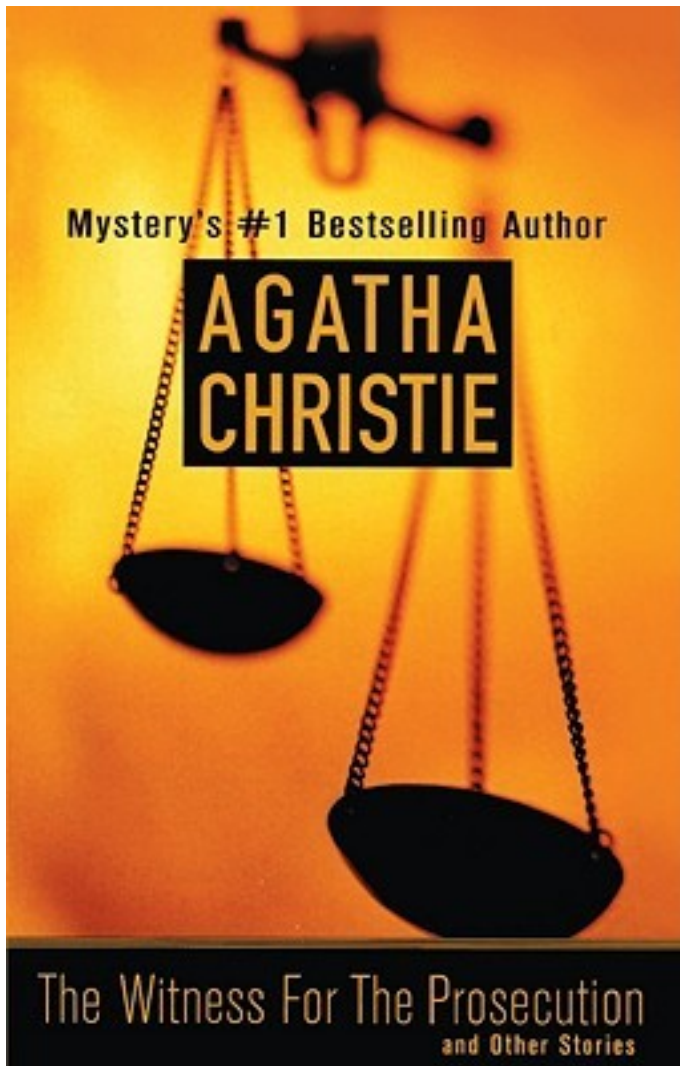


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# Agatha Christie

## The Witness for the Prosecution and Other Stories



Title: The Witness for the Prosecution and Other Stories

Author: Agatha Christie

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## Description

A murder trial takes a diabolical turn when the wife of the accused takes a stand...A woman's sixth--and a loaded revolver--signal premonitions of doom...A stranded motorist seeks refuge in a remote mansion, and is greeted with a dire warning...Detective Hercule Poirot faces his greatest challenge when his services are enlisted--by the victim--in a bizarre locked-room murder. From the stunning title story (which inspired the classic film thriller) to the rarest gems in detective fiction, these 11 tales of baffling rime and brilliant deduction showcase Agatha Christie at her dazzling best.

## Insightful reviews

Megan: Overall, I enjoyed this collection of Agatha Christie short mysteries. There is a strong theme throughout these stories that there is an explanation for everything; several of the characters believed in the supernatural, but that belief is always exploited. I did feel like her stories ended abruptly. Rated PG for disturbing elements.

The Witness for the Prosecution: A woman testifies at her husband's murder trial with some unexpected twists.

The Red Signal: A group of people attend a seance and are warned that one of them should not go home.

The Fourth Man: This was my favorite. A doctor, a lawyer, a clergy man discuss a famous case of schizophrenia

S.O.S.: Stuck in a storm, a man seeks hospitality at a remote cottage.

Where There's a Will: A woman decides to leave everything to her attentive nephew.

The Mystery of the Blue Jar: A man hears a woman crying for help at the same time every morning.

Sing a Song of Sixpence: An elderly gentleman reluctantly leaves retirement to solve murder mystery.

The Mystery of the Spanish Shawl: A mystery writer finds himself thrust into his own story.

Philomel Cottage: A woman finds her life in danger and decides to beat a murderer at his own game.

Accident: A man discovers the sordid past of a neighbor. This was the only story that didn't surprise me, I thought the ending was very predictable.

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The Second Gong: When a man is found murdered before a dinner party, everyone in the house is a suspect.

Sarah ( Paris ): ?????? ??? ?????? ?????? ..  
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Laurel Young: Witness for the Prosecution is an uneven collection--it contains seven stories that are fairly forgettable and might rate a mere 2 stars (especially the two involving people being swindled in overly complicated and unlikely ways), but then there are three absolute stunners that pull the rating up for me and make this collection a must-have. The uneven feeling comes about because the stories were written anywhere between 1924 and 1947 but published together in 1948, their only commonality being that they hadn't been collected anywhere else yet! This makes more sense when we realize that Christie's stories often appeared in magazines first, to be collected every so often as books for the many fans who could not possibly track down a copy of, say, the March 1926 issue of Mystery Magazine.

The publication history also explains why the only Poirot story, "The Second Gong," would be in a 1948 collection even though it is clearly an \*earlier\* version of Dead Man's Mirror (1937) with a different solution! I felt as though I were in a game of "Clue" when I found myself reading a familiar story but then the murderer was someone other than expected. "The Second Gong" first appeared in a magazine in 1932; the novella Dead Man's Mirror, five years later. DMM is far superior; there are a LOT of characters and plot to cram into a short story, so the longer novella version feels far less rushed. Also, DMM has a charming cameo from Mr. Satterthwaite of the Harley Quin stories, and it was fun to see that he is a friend of Poirot's. Even though I prefer DMM, "Second Gong" is important for those of us who want a complete Christie collection because it does NOT appear in Poirot's Casebook, which ostensibly contains all the Poirot stories.

The other two treasures here are the taut title story, which was adapted as both a play and a film and has an ending that hits one with the force of a physical blow, and "Philomel Cottage", which is like a Hitchcock film in written form--terrifying suspense and a darkly ironic ending.

Realini: Witness for the Prosecution through Agatha Christie Crime story, what else...good adequate for a nine out of 10 Agatha Christie is so renowned and acclaimed that she wishes no additional introduction, other than might be a point out of her record. One of her plays- is it the Mouse Trap? - has been working for years and years developing an international record. I keep in mind how enchanted and terrified i've got been, whilst i've got learn Ten Little Indians and realized with horror that one after another, all of the visitors die yet for the best pass judgement on who comes to a decision such bad executions. Witness for the Prosecution has its fair proportion of suspense and surprises and that i ask yourself how i'll movement round it. There is Leonard Vole, who's arrested and charged with the homicide of a miles older woman, 40 years



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