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Murder on the orient express movie plot summary

In Murder on the Orient Express, the detective Hercule Poirot, a recurring character in the work of Agatha Christie, finds that he must travel from Istanbul, he encounters a wealthy older man by the name of Ratchett, who asks for the detective's help fending off certain enemies. Poirot refuses, feeling suspicious of Ratchett's character. In Istanbul, he also reunites with his old friend M. Bouc, who works for the company that manages the Orient Express. He learns that Bouc will be traveling on the train with him. The Istanbul-Calais coach upon which Poirot travels is filled with an eclectic mix of passengers: an elderly Russian princess, a British colonel, Ratchett and his two employees, and an annoying American woman, among others. Early in the journey, Poirot hears the English colonel and a young English governess speaking in a way that reveals they know each other well, though they claim to be strangers. On the second night of the journey, Poirot endures a sleepless night with various noisy disruptions. The next day, two pieces of news emerge. First, the train is indefinitely halted by a snowdrift. Second, Ratchett has been stabbed to death in his berth. Bouc asks Poirot to solve the murder mystery. The lack of footprints in the snow indicates that the murderer is still aboard. The coroner, Dr. Constantine, determines from Ratchett's wounds that he has been stabbed 12 times, probably by at least two different individuals. Poirot begins to investigate by interviewing passengers and searching their luggage, keeping M. Bouc and Dr. Constantine close as he investigates. He has several clues to go on, including a pipe-cleaner and monogrammed handkerchief found at the scene of the crime, and multiple witness testimonies (including Poirot's own) about a woman wearing a red kimono. One passenger reveals himself to be a detective hired by Ratchett, and says that Ratchett was afraid that a small man with a high voice would attack him. However, Poirot's greatest clue is a scrap of a letter recovered from the crime scene. Though the letter has been nearly destroyed, Poirot is able to determine that it references a child named Daisy Armstrong was abducted and held hostage by a gang. After she was found dead, her wealthy parents both died, one from shock and one from suicide. A nursemaid, briefly suspected of playing a role in the abduction, also died by suicide. Poirot determines that Ratchett was actually named Cassetti, and that he was the head of the gang responsible for this tragedy. Despite his clear guilt, Cassetti never faced justice, mostly because of his wealth. Thus, at the time of his death, he was traveling the world under a false name to escape his own infamy. Poirot slowly begins to connect each passenger to the Armstrong case, realizing, for instance, that one passengers in to hear his theory of the case. He says that he has two possible explanations. The first of these explanations attributes the murder to a stranger who briefly boarded the train, killed Ratchett, and left. This explanation makes it impossible to find or try the alleged killer, and is also clearly untrue—it fails to account for numerous facts of the case. Poirot then shares his second theory, which is that every train passenger was part of Daisy Armstrong's household and came together on purpose to collectively kill Ratchett, each stabbing him one time. This explanation is clearly true. However, realizing that Ratchett, each stabbing him one time together on purpose to collectively kill Ratchett, each stabbing him one time. This explanation is clearly true. Dr. Constantine agree to settle on the false, first theory, thereby absolving the passengers of guilt. Hercule Poirot, private detective and retired Belgian police officer, boards the Taurus Express train to Stamboul (Istanbul). On the train there are two other passengers, Mary Debenham and Colonel Arbuthnot. The two act as if they are strangers, but Poirot observes behavior that suggests that they are not. Poirot is suspicious of the couple. The train arrives in Stamboul and Poirot checks in at the Tokatlian Hotel. As soon as Poirot arrives he receives a telegram summoning him back to London. While waiting at the hotel for the next train, Poirot bumps into an old friend, M. Bouc, head of the Wagon Lit. M. Bouc arranges a space for Poirot on the Orient Express. In the dining room of the Tokatlian Hotel, Poirot first spots Ratchett and Hector McQueen eating dinner. Poirot board the Orient Express. He is forced to ride in a second-class cabin because the train is unusually full. Ratchett and Hector McQueen are also aboard the train. Ratchett approaches Poirot and asks if he will work for him, Ratchett tells Poirot telus Poirot he has been receiving threatening letters and that someone is trying to kill him. Poirot refuses the case. M. Bouc has taken the last first class cabin, but arranges to be moved to a separate coach and gives Poirot his space in first class. The first night Poirot sleeps in first class, he observes some strange occurrences. Early in the morning, Poirot is wakened by a cry from Ratchett's door and a voice from inside responds, "Ce n'est rien. Je me suis trompe" (It is nothing. I am mistaken). Poirot has difficulty sleeping because there is a peculiar silence on the train. Mrs. Hubbard rings her bell and tells the conductor that the train is stuck in a snow bank. Poirot hears a loud thump next door. The next morning, the train still stopped, M. Bouc informs Poirot that Ratchett has been murdered and the murderer is still aboard the train. Poirot tells M. Bouc he will investigate the case. Poirot first examines Ratchett's compartment, presumably to make the investigators think the murderer escaped out the window, but there are no footprints outside the window in the snow. A handkerchief with the initial "H" is found in the compartment, a pipe cleaner, a round match different from the matches Ratchett used and a charred piece of paper with the name "Armstrong" on it. The piece of paper with the word Armstrong on it helps Poirot figure out who Ratchett really is and why someone would want to murder him. A few years back, a man named Cassetti kidnapped a three-year old girl, Daisy Armstrong family, but killed the child anyways. Poirot concludes that Ratchett is Cassetti collected a ransom from the Wagon Lit conductor, then Hector McQueen. Poirot knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment, Hector is surprised that Poirot found the note because he knows about the Armstrong note found in Ratchett's compartment the murderer was in her cabin. All of the passengers give Poirot suitable alibis during their interviews, although a few suspicious elements are brought to light: many passengers observed a woman in a red kimono. Mrs. Hubbard tells Poirot she had Greta Ohlsson lock the communicating door between she and Ratchett. Hildegarde Schmidt bumped into a stranger wearing a Wagon Lit jacket. Poirot checks every passenger's luggage is wet, a Wagon Lit uniform is found in Hildegarde Schmidt's bag and, lastly, the red kimono is found in Poirot's own luggage. After the luggage check, Poirot, Dr. Constantine and M. Bouc review the facts of the case and develop a list of questions. With the evidence and questions in mind, Poirot sits and thinks about the case and develop a list of questions. case. Before he reveals this solution in full, he calls in several people and reveals their true identities. Poirot discovers Countess Andrenyi is Helena Goldenberg, aunt of Daisy Armstrong. She wet her luggage label and obscured her name, in an effort to conceal her identity. Also, Mary Debenham was Daisy's governess, Antonio Foscanelli was the Armstrong's chaffer, Masterman the valet, and Greta Ohlsson was Daisy Armstrong's nurse. Princess Dragomiroff claims her handkerchief from Poirot, the same found in Ratchett's compartment. Poirot gathers all of the passengers into the dining car and propounds two possible solutions. The fist solution is that a stranger entered the train at Vincovci and killed Ratchett. The second solution is that all of the passengers aboard the Orient Express were involved with the murder. He argues that twelve of the thirteen passengers, all close to the Armstrong case, killed Ratchett to avenge the murder of Daisy Armstrong. Mrs. Hubbard, revealed as Linda Arden, admits that the second solution is correct. Poirot suggests that M. Bouc and Dr. Constantine tell the police that the first solution is correct to protect the family. M. Bouc and Dr. Constantine accept Poirot's suggestion.

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