Miss Jane Marple doesn't look like your average detective, but appearances are deceiving... A shrewd woman with a sparkle in her eye, she isn't above speculation about her neighbours in the small village of St Mary Mead. A keen advocate for justice, armed often only with her knitting needles and a pair of gardening gloves, this sleuth knows plenty about human nature.

**TOP FIVE MISS MARPLE NOVELS**

- Although published in 1976, *Sleeping Murder* was written during World War II and portrays a sprightlier Miss Marple than *Nemesis*. The title *Miss Marple’s Final Cases* is a misnomer, because most of the short stories are actually set (and were written) in the 1940s. ‘Greenshaw’s Folly’ is published in *The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding*.

**THE NOTES**

- “I’m very ordinary. An ordinary rather scatty old lady. And that of course is very good camouflage.”
  
  *Nemesis*, Agatha Christie

**THE CHALLENGE**

Keep track of your Miss Marple reading. How many stories have you read?

**THE LIST**

If you want to read the stories chronologically (in terms of Miss Marple’s lifetime), we recommend the following order:

- The Murder at the Vicarage [1930]
- The Thirteen Problems (short stories) [1942]
- Miss Marple’s Final Cases (short stories) [1979]
- The Body in the Library [1942]
- The Moving Finger [1942]
- Sleeping Murder [1946]
- A Murder is Announced [1946]
- They Do it with Mirrors [1946]
- A Pocket Full of Rye [1943]
- ‘Greenshaw’s Folly’ [1944]
- 4.50 from Paddington [1957]
- The Mirror Crack’d from Side to Side [1962]
- A Caribbean Mystery [1964]
- At Bertram’s Hotel [1965]
- Nemesis [1971]

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