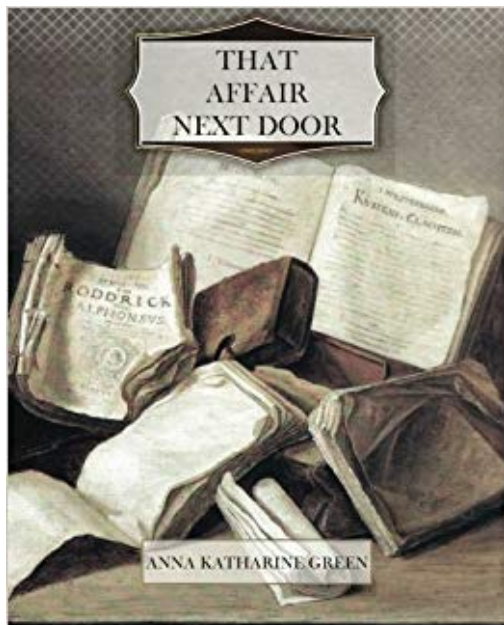


That Affair Next Door *by* Anna Katharine Green



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This anthology is a thorough introduction to classic literature for those who have not yet experienced these literary masterworks. For those who have known and loved these works in the past, this is an invitation to reunite with old friends in a fresh new format. From Shakespeare's finesse to Oscar Wilde's wit, this unique collection brings together works as diverse and influential as *The Pilgrim's Progress* and *Othello*. As an anthology that invites readers to immerse themselves in the masterpieces of the literary giants, it is a must-have addition to any library.



Reviews of the *That Affair Next Door* *by* Anna Katharine Green

Malarad

Originally published in the late 1800's, the plot, characters and narrative of this book are unique and still fresh. A creative mind was working hard when she put together the details of this mystery. It twists and turns all over the place and she switches the "voice" a couple of times, but it's all entertaining and holds the readers' interest. Will read more books by this author.

Marige

I like turn-of-the-century fiction and mysteries and I have been amassing a collection for over 25 years, originally in actual books, and now on my Kindle. I had looked at one of Anna Katharine Green's e-books some time ago, and didn't get it. I don't recall which one it was now-it may have been any of them. I had never heard of her. I finally decided to download "That Affair Next Door" just the other day when I was reading reviews of it and I am so glad that I did. It's a page-turner.

Miss Butterworth was the model for Agatha Christie's Miss Marple, and I can see why. Neither one misses much. Green is a master of the plot twist, just as Christie was. She keeps you guessing about "whodunnit" until near the end of the book.

I also liked her Detective Gryce. I did think at first that his age was a bit improbable, but I have at least one cousin, who is over 70 and still working, and we all know of other people in their 70's, or even older, who are still working, so it isn't that much of a stretch after all to believe that a Detective could be 77 and still on the force. There was no retirement pension or Social Security in 1895 after all and his job just requires brains, and not much brawn. Now that I am a senior citizen myself, it's nice to have 50-ish sleuths, (Miss Butterworth), and even older police, as in Detective Gryce, and they are both still pretty sharp. Poirot is no spring chicken, either!

I liked "That Affair Next Door" well enough to get most of the other books in the Detective Gryce series,(two of them are not in Kindle versions), at least one of which is another Amelia Butterworth. I also got at least one with Violet Strange, another female sleuth, and a few other titles. Amazon has a vast collection of Anna Katharine Green for the Kindle: full-length books, collections, and short-stories, and many of them are free, or are inexpensive.

I am sorely tempted to start another one right now, but I already interrupted Allen Guelzo's "Gettysburg" over the holiday weekend-that is excellent, by the way-and I'd like to finish it first. I read reviews, and noted which of her books people thought were her best, and which ones they thought were not, and chose accordingly, for starters. I'm going to take my time and enjoy the selections I just downloaded, and if I enjoy them as much, I'll add even more of them.

lenekan

I enjoy reading about varied cultural time periods. The scene in New York with the morays of earlier times awakened my imagination. The character of Mrs Butterworth is so like what my grandmother would describe about her grandmother that I felt it could have been real. A delightful mystery with an greatest. ending.

Via

This is one of Anna Katharine Green's most accomplished mysteries. It offers the reader a bizarre murder with the sly, seventy-seven-year-old Inspector Gryce on the case; an inquest rich in shocking revelations; more than one broken heart; and best of all, Miss Amelia Butterworth.

Miss Butterworth belongs to the inner circle of New York society in 1895. Over fifty and free of "the doubtful blessing of a husband," she is orderly, logical, unsentimental and a lady with impeccable taste. Her exclusive address at Gramercy Park puts her right next door to a shocking murder.

As we might expect, Miss Butterworth enjoys looking out her windows. One night around midnight she sees a man and woman enter the Van Burnam mansion, which is supposed to be empty. The man leaves soon after, but the woman does not. On the following day, Miss Butterworth persuades a policeman to enter the quiet house to see if anything's amiss. They find the body of a woman crushed to death under a cabinet in the parlor.

This is just the beginning of a complex investigation full of wrong turns and faulty conclusions. The

clues are particularly delightful - a pincushion out of place, lost keys, lost rings, too many women's hats etc. Early on, Miss Butterworth feels that her worth has not been appreciated by the police. So she undertakes her own investigation - and has the time of her life doing it.

Despite a few erroneous notions, Miss Butterworth emerges as a truly amazing detective - and wins Gryce's admiration. She's charmer, a crusty old maid with a well-concealed soft heart - and quite a slippery interrogator. Agatha Christie's Miss Marple was inspired by the delightful Miss Butterworth.

Green was famous for her intricate plots, and *That Affair Next Door* is a first-rate example of her skill.

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