

“Who was that?” said Vicki.

“Don’t know, I’d never heard of them. Anyway, the council dug out the foundations for this statue, then suddenly the funding ran out.”

“Oh, dear,” said Vicki, looking at her watch.

“Well, worse than that,” said Abi, “because they didn’t even have enough money left to fill in the hole. So this town has a lasting monument to whoever-it-was in the form of a great big hole in the middle of their main shopping centre.”

Given that she could divine not the faintest resonance between their case and that anecdote, Vicki wasn’t sure whether or not this was one of the times when she was supposed to laugh at something Abi had said. Instead, she said, “Come on, let’s go and process our prisoners. Then I need to drive my dog home.”

She could hear the rolling eyes following her along the corridor. “Honestly, Vee, you should take that dog to obedience classes.”

“Oh, no,” said Vicki. “He’s very obedient, really. I just haven’t discovered whom to, yet.” 🐕

## SCRAMBLED POIROT

by Mark Lagasse

Without a doubt, Agatha Christie’s master detective Hercule Poirot is one of the great characters in mystery fiction. How familiar are you with the books in which he appears? To find out, use your little gray cells to unscramble the letters of each numbered entry to spell the American title of a novel with Poirot. For example, “TOUGH FIBER” would be “THE BIG FOUR.”



1. “CAR UNIT”
2. “LENIENT HOTHEAD”
3. “LETHAL WEAPONRY”
4. “BUTCHER’S DREAM”
5. “BACHELORS ATTEND”
6. “UNVEILED HUNTERS”
7. “MAD FELON’S LADY”
8. “DRESSY CAPS”
9. “HOTEL HOWL”
10. “LOST CHECK”

Answers on p. 31