

Dickens Peter Ackroyd

Dickens (Abridged) Dickens The Life and Times of Charles Dickens *The Mystery of Charles Dickens* **Introduction to Dickens Blake** *English Music* **Becoming Dickens** **The Life of Charles Dickens** **The Mystery of Charles Dickens** *London Under Charles Dickens* **Milton in America** *Thames* **London Tudors** **The Clerkenwell Tales** *The Christmas Stories* *Queer City* *The Collection* *Three Brothers* **Hawksmoor** *Wilkie Collins* *Shakespeare* *Evil London* **The Great Fire of London** *A Christmas Carol* *Chatterton* **The Mystery of Edwin Drood** *The Casebook of Victor Frankenstein* *Venice* **The Plato Papers** *Charlie Chaplin* *Barnaby Rudge* **The Friendly Dickens** **Mr Cadmus** **The Lambs of London** **The English Ghost** *The Fall of Troy* **Dan Leno and the Limehouse Golem**

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Mr Cadmus Nov 02 2019 Two apparently harmless women reside in cottages one building apart in the idyllic English village of Little Camborne. Miss Finch and Miss Swallow, cousins, have put their pasts behind them and settled into conventional country life. But when a mysterious foreigner, Theodore Cadmus - from a Mediterranean island nobody has heard of - moves into the middle cottage, the safe monotony of their lives is shattered. Soon, long-hidden secrets and long-held grudges threaten to surface, drawing all into a vortex of subterfuge, theft, violence, mayhem . . . and murder.

The Life and Times of Charles Dickens Sep 05 2022 Presents an illustrated introduction to the public and private life of the popular Victorian novelist.

The Clerkenwell Tales Jun 21 2021 From the foremost contemporary chronicler of London's history, a suspenseful novel that ingeniously draws on Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* to recreate the city's 14th century religious and political intrigues. London, 1399. Sister Clarice, a nun born below Clerkenwell convent, is predicting the death of King Richard II and the demise of the Church. Her visions can be dismissed as madness, until she accurately foretells a series of terrorist explosions. What is the role of the apocalyptic Predestined Men? And the clandestine Dominus? And what powers, ultimately, will prevail? In Peter Ackroyd's deft and suprising narrative, The Miller, the Prioress, the Wife of Bath and other characters from *Canterbury Tales* pursue these mysteries through a pungently vivid medieval London.

Becoming Dickens Mar 31 2022 This provocative biography tells the story of how an ambitious young Londoner became England's greatest novelist. Focused on the 1830s, it portrays a restless, uncertain Dickens who could not decide on a career path. Through twists and turns, the author traces a double transformation: in reinventing himself Dickens reinvented the form of the novel.

The Mystery of Charles Dickens Aug 04 2022 History records that on June 9, 1870, Charles Dickens died of a cerebral haemorrhage. History, however, is wrong. June 9, 1870, is the day on which Emile de la Rue murdered Charles Dickens. During a stay in Genoa in 1844-45, Charles Dickens, an accomplished mesmerist, used his mesmeric abilities to treat a young Englishwoman, Augusta de la Rue, attempting to cure a years' long malady of hers that included facial spasms and phantom-filled dreams. During her trances she revealed to Dickens a truth she had long suppressed the knowledge that her husband murdered a rival so he could have her for himself. Dickens, at that time, was helpless to act on the devastating admission, but twenty-five years later Emile de la Rue shows up in London, and Dickens finally seeks justice. De La Rue cannot let this happen and stops at nothing to keep Dickens from revealing his secret.

London Aug 24 2021 An abridged edition of Peter Ackroyd's magisterial biography of the city of London. Prize-winning historian, novelist and broadcaster, Peter Ackroyd takes us on a journey - historical, geographical and imaginative - through the city of London. Moving back and forth through time, Ackroyd is an effortless, exuberant guide to times of plague and pestilence, fire and floods, crime and punishment, and sex and theatre. He brings the ever changing streets alive for the reader and shows us what lies beneath our feet and above our heads. His biography is as rich in detail and fizzing with vitality as the city itself.

Blake Jun 02 2022 William Blake was a poet, painter, engraver and visionary. The author traces Blake's life through his childhood, apprenticeship and studies, to his full maturity when he produced his masterpieces. We see Blake in the context of his period, caught up in the Gordon riots, tried for sedition, remaining true to his own vision of the world. This biography reveals the true affinities between Blake's art and his poetry. *The Casebook of Victor Frankenstein* May 09 2020 Victor Frankenstein begins his anatomy experiments in a barn near Oxford with corpses provided by the coroner's office often damaged and putrid. He moves to Limehouse in search of the perfect specimen and one day Thames-side at dawn, Victor sees slung into the stern of an approaching boat the corpse of a handsome young man.

The Friendly Dickens Dec 04 2019 Interweaves historical and biographical background to comment on Dicken's body of work and Victorian eccentricities

The Christmas Stories May 21 2021 After the success of *A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens' name became so synonymous with Christmas that on hearing of his death in 1870 a young girl in London asked, "Mr. Dickens dead? Then will Father Christmas die too?" But *A Christmas Carol* is just the most famous of his Christmas stories, and those contained here in this unforgettable collection - *The Cricket on the Hearth*, *The Battle of Life* and *The Haunted Man* and the *Ghost's Bargain* - show Dickens at his heartwarming best.

Three Brothers Feb 15 2021 *Three Brothers* follows the fortunes of Harry, Daniel and Sam Hanway, born on a post-war council estate in Camden Town. Marked out from the start by curious coincidence, each boy is forced to make his own way in the world - a world of dodgy deals and big business, of criminal gangs and crooked landlords, of newspaper magnates, back-biters and petty thieves. London is the backdrop and the connecting fabric of these three lives, reinforcing Ackroyd's grand theme that place and history create, surround and engulf us. From bustling, cut-throat Fleet Street to hallowed London publishing houses, from the wealth and corruption of Chelsea to the smoky shadows of Limehouse and Hackney, this is an exploration of the city, peering down its streets, riding on its underground, and drinking in its pubs and clubs. Everything is possible - not only in the new freedom of the 1960s but also in London's timeless past.

Shakespeare Nov 14 2020 Peter Ackroyd's method is to position Shakespeare in the close context of his world. In this way, he not only conjures up the texture of Shakespeare's life, but also imparts an amount of vivid, interesting material about place, period and background. Originally published: London: Chatto & Windus, 2005.

The Collection Mar 19 2021 Journalism, reviews, essays, short stories, lectures from the chief book reviewer for the Times.

The Mystery of Charles Dickens Jan 29 2022 A Book of the Year in *The Times* & *Sunday Times*, *Daily Mail*, *Spectator*, *Irish Times* and *TLS*. 'Superb' *Daily Mail*, 'Book of the Week' 'Brilliant' *The Times*, 'Book of the Week' '[A] vivid, detailed account' *Guardian*, 'Book of the Week' 'Hugely enjoyable' *Daily Telegraph* 'Fascinating' *Spectator* Charles Dickens was a superb public performer, a great orator and one of the most famous of the Eminent Victorians. Slight of build, with a frenzied, hyper-energetic personality, Dickens looked much older than his fifty-eight years when he died. Although he specified an unpretentious funeral,

it was inevitable that crowds flocked to his open grave in Westminster Abbey. Experiencing the worst and best of life during the Victorian Age, Dickens was not merely the conduit through whom some of the most beloved characters in literature came into the world. He was one of them. Filled with twists, pathos and unusual characters, *The Mystery of Charles Dickens* looks back from the legendary writer's death to recall the key events in his life. In doing so, A. N. Wilson seeks to understand Dickens's creative genius and enduring popularity. Following him from cradle to grave, it becomes clear that Dickens's fiction drew from his own experiences - a fact he acknowledged. Like *Oliver Twist*, Dickens suffered a wretched childhood, then grew up to become not only a respectable gentleman but an artist of prodigious popularity. Dickens knew firsthand the poverty and pain his characters endured, including the scandal of a failed marriage. Going beyond standard narrative biography, Wilson brilliantly revisits the wellspring of Dickens's vast and wild imagination, revealing why his novels have such instantaneous appeal and why they continue to resonate today. He also uncovers the double standards of both the man and his times.

Chatterton Jul 11 2020 When Thomas Chatterton, a brilliant literary counterfeiter, is found dead in 1770, the mysterious circumstances surrounding his death are unraveled in succeeding centuries

English Music May 01 2022

The Mystery of Edwin Drood Jun 09 2020 Charles Dickens's final, unfinished novel has inspired generations of speculation ... Choirmaster John Jasper is a man of deep hypocrisy. His public reputation is flawless yet privately he leads an immoral life, frequenting squalid opium dens. And although outwardly he seems delighted with the betrothal of his nephew Edwin Drood to Rosa Bud, one of his choristers, secretly he is consumed by jealousy. But he is not alone in hoping for Edwin's demise. Among others, hot-tempered Neville Landless has also made an enemy of Drood - so when Edwin disappears, at whom should the accusing finger point?

Tudors Jul 23 2021 British and Irish history.

The English Ghost Aug 31 2019 The English see more ghosts than any other nation. From medieval times to the present day, stories have been told about ghosts who avenge injustice, souls who long for peace and spooks who just want to have fun.

The Plato Papers Mar 07 2020 From the imagination of one of the most brilliant writers of our time and bestselling author of *The Life of Thomas More*, a novel that playfully imagines how the "modern" era might appear to a thinker seventeen centuries hence. At the turn of the 38th century, London's greatest orator, Plato, is known for his lectures on the long, tumultuous history of his now tranquil city. Plato focuses on the obscure and confusing era that began in A.D. 1500, the Age of Mouldwarp. His subjects include Sigmund Freud's comic masterpiece "Jokes and Their Relation to the Subconscious," and Charles D.'s greatest novel, "The Origin of Species." He explores the rituals of Mouldwarp, and the later cult of webs and nets that enslaved the population. By the end of his lecture series, however, Plato has been drawn closer to the subject of his fascination than he could ever have anticipated. At once funny and erudite, *The Plato Papers* is a smart and entertaining look at how the future is imagined, the present absorbed, and the past misrepresented.

Wilkie Collins Dec 16 2020 Short and oddly built, with a head too big for his body, extremely short-sighted, unable to stay still, dressed in colourful clothes, 'as if playing a certain part in the great general drama of life' Wilkie Collins looked distinctly strange.

Queer City Apr 19 2021 'Droll, provocative and crammed to bursting with startling facts' Simon Callow, Guardian In this powerful Sunday Times bestseller Peter Ackroyd looks at London in a whole new way - through the history and experiences of its gay population. In Roman Londinium the city was dotted with lupanaria ('wolf dens' or public pleasure houses), fornices (brothels) and thermiae (hot baths). Then came the Emperor Constantine, with his bishops, monks and missionaries. And so began an endless loop of alternating permissiveness and censure. Ackroyd takes us right into the hidden history of the city; from the notorious Normans to the frenzy of executions for sodomy in the early nineteenth century. He journeys through the coffee bars of sixties Soho to Gay Liberation, disco music and the horror of AIDS. Today, we live in an era of openness and tolerance and Queer London has become part of the new norm. Ackroyd tells us the hidden story of how it got there, celebrating its diversity, thrills and energy on the one hand; but reminding us of its very real terrors, dangers and risks on the other.

Barnaby Rudge Jan 05 2020 Dickens's first historical novel is a thrilling tale of murder, treachery and forbidden love with rioting mob scenes to make your hair stand on end. Barnaby Rudge is a young innocent simpleton who is devoted to his talkative raven, Grip. When he gets caught up in the mayhem of the Gordon riots and a mysterious unsolved murder, his life is put in jeopardy. Barnaby Rudge is a powerful historical tale of treachery, forbidden love, abduction and the dangerous power of the mob.

Charles Dickens Nov 26 2021 Chronicles the life of the nineteenth-century literary master from the challenges he faced as the imprisoned son of a profligate father, his rise to one of England's foremost novelists, and the personal demons that challenged his relationships.

Dan Leno and the Limehouse Golem Jun 29 2019

The Lambs of London Oct 02 2019 Touching and tragic, ingenious, funny and vividly alive, this is Ackroyd at the top of his form in a masterly retelling of a 19th century drama which keeps the reader guessing right to the end.

The Life of Charles Dickens Feb 27 2022

Venice Apr 07 2020 In this magnificent vision of Venice, Peter Ackroyd turns his unparalleled skill at evoking place from London and the River Thames, to Italy and the city of myth, mystery and beauty. He leads us through the history of the city, from the first refugees arriving in the mists of the lagoon in the fourth century to the rise of a great mercantile state and a trading empire, the wars against Napoleon and the tourist invasions of today. There are wars and sieges, scandals and seductions, fountains playing in deserted squares and crowds thronging the markets. And there is a dark undertone too, of shadowy corners and dead ends, prisons and punishment. We could have no better guide to this most exceptional of cities - reading Ackroyd's Venice is, in itself, a glorious journey and the perfect holiday.

A Christmas Carol Aug 12 2020 Stunning illustrations by award-winning artist Lee Krutop accompany this timeless Christmas story. Each spread features a beautiful pop-up. This book is a special keepsake to be enjoyed and shared with loved ones for many years to come.

Dickens (Abridged) Nov 07 2022 Based upon an examination of original sources, this is a biography in which the figure of Charles Dickens and the moving spirit of his age are combined. The author also wrote "The Last Testament of Oscar Wilde", "Hawksmoor", "Chatterton", "T.S.Eliot" and "First Light".

The Great Fire of London Sep 12 2020 "Part novel and part autobiography, *The Great Fire of London* originates in the author's determination to come to terms with the sudden death of his young wife Alix, whose absence haunts every page. Paralyzed by grief, and having failed to complete the novel he had wanted to write, Jacques Roubaud begins a book about that very failure. He submerges his love and his sorrow in meditations that range from despair to playfulness, taking slow and painful steps toward surviving his great loss."--BOOK JACKET.

London Under Dec 28 2021 *London Under* is an atmospheric, imaginative introduction to everything that goes on under London, from original springs and streams and Roman amphitheatres to Victorian sewers, gang hideouts and modern Underground stations.

Introduction to Dickens Jul 03 2022 Describes the background of each of Dickens' major works, looks at their relationship to events from his life, and discusses his style and themes

The Fall of Troy Jul 31 2019 Fakes, forgeries and plagiarism abound in Ackroyd's brilliant historical novel, set in the 19th century during the excavation of the Bronze Age site of Troy. "I cannot wait to bring you to the plain of Troy. To show you the place where Hector and Achilles fought. To show you the palace of Priam. And the walls where the Trojan women watched their warriors in battle with the invader. It will stir your blood, Sophia." Sophia Chrysanthis is only 16 when the German archaeologist, Herr Obermann, comes wooing: he wants a Greek bride who knows her Homer. Sophia passes his test, and soon she is tying canvas sacking to her legs so that she can kneel on the hard ground in the trench, removing the earth methodically, identifying salient points, lifting out amphorae and bronze vessels without damaging them.

"Archaeology is not a science," Obermann says. "It is an art." Obermann is very good at the art of archaeology -- perhaps too good at it. The atmosphere at Troy is tense and mysterious. Sophia finds herself increasingly baffled by the past . . . not only the remote past that Obermann is so keen to share with her in the form of his beloved epics of the Trojan wars, but also his own, recent past -- a past that he has chosen to hide from her. But she, too, is very good at the art of archaeology . . . "From the Hardcover edition."

Hawksmoor Jan 17 2021 'There is no Light without Darknesse and no Substance without Shaddowe.' So proclaims Nicholas Dyer, assistant to Sir Christopher Wren and man with a commission to build seven London churches to stand as beacons of the enlightenment. But Dyer plans to conceal a dark secret at the heart of each church - to create a forbidding architecture that will survive for eternity. Two hundred and fifty years later, London detective Nicholas Hawksmoor is investigating a series of gruesome murders on the sites of certain eighteenth-century churches - crimes that make no sense to the modern mind . . . Cover art by: Barn 'whether the book addresses graffiti explicitly, evoke a city from the past, or are considered cult classics, the novels all share the quality - like street art - of speaking to their time.' Guardian Gallery

Milton in America Oct 26 2021 When Peter Ackroyd, one of Britain's undisputed literary masters, writes a new novel, it is a literary event. With his last novel, *The Trial of Elizabeth Cree*, "as gripping and ingenious a murder mystery as you could hope to come across," in the words of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, he reached a whole new level of critical and popular success. Now, with his trademark blending of historical fact and fictive fancy, Ackroyd has placed the towering poet of *Paradise Lost* in the new Eden that is colonial America. John Milton, aging, blind, fleeing the restoration of English monarchy and all the vain trappings that go with it ("misrule" in his estimation), comes to New England, where he is adopted by a community of fellow puritans as their leader. With his enormous powers of intellect, his command of language, and the awe the townspeople hold him in, Milton takes on absolute power. Insisting on strict and merciless application of puritan justice, he soon becomes, in his attempt at regaining paradise, as much a tyrant as the despots from whom he and his comrades have sought refuge, more brutal than the "savage" native Americans. As always, Ackroyd has crafted a thoroughly enjoyable novel that entertains while raising

provocative questions--this time about America's founding myths. With a resurgence of interest in the puritans (in the movie adaptations of *The Scarlet Letter* and the forthcoming *The Crucible*), Milton in America is particularly relevant. It is also entirely absorbing--in short, vintage Ackroyd.

Dickens Oct 06 2022 The acclaimed chronicler of London, Peter Ackroyd, has already written three books on Dickens. This volume explores the life and times of the great author.

Thames Sep 24 2021 In this perfect companion to *London: The Biography*, Peter Ackroyd once again delves into the hidden byways of history, describing the river's endless allure in a journey overflowing with characters, incidents, and wry observations. *Thames: The Biography* meanders gloriously, rather like the river itself. In short, lively chapters Ackroyd writes about connections between the Thames and such historical figures as Julius Caesar and Henry VIII, and offers memorable portraits of the ordinary men and women who depend upon the river for their livelihoods. The Thames as a source of artistic inspiration comes brilliantly to life as Ackroyd invokes Chaucer, Shakespeare, Turner, Shelley, and other writers, poets, and painters who have been enchanted by its many moods and colors.

Charlie Chaplin Feb 04 2020 He was the very first icon of the silver screen, and is one of the most recognisable faces in Hollywood, even a hundred years on from his first film. But what of the man behind the moustache? The director holding the camera as well as acting in front of it? Peter Ackroyd's new biography turns the spotlight on Chaplin's life as well as his work, from his humble theatrical beginnings in music halls to winning an honorary Academy Award. Everything is here, from the glamour of his golden age to the murky scandals of the 1940s and eventual exile to Switzerland.

Evil London Oct 14 2020