EN3E7 Crime Fiction, Nation, and Empire: Essay 2

- Deadline: One electronic WORD DOC (<u>not</u> pdf, if possible) should be submitted on TABULA on Friday of Term 3, week 2 (check tabula for exact date)
- Exchange students with us for the full academic term and registered under the code "EN3E7" should adhere to the same assessment methods as here. If with us for one term only, you will submit a 2,000 word essay on the last Tuesday of the term you complete.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Ensure to craft a specific thesis in response to the topic. Speak to me in <u>office hours</u> or by email about approaches.
- Ensure to refer to the <u>feedback from your first essay</u> to avoid repeated errors, and to improve presentation and style.
- Make sure that you are aware of and follow the <u>department guidelines</u> for the presentation of essays and of the <u>regulations on plagiarism</u>.
- Use <u>MLA or MHRA formatting</u>. See also, further departmental resources on essay and research skills on our <u>Academic Writing Moodle</u>.
- Extensions are to be requested via Tabula (either next to the assignment for a specific extension over 5 working days with evidence, or using the separate "self-certify" button under your "Personal Circumstances" tab for 5 working days no questions asked).

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

Engaging with one of the 12 quotes / images / sources below, write a 4000-word critical response that draws out some of the key themes discussed across the module.

You must use EITHER a mixture of (previously unused) "Term 1" (up to female detectives) and "Term 2" texts OR all "Term 2 texts" (from Chesterton to Marsh).

You must use <u>at least two texts</u>, but there is no upper limit on the number of texts you may engage with. You should consider how best to show close analysis and critical depth, however.

If the quote/image is of a particular author/text from the course, it is your choice whether you want to use their/that work specifically or engage with the content to discuss different texts.

It is your choice as to whether your engagement with the source is sustained or a jumping offpoint, whether you use one aspect of the source or all of it. I would suggest looking in to the source a bit more before making your decision.

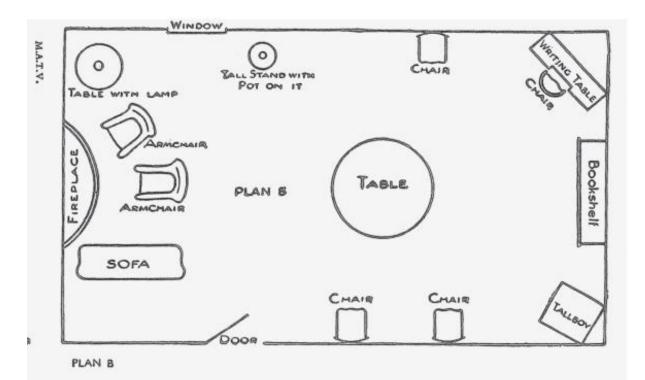
You should also use your own primary and/or secondary sources, and construct your own thesis and approach. Feel free to be more flexible in style and structure (but still scholarly and backing up your points!) than the standard academic essay.

- "Every woman is a human being—one cannot repeat that too often—and a human being *must* have occupation, if he or she is not to become a nuisance to the world." (Sayers, "<u>Are Women Human</u>?" 1938)
- 2. "The plague of atrocious and anonymous murders has naturally been discussed as a problem of the police. It is usually thought sufficient to make a vague demand for more "organisation," for the modern man is in favour of introducing order into everything except his own ideas. But I think the remedy insufficient—first, because the British police are already more centralised and powerful than they were ever meant to be, or than our national tradition of liberty allowed of their being; and, second, because all this talk of mere organisation rests on a fallacy. Organisation very often means merely turning men into machinery; and it is quite a mistake to suppose that machinery as such is efficient" (G.K. Chesterton, "The Efficiency of the Police", 1922).
- 3. "The phantasy, then, which the detective story addict indulges is the phantasy of being restored to the Garden of Eden, to a state of innocence, where he may know love as love and not as the law. The driving force behind this daydream is the feeling of guilt, the cause of which is unknown to the dreamer. The phantasy of escape is the same, whether one explains the guilt in Christian, Freudian, or any other terms. One's way of trying to face the reality, on the other hand, will, of course, depend very much on one's creed" (W.H. Auden, "<u>The Guilty Vicarage</u>", 1948).
- 4. "Do you promise that your detectives shall well and truly detect the crimes presented to them using those wits which it may please you to bestow upon them and not placing reliance on nor making use of Divine Revelation, Feminine Intuition, Mumbo Jumbo, Jiggery-Pokery, Coincidence, or Act of God?" (Oath of the Detection Club, c.1930)
- 5. "The writer of crime stories cannot say [...] that nothing human is alien to him; everything human is alien to him but murder. It is, of course, the most human of crimes, for I suppose we have all at one time or another contemplated it and have been held back from it either from dread of the penalty or from the fear (probably groundless) of our own remorse. But the murderer has taken the risk at which we hesitated and the prospect of the gallows invests his action with a grim impressiveness." (Somerset Maugham "<u>The Decline and Fall of the Detective Story</u>", 1952).
- 6. "The humanitarians take the lofty line that it is unpardonable to slay a human being [...] The medical men assert that because the majority of murderers are mentally abnormal [...] they should not in any case be put to death, but kept in confinement and under medical observation in the hope that it may be found possible, surgically or otherwise, to remove their criminal tendencies. The third class argue that because murders are committed from time to time, although the penalty is well known to be death, therefore the fear of death is no deterrent" (W.G. Carlton Hall, "<u>Capital Punishment</u>", 1928).
- 7. "Yes, the detective story does constitute escape; but it is escape not from life, but from literature [...] we have revolted from an excessive [113] subjectivity to welcome objectivity; from long drawn-out dissections of emotion to straightforward appeal to intellect; from reiterated emphasis upon men and women as victims either of circumstances or of their glands to a suggestion that men and women may consciously plot and consciously plan [...] from a smart and easy pessimism which interprets men and the universe in terms of unmoral purposelessness to a rebelief in a universe governed by cause and effect" (Marjorie Nicolson, "The Professor and the Detective", 1929).

8. Poster Image: Frank Newbould, "Your Britain. Fight for it Now" for *Army Bureau of Current Affairs*, 1942. https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/20289



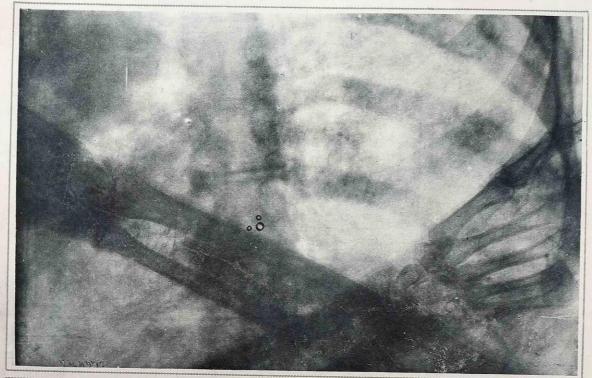
9. A map of the scene of the murder in *The Murder at the Vicarage*.

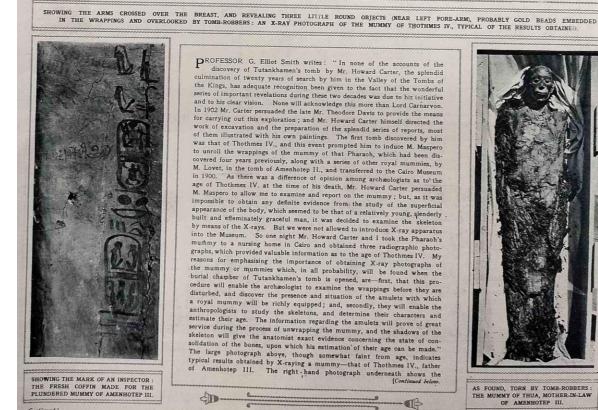


10. "X-raying a Pharaoh: How Tutankhamen's Mummy May be Treated" The Illustrated London News, no. 1057, 30 Dec, 1922.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, DEC. 30, 1922 .- 1057

X-RAYING A PHARAOH : HOW TUTANKHAMEN'S MUMMY MAY BE TREATED. PHOTOGRAPHS BY COURTESY OF PROFESSOR G. ELLIOT, SMITH, LITT.D., F.R.S., PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.





AS FOUND, TORN BY TOMB-ROBBERS : THE MUMMY OF THUA, MOTHER-IN-LAW OF AMENHOTEP III.

Continuet.) appearance of a royal mummy plundered by tomb-robbers in ancient times. Thua, whose mummy it is, was the mother of the famous Queen Tyl, wife of Amen-hotep III. Their son, Amenhotep IV. (afterwards known as Akhenaten), was the Heretic Pharaoh, whose daughter maried Tutankhamen. All these kings belonged to the Eighteenth Dynasty. During a later Dynasty (that of the Ramessids) it was found that robbers had plundered the royal tombs. The mum-Thua,

mies were then transferred to new coffins, inscribed with their names and titles, and scaled with the mark of the official inspectors, as shown in the left-hand photograph. This mark is the smaller horizontal inscription which is seen to the left of the large vertical inscription in the illustration. A report from Luxor on December 22 stated that it had been definitely established that the chambers discovered were the actual tomb of Tutankhamen.

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Cardiff City Police. TELEPHONE Nº 3213. LY PLEASE REFER Reference Bead Quarters, Main Courts, (5)comprising 16 coloured men for shooting; one coloured man for possessing firearms; and 4 Britishers for wilful damage. The casualties were approximately 12 in number; two proved fatal (one white and one coloured man) 3 coloured men have fractured skulls; one white man fractured skull; and the others were minor injuries. It is not possible for me to estimate in figures the damage that has been caused. So far as this day, Friday, has gone there is a certain liveliness amongst the white population in and abutting upon the affected area. It may develop during the evening but I have increased the mounted police on duty to 12 in number and am practically concentrating all my Force in the area of Butetown which is approximately a mile long by 300 yards wide. There can be no doubt that the aggressors have been those belonging to the white race. To go fully into the probable cause of their attitude would open up many issues but briefly it might safely be said that racial feeling which now exists is due to the following:-The coloured men resent their inability to secure employment on ships since the Armistice as they are being displaced by white crews; They are dissatisfied with the action of the Government; They regard themselves as British subjects; They claim equal treatment with whites and contend that they fought for the British Empire during the war and manned their food ships during the submarine campaign. The white population appear to be alarmed at the association of so many white women with the coloured races and imagine that they entice the white women to their houses. (As a matter of fact so far as the Police can observe certain white women court the favour of the coloured races). The housing question also arises. The coloured men have earned good wages during the war; they have saved their money; they have purchased houses; are always willing to pay higher rants; and even extorbitant sums as "key money" to secure possession of dwelling houses or shop premises. This feature particularly irritates the demobilized soldiers who have been unable to secure housing accommodation.

11. Extract from a <u>letter from the Cardiff Chief Constable to the Under Secretary of</u> <u>State</u>, Home Office, 13 June 1919. Catalogue ref: HO 45/11017/377969/5

12. Front page of an American newspaper, October 1929.

