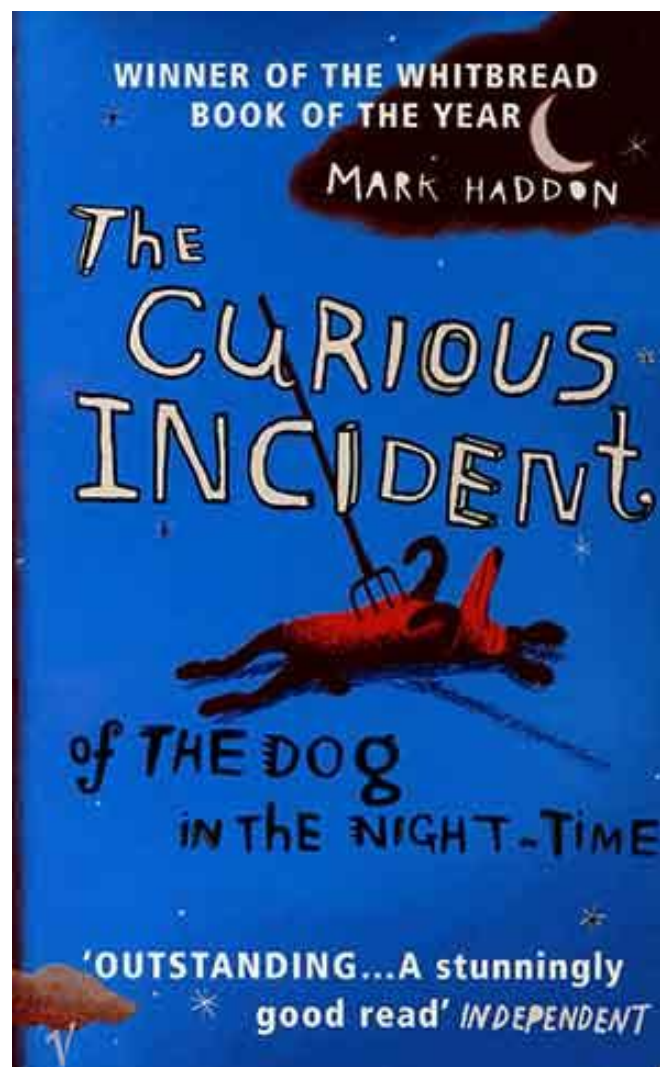


The curious incident of the dog in the night-time



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HAPPY

Summary

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

Christopher John Francis Boone is a fifteen years old boy who suffers from the Asperger's Syndrome.

He lives with his father in a small town named Swindon. One day he discovers the dead body of Wellington, the poodle of the neighbour Mrs. Shears, stabbed by a garden fork. This incident is the first climax of the novel.

Since he has been blamed for this, Christopher starts an investigation to clear himself of the suspicion. Meanwhile he decides to record and write down all of his findings as the investigation proceeds. Christopher also meets people throughout his investigation he has never met before, although they are living in Randolph Street.

After a while the action starts rising again. Christopher's father, who had forbidden him to investigate the Wellington's murder, finds the book and after a big argument with his son he hides it somewhere.

The next day Christopher looks for his book in his father's bedroom and while doing so he finds a lot of letters from his mother, addressed to Christopher. She lives in London now with Mrs Shear's husband. Christopher's father did tell him that his mother died of a heart attack. Christopher's disappointment and heartache leads into an even bigger fight with his father.

The fight reveals that Christopher's dad killed Wellington after having an argument with Mrs. Shears. Christopher is afraid of his own dad now and his actions, because he thinks that if he killed a dog he might be able to kill his own son. So Christopher runs away from home and goes to his mother who lives in London. .

Christopher's mother is really very happy to see her son, however, Mr. Shears and Christopher's father have several heated arguments with each other.

Meanwhile, Christopher wants to take his A-levels in math at his school, which is a special school, so his mother moves back to Swindon with him.

At the end of the story, Christopher's father gets his son a pet dog and Christopher is taking his math A-levels with best grades. The ending is still open, because the relationship between Christopher and his father is still quite difficult and a reader doesn't know how the family life will continue, since the parents still haven't made up with each other.

In my opinion, the most important and turning point of the story is the part where the autistic main character shows his strong will and independence while dealing with difficult life situations.

Christopher's Diary

Today I found a dead dog lying on the street at night. I was out at night to pretend I'm the only person in the world, because I like to do that. It makes me feel safe and calm.

Well, I went over to the dog and saw a fork being stuck in the body of the dog. The fork made 4 holes in the dog and he was leaking blood from there. I pulled the fork out and wondered about why someone would stuck a fork in the dog without the dog being wounded, because the dog looked completely normal except from the four holes. I would only kill a dog to release it from it's pain if the dog was wounded already, but not without any reason.

After I pulled out the fork I hugged the dog, because I like dogs and it made me feel sad that he was dead. I hugged him for three and a half minutes when Mrs. Shears came out of her house. It was her dog, and it was named Wellington. Mrs. Shears shouted at me and I lied myself on the ground with my forehead pressed onto the wet grass, because I don't like being shouted at. Mrs. Shears called the police and they asked a lot of questions and took me to the police department where my dad picked me up and took me home. He was very angry.

Christopher's Diary

Today I had orange juice and shreddiees for breakfast, even though I normally drink tea. But I would never eat shreddiees and tea for breakfast because it's both brown.

I knew it would be a super good day, because I saw 5 red cars in a row on my way to school, so I decided to do some more detective work after school. But when I came home my dad was already there so I couldn't do any detective work because he told me to stay out of other people's business. My dad prepared a plate with ham, bread, cheese and cucumber-slices on it, nicely separated to prevent it from touching each other.

When I finished my lunch I went up the stairs and took a carrot with me for Toby, but Toby was still sleeping when I entered the room, so I continued to write the text wich is a book now, about who killed Wellington. I have already written 20 pages, wich is a lot I guess. Then I started to write this, and now I'm going to go to bed.

Christopher's Diary

Today was a Super Good Day, because I saw 5 red cars in row on my way to school. Once Mr. Jeavons, the psychologist at the school, asked me why for example 4 red cars in a row made it a Good Day, and 3 cars in a row made it a Quite Good Day, and 5 red cars in a row made it a Super Good Day, and why 4 yellow cars in a row made it a Bad Day, which is a day when I don't speak to anyone and sit on my own, reading books and when I don't eat my lunch and Take No Risks. And I said that I liked things to be in a nice order. And one way of things being in a nice order was to be logical, especially when those things were numbers or an argument.

But that was only one thing, which made this day a Super Good Day, the other one was, that father wasn't here today, and I could do a little bit of detecting in our street to find out who had killed Wellington. So I took my Swiss Army Knife and went out on my own to walk to the little shop at the end of the street to buy a Milky Bar, although I didn't need my Swiss Army Knife because it was a Super Good Day and nothing could have happened to me.

When I walked out of the shop, back to our house, three guys passed by, and I opened my Swiss Army Knife in my pocket, because father said that these people in our neighbor hood always sell drugs in the park, and because they are strangers, and I don't like strangers, so I hid behind a car. When they were gone, I started to do some detecting and I looked around to find every single clue that could get me closer to the person who had killed Wellington, and that moment

Mrs. Alexander opened her door and said hello to me. I didn't reply, so she asked me why I wouldn't talk to her, and I said that she was a stranger and I didn't like strangers because they were scary. And then she said she wasn't a stranger and she asked me what I was doing out there and where my father was. And I said that he was at work and that I was going around finding out who had killed Wellington. But she said that this was a bad idea because it could get me into big trouble. Then I asked her if she had killed Wellington that night and she said no, so I wanted to go on searching but she said that I should wait, she would bring me some cake because I looked so hungry.

So I waited in front of her door for awhile, until I remembered that she actually was a stranger and I was scared of her again, so I went home to feed Toby, my pet rat.

And I felt like this 😊 because I had been doing some detecting work, which was solving a problem, just like in maths, my favorite subject, and that made me feel happy.

My clues to the Wellington-case

I've already written several pages for my book about who killed Wellington some nights ago, and this person can be punished for killing a poor dog. There was not much time to detect and find clues because my father has forbidden me to do any detecting work, but still I've got some clues and I am going to list them here and explain them all in detail.

First clue: I do know that Mrs. Alexander, our neighbor, did not kill Wellington because I had some small talk with her and she promised me that she hadn't killed him. And although she's a stranger, I believe her because she sounded quite trustable.

Second clue: I found a garden fork in Mrs. Shears' cottage. However, I am sure that Mrs. Shears didn't kill her own dog because that wouldn't make any sense. So I have to make a so called **Chain of Reasoning** first:

Why would you kill a dog?

- 1) Because you hated the dog
- 2) Because you were mad
- 3) Because you wanted to upset Mrs. Shears

Most murders are committed by someone who is known to the victim, that's a fact, and I know only one person who **a)** didn't like Mrs. Shears and **b)** who is known to the victim - and that's Mr. Shears. And Mr. Shears knew Wellington very well indeed.

So this means that Mr. Shears is my **Prime Suspect** at the moment, and in case I don't find any evidence that he hasn't done it, I am going to tell the police that he's the murderer of Wellington.

Christopher's Diary

When I went to London to find my mom I thought that I did a good job because everything went well. In the underground train station I kept holding Toby in one pocket because I didn't want him to escape and the Swiss army knife in my other pocket.

And suddenly I saw the escalators, which looked like stairs but they moved and people stepped on them to be carried down and I had to laugh because they looked like in some sort of science fiction film about the future. But I didn't want to take them so I went down the stairs besides the escalators. I bought a ticket for 2:20£ and went through one of the grey gates through which everybody went and saw a sign which said BAKERLOO LINE and another one which said DISTRICT LINE but none for JUBILEE LINE as the lady said whom I asked.

There was another sign for BAKERLOO LINE and on there it also said WILLESDEN JUNCTION so I followed the direction in which the sign pointed. I followed some other signs saying BAKERLOO LINE down another escalator. On the escalator there were people standing very close to me and I wanted to hit them but I did not, because of the caution.

ASPERGER-SYNDROME

Definition:

The Asperger-syndrome is a communication disturbance so it is the eased form of autism.

Typical characteristics:

You cannot identify a person having Asperger-syndrome without a special test. They seem to be as everyone else but they have strange behavior. Problems of interaction behavior, lack empathy, motorist abnormalities, as well as distinctive special interests are typical. Because of their special characteristics children often have problems to live with their parents or how to deal with other children.

Social attitude:

Before children are in primary school they tend to occupy them self with Asperger-syndrome. These kids often have rage attacks when the parents drift from their daily routines. They are very clumsy and they are speaking very clearly. They cannot stick to rules in school but in subject like math they impress with detail knowledge. But in other subjects just like P.E. they have problems.

Those kids have very few contacts with other children in the same age. Friendships are very hard to build because they can go on your nerves with their special interests and repeats. They cannot understand the feelings and emotions of other people that's why they have big problems in social attitude. Often they say anything mean without anger someone on purpose.

Assignable cause:

The book "Die Geburt des Selbst" written by Bruno Bettelheim came out in the year 1976. In this book it says that autism is a reaction of children on the characteristics of their parents. Today scientists recommend Asperger-syndrome as a genetic defect in the brain.