

Beat: Vips

## **AGATHA RAISIN is The New and Modern MISS MARPLE**

### **Agatha RAISIN Investigates**

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**USPA NEWS** - 'Agatha Raisin' is a Fictional Detective in a Series of Humorous Mystery Novels by Marion CHESNEY using the Pseudonym M. C. BEATON. Agatha Raisin is a frustrated middle-aged public-relations Agent who moved from London to Carsely in the Cotswolds when she sold her Firm in Mayfair and took early Retirement. She solves Murders in each of the earlier Books, but in the fifteenth Book Agatha Raisin and the Deadly Dance (2004) Agatha sets up her own Detective Agency. The police, and even some of her acquaintances, insist that she solves crimes through accident and luck.

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The following Books 'Pour Le Meilleur et Pour le Pire' (Agatha Raisin and The Murderous Marriage-1996) & 'Vacances Tous Risques' (Agatha Raisin and the Terrible Tourist-1997) were just translated into French for the French Market, by Albin Michel Edition. At this time, Agatha Raisin didn't have yet her own Detective Agency.

She was born Agatha Styles in a tower block slum in Birmingham to Joseph and Margaret Styles, both Unemployed Drunks living on Benefits and Occasional Bouts of Shoplifting.... After an Evening Secretarial Course she worked as a Secretary in a Public Relations Firm, moved into Public Relations work. Even though Carsely and Mircester are fictional, they are based on true places. The Recurring Characters are : Bill Wong (police constable and friend; the first friend Agatha made after relocating to the Cotswolds from London), James Lacey (neighbour with whom Agatha has an on-and-off romantic relationship), Mrs Margaret Bloxby (the vicar's wife who greatly admires Agatha and is always looking out for Agatha's best interest, Roy Silver -(former co-worker from the public relations firm Agatha previously owned), Doris Simpson (Agatha's ever-present cleaner and good friend, who looks after her cats Hodge and Boswell when she is away)...

Ruby BIRD

<http://www.portfolio.uspa24.com/>

Yasmina BEDDOU

<http://www.yasmina-beddou.uspa24.com/>

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**Editorial program service of General News Agency:**

United Press Association, Inc.

3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168

Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA

(702) 943.0321 Local

(702) 943.0233 Facsimile

[info@unitedpressassociation.org](mailto:info@unitedpressassociation.org)

[info@gna24.com](mailto:info@gna24.com)

[www.gna24.com](http://www.gna24.com)