



The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Adventure IV -- The Red-Headed League

“If we could change just one variable in a story, would that story still work? Or would the outcome change? How? And does changing one variable inevitably lead to changes in other variables?”

The vigil in the vault climaxes with a seam of light on the floor. “A gash seemed to open and a hand appeared; a white, almost womanly hand, which felt about in the centre of the little area of light.” This week’s variable is John Clay’s gender. To what degree would *The Red-headed League* change if Holmes’ opponent was the fourth smartest **person** in London, a woman working for half-wages in a pawn shop? Do you still like the story if the bad “guy” is a woman with mud stains on her skirt?



Sonia Fetherston

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