



His Last Bow

Adventure XLI – The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge

Talk about your disaster dinner parties: The host’s mind wandered, the conversation failed, the food was bad, the servant was a regular Lurch – what would Miss Manners do in a situation like this? We’ll see how John Scott Eccles handled the evening as we read our next story, *The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge*. My Q’s & Comments...

Once and for all now: Is Scott Eccles gay or straight?

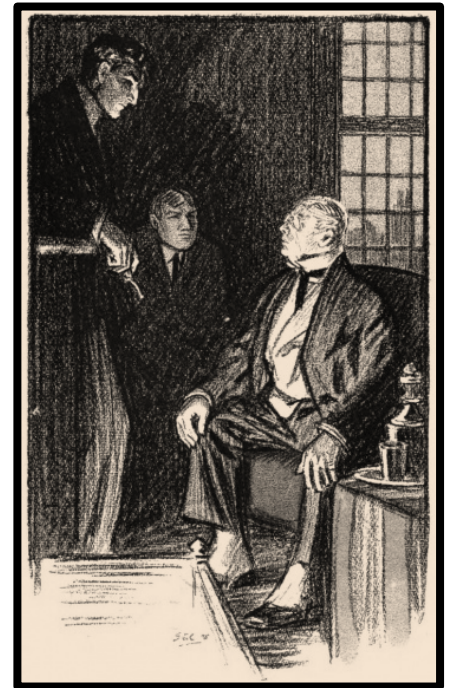
You spend the night with a stranger in an unusual setting. When you wake up, the host and his servants have mysteriously vanished.

Doesn’t WIST have its roots in the world of legend and folklore?

Sherlock Holmes impersonated a botanist which may or may not account for Warner’s initial notice of him. We learn in STUD that the detective’s knowledge of botany was “variable,” but is there other canonical evidence to support a serious interest in plants?

Isn’t the cook a little **too** orthodox? Can we accept ritual practices that are so **exactly** by-the-book?

A year ago I took a birdhouse painting class, a creative outlet that was supposed to help reduce stress. My very first “canvas” was a 10-inch cottage-style birdhouse that I covered with purple and blue flowery vines. My husband immediately dubbed it “Wisteria Lodge.”



In February, I weatherproofed it and hung it in a tree just outside the kitchen window. Before long a feathered family made themselves at home in it. We affectionately named the male "Scott Eccles." His mate we called "Miss Burnet." Their surviving babies became "Garcia," "Baynes" and "Watson." My family had fun watching their family all summer long. The kitty next door liked watching them, too. In fact, he hung around so much we gave him the inevitable canonical nom: "The Tiger of San Pedro."

Sonia Fetherston, BSI

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