

# Baker Street *Elementary*

PRESENTS  
"THE LIFE AND TIMES IN VICTORIAN LONDON"



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THE LIFE AND TIMES IN VICTORIAN LONDON  
# A054 -- SHERLOCK HOLMES IN DISGUISE -- FEBRUARY, 2022





*WELCOME TO TOPIC # 054... TODAY, WATSON AND  
I WILL DISCUSS MY USE OF DISGUISES  
THROUGHOUT MY CAREER...*





THE ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE ENCYCLOPEDIA WEBSITE  
LISTS ELEVEN STORIES WHERE I USED 14  
DIFFERENT DISGUISES:



- A SAILOR IN THE SIGN OF THE FOUR
- AN ASTHMATIC OLD MASTER MARINER IN THE SIGN OF THE FOUR
- A DRUNKEN-LOOKING GROOM IN 'A SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA'
- AN AMIABLE AND SIMPLE-MINDED NONCONFORMIST CLERGYMAN IN 'A SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA'



- A DODDERING OPIUM SMOKER IN 'THE MAN WITH THE TWISTED LIPS'
- A COMMON LOAFER IN 'THE ADVENTURE OF THE BERYL CORONET'
- A VENERABLE ITALIAN PRIEST IN 'THE FINAL PROBLEM'
- AN ELDERLY BOOK-COLLECTOR IN 'THE ADVENTURE OF THE EMPTY HOUSE'



- AN EAST END FAMILIAR KNOWN AS CAPTAIN BASIL IN 'THE ADVENTURE OF BLACK PETER'
- A PLUMBER WITH A NAMED ESCOTT IN 'THE ADVENTURE OF CHARLES AUGUSTUS MILVERTON'
- AN UNSHAVEN FRENCH OUVRIER IN 'THE ADVENTURE OF LADY FRANCE CARFAX'
- A WORKMAN LOOKING FOR A JOB IN 'THE ADVENTURE OF THE MAZARIN STONE'



- AN OLD SPORTING MAN IN 'THE ADVENTURE OF THE MAZARIN STONE'
- AN ELDERLY WOMAN IN 'THE ADVENTURE OF THE MAZARIN STONE'
- AN IRISH-AMERICAN SPY NAMED ALTAMONT IN 'HIS LAST BOW'





**THIS LIST SUGGESTS YOU WERE ABLE TO AGE YOURSELF; APPEAR SICK, DRUNK, OR DRUGGED; ADAPT ANOTHER ACCENT; CHANGE YOUR SEX; AND BE QUITE ATTRACTIVE TO WOMEN.**



THE WORLD ALSO LEARNED FROM ME THAT YOU WERE QUITE ADEPT AT ACTING AND HAD SEVERAL PLACES AROUND LONDON WHERE YOU COULD CHANGE HIS APPEARANCE.



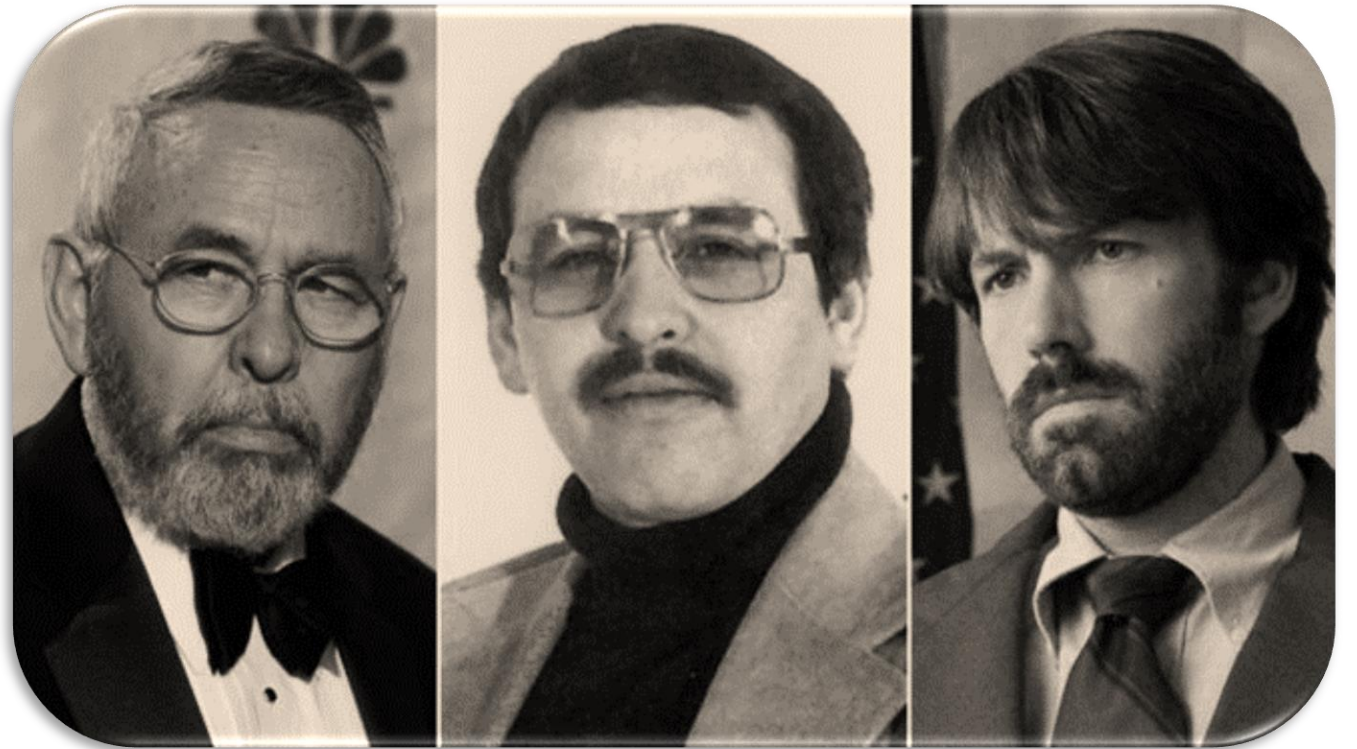
**WHILE THE USE OF DISGUISES DATES BACK TO THE BIBLE, MY DESCRIPTIONS INDICATED YOUR SKILLS EXHIBITED THAT OF A TRUE MASTER.**



*AS CIA 'MASTER OF DISGUISE' ANTONIO MENDEZ REMARKS, THE BASIS FOR A GOOD DISGUISE IS NOT ONLY CHANGING ONE'S APPEARANCE...*



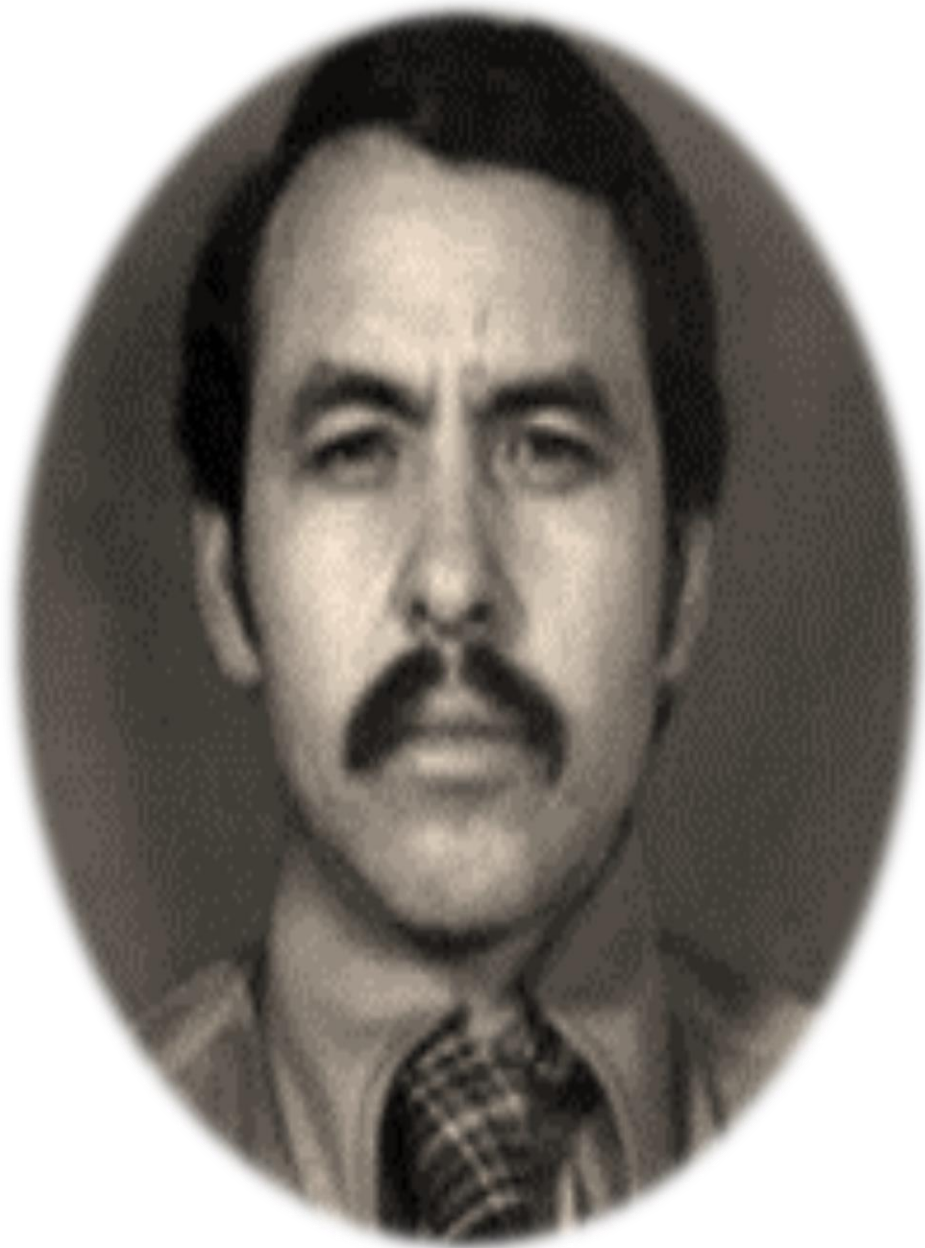
*...BUT ALSO CREATING A FULL ILLUSION THAT MISDIRECTS OTHERS TO KEEP THEM FROM SEEING WHAT IS BEFORE THEM.*





THE APPROPRIATE DISGUISE IS BASED ON AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE CULTURE CREATION OF A BACKSTORY, AND MAKING EVERYTHING APPEAR FAMILIAR AND IN THE OPEN.





**THIS OCCURS THROUGH AN UNDERSTANDING THE CULTURE AND PICKING BENIGN CHARACTERS FOR THE DISGUISE, SUCH THE ELDERLY OR WOMEN.**



ONE OF THE MOST INNOVATIVE TOOLS DESCRIBED  
BY MENDEZ IS THE GAMBIT.





...first time ever,  
...CIA has authorized  
...top-level operative  
...to tell all.

# THE MASTER OF *My Secret Life in the CIA* DISGUISE



ANTONIO  
MENDEZ

MALCOLM McC...

**GIVEN THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF THE DEVICE,  
HE ONLY PROVIDES A VAGUE DESCRIPTION OF THE  
ACTUAL DISGUISE.**

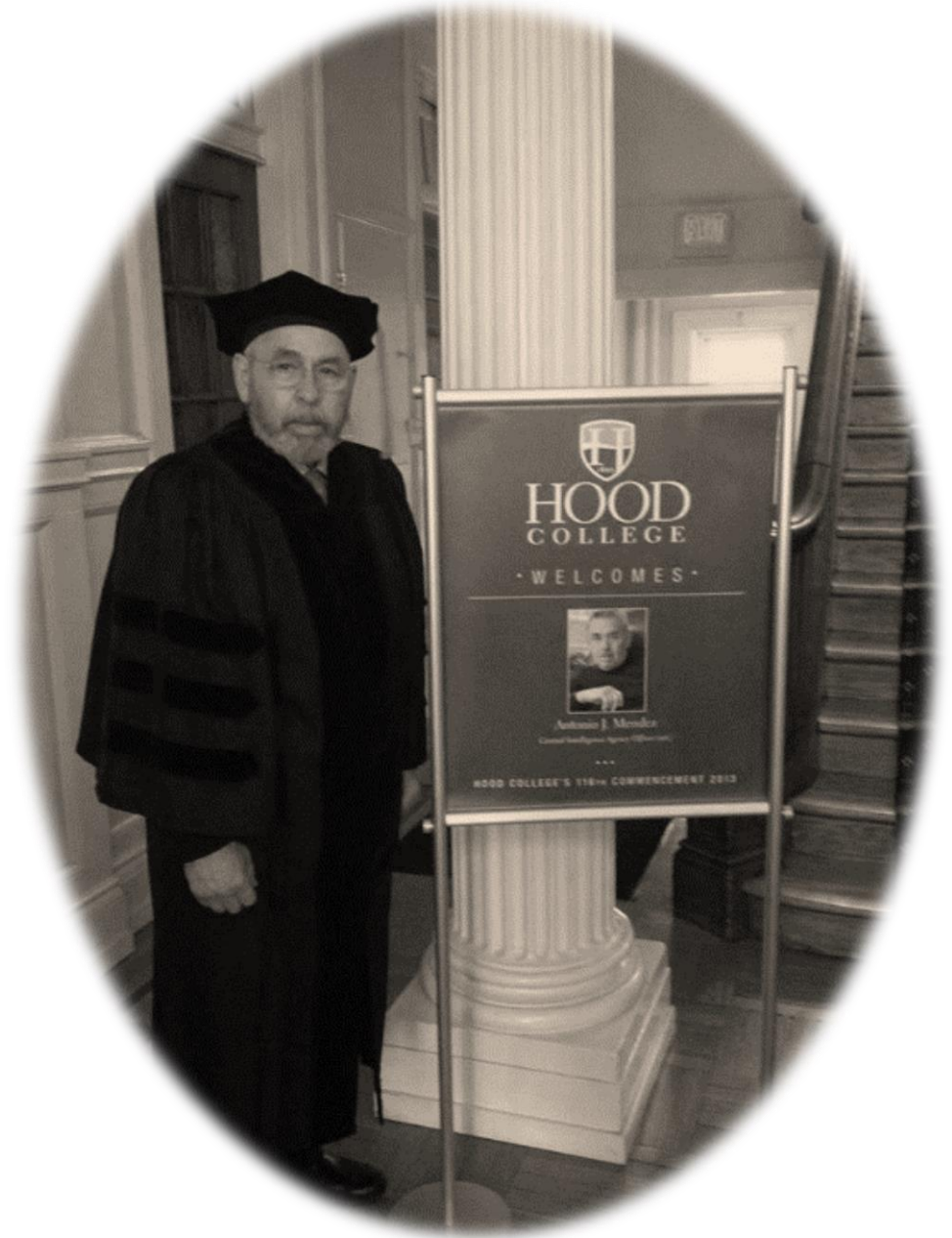




DEVELOPED THROUGH A COLLABORATION WITH A HOLLYWOOD MAKEUP ARTIST, THE MALLEABLE MATERIAL USED TO CREATE CINEMATIC SCIENCE-FICTION CHARACTERS SERVES IN REAL-LIFE TO CHANGE THE RACE, ETHNICITY, AND EVEN SEX OF AN INDIVIDUAL.



**OVER HIS CAREER, MENDEZ WORKED TO CREATE A DISGUISE KIT THAT COULD BE APPLIED QUICKLY IN THE DARK AND EVEN CARRIED OR STORED FLAT TO EASILY HIDE OR PASS ON.**



*MENDEZ'S WIFE, JONNA TELLS OF HER OWN USE OF THE DISGUISE AT A BRIEFING IN THE WHITE HOUSE.*



AFTER ENTERING THE OVAL OFFICE USING A GAMBIT, SHE REMOVED IT—THOROUGHLY FASCINATING SENIOR PRESIDENT BUSH... WHILE THE EVENT WAS PHOTOGRAPHED, THE ONLY COPY SHE WAS ABLE TO OBTAIN HAD THE ACTUAL DISGUISE AIR-BRUSHED OUT.



**THIS TECHNIQUE OF CHANGING A PERSON'S PHYSICAL APPEARANCE IS STILL CONSIDERED TOP SECRET.**



*CHANGING A PERSON'S PHYSICAL APPEARANCE,  
HOWEVER, IS ONLY PART OF THE DISGUISE...  
MENDEZ NOTES IT IS A MUCH LARGER PACKAGE...*





*...THE GAIT, THE MANNERISMS, AND THE ATTITUDE  
— AS WELL AS GOOD PLANNING AND STRONG  
BACKSTORY THAT MAKES A DISGUISE SUCCEED.*





*THE OPERATION MUST SET UP THE DECEPTION.*



**YOU HAD A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE 'WHOLE PACKAGE' REQUIRED TO PULL OFF A SUCCESSFUL RUSE ONE HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE MENDEZ.**



*ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION, I DESCRIBED HOW YOU WERE ABLE TO CREATE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSONA BASED ON THE CHARACTER YOU PORTRAYED — A PRIEST, A BOOKSELLER, OR AN IRISH-AMERICAN SPY.*



**THIS TRANSFORMATION WAS COMPLETE ENOUGH  
TO PASS INSPECTION BY ME, YOUR CLOSEST  
FRIEND, OR TO WIN THE HEART OF CHARLES  
MILVERTON'S HOUSEMAID.**



*I COULD SO COMPLETELY SUBMERGE MY OWN  
PERSONALITY TO BECOME THE YOUNG PLUMBER ESCOTT  
I WAS NOT BEYOND PROPOSING MARRIAGE WHEN I  
WOULD HAVE NEVER HARBORED THE THOUGHT.*



*I WAS SUCH A MASTER OF DISGUISE, I ACTUALLY  
SOMETIMES FOOLED MYSELF.*



*SO, WE HAVE COMPLETED TOPIC # 054 IN OUR SERIES...*

*IN TOPIC # 055, WE WILL BE LOOKING AT THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF  
TYPEWRITERS DURING THE VICTORIAN PERIOD.*



ORIGINAL SOURCE MATERIAL FOR THIS TOPIC:

- [HTTPS://WWW.ARTHUR-CONAN-DOYLE.COM/INDEX.PHP/SHERLOCK\\_HOLMES#DISGUISES](https://www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/index.php/Sherlock_Holmes#disguises)
- [HTTPS://WWW.SPYMUSEUM.ORG/MULTIMEDIA/SPYCAST/EPIISODE/THE-SECRET-HISTORY-OF-DISGUISES/](https://www.spymuseum.org/multimedia/spycast/episode/the-secret-history-of-disguises/)
- [HTTPS://WWW.CIA.GOV/LIBRARY/CENTER-FOR-THE-STUDY-OF-INTELLIGENCE/CSI-PUBLICATIONS/CSI-STUDIES/STUDIES/VOL46NO1/ARTICLE09.HTML](https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/csi-studies/studies/vol46no1/article09.html)
- ANTONIO MENDEZ, THE MASTER OF DISGUISE, NEW YORK: WILLIAM MORROW AND COMPANY, 1999





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"THE LIFE AND TIMES IN VICTORIAN LONDON"

IS CREATED THROUGH THE INGENUITY & HARD WORK OF:

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