



THE LIFE AND TIMES IN VICTORIAN LONDON # B009 - STORY SUMMARIES (CASEBOOK) - JANUARY, 2022



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SPECIAL SEGMENT, AS WE WILL GIVE A VERY SHORT SUMMARY OF EVERY ONE OF OUR 60 STORIES, WRITTEN BY OUR CREATOR, ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE. THANKS SO MUCH TO ALEXIS BARQUIN AND THE ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE ENCYCLOPEDIA FOR USE OF THEIR SUMMARY TEXTS FOR THIS LESSON.

WELCOME TO TOPIC NUMBER BOO9 ... THIS IS A



1. 'The Adventure of the Mazarin Stone'

YOU ARRIVE AT 221B BAKER STREET WHERE PAGE BOY BILLY SHOWS YOU A WAX EFFIGY OF ME PLACED NEAR A CURTAINED WINDOW IN THE SITTING ROOM. BILLY REMINDS YOU THE MAZARIN STONE, ONE OF THE CROWN JEWELS, WORTH A £100,000, WAS RECENTLY STOLEN. I HAVE BEEN ASKED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO FIND AND RETURN THE STONE. THE EFFIGY PRODUCES A SHADOW ON THE CURTAIN, WHEN VIEWED FROM OUTSIDE, IS THE UNMISTAKABLE PROFILE OF ME.

USING THIS VISUAL TRICK, I AIM TO GIVE A PERFECT TARGET TO A WOULD-BE MURDERER WITH AN AIR-RIFLE. I NAME MY 'MURDERER' AS COUNT NEGRETTO SYLVIUS, THE DIAMOND THIEF I HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING IN DISGUISE. I GIVE THE CRIMINAL'S ADDRESS TO YOU, THEN SEND YOU OUT THE BACK FOR THE POLICE. COUNT NEGRETTO SYLVIUS IS SHOWN INTO THE EMPTY LIVING ROOM. HE NOTICES THE DUMMY OF ME AND MISTAKES IT FOR ME.

HE CREEPS UP BEHIND THE ARMCHAIR, PREPARING TO STRIKE THE DUMMY WITH HIS WALKING STICK. JUST AS HE IS ABOUT TO HIT IT, I COME OUT OF HIS BEDROOM AND TELL THE COUNT NOT TO BREAK THE DUMMY. I THEN OFFER THE COUNT AND HIS HELPER, BOXER SAM MERTON, FREEDOM IF THEY GIVE UP THE JEWEL, OR JAIL IF NOT. I INVITE THEM TO DISCUSS THE DEAL WHILE I PLAY THE VIOLIN IN THE NEXT ROOM. (CONTINUED)

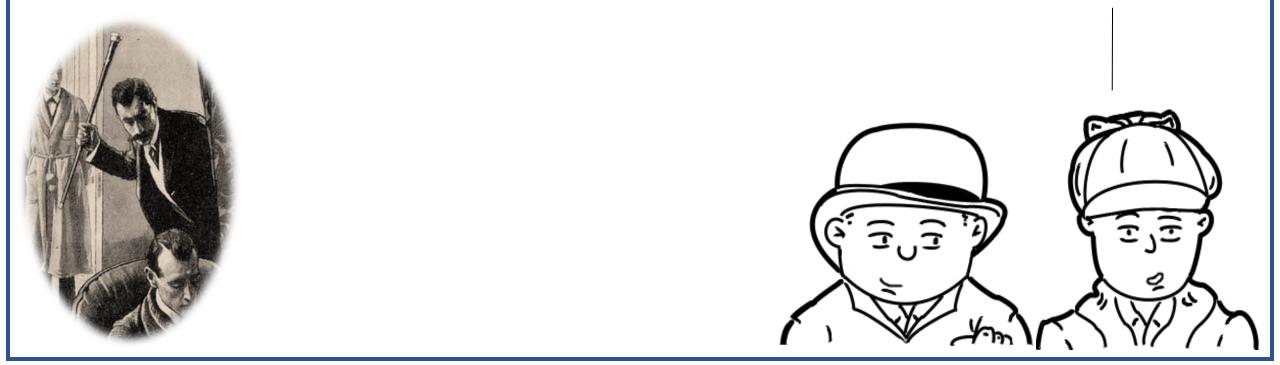


1. 'The Adventure of the Mazarin Stone'

('MAZA' CONT) THE COUNT AND SAM ARE CONFIDENT I CANNOT HEAR THEM OVER THE SOUND OF MY NOISY VIOLIN. SAM SUGGESTS THEY KILL ME, BUT SYLVIUS BELIEVES I HAVE ALREADY GIVEN ALL THE EVIDENCE TO THE POLICE. SAM, HOWEVER, THINKS SOMEBODY ELSE MIGHT BE HIDING IN THE ROOM AND LISTENING TO THEM. HE NOTICES THE DUMMY IN THE ARMCHAIR BY THE WINDOW. THE COUNT TELLS HIM IT IS NOT A REAL PERSON.

WHEN THE COUNT DECIDES TO DOUBLE-CROSS ME AND TAKE THE STONE FROM HIS POCKET TO SHOW SAM IN THE WINDOW LIGHT, I SPRING FROM THE CHAIR IN PLACE OF MY REPLICA AND GRAB THE £100K JEWEL. MY BEDROOM HAS A GRAMOPHONE AND SECRET PASSAGE BEHIND THE CURTAIN. YOU RETURN WITH OFFICERS FROM SCOTLAND YARD, WHO ARREST THE THIEVES. AFTER THE POLICE TAKE AWAY THE VILLAINS, LORD CANTLEMERE SWEEPS IN, AND REMOVES HIS COAT AT MY REQUEST.

LORD CANTLEMERE BELIEVES I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND OUT ANYTHING ABOUT THE THEFT OF THE MAZARIN STONE, A BELIEF WHICH I ENCOURAGE. WHEN TRICKED INTO INSISTING ON ARREST FOR WHOEVER IS FOUND POSSESSING THE DIAMOND, HE FINDS THE JEWEL IN HIS POCKET - WHERE I HAVE PLACED IT - AND APOLOGIZES. FINALLY, I CAN EAT.



2. 'The Problem of Thor Bridge'

NEIL GIBSON, THE GOLD KING AND FORMER SENATOR FROM 'SOME WESTERN STATE', APPROACHES HOLMES TO INVESTIGATE THE MURDER OF HIS WIFE MARIA IN ORDER TO CLEAR HIS CHILDREN'S GOVERNESS, GRACE DUNBAR, OF THE CRIME. IT SOON EMERGES MR. GIBSON'S MARRIAGE HAD BEEN UNHAPPY AND HE TREATED HIS WIFE VERY BADLY. HE HAD FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HER WHEN HE MET HER IN BRAZIL, BUT SOON REALIZED THEY HAD NOTHING IN COMMON.

HE BECAME ATTRACTED TO DUNBAR; SINCE HE COULD NOT MARRY HER, HE TRIED TO PLEASE HER IN OTHER WAYS, SUCH AS TRYING TO HELP PEOPLE LESS FORTUNATE. MARIA GIBSON WAS FOUND LYING IN A POOL OF BLOOD ON THOR BRIDGE, $\frac{1}{2}$ MILE FROM THE HOUSE, WITH A BULLET THROUGH THE HEAD AND A NOTE FROM THE GOVERNESS, AGREEING TO A MEETING AT THAT LOCATION, IN HER HAND. A RECENTLY DISCHARGED REVOLVER WITH ONE SHOT FIRED IS FOUND IN DUNBAR'S WARDROBE.

SHE COULD NOT PROVE AN ALIBI AND WAS SEEN NEAR THE BRIDGE. YOUAGREE TO LOOK AT THE SITUATION IN SPITE OF THE DAMNING EVIDENCE. THE EVIDENCE APPEARED CLEAR AT THE INQUEST, AND THE CASE HAS NOW GONE TO THE ASSIZES. FROM THE OUTSET, YOU OBSERVE RATHER ODD THINGS ABOUT THE CASE. HOW COULD DUNBAR SO COOLLY HAVE PLANNED AND CARRIED OUT THE MURDER AND THEN CARELESSLY TOSSED THE MURDER WEAPON INTO HER WARDROBE? (CONTINUED)





2. 'The Problem of Thor Bridge'

('THOR' CONT.) WHAT WAS THE STRANGE CHIP ON THE UNDERSIDE OF THE BRIDGE'S STONE BALUSTRADE? WHY WAS MRS. GIBSON CLUTCHING THE NOTE FROM MISS DUNBAR WHEN SHE DIED? IF THE MURDER WEAPON WAS ONE OF A MATCHED PAIR OF PISTOLS, WHY COULDN'T THE OTHER ONE BE FOUND IN MR. GIBSON'S COLLECTION? YOU USE YOUR POWERS OF DEDUCTION TO SOLVE THE CRIME, AND DEMONSTRATES, USING MY REVOLVER, HOW IT WAS PERPETRATED.

MRS. GIBSON, OUTRAGED AND JEALOUS OF DUNBAR'S RELATIONSHIP WITH HER HUSBAND, RESOLVED TO END HER OWN LIFE AND FRAME HER RIVAL FOR THE CRIME. AFTER ARRANGING A MEETING WITH DUNBAR, REQUESTING HER TO LEAVE HER RESPONSE IN A NOTE, MRS. GIBSON TIED A ROCK ON A PIECE OF STRING TO THE END OF A REVOLVER, AND SHOT HERSELF, THE ROCK PULLING THE REVOLVER OVER THE SIDE OF THE BRIDGE.

THE REVOLVER FOUND IN DUNBAR'S WARDROBE WAS THE OTHER PISTOL OF THE PAIR, WHICH HAD BEEN FIRED OFF IN THE WOODS EARLIER, AND THE CHIP IN THE BRIDGE WAS CAUSED BY THE PISTOL HITTING THE STONEWORK AS IT WAS PULLED OFF BY THE ROCK. YOUR RECONSTRUCTION REPRODUCES THE DAMAGE TO THE BALUSTRADE OF THE BRIDGE. HE ASKS THE POLICE TO DRAG THE LAKE FOR THE TWO REVOLVERS.





3. 'The Adventure of the Creeping Man'

TREVOR BENNETT COMES TO ME WITH A MOST UNUSUAL PROBLEM. HE IS PROFESSOR PRESBURY'S PERSONAL SECRETARY, AND ENGAGED TO THE PROFESSOR'S ONLY DAUGHTER, EDITH. PRESBURY IS HIMSELF ENGAGED TO A YOUNG LADY, ALICE MORPHY, ALTHOUGH HE HIMSELF IS ALREADY 61 YEARS OF AGE. THEIR IMPENDING MARRIAGE DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE CAUSED A GREAT SCANDAL. THE TROUBLE SEEMS TO HAVE BEGUN AT ABOUT THE TIME OF PRESBURY'S AND ALICE'S ENGAGEMENT.

PRESBURY RETURNED FROM A TRIP LOOKING TRAVEL-WORN, AND IT WAS ONLY THROUGH A LETTER FROM A FRIEND SENT TO BENNETT THE FAMILY LEARNT PRESBURY HAD BEEN TO PRAGUE. PRESBURY BROUGHT A SMALL WOODEN BOX BACK, AS WELL STARTED RECEIVING ANONYMOUS LETTERS FROM THE CONTINENT. EVERYONE AROUND PRESBURY FEELS HE HAS CHANGED, INCLUDING NEW BIZARRE HABITS, INCLUDING CRAWLING ALONG ON HIS HANDS AND FEET.

EDITH ADMITS TO SEEING HER DAD OUT OF HER TWO-STORY WINDOW ONE NIGHT, WITHOUT THE USE OF A LADDER. EVEN PRESBURY'S DOG ATTACKED HIM ON SPECIFIC DATES, WHICH I KNOW IS SIGNIFICANT. WE GO TO CAMFORD TO SEE THE PROFESSOR. PRESBURY IS FURIOUS AT THE INTRUSION, SO WE LEAVE. I TELL YOU THE MEETING WAS PRODUCTIVE. BENNETT REVEALS THE LETTERS' ADDRESSEE, A DORAK FROM PRAGUE, WHO I DISCOVER KEEPS A LARGE GENERAL STORE. (CONTINUED)



3. 'The Adventure of the Creeping Man'

('CREE' CONT.) I BELIEVE EVERY NINE DAYS, PRESBURY TAKES SOME DRUG WHICH CAUSES THE ODD BEHAVIOUR. I DEDUCE HE BECAME ADDICTED IN PRAGUE, AND IS NOW SUPPLIED BY THIS DORAK. WE RETURN TO CAMFORD THE NEXT TUESDAY, AND WHICH POINT I REALIZE PRESBURY IS BEHAVING LIKE A MONKEY. SHORTLY, WE OBSERVE PRESBURY'S ODD BEHAVIOUR. HE COMES OUT OF THE HOUSE, SCAMPERS ABOUT ON ALL FOURS, CLIMBS ON THE CREEPER, AND TORMENTS THE TIED-UP DOG.

THE WOLFHOUND GETS LOOSE AND ATTACKS THE PROFESSOR. WE, WITH BENNETT'S HELP, MANAGE TO GET THE DOG OFF THE PROFESSOR, BUT HE IS WOUNDED BADLY. BENNETT AND YOU, WHO IS ALSO A MEDICAL MAN, TEND TO THE PROFESSOR'S INJURIES. I EXAMINE PRESBURY'S LITTLE BOX AFTER HAVING OBTAINED THE KEY FROM THE NOW UNCONSCIOUS OWNER. IT CONTAINED A DRUG, AS I EXPECTED, WITH A LETTER FROM A MAN NAMED LOWENSTEIN.

HE HELPED THE PROFESSOR SEEK OUT A WAY OF ACHIEVING REJUVENATION, WHICH HE THOUGHT WOULD BE ADVISABLE IF HE WERE GOING TO MARRY A YOUNG WOMAN. THE DRUG IS AN EXTRACT OBTAINED FROM LANGURS, AND ALTHOUGH IT HAS APPARENTLY GIVEN THE PROFESSOR RENEWED ENERGY, IT HAS ALSO GIVEN HIM SOME OF THE LANGUR'S TRAITS. I WILL WRITE TO LOWENSTEIN AND TO TELL HIM HE IS CRIMINALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE 'POISONS WHICH HE CIRCULATES.'



4. 'The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire '

YOU RECEIVE AN ODD LETTER REFERENCING VAMPIRES. MR. ROBERT FERGUSON IS CONVINCED HIS PERUVIAN WIFE HAS BEEN SUCKING THEIR BABY SON'S BLOOD. BY HIS FIRST WIFE, HE HAS A 15-YEAR-OLD SON NAMED JACK, WHO HAS BEEN STRUCK TWICE BY HIS STEPMOTHER. SEVERAL TIMES, SHE HAS BEEN SUCKING THE BABY'S NECK BY THE NURSE, WHO AT FIRST HESITATES TO TELL MR. FERGUSON ABOUT IT. INDEED, MRS. FERGUSON BRIBED HER TO KEEP QUIET.

THE WIFE HAS LOCKED HERSELF IN HER ROOM REFUSING TO COME OUT. ONLY HER MAID, DOLORES, IS ALLOWED IN. SHE TAKES MRS. FERGUSON HER MEALS. EVEN BEFORE WE SET OFF FOR THE HOUSE, YOU HAVE DEDUCED WHAT IS GOING ON, AND IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH VAMPIRES. UPON OUR ARRIVAL, THE MAID ANNOUNCES HER MISTRESS IS ILL, AND I OFFER TO HELP.

I FIND AN AGITATED WOMAN IN THE ROOM UPSTAIRS - SHE SPEAKS OF ALL BEING DESTROYED, AND OF SACRIFICING HERSELF RATHER THAN BREAKING HER HUSBAND'S HEART. SHE ALSO DEMANDS HER CHILD, WHO HAS BEEN WITH THE NURSE, SINCE FERGUSON DISCOVERED THE BLOODSUCKING INCIDENTS. YOU EXAMINE THE SOUTH AMERICAN WEAPONS DISPLAYED IN THE HOUSE AND MEETS THE CHILDREN. (CONTINUED)





4. 'The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire '

('SUSS' CONT.) YOU REALIZE THIS IS A VERY DELICATE CASE, AS IT WILL MEAN PAIN FOR MR. FERGUSON. YOU EXPLAIN THE TRUTH ABOUT WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING, WHICH RELIEVES MRS. FERGUSON. IT TURNS OUT THE CULPRIT IS JACK, FERGUSON'S ELDER SON, WHO IS EXTREMELY JEALOUS OF HIS YOUNG HALF-BROTHER. YOU DEDUCED THIS AND CONFIRMED IT BY LOOKING AT JACK'S REFLECTION IN THE WINDOW WHILE HIS FATHER'S ATTENTION WAS ON THE BABY.

JACK ATTEMPTED TO MURDER HIS HALF-BROTHER BY SHOOTING POISONED DARTS AT HIM, AND HIS STEPMOTHER'S BEHAVIOUR OF SUCKING THE BABY'S NECK IS THEREBY EXPLAINED: SHE WAS SUCKING THE POISON OUT. IT ALSO EXPLAINS WHY SHE STRUCK JACK, AND WHY SHE WAS SICK WHEN WE ARRIVED. THE WOUNDS WERE CAUSED BY THE DARTS, NOT BY HER BITING.

SHE COULD NOT TELL HER HUSBAND WHAT WAS GOING ON, AS IT WOULD BREAK HIS HEART. SHE COULD, HOWEVER, TELL THE NURSE, WHOM SHE TRUSTED WITH THE CHILD. YOU PRESCRIBE A YEAR AT SEA FOR JACK, IN LIEU OF ANY FORMAL PUNISHMENT.



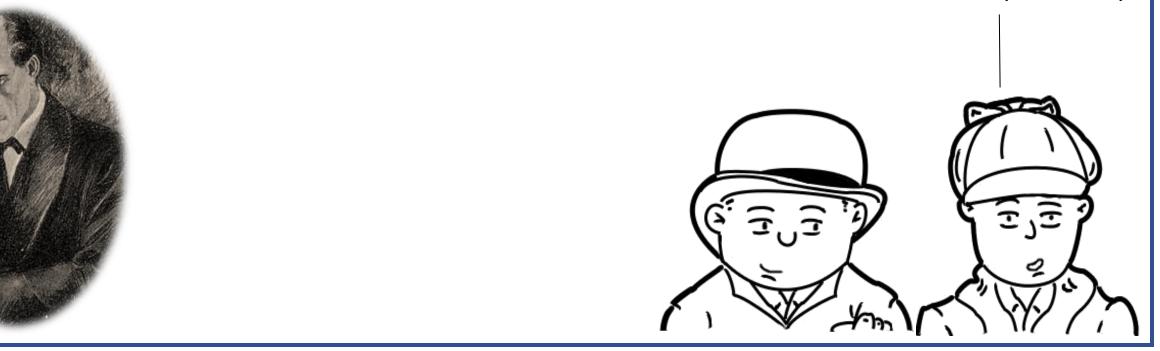


5. 'The Adventure of the Three Garridebs'

I RECEIVE A LETTER FROM NATHAN GARRIDEB, ASKING FOR HELP IN A MOST PECULIAR QUEST. HE IS LOOKING FOR ANOTHER MAN WITH HIS UNUSUAL SURNAME, FOR IT WILL MEAN A \$5 MILLION INHERITANCE FOR HIM. HE HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY JOHN GARRIDEB OF KANSAS, WHO SAYS HE NEEDS TO FIND OTHERS WITH THE SAME LAST NAME. THE AMERICAN GARRIDEB COMES TO SEE US, AND IS NOT PLEASED NATHAN HAS INVOLVED A DETECTIVE.

JOHN, WHO CLAIMS TO BE A LAWYER, SPINS A RIDICULOUS STORY ABOUT ALEXANDER HAMILTON GARRIEDEB, A MILLIONAIRE LAND TYCOON HE MET IN KANSAS. HAMILTON BEQUEATHED HIS \$15 MILLION ESTATE TO JOHN GARRIDEB ON THE PROVISION HE FIND TWO MORE GARRIDEBS TO SHARE IT WITH EQUALLY. HE CAME TO ENGLAND TO SEEK OUT PEOPLE WITH THE NAME, HAVING FAILED IN HIS OWN COUNTRY. SO FAR, HE HAS FOUND ONLY NATHAN.

DURING THE INTERVIEW, I DETECT MANY DISCREPANCIES IN JOHN'S STORY, BUT DECIDE NOT TO CONFRONT HIM. THIS PIQUES MY INTEREST, AND I DECIDE TO CONTACT NATHAN TO INVESTIGATE FURTHER. UPON ARRIVAL AT HIS HOUSE, I OBSERVE NATHAN'S NAMEPLATE OUTSIDE THE HOUSE. IT HAS BEEN THERE FOR YEARS; SO I CONCLUDE GARRIDEB IS AT LEAST HIS TRUE SURNAME. NATHAN IS AN ELDERLY ECCENTRIC WHO COLLECTS EVERYTHING FROM ANCIENT COINS TO OLD BONES. (CONTINUED)



5. 'The Adventure of the Three Garridebs'

('3GAR' CONT.) I FIND OUT JOHN HAS NEVER ASKED FOR ANY MONEY, NOR HAS HE SUGGESTED ANY COURSE OF ACTION. JOHN ARRIVES IN A MOST JOLLY MOOD. HE HAS FOUND A THIRD GARRIDEB. I SEE INSTANTLY JOHN HAS PLACED THE ADVERTISEMENT HIMSELF FROM VARIOUS SPELLING AND WORDING CHOICES. DESPITE NATHAN'S OBJECTIONS, JOHN INSISTS NATHAN GO TO BIRMINGHAM AND MEET HOWARD GARRIDEB. IT CLEAR TO ME WHAT THE 'RIGMAROLE OF LIES' IS ALL ABOUT.

JOHN WANTS NATHAN TO BE OUT OF HIS ROOMS FOR A WHILE. INSPECTOR LESTRADE IDENTIFIES JOHN AS JAMES WINTER, MORECROFT, 'KILLER' EVANS, WHO ESCAPED PRISON AFTER SHOOTING THREE MEN IN THE STATES. IN LONDON, HE KILLED RODGER PRESCOTT, A CHICAGO FORGER WHOSE DESCRIPTION MATCHES THE FORMER OCCUPANT OF NATHAN'S ROOM. WE GO TO GARRIDEB'S HOME ARMED WITH REVOLVERS. WHILE IN HIDING, WE SEE WINTER OPEN A TRAPDOOR REVEALING A LITTLE CELLAR.

WE CAPTURE WINTER, AFTER HE MANAGES TO SHOOT YOU IN THE LEG. I VOW THE VILLAIN WOULD HAVE NEVER LEFT THE ROOMS ALIVE IF HE HAD KILLED YOU. THE LITTLE CELLAR CONTAINS A PRINTING PRESS AND STACKS OF COUNTERFEIT BANKNOTES, HIDDEN THERE BY PRESCOTT, THE MAN WINTER KILLED. WINTER IS SENT BACK TO PRISON. NATHAN ENDS UP IN A NURSING HOME, SO GREAT IS HIS DISAPPOINTMENT.



6. 'The Adventure of the Illustrious Client'

SIR JAMES DAMERY COMES TO SEE US ABOUT HIS CLIENT'S PROBLEM (IMPLIED TO BE KING EDWARD VII). GENERAL DE MERVILLE'S YOUNG DAUGHTER VIOLET HAS FALLEN IN LOVE WITH THE ROGUISH BARON GRUNER, WHOM WE ARE CONVINCED IS A SHAMELESS PHILANDERER AND A MURDERER. THE VICTIM WAS HIS LAST WIFE, OF WHOSE MURDER HE WAS ACQUITTED DUE TO A LEGAL TECHNICALITY. YOU ALSO FIND OUT THE BARON HAS EXPENSIVE TASTES AND IS A COLLECTOR OF CHINESE POTTERY.

YOUR FIRST STEP IS TO SEE GRUNER, WHO DOESN'T SEE YOU AS A THREAT. GRUNER WILL NOT BE MOVED AND CLAIMS HIS CHARM IS MORE POTENT THAN EVEN A POST-HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION IN CONDITIONING VIOLET'S MIND TO REJECT ANYTHING BAD THAT MIGHT BE SAID ABOUT HIM. YOU GET SOME HELP WITH YOUR MISSION IN THE FORM OF SHINWELL JOHNSON. JOHNSON FINDS KITTY WINTER, THE BARON'S LAST MISTRESS. SHE IS BENT ON REVENGE AND WILL DO ANYTHING TO HELP US.

KITTY TELLS YOU THE BARON 'COLLECTS WOMEN' AND CHRONICLES HIS CONQUESTS IN A BOOK, KEPT IN HIS STUDY. YOU REALIZE THIS BOOK, WRITTEN IN GRUNER'S OWN HAND, IS THE KEY TO CURING VIOLET OF HER DEVOTION TO THE SCOUNDREL. YOU GO TO SEE VIOLET, BRINGING KITTY WITH HIM, BUT VIOLET WILL NOT LISTEN TO YOU. KITTY MAKES IT CLEAR VIOLET MIGHT END UP DEAD IF SHE IS FOOLISH ENOUGH TO MARRY GRUNER. (CONTINUED)





6. 'The Adventure of the Illustrious Client'

('ILLU' CONT.) YOU ARE ATTACKED BY TWO MEN, AND THE NEWSPAPERS IMPLY YOU ARE NEAR DEATH. I DISCOVER YOUR INJURIES ARE EXAGGERATED TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION YOU WILL BE OUT OF ACTION FOR QUITE A WHILE. SEVERAL DAYS LATER, YOU SUFFICIENTLY RECOVER TO BE OUT OF BED. THE BARON IS PLANNING A TRIP TO THE U.S. BEFORE THE WEDDING. YOU KNOW GRUNER WILL TAKE HIS BOOK WITH HIM.

YOU ASK ME TO LEARN EVERYTHING I CAN ABOUT CHINESE POTTERY. THE NEXT DAY, YOU PRESENT ME WITH A FAKE BUSINESS CARD AND AN ACTUAL PIECE OF MING POTTERY. I GO TO GRUNER'S HOUSE AND TRY TO SELL THE SAUCER, BUT DO NOT FOOL HIM, AND REALIZES YOU SENT ME. AS I FACE MY CAPTOR, A NOISE ALERTS THE BARON AND HE RUSHES INTO HIS STUDY JUST IN TIME TO SEE YOU JUMP OUT OF THE WINDOW.

THE BARON RUSHES TO THE WINDOW, BUT WINTER, WHO HAS BEEN HIDING OUTSIDE, THROWS VITRIOL IN HIS FACE. YOU DO MANAGE TO STEAL THE BOOK. THE BARON IS NOW HIDEOUSLY DISFIGURED. WHEN VIOLET SEES THE BOOK OF CONQUESTS SHE REALIZES WHAT A ROGUE HE IS, AND CALLS OFF THE WEDDING. IT ALSO SAYS VITRIOL-THROWING CHARGES ARE BEING PRESSED AGAINST WINTER. EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES REDUCE HER SENTENCE TO THE LOWEST POSSIBLE.





7. 'The Adventure of the Three Gables'

STEVE DIXIE VISITS AND WARNS ME TO KEEP AWAY FROM HARROW. DIXIE'S BOSS IS BARNEY STOCKDALE, AND HE MUST BE CONNECTED WITH THE HARROW WEALD CASE, OF WHICH HOLMES HAS JUST LEARNT FROM A MESSAGE FROM MARY MABERLEY, A LADY WHO LIVES AT THREE GABLES OF HARROW WEALD. MRS. MABERLEY IS AN ELDERLY WOMAN WHOSE SON HAS RECENTLY DIED IN ROME. HE WAS AN ATTACHÉ THERE. SOME PECULIAR THINGS HAVE HAPPENED AT THREE GABLES.

MRS. MABERLEY HAS LIVED THERE NEARLY TWO YEARS AND IN ALL THAT TIME HAS ATTRACTED VERY LITTLE ATTENTION. HOWEVER, A MAN CAME TO HER AND OFFERED TO BUY HER HOUSE AND ALL THE FURNITURE IN IT, WITH HER AGREEING TO REMOVE NO POSSESSIONS. AS SHE IS TELLING ME THE STORY, I BECOME AWARE THE MAID IS EAVESDROPPING ON THE CONVERSATION, WHO COMMUNICATED TO STOCKDALE HER MISTRESS WAS HIRING ME.

I FIND OUT A RICH WOMAN HIRED STOCKDALE AND HIS THUGS TO DO HER DIRTY WORK. THIS WOMAN WANTS AN ITEM IN THE HOUSE. I REALIZE MABERLEY'S LATE SON DOUGLAS'S BELONGINGS MUST HOLD THE KEY. HOLMES FINDS DIXIE OUTSIDE, KEEPING THE HOUSE UNDER SURVEILLANCE. DIXIE IS NOW INCLINED TO HELP HOLMES IF HE CAN. HE SWEARS, HOWEVER, HE DOES NOT KNOW WHO HAS HIRED BARNEY STOCKDALE. (CONTINUED)





7. 'The Adventure of the Three Gables'

('3GAB' CONT.) WE GO BACK TO THREE GABLES TO INVESTIGATE A BURGLARY. THE BURGLARS CHLOROFORMED MRS. MABERLEY AND STOLE A MANUSCRIPT FROM HER SON'S BELONGINGS. SHE RETAINED PART OF ONE SHEET OF PAPER FROM THE STOLEN PAPERS. THE POLICE INSPECTOR AT THE SCENE TREATS THE MATTER AS AN ORDINARY BURGLARY, BUT I KNOW BETTER. THE MANUSCRIPT BIT APPEARS TO BE THE END OF A LURID NOVEL. I AM STRUCK BY THE PECULIAR WORDING.

THE STORY ABRUPTLY CHANGES FROM THIRD-PERSON NARRATION TO FIRST-PERSON NARRATION. IT IS IN DOUGLAS'S HANDWRITING; IT WOULD SEEM HE WAS PUTTING HIMSELF IN A STORY HE WAS WRITING. WE GO TO SEE ISADORA KLEIN, A WEALTHY WOMAN WHO IS USED TO GETTING WHAT SHE WANTS. IT TURNS OUT DOUGLAS WAS INVOLVED WITH KLEIN AT ONE TIME. SHE STOPPED THE RELATIONSHIP, AND HE WROTE AN ACCOUNT OF THEIR AFFAIR, TO BE PUBLISHED AS A NOVEL.

EVERYONE IN LONDON WOULD KNOW WHO THE CHARACTERS TRULY WERE, WERE THE NOVEL PUBLISHED. ISADORA ESTABLISHED NO COPY HAD EVER BEEN SENT TO THE PUBLISHER BUT REALIZED HE MUST HAVE A COPY. SHE HIRED STOCKDALE AND HIS CONFEDERATES TO SECURE THE MANUSCRIPT. SHE HAS BURNT THE MANUSCRIPT. I FORCE KLEIN TO WRITE A CHEQUE FOR £5000 TO FURNISH MABERLEY WITH A FIRST-CLASS TRIP ROUND THE WORLD IN RETURN FOR MY SILENCE.



8. 'The Adventure of the Blanched Soldier'

JAMES DODD SEES YOU ABOUT A MISSING FRIEND, GODFREY EMSWORTH. THEY SERVED TOGETHER DURING THE SECOND BOER WAR, WHERE EMSWORTH WAS WOUNDED. DODD HAS NOT SEEN HIM SINCE THE REPORT OF HIS INJURY. SINCE EMSWORTH HAS BEEN A GOOD FRIEND, DODD BELIEVES SOMETHING IS AMISS. DODD WRITES TO COLONEL EMSWORTH, GODFREY'S FATHER. HE WAS TOLD IN A TERSE LETTER GODFREY WAS NOT AT HOME, AND HAD GONE ON A VOYAGE AROUND THE WORLD.

DODD WAS NOT SATISFIED WITH THIS EXPLANATION, AND WENT TO THE EMSWORTH FAMILY HOME. THE COLONEL REPEATED THE STORY ABOUT HIS SON'S VOYAGE, AND WOULD PROVIDE NO MORE INFORMATION. DODD WAS DETERMINED TO ASCERTAIN GODFREY'S FATE. THAT EVENING, DODD TALKED TO THE BUTLER WHO INDICATED GODFREY MIGHT BE BETTER OFF DEAD. GODFREY'S APPEARANCE AT THE BEDROOM WINDOW, LOOKING GHASTLY PALE MADE THE MYSTERY DEEPER.

HE RAN OFF WHEN HE SAW DODD WAS LOOKING STRAIGHT AT HIM. DODD OPENED THE WINDOW AND CLIMBED OUT, BUT LOST GODFREY IN THE DARK. DODD CONTRIVED TO STAY ANOTHER DAY, AND WENT LOOKING ABOUT THE PROPERTY. HE FOUND AN OUTBUILDING LOOKING EMPTY, BUT WITH A WELL-DRESSED MAN LEAVING. HE IS SURE IT WAS WHERE GODFREY HAD GONE THE PREVIOUS EVENING. AT NIGHT, HE CREPT OUT OF THE BEDROOM AGAIN AND STOLE DOWN TO THE OUTBUILDING. (CONTINUED)





8. 'The Adventure of the Blanched Soldier'

('BRUC' CONT.) LOOKING THROUGH THE SHUTTERS, HE SAW THE MAN HE HAD SEEN EARLIER, AND ANOTHER FIGURE WHO IS SIMILAR TO GODFREY. COLONEL EMSWORTH FINDS HIM OUTSIDE THE BUILDING, TELLS HIM TO LEAVE THE PROPERTY. DODD COMES STRAIGHT TO YOU TO RELATE THE STORY, AND YOU FIND THE MATTER TO BE ELEMENTARY. ONLY ONE PIECE OF EVIDENCE IS MISSING.

YOU FIND THE MISSING CLUE WHEN HE AND DODD VISIT THE HOME, MUCH TO THE COLONEL'S FURY. THE BUTLER'S GLOVES HAVE A TARRY SMELL. THE COLONEL THREATENS TO SUMMON THE POLICE. YOU POINT OUT DOING THIS WOULD CAUSE THE VERY CATASTROPHE THE COLONEL WANTS TO AVOID. YOU THEN MAKE IT KNOWN HE HAS DEDUCED THE MYSTERY: LEPROSY. UPON VISITING THE OUTBUILDING, YOU AND DODD HEAR GODFREY'S STORY RIGHT FROM HIS OWN LIPS.

AFTER BEING WOUNDED, HE ACCIDENTLY STUMBLED INTO A LEPROSY HOSPITAL. ONCE GODFREY GOT BACK TO ENGLAND, THE DREADED SYMPTOMS BEGAN TO APPEAR. HIS FAMILY DETERMINED TO KEEP HIS ILLNESS A SECRET, AS WELL AS HIS PRESENCE. HOLMES HAS BROUGHT WITH HIM SIR JAMES SAUNDERS, A FAMOUS DERMATOLOGIST FROM LONDON. SAUNDERS DETERMINES EMSWORTH ACTUALLY HAS ICHTHYOSIS, OR PSEUDO-LEPROSY, A DISEASE THAT IS QUITE TREATABLE.



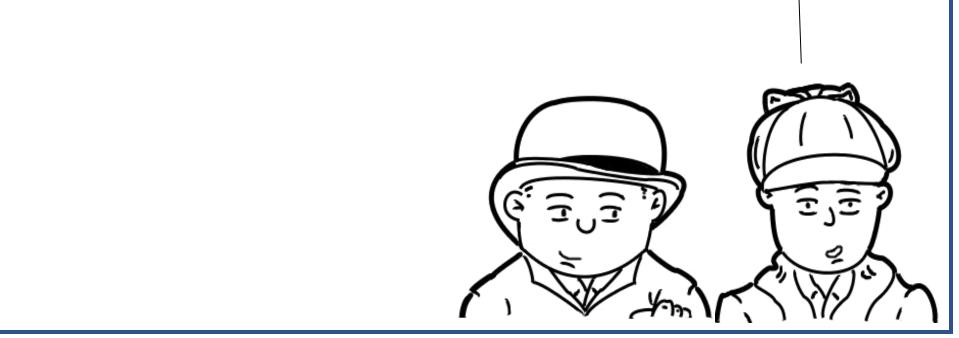


9. 'The Adventure of the Lion's Mane'

I AM IN SUSSEX WHEN ONE DAY AT THE BEACH, I MEET UP WITH HAROLD STACKHURST. JUST THEN, FITZROY MCPHERSON, A SCIENCE TEACHER, STAGGERS UP TO US. HE COLLAPSES, SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT A 'LION'S MANE', AND THEN DIES. HE HAS RED WELTS ALL OVER HIS BACK, WITH MARKS CURVING OVER HIS SHOULDER AND ROUND HIS RIBS. IAN MURDOCH, MATHEMATICS PROFESSOR, COMES UP BEHIND US. HE HAS NOT SEEN THE ATTACK, AND HAS JUST ARRIVED FROM THE SCHOOL.

I SEE A COUPLE OF PEOPLE FAR UP THE BEACH, BUT DON'T BELIEVE THEY ARE INVOLVED. LIKEWISE, THE FEW FISHING BOATS OFF THE BEACH ARE TOO FAR OUT. I DISCOVER MURDOCH AND MCPHERSON WERE FRIENDS, BUT NOT ALWAYS. MURDOCH HAS AN OCCASIONAL BAD TEMPER. HE ONCE THREW MCPHERSON'S DOG THROUGH A WINDOW. DESPITE THIS, STACKHURST BELIEVES THE TWO WERE ON GOOD TERMS. IT TURNS OUT MAUD BELLAMY AND MCPHERSON WERE ENGAGED.

A NOTE CONFIRMING A MEETING WITH HER WAS FOUND ON MCPHERSON. I GO TO LOOK AT THE LAGOON FORMED BY A RECENT STORM. I SEE MCPHERSON'S TOWEL THERE AND CONCLUDE HE NEVER WENT INTO THE WATER. WE GO AND SEE BELLAMY TO SEE WHAT SHE KNOWS. AS WE APPROACH, WE IAN MURDOCH EMERGE. STACKHURST WANTS TO KNOW WHY MURDOCH IS THERE. STACKHURST HITS MURDOCH, THEN STORMS OFF. (CONTINUED)



9. 'The Adventure of the Lion's Mane'

('LION' CONT.) WE VISIT MAUD, AND FIND HER FATHER AND BROTHER DO NOT APPROVE OF THE ENGAGEMENT, WHEN THEY FIND OUT. MAUD IS UNAWARE OF ANY MOTIVE TO HARM MCPHERSON. I FIND OUT MURDOCH WAS A SUITOR TO BELLAMY. THIS MAY GIVE MURDOCH A MOTIVE. WE FIND MCPHERSON'S DOG DEAD AT THE POOL WHERE MCPHERSON DIED. IT OBVIOUSLY DIED IN AGONY, MUCH AS ITS MASTER DID. INSPECTOR BARDLE ASKS ME IF THERE IS ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO ARREST MURDOCH.

I AM SURE THERE IS NOT. THE CASE IS INCOMPLETE, AS MURDOCH HAS AN ALIBI. I FORM A THEORY WHICH MIGHT EXPLAIN MCPHERSON'S DEATH AND IS ABOUT TO GO BACK TO THE BATHING POND TO TEST IT. MURDOCH ARRIVES, HELPED BY STACKHURST. MURDOCH HAS THE SAME WOUNDS MCPHERSON HAD. IN GREAT AGONY, HE CALLS FOR BRANDY, PASSES OUT, BUT FINALLY RECOVERS. AT THE BATHING POND, I SPOT THE MURDERER: IT IS A LION'S MANE JELLYFISH, A DEADLY CREATURE.

I KILL IT WITH A ROCK. MURDOCH IS EXONERATED, OF COURSE. IT TURNS OUT MURDOCH, GIVEN HIS FORMER RELATIONSHIP WITH MAUD, HE WAS ACTING AS A GO-BETWEEN FOR HER AND MCPHERSON, BUT FOR THE SAME REASON, MERELY DID NOT WISH TO DISCUSS IT WITH ANYONE. STACKHURST FORGIVES MURDOCH AND GIVES HIM HIS JOB BACK.





10. 'The Adventure of the Retired Colourman'

YOU ARE HIRED BY A RETIRED ART SUPPLY DEALER, JOSIAH AMBERLEY, TO LOOK INTO HIS WIFE'S DISAPPEARANCE. SHE HAS LEFT WITH A NEIGHBOR, RAY ERNEST, TAKING A SIZEABLE QUANTITY OF CASH AND SECURITIES. AMBERLEY WANTS THE TWO TRACKED DOWN. YOU ARE BUSY WITH ANOTHER CASE, SO YOU SEND ME TO OBSERVE WHAT I CAN. I DO MY BEST, OBSERVING AMBERLEY IS BUSY PAINTING HIS HOUSE, WHICH SEEMS A BIT ODD.

I WITNESS AMBERLEY'S WIFE'S UNUSED THEATRE TICKET; SHE AND ERNEST DISAPPEARED WHILE AMBERLEY WENT TO THE THEATRE ALONE. I ALSO SEE AMBERLEY'S STRONGROOM FROM WHICH THE VALUABLES WERE TAKEN, AS SHE HAD HER OWN KEY. AT THE STATION TO RETURN HOME, I MEET A STRANGER, WHO YOU IDENTIFY AS BARKER, ONE OF HIS RIVALS. ERNEST'S FAMILY HAS HIRED HIM TO FIND THE MISSING GENTLEMAN. A NUMBER OF OTHER THINGS ABOUT AMBERLEY ARE OBVIOUS.

HE IS A MISER, AND AS SUCH IS QUITE A JEALOUS MAN. HE IS AN AVID CHESS PLAYER (SO IS ERNEST, WHICH IS HOW THEY MET), SUGGESTING TO YOU HE ALSO HAS A SCHEMING MIND. YOU SUSPECT SOMETHING, AND SO SEND AMBERLEY AND ME ON A FOOL'S ERRAND TO THE REMOTE VILLAGE OF LITTLE PURLINGTON, JUST TO KEEP AMBERLEY OUT OF THE WAY WHILE YOU BREAK INTO HIS HOUSE TO INVESTIGATE IT. (CONTINUED)





10. 'The Adventure of the Retired Colourman'

('RETI' CONT.) YOU AND BARKER DECIDE TO WORK TOGETHER. LATER YOU CONFRONT AMBERLEY WITH THE DRAMATIC QUESTION "WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THE BODIES?" YOU MANHANDLE AMBERLEY JUST IN TIME TO STOP HIM TAKING A POISON PILL. AMBERLEY IS OBVIOUSLY GUILTY. YOU EXPLAIN HOW HE REACHED HIS CONCLUSION. AMBERLEY'S ALIBI FELL APART WHEN YOU DISCOVERED HIS SEAT AT THE THEATRE HAD NOT BEEN OCCUPIED ON THE NIGHT IN QUESTION.

ALSO, THE PAINTING WAS A CLUE. YOU REALIZED IT WAS BEING DONE TO MASK A SMELL, AND YOU SOON DISCOVERED WHAT THAT WAS: GAS. YOU FOUND A GAS PIPE LEADING INTO THE STRONGROOM WITH A TAP OUTSIDE. AMBERLEY HAD LURED HIS WIFE AND HER LOVER INTO THE STRONGROOM, LOCKED THEM IN, AND TURNED THE GAS ON, KILLING THEM. HE HAD SIMPLY HIDDEN THE 'STOLEN' VALUABLES SOMEWHERE.

IN INDELIBLE PENCIL, ONE OF THE VICTIMS WROTE 'WE WE...', PERHAPS MEANING TO WRITE 'WE WERE MURDERED.' THE BODIES ARE FOUND IN A DISUSED WELL IN THE GARDEN, HIDDEN UNDER A KENNEL, JUST WHERE YOU SUGGESTED THE POLICE LOOK. YOU BELIEVE AMBERLEY WILL LIKELY END UP AT BROADMOOR RATHER THAN ON THE SCAFFOLD, OWING TO HIS MENTAL STATE.





11. 'The Adventure of the Veiled Lodger'

I AM VISITED BY MRS. MERRILOW, A LANDLADY, WHO HAS AN UNUSUAL LODGER WHO NEVER SHOWS HER FACE. SHE SAW IT ONCE AND IT WAS MUTILATED. THE LODGER HAS TAKEN TO CURSING IN THE NIGHT, SHOUTING 'MURDER!' AND 'YOU CRUEL BEAST!' MERRILOW HAS BROUGHT THIS CASE TO ME AS HER TENANT WILL NOT INVOLVE THE POLICE IN SOMETHING SHE WOULD LIKE TO SAY. SHE HAS TOLD HER LANDLADY TO MENTION ABBAS PARVA, KNOWING I WOULD UNDERSTAND THE REFERENCE.

INDEED I DO. IT WAS A TRAGIC CASE IN WHICH A CIRCUS LION GOT LOOSE AND SAVAGED TWO PEOPLE, KILLING ONE AND INJURING THE OTHER. THE INQUEST RULED RONDER WAS THE VICTIM OF DEATH BY MISADVENTURE. WHY HAD THE LION TURNED ON ITS FEEDERS? WHO WAS THE MAN SEVERAL PEOPLE HEARD SCREAMING WHEN RONDER HAD ALREADY BEEN KILLED? UPON ARRIVING AT BRIXTON, WE ARE SHOWN INTO RONDER'S ROOM, WHICH SHE SELDOM LEAVES. SHE IS WEARING HER VEIL.

SHE WISHES TO CONFESS BEFORE SHE DIES. SHE TELLS US RONDER WAS A TERRIBLE HUSBAND, PAYING OFF FINES FOR CRUELTY. MRS. RONDER HAD AN LOVER IN LEONARDO, THE CIRCUS STRONGMAN. HE WAS SUPPORTIVE AND ENCOURAGING. EVENTUALLY, MRS. RONDER AND LEONARDO REALIZED RONDER WAS NOT FIT TO LIVE, AND PLANNED TO KILL HIM. LEONARDO MADE A CLUB WITH FIVE NAILS IN IT, WHICH COULD DELIVER WOUNDS THAT MIGHT BE MISTAKEN FOR THOSE OF A PAW. (CONTINUED)



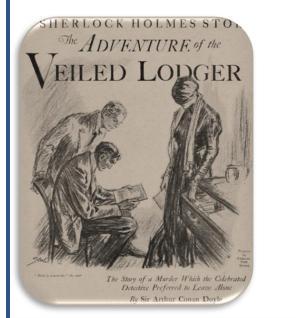


11. 'The Adventure of the Veiled Lodger'

('VEIL' CONT.) THEN ONE NIGHT, MRS. RONDER AND LEONARDO CARRIED OUT THE PLAN. WHEN MRS. RONDER AND HER HUSBAND WENT TO FEED THE LION, LEONARDO CREPT UP BEHIND AND SMASHED MR. RONDER'S HEAD WITH THE CLUB, AND MRS. RONDER RELEASED THE LION TO MAKE IT APPEAR IT HAD BROKEN FREE AND DONE THE DEED. BUT THE LION, HAVING BEEN DRIVEN INTO A FRENZY BY THE SCENT OF RONDER'S BLOOD, TURNED AND POUNCED ON MRS. RONDER, BADLY WOUNDING HER.

LEONARDO STARTED SCREAMING AND RAN TO GET HELP FROM THE OTHER CIRCUS MEMBERS. HE COULD HAVE SAVED HIS LOVER HIMSELF BY USING THE CLUB ON THE LION, BUT HE WAS COWARDLY. MRS. RONDER COULD NOT BRING HERSELF TO IMPLICATE LEONARDO IN THE MURDER AT THE INQUEST, AND IS ONLY NOW TELLING US THIS STORY BECAUSE SHE BELIEVES SHE WILL SOON DIE. SHE NEVER SAW OR HEARD OF LEONARDO AGAIN, AND LATER LEARNED HE HAD DROWNED.

EVER SINCE THE NIGHT OF THE INCIDENT, SHE HAS LIVED ALONE AND VEILED. I CAN ONLY OFFER ADVICE IN THIS SITUATION; REALIZING MRS. RONDER IS CONTEMPLATING SUICIDE, I REMIND HER LIFE IS WORTH SOMETHING. SHE RESPONDS TO THIS BY LIFTING HER VEIL, AND THE SIGHT IS GHASTLY. I RECEIVE A BOTTLE OF PRUSSIC ACID FROM MRS. RONDER TWO DAYS LATER. SHE WAS GOING TO USE IT, BUT UPON CONSIDERING WHAT I TOLD HER, SHE THOUGHT BETTER OF IT.





12. 'The Adventure of Shoscombe Old Place '

HEAD TRAINER JOHN MASON FROM SHOSCOMBE OLD PLACE, A RACING STABLE, COMES TO YOU ABOUT HIS MASTER, ROBERT NORBERTON. MASON THINKS HE HAS GONE MAD. ROBERT'S SISTER, BEATRICE FALDER, OWNS SHOSCOMBE, BUT IT WILL REVERT TO HER LATE HUSBAND'S BROTHER WHEN SHE DIES. THE STABLE HAS A HORSE, SHOSCOMBE PRINCE, WHO SIR ROBERT HOPES WILL WIN THE DERBY. HE WOULD BE OUT OF DEBT IF THAT HAPPENED.

MASON IS NOT QUITE SURE WHAT HE WANTS YOU TO INVESTIGATE, BUT A NUMBER OF ODD CHANGES HAVE HAPPENED: WHY HAS BEATRICE FORGONE HER HABIT OF STOPPING TO GREET HER FAVORITE HORSE? WHY DOES SHE RIDE ON BY IN HER CARRIAGE? WHY HAS ROBERT BECOME SO WILD-EYED? WHY HAS HE GIVEN HIS SISTER'S DOG AWAY TO A NEIGHBOR?

WHY DOES HE GO TO THE OLD CRYPT AT NIGHT, AND WHO IS THAT MAN HE MEETS? WHY HAVE BURNT HUMAN BONES BEEN FOUND IN THE FURNACE AT SHOSCOMBE? YOU DECIDE TO INVESTIGATE ON THE SPOT. WE GO TO BERKSHIRE POSING AS ANGLERS AND LEARN SOME INTERESTING THINGS. THE INNKEEPER WHERE THEY ARE STAYING IS THE ONE WHO NOW HAS BEATRICE'S DOG, AND IT IS QUITE AN EXPENSIVE BREED, ONE AN INNKEEPER ORDINARILY COULD NEVER AFFORD. (CONTINUED)





12. 'The Adventure of Shoscombe Old Place '

('SHOS' CONT.) WITH THE INNKEEPER'S PERMISSION, YOU TAKE THE DOG FOR A WALK, AND GOES TO SHOSCOMBE, WHERE YOU RELEASE IT AS BEATRICE'S CARRIAGE NEARS. THE DOG DASHES FORWARD ENTHUSIASTICALLY AT FIRST, BUT THEN FLEES IN TERROR. EVEN THOUGH A MAID AND BEATRICE ARE THE ONLY TWO PEOPLE IN THE CARRIAGE, IT IS A MALE VOICE THAT YELLS 'DRIVE ON!' THEN THERE IS THE CRYPT. MASON OBSERVES A HEAP OF BONES THERE EARLIER IS NOW GONE.

YOU FIND A COFFIN WITH A FRESH, SWATHED BODY IN IT. ROBERT ARRIVES, CATCHING US. AFTER YOU MAKES IT PLAIN YOU HAVE DEDUCED MOST OF THE ODD GOINGS-ON, SIR ROBERT INVITES US BACK TO THE HOUSE AND EXPLAINS EVERYTHING. ABOUT A WEEK EARLIER, BEATRICE DIED OF DROPSY, AND ROBERT FELT COMPELLED TO KEEP THE FACT SECRET SO THE CREDITORS WOULD NOT SWOOP DOWN ON SHOSCOMBE BEFORE HE HAD A CHANCE TO WIN THE DERBY AND PAY OFF ALL HIS DEBTS.

HE AND THE MAID'S HUSBAND HID THE BODY IN THE CRYPT, BUT FOUND THEY HAD TO DISPOSE OF AN OLDER BODY — IN THE FURNACE. THIS SAME MAN ALSO DRESSED UP IN BEATRICE'S CLOTHES AND TOOK HER PLACE IN THE CARRIAGE. THE DOG KNEW WHAT HAD HAPPENED AND ALMOST GAVE THE GAME AWAY. YOU REFER THE MATTER TO THE POLICE; SHOSCOMBE PRINCE WINS THE DERBY, ROBERT ESCAPES MAJOR PENALTY FOR WHAT HE DID; AND HE PAYS OFF HIS DEBTS.





SO, WE HAVE COMPLETED TOPIC # BOO9 IN OUR SERIES

IN TOPIC # BO10, WE WILL LOOK AT IMPORTANT LAWS PASSED DURING THE VICTORIAN PERIOD.





ORIGINAL SOURCE MATERIAL FOR THIS TOPIC:

- THE ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE ENCYCLOPEDIA: <u>HTTP://WWW.ARTHUR-CONAN-DOYLE.COM</u>
- THE SHERLOCK HOLMES CHRONOLOGY: <u>HTTP://WWW.DIOGENES-CLUB.COM/HOYBARINGGOULD.HTM</u>





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JOE FAY LIESE SHERWOOD-FABRE RUSTY MASON & STEVE MASON

