

A Compendium of Canonical Characters



The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Canonical Characters



Sidney Paget,
November, 1891

The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips



"The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips" *(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)*

01

- 01 - Cover Card
- 02 - Cover Card
- 03 - Summary
- 04 - Filmography / Radiography
- 05 - Sherlock Holmes
- 06 - John Watson
- 07 - John Openshaw

Canonical Characters



Martin Van Maële,
1905

The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips”

02

(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

- 08 - Elias Openshaw
- 09 - Constable Cook
- 10 - Joseph Openshaw
- 11 - Major Prendergast
- 12 - Captain James Calhoun
- 13 - Major Freebody
- 14 - Data! Data!

Canonical Characters

Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.

ADVENTURE V.—THE FIVE ORANGE PIPS.

By A. CONAN DOYLE.

WHEN I glance over my notes and records of the Sherlock Holmes cases between the years '82 and '90, I am faced by so many which present strange and interesting features, that it is no easy matter to know which to choose and which to leave. Some, however, have already gained publicity through the papers, and others have not offered a field for those peculiar qualities which my friend possessed in so high a degree, and which it is the object of these papers to illustrate. Some, too, have baffled his analytical skill, and would be, as narratives, beginnings without an ending, while others have been but partially cleared up, and have their explanations founded rather upon conjecture and surmise than on that absolute logical proof which was so dear to him. There is, however, one of these last which was so remarkable in its details and so startling in its results, that I am tempted to give some account of it, in spite of the fact that there are points in connection with it which never have been, and probably never will be, entirely cleared up.

The year '87 furnished us with a long series of cases of greater or less interest, of which I retain the records. Among my headings under this one twelve months, I find an account of the adventure of the Paradol Chamber, of the Amateur Mendicant Society, who held a luxurious club in the lower vault of a furniture warehouse, of the facts connected with the loss of the British barque *Sophy Anderson*, of the singular adventures of the Grice Patersons on the island of Uffa, and finally of the well poisoning case. In the latter, which will be remembered, Sherlock Holmes was enabled to prove that it had been wound up two years ago, and that therefore the victim had gone to bed within the last few hours of his life. The deduction which was of the greatest value in clearing up the case, was to watch out at some future date for a man who present such singular features in his train of cir-

cumstances which I have now taken the pen to describe.

It was in the latter days of September, and the equinoctial gales had set in with exceptional violence. All day the wind had screamed and the rain had beaten against the windows, so that even here, in the heart of great, hand-made London, we were forced to raise our minds for the instant from the routine of life, and to recognise the presence of those great elemental forces which shriek at mankind through the bars of his civilisation, like untamed beasts in a cage. As evening drew in the storm grew higher and louder, and the wind cried and sobbed like a child in the chimney. Sherlock Holmes sat moodily at one side of the fireplace cross-indexing his records of crime, whilst I at the other was deep in one of Clark Russell's fine sea-stories, until the howl of the gale from without seemed to blend with the text, and the splash of the rain to lengthen out into the long swash of the sea waves. My wife was on a visit to her mother's, and for a few days I was a dweller once more in my old quarters at Baker-street.

"Why," said I, glancing up at my companion, "that was surely the bell. Who could come to-night? Some friend of yours, perhaps?"

"Except yourself I have none," he answered. "I do not encourage visitors."

"A client, then?"

"If so, it is a serious case. Nothing less would bring a man out on such a day, and at such an hour. But I take it that it is more likely to be some crony of the lady's."

Sherlock Holmes was wrong in his conjecture, however, for there came a knock at the passage, and a tapping at the door. He stretched out his long arm to turn away from himself and towards the chair upon which a new-comer was sitting. "Come in!" said he.

The man who entered was a stout, middle-aged man, two-and-twenty at the outside, and trimly clad, with a high-collared coat and a delicate, well-fitting streaming umbrella.

The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips



"The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips"

03

(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

A young man, John Openshaw, arrives at 221b to request Sherlock Holmes's assistance. His uncle, Elias, settled in England after participating on the losing side of the U.S. Civil War. After receiving a dire warning to return certain papers or face the consequences, he died soon after, after burning the papers in question. Two years later, John's father mysteriously died after receiving a similar letter and missive.

Now, John has received a third letter with one more chance to make good on the demands from unknown sources.

Canonical Characters



Josef Friedrich,
1906

The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips” (*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

04

Filmography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
March 16, 1945	US	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce

Radiography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Network</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
March 09, 1931	Blue (NBC)	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
September 05, 1936	Mutual/NBC	Richard Gordon	Harry West
February 01, 1942	Blue (NBC)	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce
November 28, 1966	BBC	Carleton Hobbs	Norman Shelley
January 15, 1992	NPR	Edward Petherbridge	David Pearl
December 05, 1990	BBC	Clive Merrison	Michael Williams
2004		Jim Crozier	David Hawkes
02/15/2007		John Patrick Lowrie	Lawrence Albert

Canonical Characters



Sherlock Holmes



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips”

05

(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

Determined that Captain Calhoun’s ship, the barque Lone Star had docked in the three cities from where pips had been mailed to the Openshaws.

“I am the last court of appeal.”

“I think, Watson, that of all our cases we have had none more fantastic than this.”

(Basil Rathbone, 1939, The Hound of the Baskervilles)

Canonical Characters



Dr. John Watson



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips”

06

(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

“The year '87 furnished us with a long series of cases of greater or less interest.”

“It was in the latter days of September, and the equinoctial gales had set in with exceptional violence.” Watson’s wife was on a visit to her mother’s and so for a few days he was once more in his old quarters with Holmes at 221B.

“But have you formed any definite conception as to what these perils are?”

(Nigel Bruce, 1939, The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

Canonical Characters



John Openshaw



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips”

07

(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

From Horsham, 22, nephew of Elias Openshaw and son of Joseph. Died after he fell into the river by the Waterloo bridge as he hurried to catch a train.

Received letter from East London with five dried orange pips with the instruction, “Put the papers on the sundial.”

“And yet I question, sir, whether, in all your experience, you have ever listened to a more mysterious and inexplicable chain of events than those which have happened in my own family.”

Canonical Characters



Elias Openshaw



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips”

08

(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

Was a colonel for the South in Civil War. He came back to Sussex in Horsham and raised his nephew, John.

Received letter from India with five dried orange pips and instructions to return papers. He was found drowned face down in a small garden pool.

*“My God, my God, my sins
have overtaken me!”*

Canonical Characters



Constable Cook



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips”

09

(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

Police constable of the H Division, responded to a cry for help, but was unable to rescue John Openshaw who splashed into the water near Waterloo bridge.

“The alarm, however, was given, and, by the aid of the water-police, the body was eventually recovered.”

“The body exhibited no traces of violence, and there can be no doubt that the deceased had been the victim of an unfortunate accident.”

Canonical Characters



Joseph Openshaw



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips”

10

(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

Father of John; Joseph owned a small bicycle factory at Coventry; was heir to uncle's estate in Horsham of £14,000.

Received letter from Dundee with five dried orange pips and instructions to place papers on the sundial.

“We are in a civilized land here, and we can't have tomfoolery of this kind.”

“My father had fallen over one of the deep chalk-pits which abound in the neighbourhood, and was lying senseless, with a shattered skull.”

Canonical Characters



Major Prendergast



“The Adventure of the Five
Orange Pips”
(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

11

Major Prendergast referred John Openshaw to Holmes, after Holmes had saved Prendergast in the Tankerville Club scandal.”

“He was wrongfully accused of cheating at cards.”

“It was only to-day that I spoke to Major Prendergast about my troubles and was advised by him to come to you.”

Canonical Characters



Captain James Calhoun



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips”

12

(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

Sea captain of the barque Lone Star. According to Holmes, he was, “the leader of the gang” of former KKK members who sent letters with orange pips to the Openshaws.

The Lone Star had docked in three cities from where the pips had been mailed.

He and the two mates were the only native-born Americans in the ship. Calhoun was away from the ship when John Openshaw died. Holmes sent a cable to Savannah, indicating Calhoun and the other mates were “badly wanted here upon a charge of murder.”

Canonical Characters



Major Freebody



“The Adventure of the Five
Orange Pips”
(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

13

Friend of Joseph
Openshaw, in command
of one of the forts upon
Portsdown Hill.

Freebody had been visited
by Joseph Openshaw
shortly before Openshaw’s
death, and notified John
of his father’s grave injury.

Canonical Characters



Gaston Simoes
da Fonseca,
1909

The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips



“The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips” (*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

14

First
Publication:

U.K. -- *The Strand Magazine*,
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U.S. - *The Courier-Journal*
November 07, 1891

U.K. -- *The Adventures of Sherlock
Holmes*,
October 14, 1892 George Newnes Ltd.
U.S. - *The Adventures of Sherlock
Holmes*,
October 15, 1892, Harper & Brothers
Publishers

Chronological
Date:

End of September, 1887
(Watson)
Thursday, September 29, 1887
(Baring-Gould)

Ranking:

23 of 56 short stories
(Sherlockian poll, 1999, Stock)

Christ
Abbreviation:

FIVE