

A Compendium of Canonical Characters



His Last Bow

Canonical Characters



Frederic Dorr Steele,
November, 1913

The Adventure of the Dying Detective



"The Adventure of Dying Detective" 01

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

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

Canonical Characters



Walter Paget,
December, 1913

The Adventure of the Dying Detective



"The Adventure of Dying Detective"

02

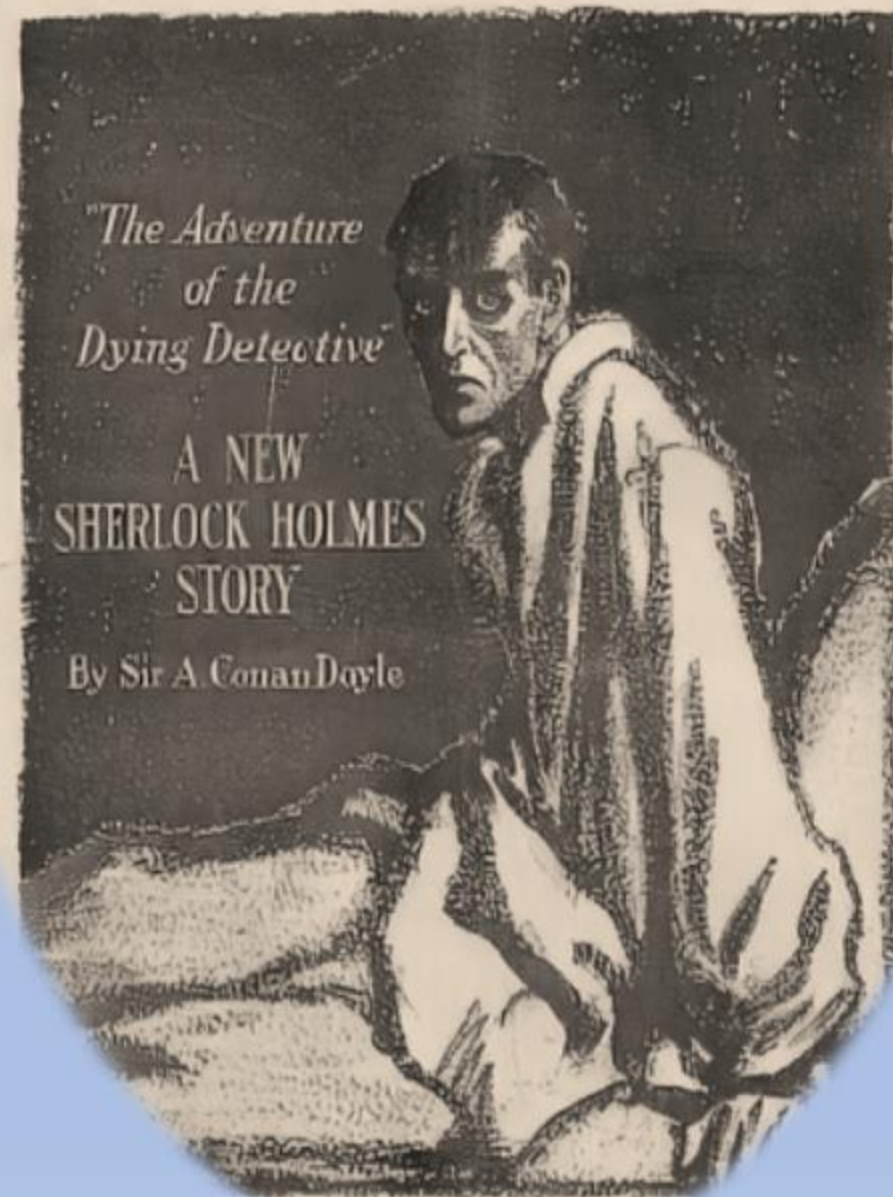
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

- 07 - Culverton Smith
- 08 - Mrs. Hudson
- 09 - Inspector Morton
- 10 - The Box
- 11 - Data! Data! Data!

Canonical Characters

Collier's

THE NATIONAL WEEKLY



The Adventure of the Dying
Detective



"The Adventure of Dying
Detective"

03

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Mrs. Hudson pleads with Dr. Watson to check on a very ill Sherlock Holmes. Watson finds Holmes near death's door, as well as not in his right mind.

It appears only Culverton Smith, a self-taught expert in tropical diseases, can save Holmes.

But will he?

Canonical Characters



Richard Wallace,
April, 1919

The Adventure of the Dying Detective



“The Adventure of Dying Detective” (*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

04

Filmography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
April, 1921	UK	Eille Norwood	Hubert Willis
November, 1951	UK	Alan Wheatley	Raymond Francis
March, 1994	UK	Jeremy Brett	Edward Harwicke

Radiography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Network</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
October 29, 1931	NBC	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
January 25, 1933	Blue (NBC)	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
March 28, 1936	Blue (NBC)	Louis Hector	Leigh Lovell
November 20, 1939	Blue (NBC)	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce
June 18, 1943	Mutual	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce
February 03, 1947	ABC	Tom Conway	Nigel Bruce
1954	NBC	John Gielgud	Ralph Richardson
February 13, 1955	NBC	John Gielgud	Ralph Richardson
January 02, 1967	BBC	Carleton Hobbs	Norman Shelley
February 02, 1994	BBC	Clive Merrison	Michael Williams
January 17, 2010	Jim French	John Patrick Lowrie	Lawrence Albert

Canonical Characters



Sherlock Holmes



“The Adventure of Dying
Detective”

05

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

“I know what is the matter with me. It is a coolie disease from Sumatra.”

“Shall the world, then, be overrun by oysters?”

“There are the wheels, Watson. Quick, man, if you love me! And don't budge, whatever happens—whatever happens, do you hear? Don't speak! Don't move! Just listen with all your ears.”

“The best way of successfully acting a part is to be it.”

(Ian McKellen, 2015, Mr. Holmes)

Canonical Characters



John Watson



“The Adventure of Dying Detective”

06

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

“It was that gaunt, wasted face staring at me from the bed which sent a chill to my heart. His eyes had the brightness of fever, there was a hectic flush upon either cheek, and dark crusts clung to his lips; the thin hands upon the coverlet twitched incessantly, his voice was croaking and spasmodic.”

"He is desperately ill. That is why I have come."

(Colin Starkey, 2015, Mr. Holmes)

Canonical Characters



Culverton Smith



“The Adventure of Dying Detective”

07

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

A planter from Sumatra with an expertise on tropical diseases who poisoned his nephew Victor Savage and tried to kill Holmes.

“Poor Victor was a dead man on the fourth day—a strong, hearty young fellow.”

*“Listen, Holmes! You must hear me. You **SHALL** hear me. Do you remember a box—an ivory box? It came on Wednesday. You opened it—do you remember?”*

“But you have the truth now, Holmes, and you can die with the knowledge that I killed you.”

(Jonathan Hyde, 1994, The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes, “The Dying Detective”)

Canonical Characters



Mrs. Hudson



“The Adventure of Dying Detective”

08

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Landlady of Holmes and Watson.

“His incredible untidiness, his addiction to music at strange hours, his occasional revolver practice within doors, his weird and often malodorous scientific experiments, and the atmosphere of violence and danger which hung around him made him the very worst tenant in London.”

“He's dying, Dr. Watson, for three days he has been sinking, and I doubt if he will last the day.”

(Rosalie Williams, 1994, *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, “The Dying Detective”)

Canonical Characters



Inspector Morton



“The Adventure of Dying Detective”

09

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Scotland Yard inspector.

“How is Mr. Holmes, sir?”

“He is very ill,” I answered.

He looked at me in a most singular fashion. Had it not been too fiendish, I could have imagined that the gleam of the fanlight showed exultation in his face.

“I heard some rumour of it.”

“I arrest you on the charge of the murder of one Victor Savage.”

John Labanowski, 1994, *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, “The Dying Detective”

Canonical Characters



The Box



"The Adventure of Dying Detective"

10

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

"In the midst of these was a small black and white ivory box with a sliding lid. It was a neat little thing, and I had stretched out my hand to examine it more closely, when -"

"Do you remember a box - an ivory box? It came on Wednesday. You opened it - do you remember?"

"You can just see if you look at it sideways where the sharp spring like a viper's tooth emerges as you open it."

—

Canonical Characters



Walter Paget,
December, 1913

The Adventure of the Dying Detective



"The Adventure of Dying Detective" (*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

11

First
Publication:

U.K. -- *The Strand Magazine*,
December, 1913
U.S. - *Collier's*
November 22, 1913

U.K. - *His Last Bow*,
October, 1917, John Murray
U.S. - *His Last Bow*,
October, 1917, George H. Doran

Chronological
Date:

November
(Watson)
November 19, 1887
(Baring-Gould)

Ranking:

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

Christ
Abbreviation:

DYIN