

A Compendium of Canonical Characters



The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes

Canonical Characters



Alfred Gilbert,
February, 1922

The Problem of Thor Bridge



"The Problem of Thor Bridge" 01 (*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

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

Canonical Characters



G. Patrick Nelson,
February, 1922

The Problem of Thor Bridge



“The Problem of Thor Bridge” (*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

02

- 08 - Grace Dunbar
- 09 - Neil Gibson
- 10 - Sergeant Coventry
- 11 - Marlowe Bates
- 12 - Mr. Joyce Cummings
- 13 - The Murder Weapon?
- 14 - Data! Data! Data!

Canonical Characters

the tin box.
Adventure of the Second Step.
The Problem of Leukemia Band.
The Problem of Thor Bridge
Somewhere in the vaults of the bank of Leukemia Cross there is a travel worn and battered tin match box with ^{my} the name *John H. Watson M.D.* Late India Army, painted upon the lid. It is crammed with papers, nearly all of which are records of cases ~~which~~ ^{to} illustrate the various problems which Mr. Sherlock Holmes had at various times to examine. Some and not the least interesting were complete failures, and as such will hardly bear narrating, since no ^{final} explanation is forthcoming. A problem without a solution may interest the student but can hardly fail to annoy the casual reader. Among these unfinished tales is that of Mr. James Phillimore who, stepping back into his own house to get his umbrella, was never more seen in this world. No less remarkable is that of the cutter *Alicia* which sailed one spring morning into a small patch of mist from which never again emerged, nor was anything further heard of herself and her crew. A third case worth mentioning is that of *Madora Persano*, the well-known Jewess who was found stark staring and

The Problem of Thor Bridge



"The Problem of Thor Bridge" (The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes)

03

Neil Gibson arrives at 221B seeking Holmes' assistance in clearing his family's governess, Grace Dunbar, in a murder.

The evidence seems to indicate Miss Dunbar had a motive, means, and opportunity to kill Gibson's wife, Maria.

Can Holmes save Miss Dunbar's life by finding seemingly hidden clues at Thor Bridge?

Canonical Characters



G. Dutrac,
January, 1931

The Problem of Thor Bridge



“The Problem of Thor Bridge” (*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

04

Filmography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
March, 1923	UK	Eille Norwood	Hubert Willis
November, 1968	UK	Peter Cushing	Nigel Stock
March, 1994	UK	Jeremy Brett	Edward Hardwicke

Radiography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Network</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
March 16, 1931	NBC	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
June 13, 1936	Blue (NBC)	Louis Hector	Harry West
November 03, 1940	Blue (NBC)	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce
October 01, 1945	Mutual	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce
1959		Maurice Teynac	Pierre Destailles
January 01, 1962	BBC	Carleton Hobbs	Norman Shelley
August 28, 1967	SABN	Robert Langford	Kenneth Baker
1987	BBC	Roy Marsden	John Moffatt
February 22, 1995	BBC	Clive Merrison	Michael Williams
2012	Jim French	John Patrick Lowrie	Lawrence Albert

Canonical Characters



Sherlock Holmes



“The Problem of Thor Bridge” 05
(*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

“I can discover facts, Watson, but I cannot change them. Unless some entirely new and unexpected ones come to light I do not see what my client can hope for.”

“I prefer to work anonymously, and that it is the problem itself which attracts me.”

“When once your point of view is changed, the very thing which was so damning becomes a clue to the truth.”

(Richard Roxburgh, 2002, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*)

Canonical Characters



John Watson



“The Problem of Thor Bridge” (*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

06

“Somewhere in the vaults of the bank of Cox and Co., at Charing Cross, there is a travel-worn and battered tin dispatch box ... crammed with papers, nearly all of which are records of cases to illustrate the curious problems which Mr. Sherlock Holmes had at various times to examine.”

“Well, Holmes, I must confess that when I consider that this is a man who would certainly brush any obstacle from his path, and when I remember that his wife may have been an obstacle and an object of dislike, as that man Bates plainly told us, it seems to me-”

(Daily Healy, 1983, *The Sign of Four*)

Canonical Characters



Maria Gibson



“The Problem of Thor Bridge” (*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

07

From Brazil, formerly Maria Pinto, daughter of a government official, married Gibson and had two children.

“Tropical by birth and tropical by nature. A child of the sun and of passion.”

“Was found in the grounds nearly half a mile from the house, late at night, clad in her dinner dress, with a shawl over her shoulders and a revolver bullet through her brain.”

(Cecilia Gregory, 1991, *The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*,
“The Problem of Thor Bridge”)

Canonical Characters



Grace Dunbar



“The Problem of Thor Bridge” 08 *(The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes)*

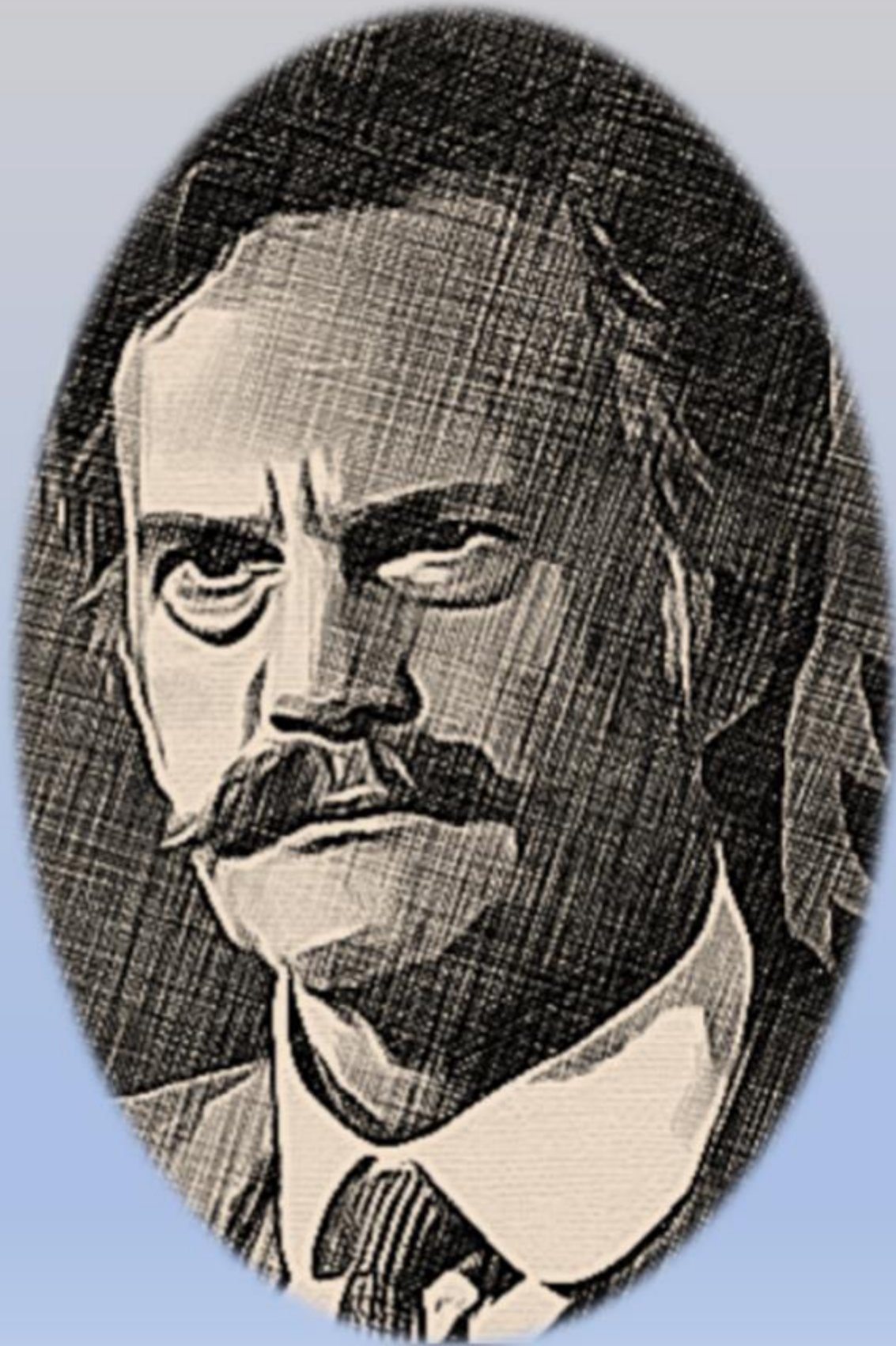
Governess to Gibson family’s two children. “She was a brunette, tall, with a noble figure and commanding presence.”

“A revolver with one discharged chamber and a calibre which corresponded with the bullet was found on the floor of her wardrobe.”

“When I left her she was standing, still shrieking out her curses at me, in the mouth of the bridge.”

(Juliet Mills, 1968, *Sherlock Holmes*,
“Thor Bridge”)

Canonical Characters



Neil Gibson



"The Problem of Thor Bridge" (*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

09

"The gold king." American millionaire who made his fortune in gold mining. A former senator in a Western state who bought a considerable estate in Hampshire and married Maria Pinto.

"I can't explain things—I can't even try to explain them, but I know beyond all doubt that Miss Dunbar is innocent."

"There is no doubt that my wife was bitterly jealous."

(Daniel Massey, 1991, *The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*,
"The Problem of Thor Bridge")

Canonical Characters



Sergeant Coventry



“The Problem of Thor Bridge” 10 *(The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes)*

Local policeman who investigated the death of Maria Gibson.

“He was a tall, thin, cadaverous man, with a secretive and mysterious manner which conveyed the idea that he knew or suspected a very great deal more than he dared say.”

“A decent, honest fellow who was not too proud to admit that he was out of his depth and would welcome any help.”

“Anyhow, I'd rather have you than Scotland Yard, Mr Holmes. If the Yard gets called into a case, then the local loses all credit for success and may be blamed for failure. Now, you play straight, so I've heard.”

(Willoughby Gray, 1968, *Sherlock Holmes*,
“Thor Bridge”)

Canonical Characters



Marlowe Bates



“The Problem of Thor Bridge” (*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

11

Manager for the Gibson estate.

“A thin, nervous wisp of a man with frightened eyes and a twitching, hesitating manner -- a man whom my own professional eye would judge to be on the brink of an absolute nervous breakdown.”

“Mr. Gibson is coming. Mr. Gibson is my employer. I am manager of his estate. Mr. Holmes, he is a villain— an infernal villain.”

(Henry Oscar, 1968, *Sherlock Holmes*,
“Thor Bridge”)

Canonical Characters



Mr. Joyce Cummings



“The Problem of Thor Bridge”
(*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

12

Barrister who represented
Grace Dunbar.

“Mr. Cummings here would assure you that all the cards are at present against us, and that we must do everything that is possible if we are to win clear. It would be a cruel deception to pretend that you are not in very great danger.”

(Philip Bretherton, 1991, *The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*,
“The Problem of Thor Bridge”)

Canonical Characters



The Murder Weapon?



"The Problem of Thor Bridge" (*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

13

Holmes tied one end of the string to the handle of Watson's revolver. He then secured a considerable stone to the revolver with a line of string.

He hung the revolver over the parapet of the bridge so that it swung clear above the water.

'Now for it!' he cried.

"Was there ever a more exact demonstration?" he cried. "See, Watson, your revolver has solved the problem!"

"As he spoke, he pointed to a second chip of the exact size and shape of the first which had appeared on the under edge of the stone balustrade."

Canonical Characters



Alfred Gilbert,
February, 1922

The Problem of Thor Bridge



“The Problem of Thor Bridge” (*The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*)

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First
Publication:

U.K. -- *The Strand Magazine*,
March, 1922

U.S. - *Hearst International*
February, 1922

U.K. - *The Casebook of Sherlock
Holmes*,
October, 1917, John Murray

U.S. - *The Casebook of Sherlock
Holmes*,
October, 1917, George H. Doran

Chronological
Date:

October
(Watson)
October 04, 1900
(Baring-Gould)

Ranking:

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

Christ
Abbreviation:

THOR

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