

A STUDY IN SCARLET. THE SIGN OF THE FOUR

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

SHERLOCK HOLMES: [...] Depend upon it there comes a time when for every addition of knowledge you forget something that you knew before. It is of the highest importance, therefore, not to have useless facts elbowing out the useful ones.

Dr. WATSON: But the solar system!

SHERLOCK HOLMES: What the deuce is a solar system to me?

Synopsis

When Dr. Watson decides to share an apartment with Sherlock Holmes, he is unaware – as is the reader – of the thrilling adventures that awaits him. This book, with a prologue from Alberto Laiseca, includes *A Study in Scarlet* and *The Sign of the Four*, the first two novels that feature Holmes – the eccentric, yet rational character whose investigative, deductive and analytic skills surprise police, detectives, and assassins – and his new friend Watson, the narrator of the stories. The rest of the story features mysterious events with diverse characters, Mormons, hard to decipher crime scene marks, a treasure, a beautiful woman, and many, many clues. In between cases, we discover the depressive states of Holmes and his addiction to cocaine, all in a backdrop where, according to our detective, “the yellow fog slides through the streets and fills the brown and grey houses.”

Biography

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Edinburgh, 1859) studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh. After undergoing a religious crisis and various family problems, he began writing while practicing medicine. It is at this point when he created the characters of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson, both eventually becoming literary legends.

In addition to the well known Sherlock Holmes stories, Conan Doyle wrote *The Lost World* (later made into a TV series and movie of the same name), *The Great Boer War*, as well as works of other genres. His autobiography, *Memories and Adventures*, marks the culmination of his literary work. Despite his success, he never received a literary award during his writing career.

Sales pitch

CLASSIC DETECTIVE LITERATURE: The reader will not only be intrigued by the mysteries and diverse, colorful characters, but will learn how Holmes, with the assistance of Watson, uses deductive reasoning to solve a range of cases that are anything but routine.

STYLE: The descriptions and dialogues show Conan Doyle at his best.

PROLOGUES BY ALBERTO LAISECA: This time the complete works of Sherlock Holmes are presented with introductions by the immeasurable Alberto Laiseca.

CURRENT: In January of this year, a new Sherlock Holmes movie featuring Robert Downey Jr. and Jude Law premiered.



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