



The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Adventure VII -- The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips

“If we could change just one variable in a story, would that story still work? Or would the outcome change? How? And does changing one variable inevitably lead to changes in other variables?”

No fewer than 6 unchronicled cases are mentioned at the beginning of *The Five Orange Pips*. They are the adventure of the Paradol Chamber, the Amateur Mendicant Society, the loss of the British bark Sophy Anderson, the singular adventures of the Grice Patersons, the Camberwell poisoning case, and the Tankerville Club scandal. These are all success stories for Holmes.

Delete them!

Don't they serve only to bolster SH's sagging performance in FIVE? Without them, doesn't Holmes look even worse in FIVE? Do these unchronicled cases serve any other purpose than to reassure readers that Holmes does often succeed? Finally, without these and other tantalizing unchronicled cases, would we have that mixed blessing: the Sherlockian pastiche?



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