



## The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips

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**Date of the Adventure** (The entire adventure took place in one day)

**Clues:**

1. The story was published in November 1891
2. Watson says, "It was in the latter days of September, and the equinoctial gales had set in with exceptional violence."
3. Watson says, "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."
4. Watson was married in late 1888 or early 1889
5. The September 25, 1889 edition of The Times of London says there were heavy rains and strong winds in London on the previous day.

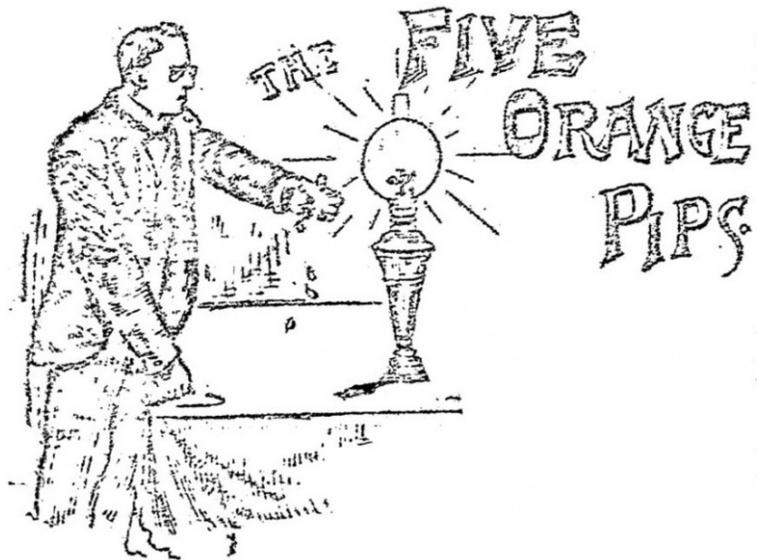
**Conclusions:**

- A. 1 and 2 imply that it was September of 1890 or some earlier year
- B. 3 and 4 imply it was 1889 or later
- C. A and B imply it was September 1889 or 1890
- D. C, 2 and 5 imply it was Tuesday, September 24, 1889

**The adventure took place on Tuesday, September 24, 1889**

## Vocabulary Words

- conjecture — a theory without proof
- surmise — a guess with little evidence
- singular — beyond what is ordinary or usual; remarkable
- equinoctial — pertaining to the equinox when there are equal times of day and night
- crony — buddy, close friend
- pince-nez — eyeglasses clipped to the nose
- aversion — intense dislike
- backgammon — board game for two persons, played with pieces whose moves are determined by throws of dice
- draughts — the game of checkers
- colour of putty — yellowish or light brownish gray
- K.K.K. — Ku Klux Klan, a secret society organized in the South after the Civil War to reassert white supremacy by means of terrorism
- pips — small seed of a fruit
- palpitating — beating rapidly, fluttering
- checkmate — defeat completely
- sallies — ventures outdoors
- ado — trouble
- carpet-bag politicians — Northerners who went to the South after the Civil War to take advantage of unsettled conditions
- cock-and-bull story — absurd or highly improbable tale passed off as being true
- tomfoolery — foolish behavior
- obstinate — stubborn
- chalk-pit — pit where chalk is mined
- well-nigh — nearly; almost
- waistcoat — vest
- inexorable — relentless, inflexible
- enigmatical — like a riddle or puzzle
- Cuvier — Baron Cuvier (1769-1832) French naturalist who founded the science of comparative anatomy
- lumber-room — room for storage of bulky household items
- hypothesis — tentative explanation that accounts for a set of facts
- abjure — to deny an oath
- impunity — freedom from punishment
- sporadic — occurring at irregular intervals



- implacable — **unforgiving**
- sallow — **sickly yellowish color**
- sideboard — **a piece of dining room furniture having drawers and shelves for linens and tableware**
- voraciously — **eagerly consuming great amounts of food**
- draught — **a drink**
- precursor — **precedes something to come**
- bark — **sailing vessel**
- stevedore — **someone who unloads a boat at the dock**
- stern-post — **mast in the rear of the ship**

## Open Questions

1. On two previous occasions the KKK had asked to have the secret papers returned. Why didn't the KKK simply burglarize the Openshaw house and steal the papers?

**Apparently they had no idea where to look for the papers and also felt that the risk was so great to the Openshaws that they would willingly return the papers.**

2. What was the so-called shattered stern-post bearing the letters "L.S."? A ship's mast usually bears the ship's name, not her initials.

**It must have been some other part of the ship, but what part is a mystery.**

## Simple Quiz

1. The orange pips were sent by
  - a. Professor Moriarty
  - b. a member of the Ku Klux Klan
  - c. a member of an Irish secret society
  - d. none of the above
2. The person who sent the orange pips wanted
  - a. stolen jewels
  - b. old papers
  - c. money
  - d. none of the above
3. The person who sent the orange pips was
  - a. a sailor
  - b. a soldier
  - c. an ex-prisoner
  - d. none of the above

## Intermediate Quiz

1. The deaths of all three Openshaws occurred
  - a. in broad daylight
  - b. at night
  - c. in London
  - d. none of the above
2. Which one of the following people did NOT receive the Pips?
  - a. James Calhoun
  - b. Edward Openshaw
  - c. John Openshaw
  - d. John Swain
3. Which one of the following ports was NOT made by the "Lone Star"?
  - a. Dundee
  - b. Liverpool
  - c. London
  - d. Pondicherry
4. From which London bridge did John Openshaw fall to his death?
  - a. London Bridge
  - b. Tower Bridge
  - c. Waterloo Bridge
  - d. none of the above

## Advanced Quiz

1. What was the name of Elias Openshaw's maid?
  - a. Bertha
  - b. Martha
  - c. Mary
  - d. none of the above
2. Which of the following games did Elias and John Openshaw play?
  - a. backgammon
  - b. chess
  - c. whist
  - d. none of the above
3. What was the name of the police-constable who heard John Openshaw's cry for help?
  - a. Abernathy
  - b. Cook
  - c. Wilson
  - d. none of the above
4. Where was the factory that Joseph Openshaw owned?
  - a. Coventry
  - b. London
  - c. Manchester
  - d. none of the above

## Answers to the Quizzes

Question	1	2	3	4
Simple	b	b	a	xx
Intermediate	b	b	b	c
Advanced	c	a	b	a

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