

# HOLMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

VOL. 2  
NO. 4

APR.  
1993



FOR THE YOUNG  
MYSTERY FAN

# WELCOME TO HOLMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Vol. 2, No. 4  
For April 1991

Published five times per year by:  
The Chester Baskerville Society  
1415 Swanwick St.  
Chester, IL 62233

Editor: Michael W. McClure

Annual Subscription Rate: \$7.50

## CREDITS

The characters "Slylock Fox" and "Popeye"  
appear under special permission granted to  
The Chester Baskerville Society by  
King Features Syndicate, © 1991,  
World rights reserved.

All other inclusions, unless otherwise noted,  
are contributions of the editor.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

-Feature-	- Page # -
Slylock Fox designed by Bob Weber Jr.....	Front Cover
Welcome To Holmes For The Holidays.....	2
Billy's Page - reader's contributions.....	3
Hugh Dunitz Asks: "What Is It?".....	4
Heard In Piggsburgh - cartoon by Jeff Decker..	5
The Five Orange Pips.....	6
Letter Perfect.....	7
Printer's Painful Predicament.....	8
Let's Draw Sherlock - by Jeff Huddleston.....	9
The Code Clinic.....	10
Color Michaelange-Holmes - by Jeff Huddleston.	12
The Hound's Puzzle - by Katie Moseley & Matt Shoberg of Shadow of the Elm.....	14
2nd Annual CBS Spring Art Contest.....	15
"King A' Booma" - a short mystery story and illustrations by Sharon Yoch.....	16
It's Elementary - our answer page.....	23
Slylock Fox Mysteries - by Bob Weber Jr...Back	Cover

Contents not previously copyrighted:  
Copyright: © 1991 by Michael W. McClure  
All rights are hereby assigned to the contributors.

# BILLY'S PAGE



## THE LOST RING

One day Sherlock was playing his violin when the phone rang. It was Lara Lion. She had lost her ring. Sherlock said, "I will find it." So he looked and looked for the ring. Then he found a note. It said:

1. not less but —
2. the second vowel
3. a painting made by a painter
4. the begining letter in yak

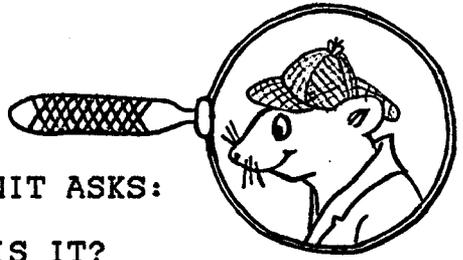
So Sherlock figured it out. Can You?

written by  
Michael W. McClure II  
age 7  
Chester, Illinois



GET TO  
THE

See your work in PRINT!  
Mail your creation to:  
Holmes For The Holidays  
1415 Swanwick St.  
Chester, IL 62233  
Please be sure to include  
your name, age and full  
address on your entry.



HUGH DUNNIT ASKS:

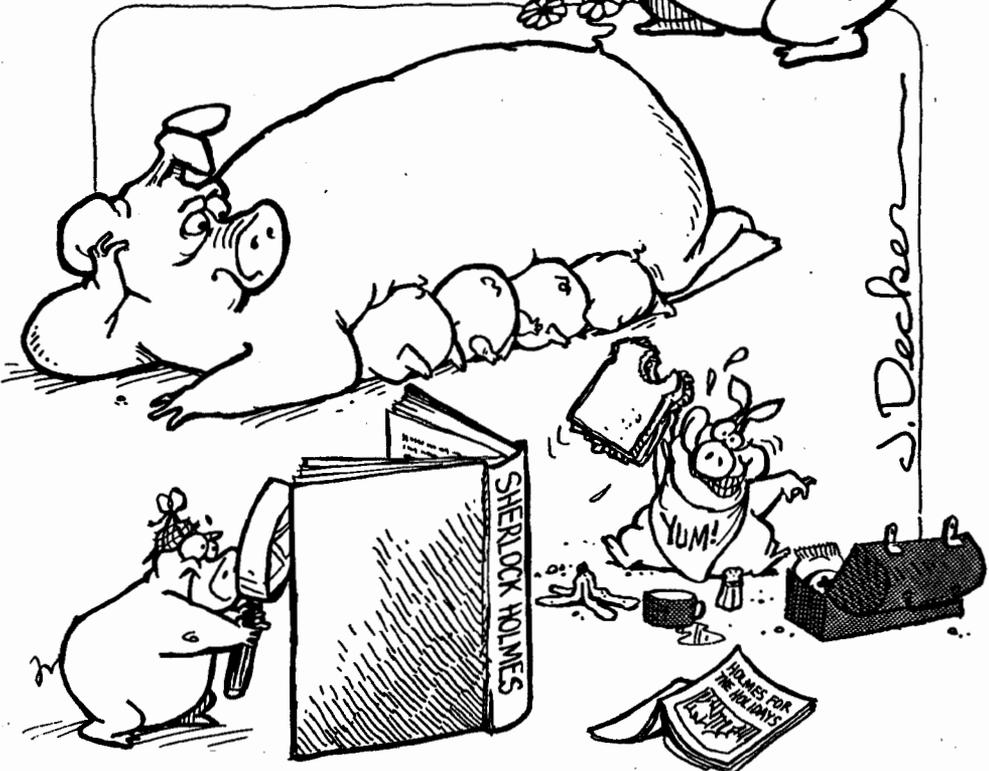
WHAT IS IT?

Hugh Dunnit, our mysterious mouse detective has listed eight clues to the above question. Using your best detective skills, and a little luck, read one clue at a time (in any order) and see how many clues it takes you to solve the mystery of What Is It?

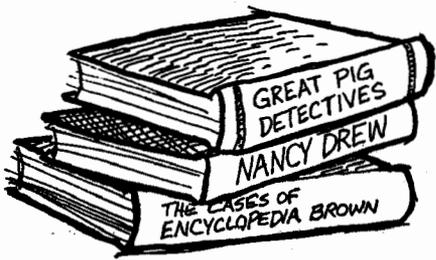
- 1) I've been used by mankind since 600 B.C.
- 2) The seafaring Phoenicians were the first to make me.
- 3) I was made from boiled goat fat, water and ash high in potassium carbonate.
- 4) The Christian Church once warned against my use.
- 5) I keep people healthy by fighting bacteria.
- 6) I'll help you clean up your act.
- 7) In 1878 I rose to the occasion by floating in water.
- 8) One of my producers gave me a special name taken from the Old Testament's Forty-fifth Psalm: "All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad."

# It is heard in Piggsburgh...

There's a piggie in the barn  
 at my Uncle Baldy's farm;  
 He rhymes a lot and speaks in poems  
 and loves to read his *Sherlock Holmes*.  
 He plays the violin at night  
 and always does what's good and right;  
 He's tough as nails—oh yes, that's true,  
 but yes, of course, he's ticklish, too.  
 He smiles at you, he smiles at me,  
 but dislikes criminality;  
 And do you know his specialty?  
 he smiles inside where you can't see.



J. Decker

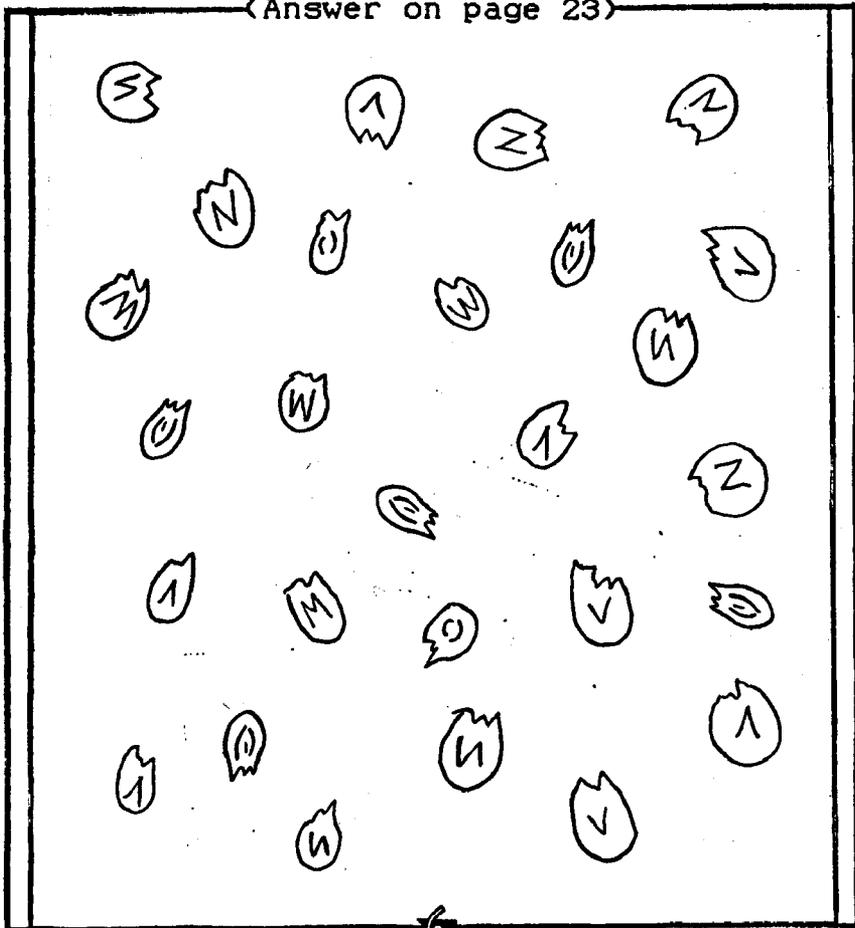


Anytime is good for reading,  
 solving crimes and Baker Streeting;  
 Piggie loves to think of that,  
 And wear his funny little hat.  
 It makes him happy to pretend,  
 to right the wrongs of pigs and men;  
 So when you feel all sad and icky,  
 read a book and think of piggie.

# The Five Orange Pips

Holmes and Watson had just finished a mid afternoon snack of a variety of fruits, when Mrs. Hudson entered the room to clear away the garbage. In doing so she also swept into a trash bag, the five orange seeds that littered Holmes' chemical table. She did not realize that those five identical pips were evidence Sherlock needed in his current case. Please help Mrs. Hudson find the only five orange pips that match exactly.

(Answer on page 23)



# Letter Perfect

Pick the letter of the alphabet that best answers each question.  
(Answers are on page 23.)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
F	1.	What did Sherlock Holmes raise during his Sussex retirement?	T															
E	2.	Name a traditional English drink.	U															
D	3.	The type of stories the American, William Clark Russell wrote.	V															
C	4.	Dr. John Watson's middle initial.	W															
B	5.	Mary Morstan caught Dr. Watson's _____.	X															
A	6.	A "Holmes for the Holiday" subscriber.	Y															
Z	7.	The plague of the engineer's thumb.	Z															
Y	8.	The encyclopedia Jabez Wilson copied.	A															
X	9.	A question Holmes's clients asked often.	B															
W	10.	The first initial of Sherlock Holmes's brother.	C															
V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D

# Printer's Painful Predicament

Our printer has made a mess of the names on this page. Can you help unscramble these Sherlockian names for us?

(Answers are on page 23.)

**NAMOR**

**NOSTAN**

**ROMTIYAR**

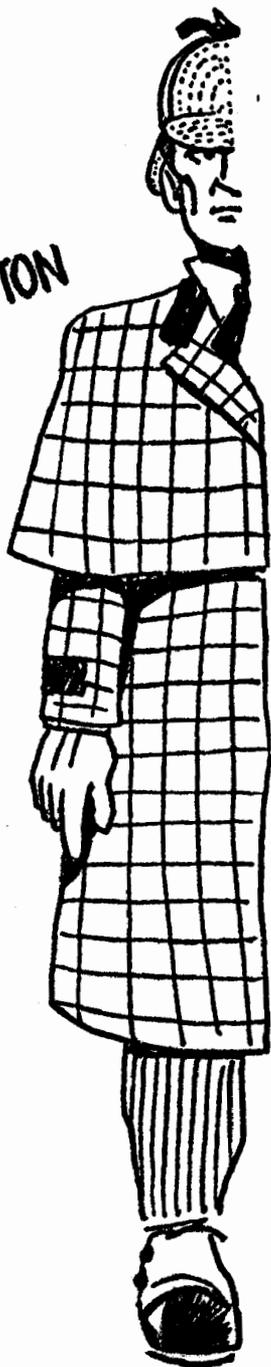
**CHERKLOS**

**READSTEL**

**LEADR**

THIS HALF  
DRAWN  
BY  
JEFF  
HUDDLESTON

THIS HALF  
DRAWN  
BY



DRAW THE OTHER HALF!

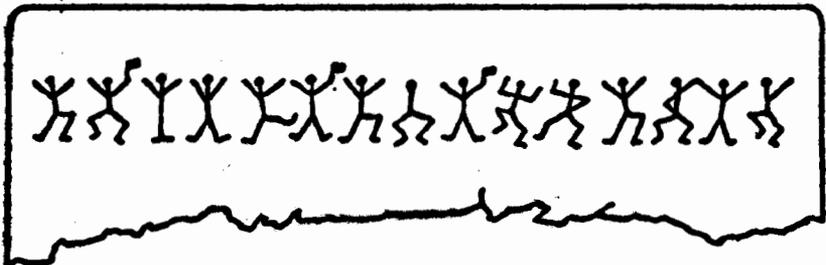


# The Code Clinic

## Chapter 3 -Random Substitution Ciphers-

The random substitution cipher is one that is created without a set plan. Each letter of the alphabet is assigned a number, letter or symbol as the sender wishes. This type of cipher is harder to break than the simple substitution ciphers we discussed in Chapters 1 & 2, but there is always a risk that your alphabet key could be lost or stolen.

In "The Adventure of the Dancing Men", Sherlock Holmes breaks a random cipher which used stick figures of men for each letter of the alphabet. The final encoded message resembled a child's drawing of people dancing. This extra feature protected the message even further, for some did not consider the "drawing" to be worthy of consideration. Here is a copy of the first message Holmes was given to decipher:



When Dr. Watson first saw the figures he claims, "Why, Holmes, it is a child's drawing." Sherlock Holmes recognized it immediately as a random substitution cipher, with the little flags marking the ends of the words.

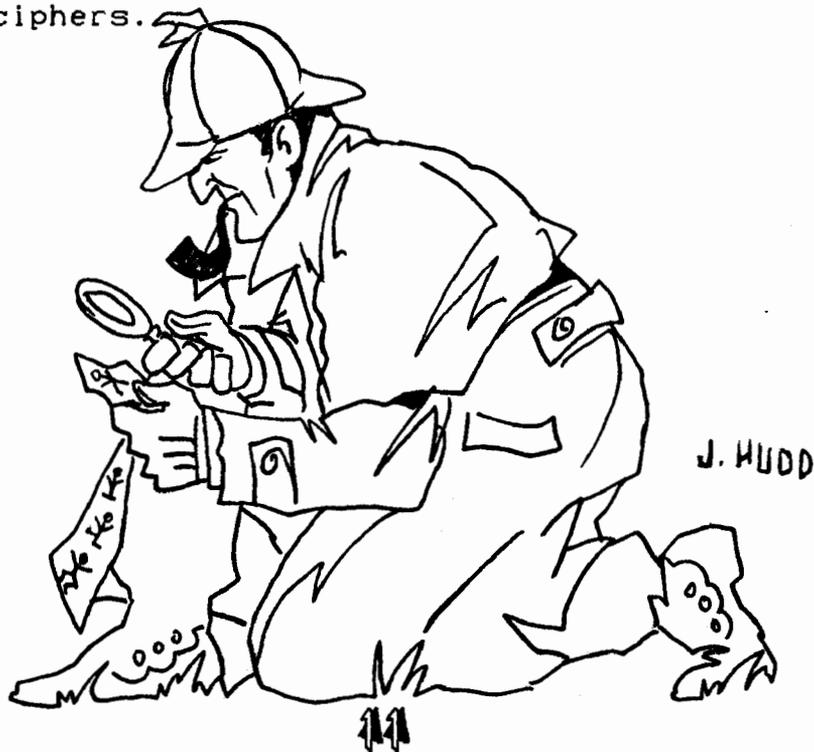
This message read: AM HERE ABE SLANEY.  
 The complete "Dancing Men" alphabet  
 might have looked like the following:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M  
 ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔

N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
 ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔ ⚔

In "The Adventure of the Dancing Men" Holmes declares, "I am fairly familiar with all forms of secret writing, and am myself the author of a trifling monograph upon the subject, in which I analyze one hundred and sixty separate ciphers...."

In our next chapter we will discuss more elaborate random substitution ciphers.

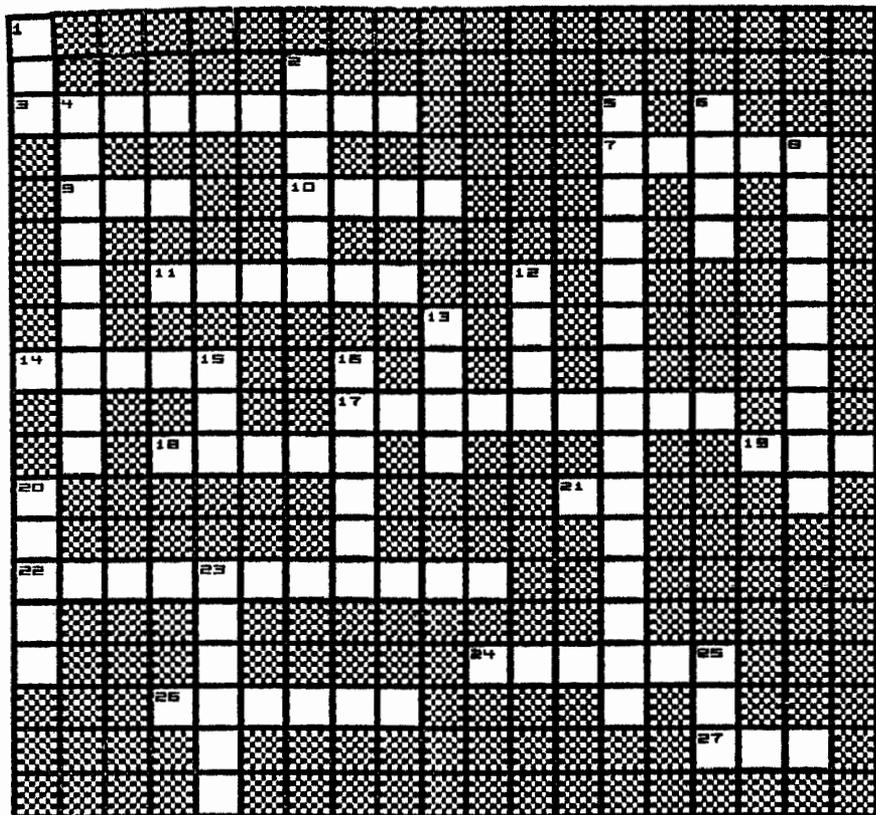


# Color Michaelange-Holmes



# The Hound's Puzzle

by Katie Moseley  
& Matt Shoberg



## The Shadows Of The Elm

### ACROSS CLUES

3. THE BUTLER
7. FOUND BY THE GATE
9. MRS BARRYMORE DID THIS AT NIGHT
10. HOLMES WAS FOOLISH ENOUGH TO SHOW HIMSELF AGAINST THIS
11. HOLMES ASSISTANT
14. THE...OF THE BASKERVILLES
17. WATSON WENT TO ----- L.L.
18. BARRYMORE HAD A BLACK -----.
19. THERE WAS A DENSE ...
21. LAURA'S INITIALS
22. HOLMES WAS DOING THIS IN THE CASE
24. MORTIMER'S DOG WAS -----.
26. FOUND AT THE BACK OF THE GRATE
27. REVOLVER

### DOWN CLUES

1. MRS BARRYMORE DID THIS
2. WATSON'S PARTNER
4. THERE WERE PORTRAITS OF THESE ON THE WALL AT BASKERVILLE HALL
5. THIS PLACE WAS WHERE SIR HENRY LIVED
6. THE HOUND WAS ----- AND KILLED.
8. THIS PERSON WAS THE BAD GUY
12. WHERE THE STORY TOOK PLACE
13. THERE WERE ASHES HERE
15. STAPLETON WANTED SIR HENRY TO -----.
16. HOLMES WAS ----- FROM WATSON ON THE MOOR
20. MORTIMER LEFT THIS AT 221B
23. THE CONVICT DID THIS WHEN HE WAS BEING PURSUED BY THE HOUND
25. MORTIMER'S ----- WAS KILLED

\*\* All Clues Refer To  
Sherlock Holmes's Adventures In  
The Hound Of The Baskervilles



# Announcing the Chester Baskerville Society 2nd Annual Spring Art Contest

Enclosed with this issue you will find your official entry form for this year's art contest. If necessary you may use a regular, unlined sheet of paper for your entry, but please be sure to add your name, address and age to the artwork.

This year's theme will be: "My Favorite Sherlock Holmes Adventure"

All artwork must be received by June 1, 1991 in order to qualify for our judging. All winners will receive the new Slylock Fox & Friends Magazine and some attractive Slylockian stickers, so sharpen those pencils and get drawing!



# KING A'BOOMA

by Doc Yoch

Once upon a time in a kingdom far away, down the road and around the corner, a great party was being held - a celebration to crown a new king.

The future king was a tiny prince who had come from a long line of mighty kings--big, tall men--with strong shoulders and large heads.

All the loyal subjects had gathered in the Royal Courtyard that day to watch the crowning. It was to be a day of joyous celebration with

much dancing and singing and eating. In fact, the loyal subjects were in a big hurry to get through the crowning and get to the dancing and singing and eating.

All eyes were on tiny Prince A'Booma. One could hear the sounds of the crowd and the Royal Band begin to swell. Voices and melodies floated from the courtyard to the top of the castle walls. The quiet pointed shoes were beginning to tap to the rhythms. And



growling stomachs could be heard everywhere.

"On with the crowning!" the crowd began to shout. "Long live Prince A'Booma. Long live dancing and singing and eating!"

The Royal Horns began to blow. The crowd began to cheer. Down the amber carpet marched the Royal Crowner. Upon the satin pillow he held in his hands, sat the most beautiful crown in all the world. Gold that shown like the brightest sunshine. Stones of ruby, cobalt and emerald made it shine with color. It was worth more money than anyone had in the kingdom.

The Royal Drummers began the traditional drum roll. The Royal Crowner stepped beside Prince A'Booma and lifted the glittering crown from the satin pillow.

The anxious crowd held their breath as the Royal Crowner placed the large crown on the tiny head. Instead of "oohs" and "aahs" from the crowd, there was a "thud" as the crown slipped from the Prince's head to his shoulders.

The crowd went wild chanting "Long live King A'Booma. Long live King A'Booma.--And let's EAT!"

At that point, everyone could see that the new king was not happy. He was jumping up and down, waving his Royal Staff excitedly, and mumbling loudly



behind his crown. A hush fell over the crowd.

The Royal Crowner, who was still standing beside King A'Booma, could understand the tiny man's words and passed them on to the crowd in the courtyard.

"Our King is unhappy," the Royal Crowner began. "He cannot rule his kingdom with a crown in front of his face."

His royal subjects just shrugged their shoulders. They weren't too upset. They felt the King's new look was an improvement; it sort of hid his large nose and big ears. The crowd was in agreement, they could live with the king's new look.

"Let the dancing and singing and eating begin," they shouted.

By this time the new king was thrashing the Royal Staff against the ground and his mumbling was louder.

Again a hush fell over the crowd and the Royal Crowner began to speak for the king.

"There will be no dancing--or singing--or eating--until the problem of the over-sized crown is solved. King A'Booma has spoken!"

The Royal Subjects knew the new king meant business and if they wanted to dance or sing or eat at all, they had better be able to solve the problem of that over-sized crown.

"Sire, Sire, we will shrink the crown," shouted a scientist in the front row. "We can use the Royal Lazer and cut a piece out of it."

"Yes, yes," jumped another man. "Then we can melt the gold and stick the remaining pieces of the crown back together."

The crowd shook their heads up and down in agreement, for it sounded like a very good idea.

The king mumbled.

The Royal Crowner began to speak for the king. "The crown must not be cut in anyway. To change the gold or stones would change the crown. No, no, our kingdom's treasure must not be harmed in any way."

A fat woman under a balcony began waving her hands.

"Sire, Sire, we will enlarge your head. I am the best baker in all the palace. I will make you pies and cakes and breads."

"Yes, yes," squealed the baker's apprentice. "Our goodies will make you large enough to fit the crown."

The crowd shook their heads up and down in agreement, for it sounded like a very good idea.

The king rumbled and mumbled. The Royal Crowner, who was beginning to look a little pale, began to speak for the king.

"Oh yes, this would make me larger--but not my head! Not my head! There will be absolutely no dancing or singing or eating until my crown fits and I can see my Royal Subjects."

Now the kingdom did not only have an unhappy king, but unhappy subjects who weren't feeling very loyal. The minutes ticked into hours, but no one could come up with a very good idea to make the crown fit. All that could be heard was the grumbling of hungry stomachs as the people thought and thought.

Then there was such a raucous at the top of the castle wall, that everyone's eyes were lifted skyward.

There sat the obnoxious Royal Magpies. Big, black, clever birds with terrible manners. They just flew in and were giggling and laughing until they fell off the wall. The king was not amused with their antics.

"Sqawk, the king has a t-e-r-r-i-b-l-e problem," laughed the magpies.

King A'Booma did not laugh. He shook his finger at the birds and mumbled.

The Royal Crowner winced, and began again for the king.

"You better be able to fix the problem of my over-sized crown. For if I catch you, we will have you for dinner."

The magpies thought the king looked so silly, and rolled around in hysterics. Of course this made King A'Booma madder. He sat fuming, drumming his fingers on the arms of his throne.



King A'Booma was about to burst at the seams, and the Royal Crowner knew it. The king's mumbled screaming echoed throughout the kingdom.

The Royal Crowner, who was trembling, began again.

But before he could begin, the magpies started flapping around squawking loudly, becoming very obnoxious—which they did well.

"We can solve the problem of the over-sized crown. It's so easy," laughed the black birds with a twinkle in their eyes.

"Colors of the rainbow," giggled Magpie number one.

"Sire, Sire," the Royal Crowner said, "The birds mean the stones in you crown--the reds, blues and greens."

The Magpies stared at the crowner, looked at each other and then held their sides as they broke into laughter.

King A'Booma stopped drumming his fingers and listened. He might be smaller than his predecessors, but he was just as wise.

"Never ending, never ending," sputtered Magpie number two.

"Sire, Sire," the crowd said, "The birds mean 'your reign' is never ending. Your grandfather was king, then your father became king, and now you. It's just one king after another."

The Magpies stared at the crowd, looked at each other and then held their sides as they broke into laughter.

King A'Booms just sat quietly and listened.

"These birds are just a nuisance," said the Royal Crowner. "Be off with you!"

The third Magpie could no longer contain himself, "Full of hot air, full of hot air."

Well, almost everyone took that as a direct insult against King A'Booma (except King A'Booma).

The Royal Crowner knew for sure he had just lost his job. The crowd knew for sure that dancing and singing and eating were definitely out. And King A'Booma knew for sure that the clever but obnoxious birds had solved the problem of the over-sized crown. Have you solved the mystery? To see the answer, turn the page.

It was very soon after the magpies had solved the problem of the over-sized crown, that King A'Booma was sitting happily on his throne with the crown sitting on top of his head. The answer was so simple--BALLOONS--(1) Which come in the colors of the rainbow (2) They are shaped in circles, which are never ending and (3) are full of hot air, which makes balloons rise.



"On with the royal crowning" cried the Royal Crowner.

The royal trumpets and drums began to play. Colorful balloons held the large crown on the king's tiny little head. Finally there was much dancing and singing and eating, which the loyal subjects thought was a very good idea.

And the whole kingdom shouted, "Long live King A'Booma Balloona! Long live King A'Booma Balloona!"

IT'S ELEMENTARY  
-Our Answer Page-

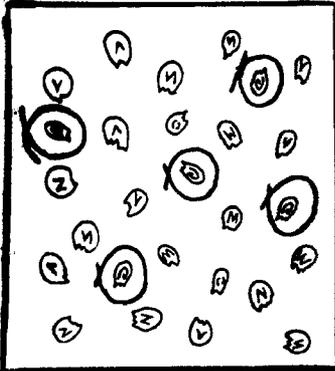
Story by Michael McClure II (page 3)

Sherlock went to where Moriarty was. (More + e + art + y) He found Moriarty, took some chains and wrapped Moriarty with them. Then he found the ring, called the police and gave the ring back to Lara Lion.

Hugh Dunnit Asks: "What Is It?" (page 4)

Our 2600 year old mystery subject is soap! Procter and Gamble developed the first floating soap in 1878, and named it Ivory. Sherlock Holmes knows his chemistry and solved this puzzle with one clue (#3). Dr Watson took three clues (#5, #6, & #7) and Inspector Lestade needed all eight clues plus some extra advise from Dr. Watson.

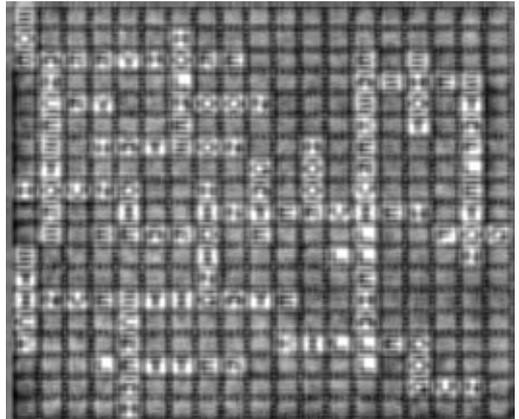
The Five Orange Pips  
(page 6)



Letter Perfect (pg 7)

- |            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. B (Bee) | 6. U (You)      |
| 2. T (Tea) | 7. X (Ax)       |
| 3. C (Sea) | 8. A            |
| 4. H       | 9. Y (Why)      |
| 5. I (Eye) | 10. M (Mycroft) |

The Hound's Puzzle (page 14)



Printer's Painful  
Predicament (Page 8)

Moran Sherlock  
Moriarty Adler  
Watson Lestrade

THE  
CHESTER  
BASKERVILLE  
SOCIETY  
ART CONTEST  
SPRING 1991



The second annual Chester Baskerville Society Spring Art Contest is now in progress. We will be awarding prizes to the top entries in several age groups. These award winners will also be featured in future issues of "Holmes For The Holidays". This year's theme is: "My Favorite Sherlock Holmes Adventure!" send your creations to: Holmes For the Holidays, 1415 Swanwick St., Chester, IL 62233. Entries must be received by June 1, 1991.

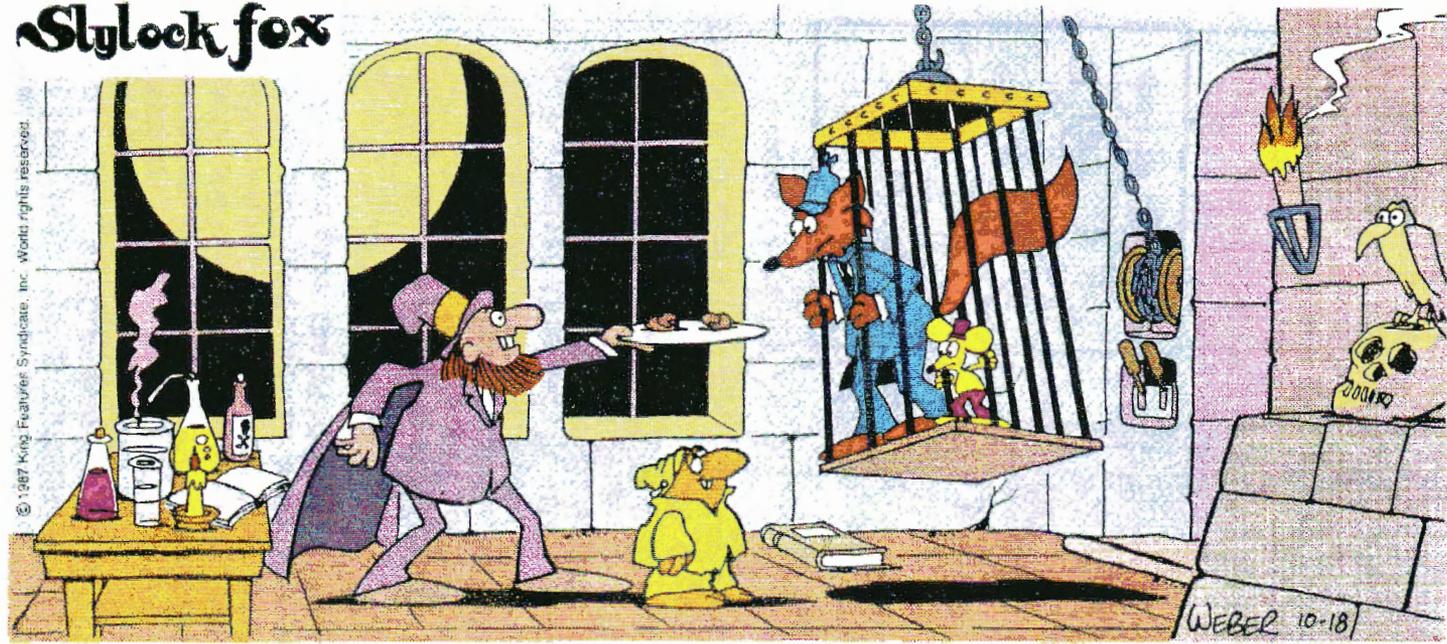
Good Luck And Get Drawing!!!

Name:  
Address:

Age:

# Slylock fox

© 1987 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.



DR. WEIRDLY IS OFFERING SLYLOCK FOX AND MAX MOUSE A CHANCE FOR FREEDOM. HE CLAIMS ALL SLYLOCK MUST DO IS CHOOSE THE CORRECT FORTUNE COOKIE. ONE COOKIE CONTAINS A MESSAGE THAT GRANTS THEIR FREEDOM, WHILE THE OTHER COOKIE'S MESSAGE DEMANDS CONTINUED CAPTIVITY. DR. WEIRDLY HAS GIVEN HIS WORD OF HONOR TO ABIDE BY WHICHEVER MESSAGE IS CHOSEN. SLYLOCK DOESN'T TRUST WEIRDLY. HE'S SURE THE EVIL DOCTOR FILLED BOTH COOKIES WITH THE SAME "CAPTIVITY" MESSAGE! HOW WILL SLYLOCK OUTSMART HIM?

SOLUTION — SLYLOCK WILL CHOOSE ONE OF THE COOKIES AND THEN IMMEDIATELY SWALLOW ITS MESSAGE. HE WILL THEN ASK WEIRDLY TO READ THE MESSAGE FROM THE OTHER COOKIE. OF COURSE IT WILL DEMAND THEIR CAPTIVITY, THUS SLYLOCK WILL CLAIM THAT HIS COOKIE MUST HAVE CONTAINED THE MESSAGE GRANTING FREEDOM. DR. WEIRDLY IS FOLDED AGAIN!