



## The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes

### Adventure LIV – The Adventure of the Illustrious Client

Two very different women whose destinies are tied to one very dreadful man — our next tale is, of course, *The Adventure of the Illustrious Client*. My questions and comments this weekend:

Why is the note to Holmes written in the third person?

Many Hounds disapprove of characters who exact their own vengeance. Kitty Winter is one of those characters — but honestly now, don't we love her for it?

Did Gruner make those snapshots himself or was there another photographer?

Holmes is confounded by Violet and that “something indescribably annoying in the calm aloofness and supreme self complaisance” of her manner. Could it be she's the mirror of his own annoying, aloof and self-complaisant side?

The Half Moon Street where Dr. Hill Barton was supposed to reside is located off Picadilly, not far from Buckingham Palace. Half Moon Street was a smart Regency address, and it still is a tony area. The street and its environs have a pleasing literary pedigree. In its heyday, Hazlitt, Shelley, and Boswell are said to have had addresses in Half Moon Street. Laurence Sterne and Richard Sheridan lived nearby. Oscar Wilde strolled past it almost daily, and his “Picture of Dorian Gray” was set a short distance away.



Dorothy Sayers' Lord Peter Wimsey lived around the corner from Half Moon Street, and the area was also home to Wooster and Jeeves. Paul Theroux celebrated it in a couple of short stories collected under the title "Half Moon Street," which were adapted into a mid-1980's film by that name starring Michael Caine. Say...wasn't that the same Michael Caine I saw a couple of years later, in "Without A Clue," playing Sherlock Holmes?

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