



*I only quote
this as a
trivial
example of
observation
and
inference.*

The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes

Adventure LIV – The Adventure of the Illustrious Client

1. “A complex mind. All great criminals have that.”
2. “A purring cat who thinks he sees prospective mice. Some people's affability is more deadly than the violence of coarser souls.”
3. “He has the collection mania in its most acute form- and especially on this subject, on which he is an acknowledged authority.”
4. “He is an excellent antagonist, cool as ice, silky voiced and soothing as one of your fashionable consultants, and poisonous as a cobra. He has breeding in him- a real aristocrat of crime, with a superficial suggestion of afternoon tea and all the cruelty of the grave behind it.”
5. “He may pick up some garbage in the darker recesses of the underworld, for it is down there, amid the black roots of crime, that we must hunt for this man's secrets.”
6. “I am accustomed to have mystery at one end of my cases, but to have it at both ends is too confusing. I must decline to act.”



7. "I love to come to close grips with my man. I like to meet him eye to eye and read for myself the stuff that he is made of."
8. "I should say that there is no more dangerous man in Europe."
9. "I thought of her for the moment as I would have thought of a daughter of my own. I am not often eloquent. I use my head, not my heart. But I really did plead with her with all the warmth of words that I could find in my nature. I pictured to her the awful position of the woman who only wakes to a man's character after she is his wife- a woman who has to submit to be caressed by bloody hands and lecherous lips. I spared her nothing- the shame, the fear, the agony, the hopelessness of it all. All my hot words could not bring one tinge of color to those ivory cheeks or one gleam of emotion to those abstracted eyes. I thought of what the rascal had said about a post-hypnotic influence. One could really believe that she was living above the earth in some ecstatic dream. Yet there was nothing indefinite in her replies."
10. "I'm a bit of a single-stick expert, as you know. I took most of them on my guard. It was the second man that was too much for me."
11. "It may be some fussy, self-important fool; it may be a matter of life and death."
12. "It is a loyal friend and a chivalrous gentleman. Let that now and forever be enough for us."
13. "Mighty dangerous. I disregard the blusterer, but this is the sort of man who says rather less than he means."
14. "The wages of sin, Watson- the wages of sin! Sooner or later it will always come."
15. "Woman's heart and mind are insoluble puzzles to the male. Murder might be condoned or explained, and yet some smaller offense might rankle."
16. "You may have noticed how extremes call to each other, the spiritual to the animal, the cave-man to the angel. You never saw a worse case than this."