

Baker Street *Elementary*

PRESENTS
"THE LIFE AND TIMES IN VICTORIAN LONDON"



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THE LIFE AND TIMES IN VICTORIAN LONDON
B005 - STORY SUMMARIES (THE ADVENTURES) - JANUARY, 2022



WELCOME TO TOPIC NUMBER B005... THIS IS A SPECIAL SEGMENT, AS WE WILL GIVE A VERY SHORT SUMMARY OF EVERY ONE OF OUR 60 STORIES, WRITTEN BY OUR CREATOR, ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE... THANKS SO MUCH TO ALEXIS BARQUIN AND THE ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE ENCYCLOPEDIA FOR USE OF THEIR SUMMARY TEXTS FOR THIS LESSON..



1. 'A Scandal in Bohemia'

THE KING OF BOHEMIA ASKS ME TO RETRIEVE AN INCRIMINATING PHOTO WHERE HE APPEARS WITH HIS FORMER MISTRESS, IRENE ADLER. THE RELEASE OF THE PHOTO COULD IRREPARABLY RUIN THE KING'S MARRIAGE.

I (DISGUISED AS A GROOM) SPY AND TRACK IRENE, AND FIND HIMSELF AS THE BEST MAN OF THE MARRIAGE BETWEEN MISS IRENE ADLER AND MR. GODFREY NORTON. THE SAME EVENING, I (DISGUISED AS A CLERGYMAN) FEIGN TO BE WOUNDED IN A STREET BATTLE IN FRONT OF BRIONY LODGE AND SUCCEED TO ENTER IN IRENE'S HOUSE.

WITH THE COMPLICITY OF YOU AND A SMART STRATAGEM OF FALSE FIRE ALARM, I MAKE IRENE ADLER BETRAY HERSELF. BECAUSE OF THE SMOKE, SHE RUSHED TO A SECRET PANEL WHICH WAS HIDING THE PHOTOGRAPH. (CONTINUED)



1. 'A Scandal in Bohemia'

('SCAN' CONT.) I CAN'T TAKE THE PHOTO BECAUSE THE COACHMAN WAS IN THE SAME ROOM, SO I DECIDE TO COME BACK THE NEXT DAY WITH THE KING.

UNFORTUNATELY, WHEN WE CAME BACK TO BRIONY LODGE ON THE NEXT MORNING, WE LEARN IRENE, WHO UNDERSTOOD MY STRATAGEM, HAS LEFT THE COUNTRY A FEW HOURS BEFORE WITH HER HUSBAND. HOWEVER, SHE ADDRESSED A LETTER TO ME, EXPLAINING SHE WILL USE THE PHOTO ONLY FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSE.

SHE ATTACHED A PHOTO OF HERSELF FOR THE KING AS A SOUVENIR. I REFUSED THE ROYAL REWARD FROM THE KING BUT ASKED HIM A MORE VALUABLE PRESENT: THE PHOTO OF IRENE ADLER.



2. 'The Red-Headed League'

JABEZ WILSON, A RED-HEADED PAWNBROKER NEAR LONDON, IS INFORMED BY HIS NEW EMPLOYEE VINCENT SPAULDING THE RED-HEADED LEAGUE IS PROPOSING AN EASY AND WELL-PAID JOB ONLY FOR RED-HAIRED PERSONS.

WILSON APPLIES AND GET THE JOB. HE IS ASKED TO COPY THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA 4 HOURS A DAY IN A SMALL OFFICE AT POPE'S COURT. AFTER TWO MONTHS, SUDDENLY HE OFFICE IS CLOSED, THE RED-HEADED LEAGUE IS DISSOLVED AND HIS PROVIDENTIAL JOB STOPS WITH NO NEWS FROM THE MANAGERS. HE DECIDES THEN TO CONSULT HOLMES.

AFTER SOME INVESTIGATIONS, YOU DISCOVER THE LEAGUE WAS A PRETEXT INTENDED TO TAKE WILSON AWAY FROM HIS SHOP, SO SPAULDING (AKA THE CRIMINAL, JOHN CLAY) COULD DIG A TUNNEL FROM THE SHOP TO THE BANK ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STREET. (CONTINUED)



2. 'The Red-Headed League'

('REDH' CONT.) WITH THE CASE SOLVED, YOU CALL POLICE INSPECTOR JONES AND MR. MERRYWEATHER, A DIRECTOR OF THE BANK LOCATED NEXT DOOR. WE HIDE OURSELVES IN THE BANK VAULT, WAITING IN THE DARK FOR OVER AN HOUR UNTIL TWO MEN EMERGE FROM A TUNNEL CUT INTO THE VAULT'S FLOOR AND ARE CAPTURED.

THEY ARE JOHN CLAY, WHO HAS A LONG HISTORY OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY ALREADY, AND HIS HELPER ARCHIE. UNDER THE ALIASES OF SPAULDING AND ROSS, THEY HAD CONTRIVED THE 'RED-HEADED LEAGUE' RIGMAROLE TO KEEP WILSON OUT OF HIS SHOP WHILE THEY DUG A TUNNEL IN THE BASEMENT TO REACH THE VAULT CONTAINING THE GOLD COINS THEY WERE PLANNING TO STEAL.

BACK AT BAKER STREET, YOU EXPLAIN TO ME HOW HE SOLVED THE CASE, APPLAUDING CLAY'S CREATIVITY AND REGRETTING SUCH A MIND HAS BEEN WASTED ON CRIME.



3. 'A Case of Identity'

MISS MARY SUTHERLAND CONSULTS ME, BECAUSE HER FIANCÉ MR. HOSMER ANGEL DISAPPEARED JUST BEFORE THEIR WEDDING. SUTHERLAND HAS A SUBSTANTIAL INCOME FROM THE INTEREST ON A FUND SET UP FOR HER.

AFTER HEARING HER STORY, I THINK THIS CASE IS QUITE SIMPLE AS I KNOW SOME SIMILAR CASES. MY DETECTIVE POWERS ARE BARELY CHALLENGED AS THIS TURNS OUT TO BE QUITE AN ELEMENTARY CASE FOR ME, MUCH AS IT PUZZLES YOU. MISS SUTHERLAND ONLY KNOWS MR. HOSMER IS EMPLOYED IN AN OFFICE IN LEADENHALL STREET, BUT NOTHING MORE SPECIFIC THAN THAT.

ALL HIS LETTERS TO HER ARE TYPEWRITTEN, EVEN THE SIGNATURE, AND HE INSISTS SHE WRITE BACK TO HIM THROUGH THE LOCAL POST OFFICE. BY A SIMPLE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH MR. WINDIBANK, MARY'S STEP-FATHER, I MANAGE TO CONFOUND HIM. I DEDUCE 'ANGEL' HAD 'DISAPPEARED' BY SIMPLY GOING OUT THE OTHER SIDE OF A FOUR-WHEELER CAB. (CONTINUED)



3. 'A Case of Identity'

(*'IDEN' CONT.*) WINDIBANK LATER CONFESSES TO AVOID THE LOSS OF HIS STEPDAUGHTER FORTUNE, HE DISGUISED HIMSELF AND PRETENDED TO BE MR. ANGEL TO SEDUCE HER. THE GIRL FELL INTO THE TRAP.

HE MADE HER PROMISE TO REMAIN FAITHFUL TO HIM (ANGEL) WHATEVER LIFE EVENTS MAY OCCUR. HIS IDEA WAS TO ELIMINATE ANGEL, SO MARY REMAINS FOREVER SINGLE, AND HE COULD ENJOY THE STEPDAUGHTER'S INCOME. UNFORTUNATELY, I CANNOT DO MUCH, BECAUSE WINDIBANK HAS DONE NOTHING ACTIONABLE. I DECIDE NOT TO TELL MARY, AS SHE WOULD NOT BELIEVE ME.

I ADVISED MY CLIENT TO FORGET 'MR. ANGEL', BUT MISS SUTHERLAND REFUSED MY ADVICE AND VOWED TO REMAIN FAITHFUL TO 'ANGEL' UNTIL HE REAPPEARS, FOR AT LEAST TEN YEARS. I PREDICT WINDIBANK WILL CONTINUE A CAREER IN CRIME AND END UP ON THE GALLOWS.



4. 'The Boscombe Valley Mystery'

YOU AND I GO TO BOSCOMBE TO HELP LESTRADE ON THE MURDER OF OLD MCCARTHY. ALL TESTIMONIALS CRIMINALIZE THE SON, JAMES MCCARTHY, BUT HIS FIANCÉE, MISS TURNER IS CONVINCED OF HIS INNOCENCE.

BY CAREFULLY OBSERVING THE CRIME SCENE, YOU FIND DIFFERENT FOOTPRINTS AND A STONE YOU CLAIM TO BE THE MURDER WEAPON AND YOU GIVE A VERY ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF THE MURDERER. YOU ALSO VISITED THE YOUNG MCCARTHY IN PRISON TO HEAR HIS VERSION.

WITH ALL THESE ELEMENTS YOU CONCLUDE THE MURDERER IS OLD TURNER, THE FATHER OF MISS TURNER. YOU SENT HIM A CONVOCAION NOTE. TURNER TELLS HIS STORY. IN AUSTRALIA, HE WAS KNOWN AS BLACK JACK OF BALLARAT, ATTACKING CONVOYS ALONG THE HIGHWAY TO GET THEIR MONEY. (CONTINUED)



4. 'The Boscombe Valley Mystery'

(*'BOSC' CONT.*) ONE DAY HE ATTACKED THE CONVOY OF MCCARTHY BUT LET HIM LIVE. BACK IN ENGLAND, TURNER FOUND HIMSELF RICH AND DECIDED TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF AND DO GOOD. HE MARRIED AND GAVE BIRTH TO A DAUGHTER.

BUT HE MET MCCARTHY WHO RECOGNIZED HIS OLD ATTACKER AND BEGAN TO BLACKMAIL HIM. GRADUALLY, HE HAD TO GIVE ALL HIS FORTUNE TO MCCARTHY, BUT WHEN MCCARTHY INSISTED HIS SON MARRY HIS DAUGHTER, IT WAS TOO MUCH AND TURNER KILLED OLD MCCARTHY. HAVING TURNER'S CONFESSION WRITTEN, YOU DECIDE NOT TO REPORT IT BECAUSE THE OLD MAN IS DYING.

THE YOUNG JAMES MCCARTHY WAS ACQUITTED THANKS TO YOUR OBJECTIONS AND THE CONFESSION WASN'T NEEDED. OLD TURNER DIED SEVEN MONTHS LATER AND THE TWO YOUNGSTERS IGNORED ALL OF THE PASTS OF THEIR PARENTS.



5. 'The Five Orange Pips'

A YOUNG MAN, JOHN OPENSHAW, ASKED ME FOR HELP. HE TOLD THE STORY OF HIS UNCLE, ELIAS, WHO IN 1869 SETTLED IN ENGLAND AFTER PARTICIPATING AS A COLONEL IN THE CIVIL WAR FOR THE CONFEDERATE ARMY, AND LIVING AS A PLANTER IN FLORIDA.

NOT BEING MARRIED, ELIAS HAD ALLOWED HIS NEPHEW TO STAY AT HIS ESTATE. STRANGE INCIDENTS HAVE OCCURRED; ALTHOUGH JOHN COULD GO ANYWHERE IN THE HOUSE, HE COULD NEVER ENTER A LOCKED ROOM CONTAINING HIS UNCLE'S TRUNKS. ONE DAY IN MARCH 1883, ELIAS RECEIVED A LETTER WITH FIVE ORANGE PIPS AND SIGNED WITH THE INITIALS 'K.K.K.'

PAPERS FROM THE LOCKED ROOM WERE BURNT AND A WILL WAS DRAWN UP LEAVING THE ESTATE TO JOHN OPENSHAW. ON 2 MAY 1883, ELIAS WAS FOUND DEAD IN A GARDEN POOL. (CONTINUED)



5. 'The Five Orange Pips'

('IDEN' CONT.) IN 1885, JOHN'S FATHER, JOSEPH, DIED AFTER RECEIVING A SIMILAR LETTER WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO LEAVE 'THE PAPERS' ON THE SUNDIAL. TWO YEARS HAS PASSED SINCE, AND NOW JOHN HAS RECEIVED THE DREADFUL LETTER WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO DELIVER SOME DOCUMENTS.

I ADVISE HIM TO OBEY BY LEAVING THE DIARY PAGE WITH A NOTE ON THE GARDEN SUNDIAL, TELLING OF THE BURNING OF THE COLONEL'S PAPERS. UNFORTUNATELY, JOHN IS KILLED ON HIS WAY HOME FROM OUR MEETING, 'ACCIDENTALLY' FALLING INTO THE THAMES. I PROMISED TO AVENGE HIS DEATH. I SUCCEED IN IDENTIFYING THE KU KLUX KLAN MEMBERS BUT TOO LATE, AS THEY ALL FLED BY SEA TO ATTEMPT TO RETURN TO AMERICA.

I SEND FIVE ORANGE PIPS TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE LONE STAR, AND SEND A TELEGRAM TO THE SAVANNAH POLICE CLAIMING THE CAPTAIN AND TWO MATES ARE WANTED FOR MURDER. THE LONE STAR NEVER ARRIVES IN SAVANNAH, DUE TO A SEVERE GALE.



6. 'The Man with the Twisted Lip'

LATE AT NIGHT, KATE WHITNEY, A FRIEND OF MY WIFE, CALLS ON US. HER HUSBAND ISA HAS BEEN ABSENT FOR SEVERAL DAYS. FRANTIC WITH WORRY, SHE BEGS ME TO FETCH HIM HOME FROM THE OPIUM DEN WHERE HE GOES. I FIND WHITNEY AND SEND HIM HOME, BUT I ALSO FIND YOU IN THE DEN, DISGUISED AS AN OLD MAN, SEEKING FOR CLUES.

THE CASE INVOLVES NEVILLE ST. CLAIR, WHO IS MISSING. HE VISITS LONDON EVERY DAY ON BUSINESS MATTERS. ONE DAY WHEN ST. CLAIR WAS IN LONDON, HIS WIFE ALSO WENT TO THE CITY. SHE PASSED DOWN A 'VILE ALLEY'. SHE SAW HER HUSBAND AT A 2ND-FLOOR WINDOW OF THE OPIUM DEN. HE VANISHED FROM THE WINDOW IMMEDIATELY, AND MRS. ST. CLAIR WAS SURE THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG.

SHE TRIED TO ENTER THE BUILDING, BUT HER WAY WAS BLOCKED. SHE FETCHED THE POLICE, BUT THEY DID NOT FIND MR. ST. CLAIR. THE ROOM CONTAINED A DIRTY, DISFIGURED BEGGAR KNOWN AS HUGH BOONE. MRS. ST. CLAIR NOTICED A BOX OF TOY BRICKS HER HUSBAND SAID HE WOULD BUY FOR THEIR SON. A SEARCH TURNED UP SOME OF ST. CLAIR'S CLOTHES, AS WELL AS BLOOD STAINS ON A WINDOW SILL. (CONTINUED)



6. 'The Man with the Twisted Lip'

(*'TWIS'* CONT.) LATER, HIS COAT, WITH THE POCKETS STUFFED WITH HUNDREDS OF COINS, WAS FOUND ON THE BANK OF THAMES, JUST BELOW THE BUILDING'S BACK WINDOW. BOONE WAS ARRESTED AT ONCE, BUT DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF ST. CLAIR. YOU WERE CONVINCED ST. CLAIR HAD BEEN MURDERED, AND BOONE WAS INVOLVED. YOU AND I RETURN TO ST. CLAIR'S HOME.

IT IS SEVERAL DAYS AFTER THE DISAPPEARANCE, BUT MRS. ST. CLAIR RECEIVED A LETTER FROM HER HUSBAND, WEDDING RING ENCLOSED, TELLING HER NOT TO WORRY. YOU MUST RECONSIDER HIS CONCLUSIONS. WE GO TO THE POLICE STATION WHERE BOONE IS HELD; YOU BRING A BATH SPONGE IN A GLADSTONE BAG. FINDING BOONE ASLEEP, YOU WASH THE SLEEPING BOONE'S DIRTY FACE - REVEALING NEVILLE ST. CLAIR.

ST. CLAIR HAS BEEN LEADING A DOUBLE LIFE, AS A BUSINESSMAN, AND AS A PROFESSIONAL BEGGAR. HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN NEVER KNEW WHAT HE DID FOR A LIVING, AND WHEN ARRESTED, HE FEARED EXPOSURE MORE THAN PRISON OR THE GALLOWES. BUT THERE IS NO MURDER, SO HE IS RELEASED, AND YOU AND THE POLICE AGREE TO KEEP MR. ST. CLAIR'S SECRET AS LONG AS NO MORE IS HEARD OF BOONE.



7. 'The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle'

WHILE GOING HOME, PETERSON, A COMMISSIONAIRE, WITNESSES A FIGHT BETWEEN A MAN AND THUGS. IN THE FIGHT, THE MAN LOOSES HIS HAT AND A GOOSE. AT THE SIGHT OF THE UNIFORM OF PETERSON, EVERYONE FLEE, LEAVING THE HAT AND GOOSE ON THE FLOOR.

PETERSON CALLS ON ME TO HELP DETERMINE THE OWNER OF THE HAT AND GOOSE. I ADVISE HIM TO EAT THE GOOSE AND GIVE ME THE HAT, FROM WHICH I DEDUCE THE BIRD BELONGS TO A MR. HENRY BAKER, BASED ON THE NAME TAG IN THE HAT. WHILE COOKING THE GOOSE, PETERSON'S WIFE DISCOVERS A PRICELESS GEM IN THE CROP OF THE BIRD.

THE GEM IS THE 'BLUE CARBUNCLE,' THE VERY STONE STOLEN FROM THE COUNTESS OF MORCAR A FEW DAYS AGO AT THE COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL. JOHN HORNER, A PLUMBER WHO WAS WORKING AT THE HOTEL, WAS ACCUSED OF THE THEFT AND ARRESTED ON THE TESTIMONY OF JAMES RYDER, THE CHIEF OF STAFF. I PUBLISH AN AD IN THE NEWSPAPERS TO FIND MR. HENRY BAKER. (CONTINUED)



7. 'The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle'

(*'BLUE' CONT.*) I SUCCEEDED IN TRACING BACK THE HISTORY OF THE GOOSE TO THE PROVIDER AND FOUND JAMES RYDER, THE REAL THIEF OF THE STONE. WE INVITE RYDER BACK TO BAKER STREET. I TELL RYDER THE GOOSE 'LAID AN EGG AFTER IT WAS DEAD'. RYDER IS TERRIFIED AND RECOUNTS HE AND HIS ACCOMPLICE CATHERINE CUSACK, THE COUNTESS'S MAID, CONTRIVED TO FRAME HORNER.

DURING A VISIT TO HIS SISTER, MRS. OAKSHOTT, RYDER HID THE JEWEL BY FEEDING IT TO ONE OF THE GEESE. UNFORTUNATELY, RYDER DROPPED THE BIRD AND THEN CONFUSED IT WITH ANOTHER, TAKING AWAY THE WRONG GOOSE. BY THE TIME RYDER REALIZED HIS MISTAKE, THE OTHER GEESE HAD ALREADY BEEN SOLD.

I LET RYDER LEAVE THE COUNTRY, KNOWING HORNER COULD BE RELEASED BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF EVIDENCE. THE CARBUNCLE IS RETURNED TO THE COUNTESS AND PETERSON RECEIVES A REWARD OF £1,000.



8. 'The Adventure of the Speckled Band'

HELEN STONER, A TERRIFIED YOUNG LADY, COMES AND ASKS YOU FOR HELP. A SHORT TIME BEFORE THE PLANNED MARRIAGE OF HER SISTER JULIA, THE LATTER DIED WITHOUT IDENTIFIABLE CAUSE, AFTER UTTERING THESE MYSTERIOUS LAST WORDS: 'THE SPECKLED BAND.'

SOME DAYS BEFORE HER DEMISE, JULIA HAD COMPLAINED ABOUT BEING DISTURBED, DURING THE NIGHTS, BY A STRANGE HISSING. NOW, IT IS HELEN'S TURN TO GET MARRIED AND HER STEP-FATHER DOCTOR ROYLOTT, AN UNSOCIABLE AND VIOLENT MAN, HAS FORCED HER TO MOVE INTO JULIA'S BEDROOM UNDER FALSE PRETENSES. YOU, WORRIED, DECIDE FOR US TO GO TO STOCK MORAN THE VERY SAME DAY.

DURING THE TRAVEL, YOU EXPLAIN TO ME, IN ACCORDANCE TO HIS WIFE'S WILL, ROYLOTT CAN DISPOSE OF HIS STEPDAUGHTERS' INCOME, UNTIL THEY GET MARRIED. (CONTINUED)



8. 'The Adventure of the Speckled Band'

('SPEC' CONT.) WHILE LOOKING OVER JULIA'S BEDROOM, YOU NOTICE ITS VENTILATOR OPENS ONTO ROYLOTT'S BEDROOM AND THE BELL ROPE IS A DUMMY. SO, WE LIE IN AMBUSH IN THE GARDEN PAVILION. WHEN ROYLOTT HAS RETIRED TO HIS ROOM, HELEN WARNS US BY MEANS OF A LIGHT SIGNAL AND LEAVES JULIA'S BEDROOM, WHERE WE TAKE UP POSITION.

AFTER A LONG AND AGONIZING WAIT, WE HEAR SOMETHING HISSING: A SNAKE. YOU STRIKE IT WITH A ROD AND THE ANGRY REPTILE RETURNS TO HIS OWNER AND BITES HIM.

ROYLOTT, WHO REFUSED TO LOSE HIS STEPDAUGHTERS' INCOME BECAUSE OF THEIR MARRIAGE, HAD TRAINED THE SNAKE TO SLIP, THROUGH THE VENTILATOR AND ALONG THE BELL ROPE, TO THE BED OF ITS VICTIMS AND TO COME BACK WHEN HE WHISTLED FOR IT. BUT ROYLOTT'S LIVING WEAPON TURNED AGAINST THE VILLAIN AND KILLED HIM!



9. 'The Adventure of the Engineer's Thumb'

VICTOR HATHERLEY MEETS YOU TO HEAL HIS CUT THUMB. YOU TREAT THE WOUNDED PART AND LEAD HATHERLEY TO BAKER STREET BECAUSE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ACCIDENT ARE CURIOUS. HATHERLEY RELATES TO ME HIS STORY.

HATHERLEY HAD BEEN VISITED IN HIS OFFICE BY A MAN WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS COLONEL LYSANDER STARK. HE OFFERED HATHERLEY A COMMISSION AT A COUNTRY HOUSE AT EYFORD, TO EXAMINE A HYDRAULIC PRESS USED, AS STARK EXPLAINS, TO COMPRESS FULLER'S EARTH INTO BRICKS. STARK WARNED HATHERLEY TO KEEP THE JOB CONFIDENTIAL, OFFERING HIM 50 GUINEAS.

UPON ARRIVING LATE AT NIGHT AT THE APPOINTED TRAIN STATION, HATHERLEY IS MET BY COLONEL STARK AND IS DRIVEN A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE IN A CARRIAGE WITH FROSTED GLASS WINDOWS TO THE HOUSE WHERE HE IS TO EXAMINE THE MACHINE. (CONTINUED)



9. 'The Adventure of the Engineer's Thumb'

(*'ENGR' CONT.*) THERE HE HAS BEEN URGED TO BE CAUTIOUS BY A WOMAN, ELISE, AND HE REALIZED THE PRESS WAS NOT INTENDED TO BE USED FOR HONEST PURPOSES. WHEN HE RASHLY CONFRONTS STARK WITH THE KNOWLEDGE, STARK TRIES TO KILL HIM.

HATHERLEY NARROWLY ESCAPES GETTING CRUSHED TO DEATH WHEN STARK TURNS THE MACHINE ON HIM, BUT HE ESCAPES THE PRESS WITH THE AID OF THE WOMAN. DURING THE PURSUIT IN THE HOUSE, HATHERLEY'S THUMB IS SEVERED BY STARK.

I MAKE SENSE OF THE HAPPENINGS, RECOGNIZING STARK AND HIS ALLIES AS COUNTERFEITERS, BUT WE ARRIVE TOO LATE; THE HOUSE IS ON FIRE, AND THE PERPETRATORS HAVE FLED. THE FIRE WAS ACTUALLY STARTED BY THE PRESS DURING THE ATTEMPT ON HATHERLEY'S LIFE.



10. 'The Adventure of the Noble Bachelor'

LORD ROBERT ST SIMON VISITS YOU BECAUSE HIS FIANCÉE, MISS HATTY DORAN, DISAPPEARED ON THE DAY OF THEIR WEDDING. SHE PARTICIPATES IN THE WEDDING, BUT DISAPPEARS FROM THE RECEPTION. ST. SIMON TELLS YOU HE NOTICED A CHANGE IN THE YOUNG LADY'S MOOD JUST AFTER THE WEDDING CEREMONY.

THE ONLY THING OUT OF THE ORDINARY AT THE CHURCH WAS HATTY'S LITTLE ACCIDENT: SHE DROPPED HER WEDDING BOUQUET AND A GENTLEMAN IN THE FRONT PEW PICKED IT UP AND HANDED IT BACK TO HER. AFTER THE BRIDAL PARTY ENTERED HATTY'S FATHER'S HOUSE FOR THE WEDDING BREAKFAST, A FORMER COMPANION OF ST. SIMON, FLORA MILLAR, CAUSED A DISTURBANCE AT THE DOOR AND WAS EJECTED.

HATTY WAS SEEN TALKING TO HER MAID UPON ARRIVAL AT THE HOUSE; TEN MINUTES INTO THE WEDDING BREAKFAST, HATTY CLAIMED 'A SUDDEN INDISPOSITION' AND RETIRED TO HER ROOM. A SHORT TIME LATER, IT WAS DISCOVERED SHE HAD LEFT THE HOUSE. AFTER THE LORD'S NARRATIVE, YOU THINK YOU HAVE ALREADY SOLVED THE CASE. (CONTINUED)

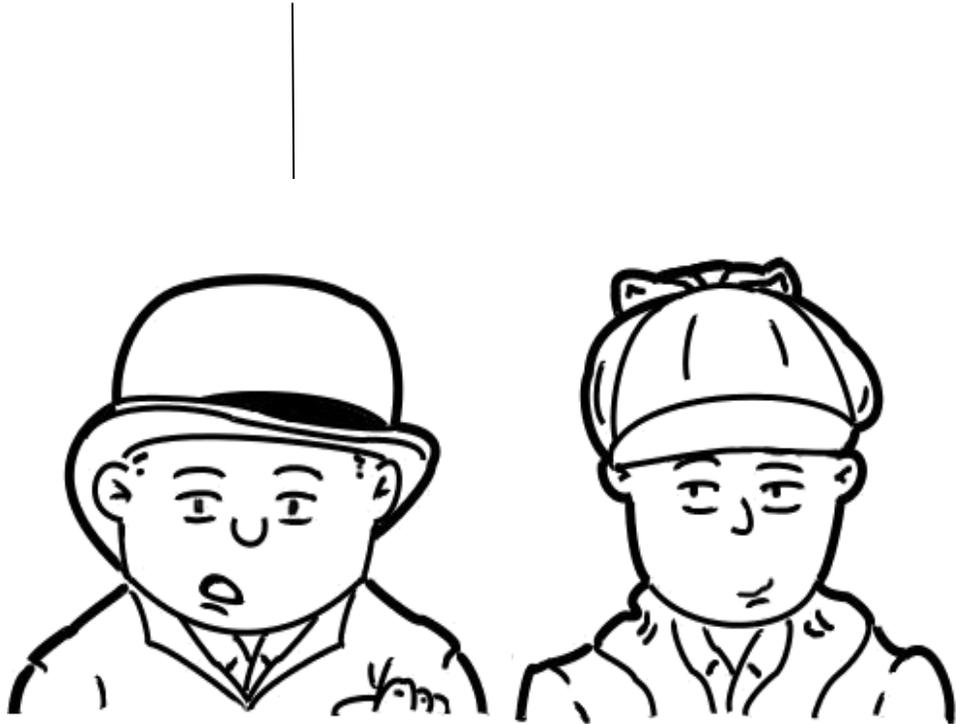


10. 'The Adventure of the Noble Bachelor'

(*'NOBL'* CONT.) YOU GO OUT FOR A FEW HOURS AND THEN ASK LORD ST SIMON TO COME TO BAKER STREET. YOU ALSO INVITED MISS DORAN, WHO YOU HAVE FOUND. SHE IS ACCOMPANIED BY FRANCIS HAY MOULTON, AN AMERICAN. MISS DORAN EXPLAINS WHAT HAPPENED. SHE WAS MARRIED IN THE USA, BUT FRANCIS, HER HUSBAND, HAD BEEN ATTACKED BY APACHES.

IT WAS REPORTED THERE WAS NO SURVIVORS. A FEW MONTHS LATER SHE MET LORD ST SIMON AND THE NEW MARRIAGE WAS PLANNED IN LONDON. FRANCIS HAD ONLY BEEN TAKEN PRISONER BY THE APACHE RAIDERS, AND HE ESCAPED AND TRACKED HATTY TO LONDON. BUT THE DAY OF THE CEREMONY, FRANCIS REAPPEARED AND SHE DECIDED TO GO WITH HIM AND HIDE IN LONDON.

RATHER THAN HAVE HER MAKE A SCENE AT THE CHURCH, HE GESTURED HER TO BE SILENT, AND WROTE A NOTE WHICH HE SLIPPED TO HER AS HE RETURNED HER BOUQUET. YOU HAVE DEDUCED THE PRESENCE OF A FORMER AMERICAN HUSBAND, AND THE PLACE WHERE SHE WAS HIDING THANKS TO A NOTE FOUND BY LESTRADE. LORD ST SIMON LEAVES BAKER STREET, UPSET AND REMAINING A BACHELOR.



11. 'The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet'

THE BANKER, ALEXANDER HOLDER, GOES TO BAKER STREET TO RELATE HIS STORY: HE LENT £50,000 TO A CLIENT WHO GAVE HIM AS COLLATERAL A FAMOUS BERYL CORONET. HOLDER FEELS HE MUST NOT LEAVE THIS RARE AND PRECIOUS PIECE OF JEWELRY IN BANK'S SAFE, SO HE TAKES IT HOME WITH HIM, WHERE HE LIVES WITH HIS SON, ARTHUR, AND HIS NIECE, MARY.

ARTHUR, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SIR GEORGE BURNWELL, ASKED HIS FATHER A LARGE SUM OF MONEY TO PAY OFF SOME GAMBLING DEBTS. AWAKENED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT BY STRANGE NOISES, MR. HOLDER FINDS HIS SON, HOLDING THE CORONET WHICH IS TWISTED AND THREE BERYLS MISSING. HOLDER'S NIECE MARY COMES AT THE SOUND OF ALL THE SHOUTING AND, SEEING THE DAMAGED CORONET, FAINTS DEAD AWAY.

ARTHUR IS ARRESTED IMMEDIATELY. I INSPECT THE HOLDER'S HOUSE AND DEDUCE THE CORONET HAD BEEN DAMAGED OUTSIDE OF THE HOUSE.



11. 'The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet'

(*'BERY'* CONT.) ACCORDING TO FOOTPRINTS IN THE GARDEN, I DEDUCE MARY MET BURNWELL AND SHE GAVE HIM THE CORONET. HOLDER IS FLABBERGASTED TO FIND HIS NIECE WAS IN LEAGUE WITH THE NOTORIOUS CRIMINAL, ALTHOUGH APPARENTLY SHE IS UNAWARE OF HIS CHARACTER.

ARTHUR HAD SURPRISED THEM OUTSIDE THE HOUSE, AND TRIED TO GET THE CORONET BACK BY PULLING IT FROM THE HANDS OF SIR GEORGE. TO AVOID TROUBLE FOR MARY, ARTHUR WAS WILLING TO ACCEPT THE ACCUSATION OF STEALING. THE TWO OF THEM ESCAPE JUSTICE; HOWEVER, I AM CONVINCED THEY WILL RECEIVE THEIR PUNISHMENT IN DUE TIME.

ARTHUR'S MOTIVE IN ALLOWING HIS FATHER TO THINK HE WAS THE THIEF WAS HE WAS IN LOVE WITH HIS COUSIN MARY AND DID NOT WANT HER FACING THE BLAME FOR THE THEFT. I REQUESTED AND RECEIVED £4,000 FROM HOLDER TO RETRIEVE THE STONES. AFTER HUNTING DOWN AND CONFRONTING BURNWELL, I FOUND THE THREE STONES AT A PAWNBROKER AND BOUGHT THEM FOR £3,000, PLUS £1,000 AS A REWARD.



12. 'The Adventure of the Copper Beeches'

VIOLET HUNTER SEEKS ADVICE FROM YOU ABOUT HER COMMITMENT AS GOVERNESS AT THE COPPER BEECHES. HER EMPLOYER, JEPHRO RUCASTLE, OFFERED VERY HIGH WAGES, ORIGINALLY £100 A YEAR, LATER INCREASED TO £120, BUT ASKED STRANGE REQUIREMENTS: HAVING HER HAIR CUT AND WEARING A SPECIFIC DRESS.

SHE REFUSED AT FIRST, BUT RUCASTLE OFFERED EVEN MORE MONEY. YOU PROMISE TO HELP IF THE NEED ARISES AND VIOLET ACCEPTS THE JOB. A FEW DAYS LATER, YOU RECEIVE A TELEGRAM ASKING YOU TO COME QUICKLY TO WINCHESTER. SHE SAYS THE RUCASTLE'S ELDER DAUGHTER, ALICE, IS SAID TO HAVE TRAVELLED TO PHILADELPHIA BECAUSE OF A DISLIKE OF HER STEPMOTHER, MRS. RUCASTLE.

VIOLET CUT HER HAIR AND WAS INVITED TO SIT, WEARING A BLUE DRESS IN FRONT OF A WINDOW. SHE SUSPECTED SHE WAS NOT SUPPOSED TO SEE SOMETHING OUTSIDE THE WINDOW, AND A SMALL MIRROR SHARD HIDDEN IN HER HANDKERCHIEF SHOWED HER SHE WAS RIGHT: THERE WAS A MAN STANDING THERE ON THE ROAD LOOKING TOWARDS THE HOUSE. THE ORDER WAS GIVEN TO HER TO MAKE HIM A SIGN TO LEAVE. (CONTINUED)



12. 'The Adventure of the Copper Beeches'

('COPP' CONT.) THERE WERE OTHER UNSAVOURY THINGS ABOUT THE HOUSEHOLD. THE 6-YEAR-OLD IS ASTONISHINGLY CRUEL TO SMALL ANIMALS. THE SERVANTS, MR. AND MRS. TOLLER, WERE QUITE A SOUR PAIR. VIOLET REALIZES WITH HORROR A PERSON WAS KIDNAPPED AND HELD IN A SECRET ROOM. YOU CONCLUDE VIOLET IS USED TO PLAY THE ROLE OF ALICE RUCASTLE AND THE MAN SHE OBSERVED IS ALICE'S FIANCÉ, MR. FOWLER.

YOU AND I ENTER THE HOUSE, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE ABSENCE OF MR. RUCASTLE AND FIND THE SECRET ROOM EMPTY. BUT MR. RUCASTLE ARRIVES AND LAUNCHES HIS HUNGRY DOG AT OUR HEELS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE DOG TURNS AGAINST HIM AND SERIOUSLY INJURES HIS MASTER. I KILL THE DOG IN TIME TO PREVENT THE DEATH OF RUCASTLE. WE LEARN MR. FOWLER HAS LIBERATED ALICE FROM HER PARENTS.

THE RUCASTLES LOCKED UP HER TO HAVE FOWLER BELIEVE SHE WAS GONE. MRS. TOLLER CONFIRMS YOUR THEORY ABOUT THE DAUGHTER AND REVEALS WHEN ALICE CAME OF AGE SHE WAS TO RECEIVE AN ANNUITY FROM HER LATE MOTHER'S WILL; RUCASTLE TRIED TO FORCE HIS DAUGHTER TO SIGN CONTROL OF THE INHERITANCE OVER TO HIM, WHICH RESULTED IN ALICE BECOMING ILL WITH BRAIN FEVER; HENCE, THE CUT HAIR.



SO, WE HAVE COMPLETED TOPIC # B005 IN OUR SERIES...

IN TOPIC # B006, WE WILL PROVIDE SUMMARIES OF THE STORIES FROM THE MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES.



ORIGINAL SOURCE MATERIAL FOR THIS TOPIC:

- 1) THE ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE ENCYCLOPEDIA: [HTTP://WWW.ARTHUR-CONAN-DOYLE.COM](http://www.arthur-conan-doyle.com)
- 2) THE SHERLOCK HOLMES CHRONOLOGY: [HTTP://WWW.DIOGENES-CLUB.COM/HOYBARINGGOULD.HTM](http://www.diogenes-club.com/hoysbaringgoould.htm)



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