

A Compendium of Canonical Characters



The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Canonical Characters



Sydney Paget,
October, 1891

The Boscombe Valley Mystery



"The Boscombe Valley Mystery"
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

01

01 - Cover Card

02 - Cover Card

03 -- Summary

04 - Filmography / Radiography

05 - Sherlock Holmes

06 - John Watson

07 - Mary Morstan Watson

08 - John Turner

Canonical Characters



Josef Friedrich,
1906

The Boscombe Valley Mystery



"The Boscombe Valley Mystery"
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

02

- 09 - Charles McCarthy
- 10 - Inspector Lestrade
- 11 - Patience Moran
- 12 - Alice Turner
- 13 - William Crowder
- 14 - James McCarthy
- 15 - Dr. Willows
- 16 -- Data! Data!

Canonical Characters

Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.

VENTURE IV.—THE BOSCOMBE VALLEY MYSTER

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

AWE were seated at breakfast one morning, my wife and I, when the maid brought in a telegram. It was from Sherlock Holmes, and ran in this way : "Have you a couple of days to spare? Have just been wired for from the West of England in connection with Boscombe Valley tragedy. Shall be glad if you will come with me. Air and scenery perfect. Leave Paddington by the 11.15."

"What do you say, dear?" said my wife, looking across at me. "Will you go?"

"I really don't know what to say. I have a fairly long list at present."

"Oh, Austruther would do your work for you. You have been looking a little pale lately. I think that the change would do you good, and you are always so interested in Mr. Sherlock Holmes' cases."

"I should be ungrateful if I were not, seeing what I gained through one of them," I answered. "But if I am to go I must pack at once, for I have only half an hour."

My experience of camp life in Afghanistan had at least had the effect of making me a prompt and ready traveller. My wants were few and simple, so that in less than the time stated I was in a cab with my valise, rattling away to Paddington Station. Sherlock Holmes was pacing up and down the platform, his tall, gaunt figure still even gaunter and taller than his long grey travelling and close-fitting cloth

"It's really very good of you, Watson," said he. "a considerable difference having someone whom I can Local aid is blessed or else keep the secret the



"WE RIDE THE CARRIAGE."

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The Boscombe Valley Mystery

"The Boscombe Valley Mystery" **03**
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

Holmes and Watson go to Boscombe to assist Inspector Lestrade with an investigation of the murder of old McCarthy. Both McCarthy and his neighbor, John Turner, spent part of their younger life in Ballarat, Australia, where Turner became wealthy by less than respectable means.

All testimonies seem to indicate the son, James McCarthy, is guilty of patricide, but his fiancée, Miss Turner is convinced of his innocence.

Canonical Characters



Gaston Simões
da Fonseca, 1909

The Boscombe Valley Mystery



"The Boscombe Valley Mystery" 04 (*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

Filmography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
March, 1913	FR/UK	Georges Tréville	Mr. Moyse
March, 1922	UK	Eille Norwood	Hubert Willis
October 14, 1968	UK	Peter Cushing	Nigel Stock
March 14, 1991	UK	Jeremy Brett	David Burke

Radiography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Network</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
November 17, 1930	Blue (NBC)	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
December 22, 1940	Blue (NBC)	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce
June 07, 1959	RTF	Maurice Teynac	Pierre Destailles
December 12, 1966	BBC	Carleton Hobbs	Norman Shelley
May 31, 1977	CBS	Kevin McCarthy	Court Benson
1987	BBC	Roy Marsden	John Moffatt
November 28, 1990	BBC	Clive Merrison	Michael Williams
2011		John Patrick Lowrie	Lawrence Albert

Canonical Characters



Sherlock Holmes



"The Boscombe Valley Mystery"
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

05

"And the murderer?"
"[He] is a tall man, left-handed,
limps with the right leg, wears
thick-soled shooting-boots and
a grey cloak, smokes Indian
cigars, uses a cigar-holder, and
carries a blunt pen-knife in his
pocket."

*"You know my method. It is
founded upon the observation
of trifles."*

(Georges Treville, 1912, *The Speckled Band*)

Canonical Characters



Dr. John Watson

"The Boscombe Valley Mystery" 06
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

"My experience of camp life in Afghanistan had at least had the effect of making me a prompt and ready traveller. My wants were few and simple, so that in less than the time stated I was in a cab with my valise, rattling away to Paddington Station."

"I am afraid, that the facts are so obvious that you will find little credit to be gained out of this case."

(Leigh Lovell, 1934, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

Canonical Characters



Mary Morstan Watson

"The Boscombe Valley Mystery" *(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)*

07

"What do you say, dear?"
said my wife, looking across
at me. "Will you go?"

*"You have been looking a
little pale lately. I think that
the change would do you
good, and you are always so
interested in Mr. Sherlock
Holmes' cases."*

(Jenny Seagrove, 1991, *Sherlock Holmes, "The Sign of Four"*)

Canonical Characters



John Turner



"The Boscombe Valley Mystery" **08**
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

"Black Jack of Ballarat." Had daughter, Alice. Largest land proprietor in Boscombe Valley who robbed a gold convoy in Australia and spared the wagon-driver McCarthy who blackmailed him.

"I struck him down with no more compunction than if he had been some foul and venomous beast."

(John Tate, 1968, *Sherlock Holmes, "The Boscombe Valley Mystery"*)

Canonical Characters



Charles McCarthy



"The Boscombe Valley Mystery"
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

09

Ex-Australian farmer who rented his farm from John Turner. Had one son 18.

Found dead, after quarrel with his son; his head had been beaten in by repeated blows of some heavy and blunt weapon. "He was trying to utter the name of his murderer. So and so, of Ballarat."

"Here we are Jack. We'll be as good as a family to you."

(Peter Madden, 1968, *Sherlock Holmes, "The Boscombe Valley Mystery"*)

Canonical Characters



Inspector Lestrade

"The Boscombe Valley Mystery" **10**
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

Scotland Yard detective hired privately by Alice Turner.

Lestrade, being rather puzzled, contacted Sherlock Holmes for assistance in the mystery.

"The case is as plain as a pikestaff, and the more one goes into it the plainer it becomes."

(Simon Callow, 1991, *The Crucifer of Blood*)

Canonical Characters



Patience Moran



"The Boscombe Valley Mystery"
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

11

14 year-old daughter of lodge-keeper of Boscombe Valley estate who saw Charles McCarthy in a violent quarrel with his son.

"She was so frightened by their violence that she ran away, and told her mother when she reached home."

Later, when the son returned, he had blood on his sleeve and said his father was dead.

(Caroline Ellis, 1968, *Sherlock Holmes, "The Boscombe Valley Mystery"*)

Canonical Characters



Alice Turner

"The Boscombe Valley Mystery" (The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

12

Daughter of John Turner.
Hired Lestrade. "...one of the
most lovely young women
that I have ever seen in my
life. Her violet eyes shining."

*"I know that James didn't do
it. I know it, and I want you
to start upon your work
knowing it, too."*

Johanna Roth, 1991, *The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*, "The
Boscombe Valley Mystery)

Canonical Characters



William Crowder



"The Boscombe Valley Mystery"
(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

13

Game-keeper employed by Turner. Saw McCarthy walking alone followed by his son.

"To the best of his belief, the father was actually in sight at the time, and the son was following him. He thought no more of the matter until he heard in the evening of the tragedy that had occurred."

(Cliff Howells, 1991, *The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*, "The Boscombe Valley Mystery")

Canonical Characters



James McCarthy

"The Boscombe Valley Mystery" (The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)

14

Son of Charles McCarthy, 18 years old. Accused of murdering his father after an argument. Married a barmaid in Bristol.

"I heard a hideous outcry behind me, which caused me to run back again. I found my father expiring upon the ground, with his head terribly injured."

(James Purefoy, 1991, *The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*, "The Boscombe Valley Mystery")

Canonical Characters



Dr. Willows

"The Boscombe Valley Mystery" *(The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes)*

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James Turner's doctor, who diagnosed that Turner suffered a breakdown, and his nervous system was completely shattered.



Canonical Characters



Paul Thiriet,
November, 1907

The Boscombe Valley Mystery



"The Boscombe Valley Mystery"

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(*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

First
Publication:

U.K. -- *The Strand Magazine*,
August, 1891
U.S. - *The Inter Ocean*
October 17, 1891

U.K. -- *The Adventures of Sherlock
Holmes*,
October 14, 1892 George Newnes Ltd.
U.S. - *The Adventures of Sherlock
Holmes*,
October 15, 1892, Harper & Brothers
Publishers

Chronological
Date:

n/a
(Watson)
Saturday, June 08, 1889
(Baring-Gould)

Ranking:

29 of 56 short stories
(Sherlockian poll, 1999, Stock)

Christ
Abbreviation:

BOSC

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