

A Compendium of Canonical Characters



His Last Bow

Canonical Characters



Alfred Gilbert,
September, 1917

His Last Bow



“His Last Bow” (*His Last Bow*)

01

- 01 - Cover Card
- 02 - Cover Card
- 03 - Summary
- 04 - Filmography / Radiography
- 05 - Sherlock Holmes
- 06 - John Watson
- 07 - Von Bork

Canonical Characters



Frederic Dorr Steele,
September, 1917

His Last Bow



“His Last Bow”
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02

- 08 - Baron Von Herling
- 09 - Martha
- 10 - Altamont
- 11 - Tokay Wine
- 12 - The Last Word
- 13 - Data! Data! Data!

Canonical Characters



His Last Bow



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03

It is the eve of World War One. Von Bork, the head of a German spy ring operating in England, is preparing to leave with the vital information he has amassed.

All that is left to accomplish is to receive one last transaction from his American informant, Altamont.

What information can Altamont provide to Von Bork which may tilt the war toward the Germans?

Canonical Characters



R. W. Wallace,
April, 1919

His Last Bow



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04

Filmography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
March, 1923	UK	Eille Norwood	Hubert Willis

Radiography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Network</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
October 12, 1932	NBC	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
1960		George Descieres	Pierre Destailles
July 10, 1969	BBC	Carleton Hobbs	Norman Shelley
February 23, 1994	BBC	Clive Merrison	Michael Williams

Canonical Characters



Sherlock Holmes



“His Last Bow” (*His Last Bow*)

05

*“Here is the fruit of my leisured ease,
the magnum opus of my latter years!
Practical Handbook of Bee Culture,
with Some Observations upon the
Segregation of the Queen.”*

“Then who are you?”

*“It is really immaterial who I am, but
since the matter seems to interest you,
Mr. Von Bork, I may say that this is not
my first acquaintance with the members
of your family. I have done a good deal
of business in Germany in the past, and
my name is probably familiar to you.”*

(Henry Cavill, 2020, *Enola Holmes*)

Canonical Characters



John Watson



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06

“It was nine o'clock at night upon the second of August—the most terrible August in the history of the world.”

Disguised as a chauffeur he drove Altamont to Von Bork's home and later placed a chloroformed sponge to Von Bork's face.

“Good old Watson! You are the one fixed point in a changing age.” said Holmes.

“I feel twenty years younger, Holmes. I have seldom felt so happy as when I got your wire asking me to meet you at Harwich with the car.”

(James Mason, 1979, *Murder by Decree*)

Canonical Characters



Von Bork



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07

German secret agent before WW I
chosen by the Kaiser for a special
mission because of his remarkable
talents for espionage.

“He was in a class by himself.”

“Then he sat gazing for a moment in
silent amazement at a small blue book
which lay before him. Across the cover
was printed in golden letters Practical
Handbook of Bee Culture.”

*“I shall get level with you, Altamont, if it
takes me all my life I shall get level with
you!”*

(Reginald Denny, 1942, *The Voice of Terror*)

Canonical Characters



Baron Von Herling



“His Last Bow”
(*His Last Bow*)

08

Chief Secretary of the
German Legation in
London in 1914.

*“There may be other lights
within the week, and the
English coast a less tranquil
place! The heavens, too,
may not be quite so peaceful
if all that the good Zeppelin
promises us comes true.”*

Canonical Characters



Martha



“His Last Bow”
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09

Von Bork’s servant, hired by Holmes to spy on him.

“She might almost personify Britannia, with her complete self-absorption and general air of comfortable somnolence.”

“(Von Bork) wanted me to go with his wife to Germany yesterday, but that would hardly have suited your plans, would it, sir?”

Canonical Characters



Altamont



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10

Irish-American alias of Sherlock
Holmes.

*“I started my pilgrimage at
Chicago, graduated in an Irish
secret society at Buffalo, gave
serious trouble to the constabulary
at Skibbreen, and so eventually
caught the eye of a subordinate
agent of Von Bork.”*

*“It was I who brought about the
separation between Irene Adler
and the late King of Bohemia.”*

Canonical Characters



Tokay Wine



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11

“Altamont has a nice taste in wines, and he took a fancy to my Tokay. He is a touchy fellow, and needs humouring in small things.”

“Another glass, Watson!” said Mr. Sherlock Holmes, as he extended the bottle of Imperial Tokay.

“It is a good wine, Holmes.”

“A remarkable wine, Watson. Our friend upon the sofa has assured me that it is from Franz Joseph's special cellar at the Schoenbrunn Palace.”

Canonical Characters



The Last Word



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12

“Good old Watson! You are the one fixed point in a changing age. There's an east wind coming all the same, such a wind as never blew on England yet. It will be cold and bitter, Watson, and a good many of us may wither before its blast. But it's God's own wind none the less, and a cleaner, better, stronger land will lie in the sunshine when the storm has cleared.”

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First
Publication:

U.K. -- *The Strand Magazine*,
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U.S. - *Colliers*
September 22, 1917

U.K. - *His Last Bow*,
October, 1917, John Murray
U.S. - *His Last Bow*,
October, 1917, George H. Doran

Chronological
Date:

August 02, 1914
(Watson)
August 02, 1914
(Baring-Gould)

Ranking:

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

Christ
Abbreviation:

LAST