

# THE CANON, FIVE LINES AT A TIME



A COLLECTION OF POETIC MEDITATIONS ON  
THE ORIGINAL SHERLOCK HOLMES TALES BY  
THE CREW OF THE BARQUE LONE STAR

EDITED BY STEVE MASON, THIRD MATE

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THE CREW OF THE BARQUE LONE STAR

Edited by

STEVE MASON, THIRD MATE

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LIESE SHERWOOD-FABRE

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## FOREWARD

The Crew of the Barque Lone Star was founded as a scion society of the Baker Street Irregulars in April 1970.

Through the years, the society has been home for many authors of fiction, Sherlockian criticism, and other non-fiction pieces of work.

One of our most prominent founding members, William “Bill” Beeson was extremely fond of Sherlockian-based limericks. Bill himself authored hundreds of such compositions.

As we approach our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of existence, it just seemed appropriate to have present members develop their own limericks.

So, the limericks included in this volume are from the fertile minds of crew members of the Barque Lone Star, friends of our Society, as well as other wonderful limericks provided to us from other Sherlockian authors.

Thanks for your efforts.



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Our Gracious Contributors	iv
General Sherlockian / Doylean Limericks	1
A Study in Scarlet	12
The Sign of Four	17
The Hound of the Baskervilles	19
The Valley of Fear	21
A Scandal in Bohemia	22
The Red-Headed League	25
A Case of Identity	29
The Boscombe Valley Mystery	31
The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips	32
The Man with the Twisted Lip	34
The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle	36
The Adventure of the Speckled Band	40
The Adventure of the Engineer's Thumb	47
The Adventure of the Noble Bachelor	49
The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet	50
The Adventure of the Copper Beeches	51
The Adventure of Silver Blaze	53
The Adventure of the Yellow Face	55
The Adventure of the Stockbroker's Clerk	56
The Adventure of the Gloria Scott	57
The Adventure of the Musgrave Ritual	58
The Adventure of the Reigate Squire	59
The Adventure of the Crooked Man	60
The Adventure of the Resident Patient	61
The Adventure of the Greek Interpreter	62
The Adventure of the Naval Treaty	63
The Final Problem	65
The Adventure of the Empty House	66
The Adventure of the Norwood Builder	68
The Adventure of the Dancing Men	69

The Adventure of the Solitary Cyclist	70
The Adventure of the Priory School	74
The Adventure of Black Peter	75
The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton	76
The Adventure of the Six Napoleons	78
The Adventure of the Three Students	80
The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez	81
The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter	82
The Adventure of the Abbey Grange	83
The Adventure of the Second Stain	84
The Adventure of the Cardboard Box	85
The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge	87
The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans	89
The Adventure of the Devil's Foot	90
The Adventure of the Red Circle	91
The Disappearance of Lady Frances Carfax	92
The Adventure of the Dying Detective	93
His Last Bow:	
The War Service of Sherlock Holmes	94
The Adventure of the Mazarin Stone	96
The Problem of Thor Bridge	97
The Adventure of the Creeping Man	98
The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire	99
The Adventure of the Three Garridebs	100
The Adventure of the Illustrious Client	101
The Adventure of the Three Gables	102
The Adventure of the Blanched Soldier	103
The Adventure of the Lion's Mane	104
The Adventure of the Retired Colourman	105
The Adventure of the Veiled Lodger	106
The Adventure of Shoscombe Old Place	108

## OUR GRACIOUS CONTRIBUTORS

Aho, Melissa	Asimov, Isaac, BSI
Austin, Beth, ASH	Blau, Peter, BSI, ASH
Caddell, Ann	Clark, Robert Dean, BSI
Dillistone, Don	Falkingham, Jeff
Goldfarb, Cliff	Hamilton, John Ira
Hawkins, Jim	Hébert, Eleanor
Hébert, Thomas	Hobbs, Donald, BSI
Hutchison, Brenda	Kearns, Richard
Kozinn, Sandy, ASH	Langston, Jane
Lear, Edward	Lies, Ronald
Martin, Alastair, BSI	Mason, Stephen, ASH
MacBird, Bonnie, BSI, ASH	Mosher, Maureen
Olson, Karen	Pace, John
Pieper, Walter	Pollack, Dorothy Belle, ASH
Rossini, Brenda	Riethmeier, Ray
Scheetz, George H.	Ruby, Greg, BSI
Stek, Robert, BSI, ASH	Sherwood-Fabre, Liese
	Thomalen, Bob, BSI

The 2018-2019 3rd graders of 221b Baker Street of Moore Elementary School, Franklin, Tennessee (Shannon Carlisle, Instructor)

<i>Andrew</i>	<i>Caroline</i>	<i>Ellie</i>
<i>Finn</i>	<i>Katie</i>	<i>Liza</i>
<i>Lucas</i>	<i>Luke</i>	<i>Rowan</i>
<i>Lekha</i>		

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## **General Sherlockian / Doylean Entries**

### **HOLMES**

A detective of verve and sagacity,  
Of great polymorphic capacity,  
    With brain superhuman,  
    With depth and acumen,  
And (when it is needed) audacity.  
    Pollack

### **WATSON**

A gentleman and a physician,  
Recording the tales is his mission.  
    A bullet once got him,  
    On top or on bottom--  
He's not too sure re its position!  
    Pollack

### **MORIARTY**

He's cunning, malignant and clever  
in every crime-ridden endeavour.  
    An art "connoisseur,"  
    Devoid of all "coeur."  
From society, HIM we must sever.  
    Pollack

### **MRS. HUDSON**

She caters to Holmes's daily wishes,  
Prepares for him foods quite delicious;  
    Is cautious, discreet,  
    Takes care of his suite,  
And does all the pots and the dishes.  
    Pollack



LESTRADE

Not too bright (Sherlock thinks he' s a dope);  
To advance in the force is his hope.  
    With Holmes's smart suggestions,  
    He solves many questions,  
Thus managing always to cope.  
    Pollack

IRENE

They say it is "Cherchez la femme."  
"Oh, no; it is not," says von Kramm.  
    In this case, "in toto,"  
    It's "Cherchez la photo,"  
And get the king out of his jam!  
    Pollack

BILLY

For visitors, he is the guide;  
Takes the 17 steps in his stride.  
    A page boy reliant,  
    Shows in every client,  
Content with the trade that he's plied.  
    Pollack

MYCROFT

Has powers of keen observation.  
Inertia is his avocation.  
    His brain is uncanny;  
    He sits on his fanny,  
In Whitehall, directing the nation.  
    Pollack



"To Your Own Spouse" -- A Sherlockian Limerick  
Bonnie MacBird

The fog at the window was grey  
Just another Old Blighty type day  
    I was two brandies down  
    And encased in a frown  
When all gloom and despair fell away.

Said a voice in my ear, full of glee,  
"Give that yellow backed novel to me!  
    And come with me outside,  
    We will go for a ride!"  
But before we left Two-Two-One B —

A client appeared at the door!  
A beauty, bereft, and there's more.  
    "I'm followed," she said.  
    "My man wishes me dead.  
Can you hide me? Would this be a chore?"

My colleague could never say nay  
When a lady begs help in this way!  
    Sherlock Holmes gave his word.  
    The facts quickly inferred,  
The whole problem was solved in a day

Holmes lives by his own golden rule  
And he won't abide anyone cruel  
    Without leaving a trace  
    He found her a place  
A new name, and a job at a school.

*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*

The villain came 'round, he had missed  
His "*dear* one" he seemed to insist.  
    And did we know where  
    She had gone? "Oh, despair!"  
But that liar had broken her wrist.

"I DO know! I've followed her trail!"  
Said my friend as he poured him an ale.  
    "I'll draw you a map -  
    Raise your hand off your lap!"  
And he cuffed him and sent him to jail.

That night as I picked up my pen  
Sherlock Holmes grabbed it from me and then  
    He begged, "Do not write!  
    If that villain takes flight  
He will find her and hasten her end."

And so this tale waited until  
We are long gone, and buried, but still  
    Keep this in your mind  
    To your own spouse, be kind  
You don't want to be Nancy and Bill.

MacBird



Holmes reached for the Morocco case on the mantle  
Expecting that the seven percent solution was ample  
    He shot himself up  
    Hoping for a rush  
But found out it never happened as such  
    Pieper

When Starrett, “The Needle,” would prick  
The Hounds of the Baskerville (sic)  
    And, companions in woe,  
    Would hound Sir Hugo,  
’Twas Chicago’s Sherlockian shtick.  
    Scheetz

Of whom Tarzan we may construe  
A connection to Holmes—or two!  
    His grand-père, John Clayton,  
    A Greystoke forsaken,  
Plus grey eyes, a new view-halloo!  
    Scheetz

The Lying Corn-Chandlers of Ames  
Is one of the curious names  
    From Scheetz’s foray  
    In grand I-o-way  
And his lovely Sherlockian games.  
    Scheetz

The Stormy Petrel wings ghostly in the sky,  
    Below which looms the gibbet of the BSI.  
Where a demonhound awaits with open jaw,  
    Into which the Petrel lobs a gift of insouciant guano.  
    Rossini

The Astrakhan is a black, lambswool fur.  
An opulent garb of the swarthy entrepreneur,  
Which Milverton bought wholesale at a dark, Satanic mill,  
Rendering the style so British and worn by Winston  
Churchill.

Rossini

There was a tetchy young maiden at Musgrove.  
Who relied on a marriage proposal, by Jove!  
Spurned she was, and angry,  
Surprised him when she served a cee-ment whammy.

Rossini

Watson, stymied, could only but knock  
After seventeen steps he did walk  
He observed with a sob,  
“Someone stole our doorknob!  
I’m a doctor, and not a Sherlock!”

Riethmeier

In the library somebody reaches  
To find Doyle and Holmes microfiches  
From Colliers and Post  
The tales I like the most  
Are the lovingly-written pastiches.

Riethmeier

**Basil Rathbone**

With a smile Basil Rathbone would fence,  
But with Sherlock he was no-nonsense.  
He chased villains and spies,  
Worked hard for the Allies,  
Doing right was his sole recompense.

Kozinn

He was The Holmes for a generation,  
In costume, or saving a nation.  
    With Watson so nice,  
    His voice so precise,  
On screen or on radio station.  
    Kozinn

There are some rooms on Baker Street  
Where many clients have taken a seat  
    Then there is Watson  
    Who writes to not be forgotten  
Secrets are told knowing all will be discreet  
    Aho

**Nigel Bruce**

As the script read, he sometimes played the fool.  
Detective's foils are silly; that's the rule.  
    Born in 1895.  
    Wish he were still alive.  
Nigel Bruce on the screen was a jewel.  
    Kozinn

**Watson's First Wife**

Some say Watson was married before,  
Or after, or during his war.  
    Opinions may vary:  
    Was it only just Mary?  
Some say six, which is rather a bore.  
    Kozinn

Though slanderous stories are rife,  
I contend that in all of his life,  
    She was one and the same;  
    Morstan's her maiden name.  
Watson had only one loving wife.  
    Kozinn

**A Matter of Pronunciation**

When we're trying to write some poems  
'Bout the Canon and our Sherlock Holmes,  
    It's surely a fraud  
    To put in Le-strawd  
If we can't find a rhyme in our tomes.  
    Kozinn

**O Ogden Nash, Who Did This First and Better**

If you want a Sherlockian lim'rick  
And find it's a difficult trick,  
    Just go, for a time,  
    With the easiest rhyme,  
But when you go for the rhythm, well, that's where  
you're likely to find it a bit thick.  
    Kozinn

Farewell, Sherlock! Farewell, Watson, too.  
First to lost, you've been loyal and true.  
    Of the human totality  
    Who have lived in reality  
There've been none quite as real as you.  
    Asimov

While patrolling with Rangers in Space,  
I read of a murder with no trace.  
    There was a Doctor and a remarkable Sleuth  
    Who together discovered the truth.  
I have stayed with this team for every case.  
    Lies

He's known and loved throughout the world  
    In countless volumes, old and new,  
In comic strips and comic books,  
    In magazines, and journals too,  
    Beeson

In countless turns upon the stage,  
    In movies (new and antiquated),  
In radio and TV shows,  
    In cartoons (still and animated).  
    Beeson

He has a crater on the moon;  
    He dwells in all the medias.  
Pray, who but Holmes has filled not one,  
    But two Encyclopedias?  
    Beeson

There once was a 'dick' from Great Britain,  
Who solved a code, secretly written.  
    Many had guessed,  
    And all were impressed,  
By the Master's skill, we were smitten!  
    Falkingham





**Presented to Tankerville Club - Edward Lear, Sept 20, 2019**

**A Toast to Watson's Neglected Patients**

That you will never know them is such a shame  
Mrs. Symthe, Mr. Perkins and Mortimore Jayme  
    The problem is you see  
    They are never known to you and me  
Since in the canon they are never mentioned by name

Watson's patients came on their appointed day  
Hoping that there would be no delay  
    Only to be told  
    A crime began to unfold  
And they would have to come back and could not stay

How many there are we will never know  
Because when the "game was afoot" the dr. Had to go  
    For his patients knew  
    At the call of view-holloa  
He could not to his trusted friend to say "no".

Please raise you glasses to Dr. Watson's neglected patients.  
Lear



**Presented to Tankerville Club - Edward Lear, January 21,  
1983**

There once was a Violet Sherrinford, so fair  
Who met up with Siger Holmes, who had flair  
    Their courtship was fast  
    Their marriage did last  
Today that is something rare

With three children, their family did grow  
All boys, as we all well know  
    Though little is known  
    'Til they were finally grown  
One stood out from head to toe

He has intrigued us from head to his toes  
We read all his books and watch all his shows  
    To see only his hat  
    We need no more clues than that  
The Deduction: "It's elementary" I suppose

Ladies and gentlemen, a toast to the World's Greatest  
Consulting Detective - Mr. Sherlock Holmes !!!

Lear



**A STUDY IN SCARLET**

**No Sergeant's Stripes**

There was a dumb copper named Rance  
Who to star in a case had a chance,  
    But Jefferson Hope  
    Fooled the gullible dope,  
So, in rank Rance will never advance.  
    Martin

Re Afghan's southeastern sierra,  
A SIGN that his tale's a chimera:—  
    The gun never shot,  
    Double-barreled or not,  
For Watson was holding Panthera.  
    Scheetz

Why'd the cabbie kill men from Utah?  
It goes back to the gal with no ma.  
    They treated her bad.  
    It was all very sad.  
Holmes unraveled; cabbie's heart broke. Too bad!  
    Kozinn

Ash from a Trichinopoly cigar  
A loosed wedding ring is so bizarre  
    Three old, one new horse shoe  
    Long nails killer did choose  
Poisoned pills, two each by choice, there are  
    Mason

In an empty house a body was found  
With a wedding ring there on the ground  
    The word "rache" was in blood on a wall  
    Writ by a man with red face and quite tall  
The case solved when Holmes came 'round  
    Olson



**Tankerville Club Toast – Edward Lear, June 15, 2018**

**Toast to Watson's bull pup**

It started out as, "yes, I know this one"  
but there were more by the time I was done  
    If truth be told  
    We were all probably fooled  
by what really is meant by this son-of-a-gun

It was in the story you just read  
and for his part winds up dead  
    killed by strychnine pill  
    but some say he was ill  
and in the end his name was never said.

Or it could have been what Watson used  
to keep them from being battered and bruised.  
    Easy to carry, easy hide  
    just the thing when by Sherlock's side  
or maybe what Sherlock used to keep himself amused

Or it could be his quick temper to some of you  
And to others if may mean something I never knew  
    But now that you've read the story  
    you be judge and jury  
Cause it may be something else totally out of the blue.

But regardless, Ladies and Gentlemen, let us raise our glasses  
to Watson's Bull Pup!

Lear



Meet the quick mind that restlessly combs  
Through the smallest of clues as it roams  
    From initial confusion  
    To triumphant conclusion.  
My friends, here we have Sherlock Holmes.  
    Asimov

Watson, struggling on half pay,  
Needs a cheaper place to stay  
    He and Stamford go to meet  
    A chap who proposes Baker Street  
We all are blessed that the answer was yea  
    Clark

Holmes observed, as a candle's flame fluttered,  
That the window was open not shuttered  
    For a very brief time  
    At the time of the crime,  
Since the candle had burned, but not guttered.  
    Beeson

There once was a young British soldier  
Whose memory lapsed as he grew older.  
    To the wonder of all  
    He could not recall  
If he'd been shot in the leg or the shoulder.  
    Falkingham



**Presented to Tankerville Club - January 30, 1987**

**A Toast to Young Stamford**

Once having been a dresser at St. Bart's  
He ran into characters of all sorts  
    This day an old friend  
    Whose ear he did bend  
Of an acquaintance who spent all his time with retorts

With his income not keeping the pace  
Dear Watson was looking for someone to share a place  
    “Why that is two of you today:  
    Our young Stamford would say  
And off to Bart's chemical lab they would race

For Watson it was a sign of relief  
But the world has noted, I believe  
    No question at all  
    The words that started it all  
“You have been in Afghanistan, I perceive”  
    Lear



**THE SIGN OF FOUR**

Sherlock Holmes could find nary a flaw  
In his theory from clues that he saw  
    Down the path he was led  
    By a dog, so he said,  
“Thanks to Toby, the game is a paw.”  
    Riethmeier

Watson met Mary during the Agra case  
She found out her father died in disgrace  
    The treasure was lost  
    which is a shame  
But Mary married Watson and took his name  
    Pieper

Who was sending dear Mary a pearl?  
Peg leg, thorn, child’s foot, map – what a whirl!  
    On a boat on the Thames,  
    Holmes found killers, lost gems.  
P.S.: Watson? He married the girl.  
    Kozinn

An annual guilty gift of loose pearls  
A treasure map           across the globe whirls  
    A thief with wooden leg  
    Spiked dart made Sholto beg  
Toby follows the creosote swirls  
    Mason



*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*

Mary Morstan lost her long absent dad  
For the past ten years it made her sad  
    But by post each year she gets a pearl  
    And Watson is smitten with this girl  
While Holmes thought her only a fad  
    Olson

Muttered Holmes, "Never mind Cocaine's pleasure,  
Let us seek out the famed Agra Treasure."  
    Answered Watson, "No pearls  
    For myself\_ only girls;  
And it's Mary who is measured to my measure."  
    Asimov

The Holmes's minds, far beyond av'rages,  
    Must have found this world peopled by savages.  
Did their minds reach this station via random mutation,  
    Or were both advanced Engines of Babbage's?  
    Beeson



**THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES**

**Merry Christmas from Ross and Mangles**

A young heir who'd just crossed the Atlantic  
Met events which well, nigh drove him frantic.

He did all but expire

Near the Great Grimpen Mire

Because of a hound most gigantic.

Martin

There once was a family called Baskerville  
Who lived on the outskirts of Coomb Tracyville

Sherlock shot the hound

Who made such a sound

Then Holmes and Watson returned to London Town

Pieper

Someone's killing at Baskerville, and fast.

Will the current heir end up the last?

His chances were poor:

The hound howled on the moor.

Then Holmes saw that picture from the past.

Kozinn

A letter with the scent of perfume

Missing one new, then old, boot assume

Upon the ground ashes

Family portraits flashes

Stapleton the Mire did entomb

Mason

Sir Charles was murdered in Dartmoor  
When a huge hound frightened him to the core  
    Holmes and Watson went to Baskerville Hall  
    And on all the neighbors made a social call  
So, Watson saw Mrs. Lyons and wanted more  
    Olson

When Mortimer looked at the ground  
He gasped at what he found  
    Because as all are aware  
    What he saw down there  
Were the prints of a gigantic hound  
    Clark

'Fore a fire to protect me from winter chills  
    I dreamt of The Canon's familiar thrills;  
Had a fine time except, before waking, I stepped  
    On the tail of the Hound of the Baskervilles!  
    Beeson

When they heard of a Baskerville hound,  
To another case Sherlock was bound.  
    He sent Watson first  
    To look into the curse.  
But to Dartmoor, Holmes soon came around!  
    Falkingham



**THE VALLEY OF FEAR**

What goes on in the mines is just bad.  
Bodymaster's a thorough-going cad.  
    There are crimes from a gang,  
    Then a double-barreled "bang"  
In England brings an end that is sad.  
    Kozinn

Something strange with the Wife's attitude  
Missing dumb-bell a great magnitude  
    Fake clue the bike did bring  
    Real clue the wedding ring  
Bloody footprint led to fortitude  
    Mason

The story comes from violence in mining American coal  
Holmes goes to Sussex and solving a murder was his goal  
    Of course, in the States there was Pinkerton and his crew  
    And an undercover agent that nobody really knew  
Who ended up in England, hiding in a hole  
    Olson



**The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes**

**A Scandal in Bohemia**

A girl from the States named Irene  
Could not be a Bohemian Queen  
    The picture she had  
    With her von Ormstein cad  
Brought Holmes to the crime of the scene  
    Goldfarb

Holmes thought Irene Adler the best.  
Mind and beauty, she topped all the rest.  
    For the picture he tried,  
    But to Europe she hied.  
With her Norton, for a life marriage-blessed.  
    Kozinn

First, he disguised as a drunken groom  
Next, as a clergy to gain the room  
    Watson sent in the smoke  
    Irene dressed as a bloke  
The photo kept the king from a doom  
    Mason

Irene was a beauty in her day  
And over Holmes' heart she held sway  
    But he suffered alone  
    Because he stayed at home  
And she left for the States to sell AmWay  
    Olson

The consulting detective was hired,  
To obtain a photograph desired  
    By the King of Bohemia  
    Plagued with insomnia  
Until the photograph was acquired.  
    Hébert, E.

A plan was soon devised  
To win back the item so prized  
    Watson cried, "Fire!"  
    But Irene was slier,  
And followed them home in disguise.  
    Hébert, E.

Sherlock thought he had won,  
But his scheme had been outdone  
    Irene ran away,  
    With her lawyer, Godfrey  
And Holmes now respected the woman.  
    Hébert, E.

### **Cabinet Photo**

In the mad merry month of his May-time  
The Grand Duke had himself quite a gay time.  
    But, his wedding in sight,  
    He feared Irene might  
Tell his in-laws-to-be of their play-time.  
    Martin

When 'Scandal' appeared in the *Strand*,  
It launched stories of a new brand.  
    With Irene as Holmes' foil  
    The name 'Conan Doyle'  
Was soon known throughout the land.  
    Falkingham

*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*

There once was a diva named Irene,  
She twiddled and diddled a king,  
    She bested our boy  
    And moved on with pure joy,  
I give you The Woman, Irene.  
    Austin

The Count says that Irene  
Was so very mean  
    She tangled with the detective  
    But what was her true objective  
She would have made an admirable queen

Aho



**The Red-Headed League**

If you need to dig a tunnel like gnomes  
Divert Jabez to copy out tomes  
    But clever John Clay  
    Couldn't quite get away  
From the even cleverer Holmes  
    Goldfarb

He'd copied page after page after page,  
The pawnbroker complained in a rage,  
    It was not a good deal -  
    His own kneecaps were real -  
He'd been snookered -- a man of his age!  
    Kozinn

Several clues led Holmes to the suspect dear  
Dirty trousers and a rare pierced ear  
    A Potter-forehead scar  
    Let John Clay be the star  
A hollow sidewalk made the tale clear  
    Mason

Wilson had a pate of bright red  
Which bad guys exploited, Sherlock said  
    He took the villains' hook  
    And he copied a book  
Could Holmes be partial to a red head?  
    Olson



The arch criminal John Clay  
Was considered clever in his day  
    But Holmes was brainier  
    And trapped the subterrainer  
Despite pausing to hear Sarasate  
    Clark

There once was a con man  
who had a very good scam.  
    He dug a hole  
    like a mole.  
But, Sherlock blocked the plan.  
    Katie

Jabez got a new clerk.  
This gave him time to do “work”.  
    As Sherlock caught on,  
    the villains went on.  
But, he foiled their handiwork.  
    Rowan

There once was a man named Sherlock  
who had a case about red locks.  
    Clay was gonna steal some gold,  
    but his plan had no foothold.  
In the end, Holmes sent him to a cell block.  
    Luke

Jabez Wilson hired a clerk,  
but the clerk was masking a smirk.  
    Spaulding tunneled a hole.  
    He had a dark soul.  
But, Sherlock “dissolved” his filthy work.  
    Liza, Ellie, and Sophia

Once Jabez came to 221b  
and described a Red-headed League.  
    Behind the pawnshop was a bank.  
    Between them was a tunnel that was dank.  
This time Clay didn't go free.  
    Finn

John Clay was digging a hole  
'cause he was searching for gold.  
    But, Holmes put him in jail.  
    The Red-headed League was a fail.  
In the end, Clay got no bankroll.  
    Finn

There was an old man who was scammed.  
Once he started writing the criminals scammed.  
    They tunneled a hole.  
    They were like a mole.  
Sherlock stopped them in the end.  
    Caroline and Andrew

There once was a red-headed man.  
He was fooled by lawless man  
    to leave his shop  
    so they could slop  
dirt, and so it began.  
    Lekha and Lucas

For his tunnel, John Clay had to borrow  
    Jabez Wilson's pawn shop, whence they'd burrow;  
They left Fleet Street a-choke *"With red-head d folk,*  
    *And Pope's Court... like a caster's orange barrow.*  
    Beeson

Jabez utters “Well, I never!  
I thought you had done something clever.”  
    In fact, Holmes deduced  
    A plot that produced  
The first *three-pipe problem* ever!  
    Falkingham

**Why?**

A remarkable man was John Clay;  
Went to Eton and Oxford, they say.  
    In Saxe-Coburg Square  
    For a man with red hair  
He was willing to work at half pay.  
    Martin



**A Case of Identity**

**Skunk Cabbage**

The man for whom Mary did fall  
She met at the gas-fitters' ball.

That despicable louse  
Was her own mother's spouse,  
So, she never got married at all.

Martin

On the sidewalk poor Mary did dither,  
As her thoughts flew hither and thither,  
Why did Angel disappear?  
Was he dead? Oh, the fear!  
Holmes knew Windibank's love was just blither.

Kozinn

Mary falls hard for glasses tinted  
Black side whiskers and whisper hinted  
Although two letters typed  
Hosmer a man disliked  
Holmes threatened his head to be dented

Mason

Mary Sutherland longed for the marriage bed  
But turned over her money to stepfather instead  
Until she met a man at the Gasfitters Ball  
And his attentions soon held her in thrall  
But he did a runner before they could wed

Olson

A naive lady named Mary  
Of suitors should have been wary  
    For somehow, she had  
    Affianced with her DAD  
But Holmes sorted out the quandary  
    Clark



**The Boscombe Valley Mystery**

Once again that policeman, Lestrade,  
An erroneous deduction has made,  
    He accepts with no fight  
    That Holmes has it right.  
"Why does fate play such tricks," Holmes then said.  
    Kozinn

McCarthy died while yelling 'Cooee'  
Holmes thinks Charles' murderer knew he  
    Last word sounded like 'rat'  
    The weapon a stone flat  
To protect loved ones can be spooky  
    Mason

Charles left Australia and to Boscombe came  
He paid his neighbor blackmail just the same  
    The villain was the man next door  
    His son and the villain's girl true love swore  
A photo wasn't the only frame  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips**

**Papers on a Sundial**

The warnings of Five Orange Pips  
Sherlock saw were connected with ships,  
    But he still failed to save  
    Openshaw from the grave—  
One of Holmes's more serious slips.  
    Martin

Openshaw, when drowned in the darque,  
Caused Holmes's anger to sparque.  
    Thus, five pips accrue  
    To Calhoun and his crew,  
Who all bid adieu on a barque.  
    Scheetz

Five pips in the mail was no joke  
Elias Openshaw knew he would croak  
    Holmes got it right  
    What would happen at night  
But young John's body was found all asoak  
    Goldfarb

To eliminate threat may be smart,  
Though, war over, why take it to heart?  
    Still, who's dumber than  
    The KKK man  
Who kills generations apart?  
    Kozinn

Openshaw murders based on a pip  
Victims could not follow 3 K's scrip  
    Papers unplaced on sundial  
    Killings done with sly guile  
Bad guys met their end on sinking ship  
    Mason

The Klan made death threats with an orange pip  
To victims of the crew of an American ship  
    The Barque Lone Star was lost at sea  
    After the murderers sailed away to get free  
Now our society doesn't give it much lip  
    Olson

Take heed to this wondrous tale  
Of five seeds sent in the mail  
    Not tomato by Burpee  
    But orange so deadly  
They cause a man's heart to fail.  
    Mosher





**The Man with the Twisted Lip**

Pennies flowed just like wine from the fount,  
'Til St Clair had a fat bank account.

    The funds grew apace.

    Then a sponge crossed his face.

Now he **\*works\*** to increase the amount.

    Kozinn

The Thames gives up the pennies and coat  
Ms. St. Clair finds the toy bricks of note

    A dashed memo he pens

    To a jail cell Boone spends

A sponge forces Neville to emote

    Mason

Holmes found St. Clair wearing stripes

And went to an opium den with no gripes

    St. Clair hid his begging scheme

    And made his poor wife start to scream

While Holmes just enjoyed his pipes

    Olson

The beautiful Mrs. St. Clair,

Though intelligent and debonair,

    Didn't realize her honey

    Was raking in big money

By subterfuge in the open air

    Clark

Mrs. Watson was quite confused  
Whilst Mrs. St. Clair gave her news  
    She called Watson, James  
    Which isn't his name  
And sent hubs out for opium and clues.  
    Mosher



**The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle**

James Ryder gave the goosey a look  
At a stone, so we read in a book.  
    The maid was no dandy,  
    But the Countess left it handy,  
So, which one was really the crook?

Kozinn

For a goose, it will eat what it's fed,  
And a weak man is easily led,  
    Into crime by a dame.  
    So, it's her that you'd blame,  
But easy pickings can turn a girl's head.

Kozinn

Sherlock Holmes is the one to decide,  
He gives all those concerned a free ride.  
    He rarely gets beaten.  
    Well, the goose did get eaten,  
With cranberry sauce on the side!

Kozinn

A love token to his wife the goose  
The prep causes a blue gem to loose  
    The hat leads to Baker  
    Ryder is the faker  
Holmes allows the villain to excuse

Mason

James Ryder was pitiful indeed  
Pleading forgiveness on bended knee  
    Homes chose to commute  
    The season to suit  
Ryder's Christmas themed fowl felony  
    Mosher

Ryder was a jewel thief 'cause he was crook'd  
But thanks to Holmes he was never booked  
    Holmes looked at the bird and a dusty hat  
    He knew the bad guy but didn't rat  
And by then the villain's goose was cooked  
    Olson

Carbuncles come in green, red, yellow, purple, or white  
But to report this one as blue was just not right  
    Was the fault with Watson, Holmes, Doyle, or all three?  
    And who was responsible for the thief going free?  
'Twas Holmes posing as a Yuletide white knight  
    Olson

The Blue Carbuncle is a tale of geese  
Sherlock and Watson bring about its decease  
    Inside the goose's neck they find  
    The rarest carbuncle of all mankind  
Watson begs to call the police  
    Hébert, T.

*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*

They go to the man who was the geese's provider  
They get in a fight, then go and meet Ryder  
    They take him back to Baker Street  
    And order him to take a seat  
He tells of feeling like an outsider  
    Hébert, T.

He took the carbuncle from its case  
And felt like he had won the race  
    He went to his sister's home and made  
    A geese eat the gem; its tail was a darker shade  
He picked the wrong goose and ran from the place  
    Hébert, T.

As Ryder's tale begins to cease  
He begs Sherlock not to call the police  
    Sherlock proves himself again,  
    And lets Ryder go, his heart over his brain  
And this is the end of the story of geese  
    Hébert, T.

There once was a piece of meat.  
It was sitting on the street.  
    The Petersons did dine  
    not knowing the crime.  
And, Ryder's freedom was a treat!  
    Katie

There was a hat on the street  
with a piece of meat.  
    The goose had a gem.  
    The gem stumped Him (Peterson),  
but Holmes refused defeat.  
    Rowan

There was a goose that was fed a blue gem.  
The criminal did this crime at PM.  
    Sherlock investigate-ed.  
    James Ryder experienced dread.  
It was Yuletide, so Holmes didn't condemn.  
    Caroline and Andrew

There was a blue gem that was lost.  
It had a very great cost.  
    It was inside a goose  
    which Sherlock used to deduce.  
In the end, the culprit was tossed.  
    Finn

There once was a billycock and some meat  
that were abruptly left on the street.  
    Peterson gave Holmes a ring.  
    Holmes said, "It's a bonny thing!"  
In the end, the culprit hated defeat.  
    Finn



**The Adventure of the Speckled Band**

**The Blacksmith-Tosser and Poker-Bender**

There was a most Sinister man  
Who repaired his west wing with a plan.  
    But he soon paid the piper,  
    Killed by his own viper  
In that old Surrey town, Stoke Moran.  
    Martin

When the Stoner girls wanted to wed  
Their stepfather wanted them dead  
    But the best plans of Roylott  
    Were flushed down the toilet  
When the Speckled Band went to his head.  
    Thomalen

In the dark, if you hear a soft hiss,  
Be very afraid, my dear miss.  
    If you want to get wed,  
    You'll find yourself dead.  
Step-dad Roylott will make sure of this.  
    Kozinn

Many odd clues to deduce in full  
Bed attached to floor, and fake bell pull  
    Milk fed to an adder  
    Used rope as a ladder  
Many Sherlockians felt clues were bull  
    Mason

Dr. Roylott gave a viper a bell-pull to tread  
To bite his daughters before they could wed  
    But Holmes was too quick  
    And hit the snake with his stick  
And the spotted band went to doc's head  
    Olson

A girl was quite distraught  
Advice was what she sought  
    The death of her twin  
    A most terrible thing  
And she wanted the murdered caught.  
    Hébert, E.

Helen couldn't sleep one wink  
And the baboon began to screech.  
    Watson gave the signal,  
    Sherlock climbed the window  
And it was done before they all could blink.  
    Hébert, E.

A very horrid mistake  
All caused by a snake  
    Who'd killed Helen's twin  
    And was at it again  
Until Holmes put its master in his place.  
    Hébert, E.

John H. Watson was never so bold  
He would not stay behind as was told  
    No fear had the man  
    Of the speckled band  
Or the dangers that Holmes had foretold.  
    Mosher



No access through window or door,  
The bed was clamped to the floor.

    A lady met doom  
    In a tightly locked room.  
But Sherlock deduces much more!  
    Falkingham

Her twin heard a whistle, a clang,  
When Holmes pulled the cord, no bell rang.  
    A cheetah, baboon,  
    Gypsies - yet soon  
Stepfather succumbs to a fang.  
    Falkingham

When Miss Stoner, in awful distress,  
Turned to Holmes to help clear up the mess,  
    Holmes and Watson agreed  
    With commendable speed  
To help put all her terrors to rest.  
    Caddell

“My twin sister was soon to be wed  
When she staggered one night from her bed.  
    She cried ‘It was the band!’  
    As she lifted her hand,  
And the life from her body then fled.”  
    Caddell

Holmes and Watson sit vigil at night  
To bring hideous crimes to the light.  
    Down the bell-pull - a snake!  
    But our heroes don’t quake.  
Lesser men would be frozen with fright.  
    Caddell

Quick! Holmes chases the snake through the grate  
And it coils itself round Roylott's pate.

    From his blood-curdling screams,  
    Dr. Roylott, it seems,  
Meets a dreadful but well-deserved fate.  
    Caddell

With the end of this dastardly plot,  
Poor Miss Stoner can better her lot.

    "Roylott's death," Holmes declares,  
    Leaning back in his chair,  
"Will not trouble my conscience one jot."  
    Caddell



**"The Adventure of the Speckled Band"**

By Dr. John Watson as told to Karen Olson

Conan Doyle wrote for The Strand  
A tale of a deadly speckled band  
    Though the maiden it slew  
    I just still had no clue  
When Holmes played his winning hand.

'Twas a case of a doctor in Surrey  
Whose step daughter sought help in a hurry  
    It was in April '83  
    When Holmes called to see me  
So early my mind was still furry

Found a lass in our sitting room  
Haggard features spoke of her gloom  
    Holmes sought advantage to gain  
    When he mentioned her train  
Which she boarded without help from a groom.

"My name's Helen Stoner," she said  
'Tm here 'cause my twin sister is dead  
    We lived with stepfather at Stoke Moran  
    Tho' a doctor, he's a cold, morose man  
Wild beasts of India the grounds do tread

Two years ago, my sister was engaged  
Stepfather was erratic but not much enraged  
    Sleep was disturbed by a whistle until one deep night  
    She opened her door and cried out with such fright  
She swooned in my arms without being assuaged

By light of morning she was cold  
It was of the speckled band she told  
    And I'd head the low whistle before  
    The shutters had been bolted, as was her door  
To find the reason of her death, please, sir, be bold.

*The Canon, Five Lines at a Time*

Holmes told her to return home and she made quick flight  
When our door was crashed by a man of great height  
    It was stepfather, Roylott, and as part of his temper  
    He bent the poker without even a whimper  
But Holmes is strong, too, and he made it right

To our investigation this gave zest  
And Holmes vowed to give it his best  
    So that afternoon to Surrey we'd travel  
    To save her life and the mystery to unravel  
To satisfy the terrified lady's request

At Stoke Moran we examined the hall  
Holmes checked the ventilator high on the wall  
    He noted the pull-rope attached to no bell  
    So, we'd spend the night next to Roylott's cell  
My pistol ready for Holmes beck and call.

We waited quite tense through the dark hour  
Until we saw light in the vent and held fast with our power  
    Holmes yelled, and to the bell-pull directed his cane  
    He said he saw the band and from Roylott, a cry of pain  
A scream which wakes the dead and causes milk to sour

We rushed to his door and saw a terrible fare  
The doctor quite dead with a dreadful stare  
    Around his brow a deadly snake raised its head  
    Miss Stoner was safe now, Roylott was dead  
And thus, Holmes laid strange facts bare

Holmes said the world's in a wicked thrall  
When a clever doctor takes the fall  
    He is the first of criminals to serve  
    He has knowledge and he has nerve  
We agreed it is the worst of all.

And so, the speckled pit viper was caught  
Before the final murder Dr. Roylott sought  
    The lady was married and got her money  
    Holmes got paid and canned his honey  
My pistol and my loyalty got naught.

In summary:

    Watson said:

    Doc dead

        Holmes famed

        Viper blamed

    Girl wed

        Olson



**The Adventure of the Engineer's Thumb**

**A Close Call in The Country**

There was once a young engineer  
Who to losing his life came quite near.

On the sill of a winder

He did leave a finger;

The whole episode was quite queer.

Martin

Victor Hatherley, he needed some  
Remuneration, but he was so dumb

That he failed to get out

Till attacked by a lout

And had to come home sans a thumb.

Kozinn

Hatherly hired to check a press  
Fuller's earth leads him to a scam guess

A cleaver takes his thumb

Brandy is used, not rum

A house fire, any clues does repress

Mason

Villains had a press where coin was made  
But the press broke down, so they had to trade

Thus, an engineer was promised a fee

But he lost his thumb while trying to flee

So, Holmes got him a large band-aid

Olson

A secretive man name of Stark  
Sought Hatherley out as his mark

When Vick tried to leave

His thumb Stark did cleave

And then slipped away in the dark

Pace

*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*

There was a hydraulic engineer  
A lost thumb nearly cost his career  
    Not even Holmes' wit  
    Lay finger on it  
The thin man escaped twenty years  
    Mosher



**The Adventure of the Noble Bachelor**

British nobles like St. Simon, I'm told,  
Offered titles for American gold,  
    His bride thought herself widow  
    (Which St. Simon never did know)  
Till her husband called her back to his fold.  
    Kozinn

Hatty was leading a double life  
Both Robert and Francis to their wife  
    Dropped Bouquet and a note  
    Her dress and ring a float  
Robert was having none of the strife  
    Mason

The new Mrs. St. Simon was a stunner  
But right after the wedding, she did a runner  
    As the cops dragged the lake  
    Holmes did a double-take  
And Doyle thought this tale was a bummer.  
    Olson





**The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet**

From a safe, thieves a coronet could take,  
But at home, burglars someone would wake.  
Holder locked it with a key  
That anyone could see.  
That's the biggest mistake he could make.

Kozinn

Holder lends funds on 39 gems  
Arthur "steals" stones; Dad quickly condemns  
His tale did not hold up  
George and Mary link up  
Apologies asked to renew friends

Mason

A banker had a priceless crown in his care  
And when it was damaged, he thought it unfair  
Holmes pinned it on the niece  
The wayward son, got scant peace  
From her lover the niece got much to bare

Olson

The beryl coronet  
He took to his regret  
To secure a loan  
For parties unknown  
And now his life's upset  
Pace



**The Adventure of the Copper Beeches**

Not a job for a girl like a sister,  
Said Holmes of that very odd mister.  
    But the girl in the attic  
    Was wildly ecstatic,  
When the sailor boy rescued, then kissed her.  
    Kozinn

Violet offered a strange position  
Creepy son and wife one condition  
    She must wear blue dresses  
    And lose the long tresses  
Alice escapes on own volition  
    Mason

Violet Hunter's job came with some doubts  
In spite of her boss's firm touts  
    She gets good money to wear certain frocks  
    And even more money to cut off her locks  
But if she seems like someone else, he pouts  
    Olson

Miss Hunter has reason to hope  
That Sherlock can help her to cope.  
    Her employment is screwed up  
    Her employer is chewed up,  
While Alice and Fowler elope.  
    Hamilton

Violet succumbed to Rucastle's beseeches  
And took the job at Copper Beeches  
    But before very long  
    Things began to go wrong  
Ending with her employer's screeches  
    Clark

*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*

The governess obsesses  
On cutting off her tresses  
    And there's one thing more  
    There's more in the drawer  
Adding to her distresses  
    Pace



**The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes**

**The Adventure of Silver Blaze**

**Horsing Around**

There once was a villain named Straker  
Whom a race horse sent back to his Maker.

Holmes remarked that the canine  
Did naught in the night-time—  
The clue, as it turned out much later.

Martin

A nick in the leg earns a bash  
In the head with a hoof in a flash.  
When Holmes solved the case,  
The horse ran apace,  
And Sherlock walked off with some cash.

Kozinn

Straker needed cash in a hurry  
He used a sharp knife, sheep and curry  
Silver Blaze wins the race  
Holmes cleans the horse's face  
To this day, the dog has no worry

Mason

A missing race horse caused quite a craze  
If he lives to win the race, then big time he pays  
Though the dog did not bark  
Watson caught a clue on a lark  
The horse of a different color was Silver Blaze

Olson

A trainer with criminal aim  
Tried fixing a horse racing game  
Got kicked in the head  
Which left him quite dead  
Before he could make the horse lame

Pace

England's favorite race horse was gone  
And his trainer murdered, poor John!  
    Where was the horse?  
    Who killed John, of course?  
And would Silver Blaze return to his lawn?  
    Hébert, E.

The police were baffled,  
So the case was tackled  
    By Sherlock himself  
    And no one else  
But there was no killer to be shackled.  
    Hébert, E.

The horse was found running free,  
Escaped from a secret surgery.  
    John fell on his own knife,  
    Saving Blaze's life,  
The horse dancing with glee.  
    Hébert, E.

A trainer found dead in a bog,  
Betrayed by his non-barking dog.  
    Could a horse be the killer  
    In this unorthodox thriller  
With a plot thick as London's fog?  
    Falkingham



**The Adventure of the Yellow Face**

Li'l Lucy wore a mask that was yellow.  
It concealed her black face very well. Oh,  
    How she did smile  
    When it took just a while  
Till Munro proved a very fine fellow.  
    Kozinn

Holmes deducts much from an amber pipe  
Not often, he buys the client's hype  
    A child behind a mask  
    The wife takes him to task  
And teaches beware stereotype  
    Mason

The Munros life in Norbury was good  
Until Munro didn't know where he stood  
    Because Effie began visiting a nearby home  
    Munro thought she started to roam  
But the face at the window was her brood  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Stockbroker's Clerk**

There once was a stockbroker's clerk  
Who acted a bit like a jerk.

    Though he wasn't a nob  
    He ran out on one job,  
For a scam - and a dull bit of work.

Kozinn

Hall is offered a large commission  
A good Franco-Midland position  
    Both villains have gold tooth  
    Pinner can't face the truth  
Will swing for their murder admission

Mason

Hall Pycroft thought himself a high paid clod  
Because of the shifty road as a broker he trod  
    The Pinner brothers were one and the same  
    And they used Pycroft to help with their game  
So, Holmes turned them over to the plod

Olson



**The Adventure of the Gloria Scott**

When Holmes first saw the Armitage tat,  
He gathered much history from that.  
    The old man went faint,  
    Then said, "If you ain't,  
A detective, then I'll eat my hat!"  
    Kozinn

Holmes is laid up by a friend's dog bite  
Arm initials bring a clue to light  
    A Secret code of three  
    Tells an ally to flee  
Old Trevor lost his life due to fright  
    Mason

Holmes goes to Norfolk with his college mate  
Another visitor named Hudson tempted his fate  
    Old Trevor's coded note scared him badly  
    And he made plans to depart quite madly  
But Holmes knew about dodgy freight  
    Olson

"How is it you came to detecting?"  
Ask Watson of Holmes on reflecting,  
    O'er notes from his files,  
    From one of his piles,  
"Old Trevor was caught unsuspecting."  
    Hawkins





**The Adventure of the Musgrave Ritual**

Brunton's smarter by far than his master.

He decoded the ritual faster.

But what if you know

How to go down below

If your plans end in total disaster?

Kozinn

Musgrave gives Holmes a tale based on rite

A butler's huge greed and a maid's spite

Age old Crown jewel head gear

Tossed in a shallow mere

The case solved on elm and oak tree height

Mason

The historic rhyme made a big hit

Causing relatives to use all their grit

Old Bunton was up to some caper

But got fired for reading an old paper

And as we all know, the butler did it

Olson

Nancy Devoy, the regimental belle,

Soon had Barclay under her spell

Alas, she preferred the handsomer Harry

And it was certain they would marry

But he was betrayed to an earthly hell

Clark



**The Adventure of the Reigate Squire**

A man and his son, Reigate Squires,  
Turned to crime to fulfill their desires.  
    They wrote alternate words -  
    Thought they'd stay free as birds -  
But Holmes proved the pair of them liars.  
    Kozinn

A strange theft including ball of twine  
To hide another crime not benign  
    Holmes fakes a stressful fit  
    Oranges and water, he hit  
To find the note which based the bottom line  
    Mason

Holmes and Watson travel to Surrey  
And find a victim whose favor they curry  
    A bowl of oranges Holmes seems to dump  
    And he blames Watson as a clumsy chump  
So, they could solve the crime in a hurry  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Crooked Man**

Henry Wood was an old, sick, and blue man  
Whose only friend was the ichneumon,  
    But for years, through the pain,  
    He'd always remain,  
Despite every bad trick, a true man.  
    Kozinn

A wife appears to have bonked her spouse  
Holmes convinced another entered the house  
    Deformed man and a box  
    Certainly not a fox  
Apoplexy did in the wife's spouse  
    Mason

Col. James Barkley was a coward in the past  
His wife loved Henry but married James at last  
    James engineered a plan for Henry to die  
    When Nancy saw Henry she let out a cry  
The widow ended in a melodrama cast  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Resident Patient**

To practice, Trevelyan needed money;  
Blessington made a deal, a real honey.  
    When his partners in crime  
    Caught up with him in time,  
He learned hanging around wasn't funny.  
    Kozinn

Percy asked to be personal doc  
Good pay does not allow him to balk  
    Footprints on the carpet  
    Gang to collect a debt  
Long time to allow revenge to stalk  
    Mason

A doctor had a practice where it didn't belong  
Landlord guarded himself from the London throng  
    Then a pair of spies invaded the house  
    And the patron loudly started to grouse  
But was found with his neck stretched too long  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Greek Interpreter**

Mycroft was smart as they come,  
Didn't need many clues, only some.  
    But his thinking was bad  
    When he put in that ad.  
Oh, Mycroft, that was really dumb!  
    Kozinn

Paul and Sophy held against their will  
Meles is called on due to his skill  
    Paul will never give in  
    Harold and Wilson 'fin'  
Paul meets his end by a charcoal grille  
    Mason

Mycroft's neighbor was forced to speak  
To a half-starved man who only spoke Greek  
    The villains wanted him to sign some paper  
    Until a girl named Sophy interrupted the caper  
And Mycroft thought Sherlock a freak  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Naval Treaty**

**Tale of a Tadpole**

There was a young fellow named Phelps  
Who responded to good news with yelps.

Ham and eggs, curried chicken,

He said, "They me sicken.

It's finding the treaty that helps."

Martin

You've been asked to copy a treaty.

Though you know it's a very dull feat-y,

Never leave it! What's more,

Check the lock on the door.

Then, no problems - you'll soon wed your sweetie!

Kozinn

Watson's friend Tadpole lost a treaty

Bedridden, cared for by his sweetie

Diagnosed with fever

Michael the deceiver

Percy accused, Holmes stayed believer

Mason

Watson's friend Percy was in a fix

He set a trap for a spy just for kicks

But the spy was too smart

And it broke Watson's heart

To find Percy deserved his licks

Olson

Poor old Phelps faces prospects of doom  
And yet all he can do is fume.

    The pact's gone — He was sentry —

    There's no sign of an entry

But our Holmes can decode the locked room

Asimov



### **The Final Problem**

By train and by boat, day and night,  
Chased by Moriarty our duo takes flight.

    The end comes at the falls.

    For Holmes, duty calls.

“He’s the wisest man,” Watson will write.

    Kozinn

Twice Holmes has faced a death-dealing threat  
Around his foe he has cast a net

    At the falls they did face

    Both fell in a deep space

The best and wisest man Watson met

    Mason

Holmes fought Moriarty very well

Until from a ledge they both fell

    While poor Watson left for a trick

    About a woman said to be sick

He was left a lurid tale to sell

    Olson

Moriarty, Napoleon of Crime,

Met his end, and it wasn’t sublime.

    Thrown down the abyss -

    But something’s amiss!

We won’t know quite what for some time.

Poor Watson could not comprehend

A world without his wise friend.

    How could he know,

    In the turmoil below,

Reichenbach wasn’t really the end?

    Falkingham





**The Return of Sherlock Holmes**

**The Adventure of the Empty House**

**Get Your Boy a Von Herder**

The second most dangerous man  
In London was Colonel Moran,  
    But he never dreamed  
    He'd be trapped by that fiend,  
And Lestrade took him off to the can.  
    Martin

Three years of silence Holmes kept.  
He'd ensured Moriarty leapt -  
    Well, was pushed - to the stream.  
    It all worked like a dream!  
While in London poor Watson just wept!  
    Kozinn

Holmes met Moriarty at the falls  
He never intended to fight him at all  
    They battled it out  
    but Holmes won out  
And sent Moriarty down the falls with a knockout  
    Pieper

Sigurðsson, much to her horror,  
Laid a weird legend before her.  
    It sounded so wiggy!  
    Was he Gene Wilder's Sigi,  
Or Sherlock's Norwegian explorer?  
    Scheetz

At cards they were a winning pair,  
But Moran wasn't playing fair.  
    When he was caught  
    He aimed and shot  
The Honourable Ronald Adair.  
    Dillistone

Watson goes to scene of a killing  
Adair dead counting pound and shilling  
    Holmes makes dear Watson faint  
    Using bookseller feint  
Moran is caught with air-gun chilling  
    Mason

Watson was sad to think Holmes was dead  
Holmes needed him and came back instead  
    Watson was shocked clear to his sox  
    By the activity on his Baker Street blocks  
A wax bust kept Sherlock from losing his head  
    Olson

I pity poor Ronald Adair.  
At cards, he won more than his share.  
    His good luck at whist  
    Put his life in a twist  
With foes who don't always play fair.  
    Falkingham



**The Adventure of the Norwood Builder**

Holmes cried, "Quick Watson, the bucket!"  
Oldacre was out of luck, it  
    was his failure to frame  
    The son of his old flame  
He'd've been better to flee to Nantucket.  
    Goldfarb

McFarlane's situation was dire  
Until Holmes fixed it all with a fire.  
    Revenge for the past  
    Had burgeoned at last.  
It seemed the old man was a liar.  
    Kozinn

Oldacre wants McFarlane to pay  
For love lost from a previous day  
    A blood thumbprint is fake  
    False room adds double-take  
Holmes forces his hand with burning hay  
    Mason

The story begins with a pile of ashes  
And to Baker Street a shaken suspect dashes  
    To arrest McFarlane Lestrade soon came  
    But Holmes by then suspected a frame  
And a false wall revealed secret stashes  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Dancing Men**

Elsie married and changed her cognomen  
Cubitt found notes thwarting his acumen  
    Slaney, filled with such hate,  
    shot his rival. Too late!  
Sherlock decodes the clever Dancing Men.  
    Riethmeier

Abe Slaney was up to his tricks  
When he drew all those figures like sticks.  
    Hilton's Elsie wasn't bad,  
    But the ending was sad  
As a tear-jerker film at the pix.  
    Kozinn

Holmes asked to deduct figures of stick  
A coded cypher is used to trick  
    Elsie had once fled Abe  
    Leaving the U.S.A.  
The code brings Abe back lickety-split  
    Mason

Hilton Cubitt came from England's east coast  
As a solver of puzzles Holmes did boast  
    Cubitt's dear wife of only one year  
    Found the dancing men to instill great fear  
Because she was afraid she'd be toast  
    Olson

The childish scrawls though innocent seeming  
Were with considerable menace teeming  
    Alas Holmes failed to see  
    The terpsichorean trickery  
Until the Cubitts' blood was streaming  
    Clark

For a Jubilee place to reside,  
The places they chose coincide.  
    This American girl  
    Set his brain in a whirl -  
He soon made Elsie Patrick his bride  
    Beeson

There once was a 'dick' from Great Britain  
Who solved a code, secretly written.  
    Many had guessed,  
    But all were impressed  
With the Master's skill, we were smitten.  
    Falkingham



**The Adventure of the Solitary Cyclist**

**The Unfroked in the Dock**

The forced marriage at Charlington Hall  
Did both Watson and Sherlock appal.

“She’s my wife,” Woodley said.

“She’s your widow, you’re dead!”

Bob Carruthers was right on the ball.

Martin

Violet rode upon a bicycle.

To two swains she was like an icicle.

For her hand they both tried:

They cut cards for a bride

But Holmes got her out of the pickle.

Kozinn

Another Violet asks for Holmes’s aid

Back to the Carruther’s house Holmes bade

The partner is Woodley

Described as a bully

Holmes arrives in time for a wedding stayed

Mason

Violet Smith rides her bike and thinks it weird

To be followed by a man in a bushy black beard

Holmes and Watson take a short ride

And prevent her becoming an unwilling bride

Marriage was always what Holmes feared

Olson

Violet was a real humdinger

Watson likely wanted to cling her

But surely it’s of note

That in all that he wrote

Only she gave Holmes the finger

Clark



An Ode to a Cyclist - Donald Hobbs

While cycling down the lane one day  
In the merry month preceding May  
    Violet Smith was taken by surprise  
    By a bearded man with hidden eyes  
So, she called Sherlock right away.

Holmes was very busy at the time  
Watson went to the scene of the crime  
    But he missed all of the clues  
    And brought home useless news  
So, Holmes left Baker Street on his own dime.

Holmes entered a Charlington bar  
But before he could get very far  
    He had a fight with Mr. Woodley  
    Who seemed to get over moodily  
And left him with a brand new scar.

Violet had an uncle she never knew  
He died in Africa as part of a stew  
    Carruthers and Woodley hatched a plot  
    To marry Violet and to share the pot  
Appearing on the scene outta the blue.

Holmes smokes a bowl or two of shag  
Then wiped his hand on an old rag  
    Violet Smith you are in great danger  
    I have deduced the bearded stranger  
Please return to home - do not lag.

They find Violet's empty cart on the lane  
This drives Mr. Carruthers totally insane  
    When they bust through the hedge-row  
    Running fast, it was not too far to go  
They find Williamson a defrocked Dane.

Violet swooned and fell to the ground  
Carruthers shot Woodley with a 9mm round  
    Holmes proclaimed the marriage a void and null  
    And Rev. Williamson out of his skull  
Returning to London on a leap and abound.

Afterwards Holmes says, "My abilities are strong  
Regardless if they are right or wrong  
    I see what others usually miss  
    But regardless of all that or this  
That bearded man was no Lance Armstrong!"  
    Hobbs





**The Adventure of the Priory School**

A noble young bachelor named Jim  
Laid plans with both vigor and vim.  
Herr Heidegger's days  
Were ended by Hayes,  
Whom Holmes brought to justice most grim  
Blau

Someone kidnapped the Duke's little son.  
Maybe gypsies – could be anyone.  
Holmes followed the track  
And got the boy back!  
“All this money! Oh, Watson, what fun!”  
Kozinn

The Duke's son is absconded from school  
The kidnappers use fake cow shoes to fool  
Holmes judges the bike's tires  
Everyone is liars  
All flee justice, but Hayes for a crime cruel  
Mason

A missing teacher and pupil cause no flutter  
The authorities think he went to see his mudder  
Holmes notes the tracks of many cows  
But the absence of patties does arouse  
Because you can't have one without the udder  
Olson



**The Adventure of Black Peter**

A ship's captain, widely known as Black Peter,  
Was a murderer and notorious wife beater.

He gave a passenger no quarter -

Tossed him into the water -

Then was harpooned! Now what could be sweeter?

Kozinn

To use the harpoon took strength and skill

A seaman Holmes figured did the kill

Sealskin pouch with P.C.

Rum indicated the sea

Cairns speared Carney to show his ill will

Mason

Holmes was checking clues to find something big

Inspector Hopkins arrives at 221b in a rig

To discover where the Captain drew his last breath

And if Neligan is responsible for his harpoon death

Results rely on a polk in pig

Olson



**The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton**

**Over the Wall for Watson**

A blackmailer ruined the life  
Of a time-honoured nobleman's wife,  
    So, she took out her gun  
    And well-leaded the scum  
Before Sherlock Holmes could say knife.  
    Martin

When a girl writes an imprudent letter,  
And is told her relations should get her  
    A whole bunch of cash  
    Lest her wedding go smash,  
It's Holmes who will make things all better.  
    Kozinn

Milverton spends his life in blackmail  
Even their attempt to hold him fail  
    With masks they try to rob  
    A lady does the job  
They refuse to help Lestrade's clues frail  
    Mason

Lady Eva's wedding plans depended on blackmail paid  
As a workman, Holmes courted Milverton's maid  
    Holmes thought the blackmailer was the worst  
    And Holmes and Watson did a burglary first  
Affections of the maid left Holmes quite afraid  
    Olson

Extortion games with skill were run:  
    "My silence for your silver, hon;  
Life's safer if my will were done,"  
    Purred Charles Augustus Milverton.  
    Beeson

There weren't a smoother, chiller one;  
    Evoked bad vibes (ill-will, for one).  
One day, a victim will, for fun,  
    Kill Charles Augustus Milverton.  
    Beeson

With bullets five, she filled her gun.  
    "It's business -- not to kill for, hon';  
Leave now," he whimpered, 'til her gun  
    Smoked Charles Augustus Milverton!  
    Beeson



**The Adventure of the Six Napoleons**

Two Napoleon busts could just break  
And three could be just a mistake  
    But Holmes knew that four busts did matter  
    And five when a black pearl's at stake  
Make it murder when six of them shatter  
    Goldfarb

Who so hated Napoleon Buonaparte  
That he stole and then smashed busts apart?  
    A thieving servant girl  
    Took the Borgias' black pearl.  
Beppo hid it in the statue's dark heart.  
    Kozinn

Six emperor busts meet their maker  
Holmes finds Beppo to be the Breaker  
    Borgia pearl is the goal  
    Hidden in a small hole  
Arrested finally as the lawbreaker  
    Mason

This case involved the work of a crafter  
Who hid a pearl in a bust of plaster  
    Bad guys searched and busts were broken  
    Holmes reward was merely a token  
Holmes solved the case 'cause he was master  
    Olson

Murder and robbery for one of six small Napoleon statues,  
the busted and broken plaster left hardly any clues.  
    Horace Harker of the Central Press Syndicate  
    Feared that his story would be late  
Holmes made sure that he had a quote for the news.  
    Ruby

Three busts of Napoleon- smashed by a man.  
Lestrade was puzzled; to Sherlock's he ran.  
    Holmes was intrigued,  
    "How was this achieved?"  
Lestrade, tell me more, if you can!"  
    Hébert, T.

The next day, another bust is broken  
Its owner had bought it as a token  
    A man had been waiting  
    The owner'd been fainting  
When he saw the man's life had been taken!  
    Hébert, T.

The stake out the criminal,  
To catch him they are able.  
    Holmes calls Lestrade back home  
    And tells him to sit down  
The sixth bust ends up on the table.  
    Hébert, T.

He smashes the thing  
And looks and the broken king.  
    He finds the black pearl,  
    The end of the trouble  
Until the next time Sherlock's doorbell will ring.  
    Hébert, T.



**The Adventure of the Three Students**

The papers for the Prize Fortescue  
Were so easy to copy, 'tis true.  
    But young Gilchrist was good;  
    In the end, never would  
Cheat, and make dear old Bannister blue.  
    Kozinn

Three pupils thought of stealing a test  
All three reveal signs of being stressed  
    Window heights and clay balls  
    Scrapes lead to the downfall  
Gilchrist offers up a police quest  
    Mason

The students were to take a test  
The result of which would determine the best  
    Holmes considered the glove just a prop  
    The guilty student left to be a cop  
The professor thought it a jest  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez**

Anna followed the coconut mat;  
She would free her lost lover, but that  
    Didn't work. In a flash  
    Holmes found her, with ash,  
For she'd stabbed Smith (Willoughby) flat.  
    Kozinn

Poor young Smith is murdered with a knife  
"It was she" as he let loose his life  
    Floor mats of coconut  
    Overrun with ash glut  
Holmes finds Anna who lived life of strife  
    Mason

Smith was almost dead as can be  
To identify his killer he said, "It was she."  
    Sherlock observed Coram smoke and eat  
    A woman with a thick nose he reported to the heat  
Coram's wife took poison to set herself free  
    Olson





**The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter**

Playing rugby is such a grand life.  
On the field there is much joyous strife.  
    The three-quarter, though, cried,  
    When he found she who'd died.  
Ever after he'd be missing his wife.

Kozinn

Player Staunton is not able to play  
A bearded man has led him away  
    Oil to find the back  
    Pompey set on the track  
Their secret marriage Armstrong would not betray

Mason

Godfrey was the star of Rugby when he came  
But he disappeared on the eve of the big game  
    Pompey was a tan and white drag-hound  
    And showed Holmes where the man was found  
But Godfrey's excuse wasn't lame

Olson



**The Adventure of the Abbey Grange**

Brackenstall, in a mad drunken fury,  
Attacked his wife who was good and quite pure. He  
    Ended up dead.  
    Later Mary re-wed,  
Thanks to Watson, that good English jury.  
    Kozinn

Another tale the “victim” head whacked  
The lady speaks of 3 thieves who had sacked  
    Beeswing in glass of wine  
    Sir Eustace lies supine  
Crocker tells all and agrees to Holmes pact  
    Mason

The dead husband was cruel and money he did fritter  
He beat his young wife and when drunk he was bitter  
    But the widow and her maid both had lied  
    About the wife being beaten, gagged, and tied  
Watson was the captain's jury and acquitter  
    Olson

MARY Frazier a sweet young thing  
Traded her honor for a wedding ring  
    It didn't work out  
    Her lord was a lout  
She's a widow now with lots of bling  
    Langston



**The Adventure of the Second Stain**

We've read something like this before.  
Is it special? Take it home, through your door.  
Someone then takes the thing.  
(Here 'twas writ by a King  
And ends up in a hole in a floor.)  
Kozinn

Paper stolen of supreme import  
Without it, scandal Holmes cannot thwart  
Lucas was killed for love  
Stain on carpet above  
Hilda returns the note as last resort  
Mason

Lady Hilda may just have gone too far  
To steal a document that could start a war  
From a red dispatch box she took it to trade  
For an old love letter of which she was afraid  
But Holmes help to return it made him a star  
Olson



**His Last Bow**  
**The Adventure of the Cardboard Box**

Jim Browner was quick with his knife  
He was enraged by his unfaithful wife  
    It was puzzling to hear  
    that he sliced off her ear  
Right after he cut off her life.  
    Goldfarb

A sailor's wife cried; her dear mister  
Was drinking because of her sister.  
    When a friend brought her cheer,  
    Both of them lost an ear  
And their lives. Then the sailor, he missed her.  
    Kozinn

Susan received pair of ears on salt  
She believed unruly students at fault  
    The box, knot, and tarred string  
    Left for the wrong offspring  
Mary received the deadly assault  
    Mason

Susan Cushing got a box which aroused her fears  
The box contained salt and two mismatched ears  
    Holmes deduced the grim work of a sailor  
    And Susan's sister grew paler and frailer  
Her sis wouldn't need ear rings in coming years  
    Olson

There were three sisters from Croyden,  
Not a single one a hoyden.  
    When the first gets the ear of one,  
    The second girl comes undone.  
And the whole family is destroyed then.  
    Sherwood-Fabre

*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*

Three sisters always portend trouble  
Browner's life was reduced to a rubble

    He cut off their ears  
    Not for souvenirs  
But to pay Sarah back double  
    Clark

Holmes, of whom one hears,  
Looked at the mismatched ears  
    Determined murder had been done  
    And to more than one  
But let Lestrade take all the cheers  
    Langston



### The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge

There once was a case rather strange.  
Its geography spans a wide range.  
    Shrunk heads, politics,  
    A house in the sticks,  
Then Holmes just lets Baynes win. Now that's strange.  
    Kozinn

Eccles seeks Holmes, unaware of Garcia's death  
Between two houses he drew his last breath  
    Don Pedro seeks revenge  
    Her mate Burnet avenge  
Political intrigue all enwreathe  
    Mason

Holmes told Watson it was a chaotic case  
And he complained that life was commonplace  
    But a dead white bird and a bucket of blood  
    Soon lead Holmes to revenge in a flood  
Justice the Tiger of San Pedro did not face  
    Olson

Despite the combined brains  
Of Holmes, Gregson, and Baynes  
    The Tiger postponed fate  
    Until a subsequent date  
When the Spanish found his remains  
    Clark

The noble Garcia tried  
But he failed, then he died  
    A trip on a train  
    Was the Tiger's bane  
Leaving authorities mystified  
    Langston

*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*

John Scott Echols called it grotesque  
When Garcia failed to manifest  
    Despite being called at one  
    For what Echols thought was some fun  
He did not get a chance to molest.  
    Kearns



**The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans**

**Last Ride on the Underground**

A traitor was Valentine Walter,  
Whose crime robbed young West of the altar.

The Bruce—P. submarine

Was involved in his scheme;

It was prison for Walter, not halter.

Martin

There once was a man, Valentine,  
Whose conduct was much less than fine.

Holmes' brain, on the track,

Traced the facts quickly back,

And managed to trick Oberstein.

Kozinn

Mycroft brings Holmes a missing plans case  
Seven pages were moved from place to place

Points causes body to pitch

West found in rail track's ditch

Lack of ticket put Holmes on right chase

Mason

Mycroft needed Sherlock at his best  
To bring justice to the killer of naval clerk West

And to recover stolen submarine plans

Upon which victory for England stands

Holmes as a patriot did stand the test

Olson





**The Adventure of the Devil's Foot**

**Dr. Sterndale, I presume?**

Who am I expected to see  
If Sherlock is following me?  
    You will find no one there,  
    Neither hide nor a hair,  
For Holmes is invisible, see?  
    Martin

When Devil's Foot burns, the thick smoke  
Is enough to make anyone choke  
    And see visions of hell,  
    Then go mad, die as well.  
Yes, the Devil's Foot root is no joke.  
    Kozinn

Two brothers laughing, one sister dead  
Same poison Mortimer should have dread  
    To seal murderer's fate  
    Holmes puts ash on the grate  
Holmes allows Leon to flee instead  
    Mason

Known as the Cornish Horror, Holmes' strangest case  
Watson refers to their vacation spot an evil place  
    It began when two brothers went mad  
    And their sister was found dead, so sad  
A card game ended but Holmes played the ace  
    Olson

Holmes is resting by the sea  
With Watson along for company  
    Murder interrupts his snoozes  
    But for some reason he chooses  
To let Sterndale go on safari  
    Clark



**The Adventure of the Red Circle**

The Red Circle caused so much strife  
For Gennero and his very brave wife.

S. Holmes was quite quick  
To translate a candle flick.

He gave back the couple their life.

Kozinn

Warren speaks of stranger in guest room  
Holmes spies the woman from the box-room

A lantern lit "beware"

Holmes calls the lady fair

Lucca's wrath with Giorgiano's doom

Mason

The landlady called about a lodger she thought fake  
She needed the rent but feared danger at stake

Holmes put a notice in the Daily Gazette news

In hope of generating some useful clues

Thus unrewarded, it was " Art for art's sake."

Olson



**The Disappearance of Lady Frances Carfax**

**Pendant in a Pawnshop**

The man with a jagged left ear  
Was a man for lone ladies to fear.  
    His ploy was quite new:  
    A nice coffin for two.  
It was almost the crime of the year.  
    Martin

Lady Frances was a bit of a prude,  
When she found out Green slept in the nude,  
    She threw him aside,  
    Then was only the “bride”  
Of chloroform, by Holy Peter (bad dude).  
    Kozinn

It appears Carfax has flown the coop  
Holmes sends Watson into France to snoop  
    Watson soon fights with Green  
    A coffin she’s unseen  
Carfax to be buried as a group  
    Mason

From her true love she fled while being tricked and robbed often  
When Holmes saw Green's devotion his toughness did soften  
    Lady Frances grabbed her belongings and sent them in  
boxes  
    Holmes called her a stray chicken in the land of foxes  
Because she ended up sharing a secondhand coffin  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Dying Detective**

(Rework of Matilda's work)

It seemed Holmes had a foot in the grave  
And his life they [all] wanted to save.

"[Find] a doctor [who sees]  
[A cure for the disease]" -

[If the patient's] sufficiently brave.

Kozinn

Holmes has contracted a rare disease  
For his wish, Watson he does displease

Only Smith may give aid

His plans Holmes finally stayed

Holmes' entire illness simply a tease

Mason

Mrs. Hudson told Watson that Holmes' end was near  
Watson tried to examine him in spite of his fear

Smith came to witness the end and to brag of his guilt

But was arrested and Watson saw the case built

Later they went to Simpson's to get chips and beer

Olson



**His Last Bow: The War Service of Sherlock Holmes**

A retired Holmes made one final bow.  
Through his acting, he showed us, and how,  
    That a man with his skill  
    And unshakeable will  
Does the job. Would we had him right now!  
    Kozinn

For two years Altamont was his guise  
Fake info he gave to German spies  
    They toasted with Tokay  
    Van Bork they did waylay  
Helping to win the Great War the prize  
    Mason

Before the first war Holmes acted like a German spy  
To make an arrest that would make Von Bork cry  
    He left his bees to work again with his friend  
    He said, coming to England is a rough east wind  
And 500 pounds he ripped off from the bad guy  
    Olson

Altamont, who was really the master,  
Saved England from certain disaster  
    By catching Von Bork and his spies  
    And making the latter realize  
That, by Gott, he should have moved faster  
    Clark

A foreboding easterly breeze  
Lures old Holmes away from his bees.  
    Amidst England's fears,  
    After more than two years,  
'Altamont' brings Von Bork to his knees.  
    Falkingham



**The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes**

**The Adventure of the Mazarin Stone**

Count on S. Holmes to find the M. stone,  
With a value that's almost unknown.  
    Was Silvius the thief?  
    Yes, and Holmes brought him grief.  
But the author should have left this tale alone.  
    Kozinn

Holmes, on the trail of a precious jewel  
Head of effigy used as a tool  
    Count and Sam bought the ploy  
    Bust he tried to destroy  
In the end, two Holmes made look the fool  
    Mason

Holmes was in deep pursuit,  
And planned to retrieve the loot.  
    But he was in danger,  
    Of this terrible stranger  
Count Sylvius and his pal in cahoots.  
    Hébert, E.

The schemers plotted alone  
With just the dummy on the side of the room.  
    But alas, to their chagrin,  
    It was not; it was *him*  
Holmes sprang up and got the stone.  
    Hébert, E.

*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*

A Count and a boxer swiped a jewel  
But Sherlock proved he was quite cool  
    He modeled for a wax bust  
    And in Watson put his trust  
So Cantlemere said Holmes was no fool  
    Olson



**The Problem of Thor Bridge**

Let's consider the man called "Gold King"  
He was bored with his wife - or something.  
    He preferred pretty Grace --  
    Even Holmes liked her face -  
Moral influence? Or just a quick fling?  
    Kozinn

Mrs. Gibson has been killed, Grace named  
Many clues point to her to be blamed  
    An easy to find gun  
    A sleight of hand was done  
In great fashion Holmes showed Grace was framed  
    Mason

King's wife was a beauty with tropical eyes  
The man himself was in for a rude surprise  
    She committed suicide and framed the miss  
    Her action was revenge for an imagined tryst  
Holmes ruined John's gun to set the cops wise  
    Olson





**The Adventure of the Creeping Man**

**Ode to Professor Presbury**

He wanted Alice's fancy to tickle,  
But feared she just might turn fickle,  
    So as not to be bested,  
    He was nearly arrested  
For ingesting a lemur's tes-ticle.  
    Stek

Presbury wanted more youth,  
Unbecoming, to tell you the truth.  
    When he took monkey gland,  
    It affected him, and  
Turned him into a being uncouth.  
    Kozinn

Oh, the whacky things we do for love  
Looking to science to help, sort of  
    Presbury seeks to be young  
    From trees he even swung  
Learned not to mess with live from above  
    Mason

Holmes saw the professor crouched like a frog  
And his daughter thought him slipping a cog  
    So, he visited a Prague man to whom he pled  
    For extract of Langur in hopes he could wed  
He shouldn't have monkeyed around with the dog  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire**

Jacky acted as if he were three.  
A teenager, as nasty as could be.  
    With curare he shot  
    First the dog, then the tot,  
Then Holmes said "Send that boy off to sea!"  
    Kozinn

Robert believes his wife lives on blood  
To Holmes his emotions come a flood  
    She must not harm his child  
    His son must be exiled  
Any talk of ghosts came crashing down, thud  
    Mason

The wife, a Spanish beauty, was lovely at that  
    Was she a cruel stepmother, a vampire bat?  
    Her husband feared she was a blood-sucker  
Stepson was dressed in his bib and tucker  
But Holmes knew the kid was a brat  
    Olson

There's a beautiful wife from Peru  
Whose behavior has Bob in a stew.  
    He tells Holmes that she's wild;  
    That she's bitten their child.  
Can it be we've a vampire in view?  
    Asimov



**The Adventure of the Three Garridebs**

As a name Garrideb was unique,  
Evans only pretended to seek.  
    He wanted the money,  
    (The money was funny.)  
And his shot really raised Holmes's pique.  
    Kozinn

Garridebs of three will share the pot  
If only two found, each will get naught  
    Jargon seen so plainly  
    Larger sums were gainly  
Winter the forger finally caught  
    Mason

John Garrideb told Holmes of a strange game  
Hoping to find others with his same last name  
    He was sent away from home on a wild goose-chase  
    Holmes suspected it was a strange untrue case  
And Killer Evans gets the blame  
    Olson

Fooling Killer Evans with the name of Dr. Lysander Starr,  
Holmes knew then that this Garrideb case would be bizarre.  
    Caught next to a counterfeit printing press,  
    Evans fired his revolver in stress,  
And now Dr. Watson has another scar.  
    Ruby



**The Adventure of the Illustrious Client**

With china the man was an ace,  
That Baron, he took the first place,  
    But with femmes he was mean,  
    The worst to be seen,  
So, revenge got him right in the face.  
    Kozinn

Client asks for Holmes to end the reign  
Many women, the baron their bane  
    Watson fakes an expert  
    Winter ends her effort  
The Baron's face is now one big stain  
    Mason

The Baron was an aristocrat of crime most depraved  
Holmes helped a young woman despite what she craved  
    Holmes was warned by the Baron not to be trashing  
    And his henchmen gave Holmes a terrible thrashing  
But Holmes won because a stitch in time saved  
    Olson

Baron Gruner ruined women, then logged'em all  
    In his bestial diary erotic;  
This didn't sit pretty with his prior mistress, Kitty,  
    So she made him lose face-- with some vitriol!  
    Beeson



**The Adventure of the Three Gables**

To be Duchess the lady did look.  
To gain this, some chances she took.  
    The moral of this is  
    You may want her kisses,  
But don't write 'em up in a book.  
    Kozinn

Keep from the Harrows warns Dixon  
Mary asks Holmes to take this mission  
    The offer way too high  
    Klein must be the why  
Mary world travels, paid by vixen  
    Mason

Mrs. Mayberly's dear son died in Rome  
Later there was an offer to buy out her home  
    So Holmes conferred with Langdale Pike  
    And she told the potential buyer to go take a hike  
The crooks mugged her to get a racy tome  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Blanched Soldier**

Young Emsworth could not seem to win,  
He got shot, then with lepers slept in.  
    Did his brain get a stun  
    From that elephant gun,  
Or did Emsworth just have fishy skin?  
    Kozinn

Dodd wants to see an ol' army friend  
The father asks his desire to end  
    Godfrey appears very pale  
    Disease has made him frail  
Holmes obtains the right doc to attend  
    Mason

The story is related by Holmes you can see  
Omission of Watson saved the author's fee  
    After the Boer War James looked for his mate  
    By the look of his friend he'd had a bad fate  
He had false leper's and Holmes set him free  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Lion's Mane**

Though Holmes first thought it a cat,  
McPherson's pain wasn't from that.  
    When it turned out the thing  
    Was a Lion's Mane sting  
A boulder then crushed the thing flat.  
    Kozinn

Fitzroy falls prey to the "lion's mane"  
A mystery is the teacher's bane  
    Sadly, a dog dies too  
    J. Wood provides the clue  
The jellyfish a rock can restrain  
    Mason

Sherlock told this tale from his Sussex bees  
It involved two teachers who suffered in the lees  
    The dead one had loved a beautiful girl  
    Whom the injured one had considered a pearl  
There is much danger in bathing in the seas  
    Olson



**The Adventure of the Retired Colourman**

He lost, as he'd won, by his tints,  
Green paint, with purplish glints.  
    He thought that his art  
    Had made him so smart,  
But Holmes picked up too many hints.  
    Kozinn

Amberley asks help to find his spouse  
She has flown the coop with a sly louse  
    Paint used to hide the gas  
    Which killed both lad and lass  
Unearthed in the strong-room of the house  
    Mason

Amberley was mean about paying his bill  
He murdered his wife and a doctor as a thrill  
    The murderer said they ran off and he was sore  
    But he covered bloodstains with paint by the door  
His extreme jealousy caused him to kill  
    Olson





**The Adventure of the Veiled Lodger**

The punishment befit the crime.  
Her life after was not worth a dime.  
She succeeded in tryin'  
To murder, via lion,  
Then Holmes said: don't take yours, not this time.  
Kozinn

Eugena, who never shows her face  
Content to stay in a private place  
Lion struck Ronder dead  
Then to her face he shred  
It's not her place, her life to erase  
Mason

The veiled woman lived as a lodger for seven lonely years  
Her landlady once glimpsed her face and it brought her to  
tears  
She'd been with the circus until a tragedy most unkind  
A lion mauled her face, her husband dead, struck from  
behind  
Both man and lion are beasts which recall her fears  
Olson

Eugenia wed the cruel beast Ronder,  
For strong man Leo she soon grew fonder.  
Leo's plan for conquest's gain;  
Required her husband was slain.  
Entwined figures, lethal wits, pitch-ponder.  
Hutchison

Strong man Leo built leaden lion's paw,  
Leo struck Ronder down raw meat and all.  
Joyful widow dashed to loose cage;  
Leo ran from King's blood rage.  
Marred beauty cried "Coward!" from its maw.  
Hutchison

She wrote 'Abbas Parva' to hook the sleuth,  
She bid Holmes ease her mind by hearing truth.  
Keen judge of her words and case;  
Self-harm's sway Holmes must efface.  
Bottled assent to his advice forsooth.  
Hutchison



*The Crew of the Barque Lone Star*