

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

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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 50th 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.



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<i>Lucas</i>	<i>Luke</i>	<i>Rowan</i>
<i>Lekha</i>		

And of course, Beeson, William B. by permission of the publisher, Nuvolibri, LLC and John Henson, Executor of the Estate of William B. Beeson.



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

The Crew of the Barque Lone Star

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