



The Hound of the Baskervilles

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle



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about the author

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, an English novelist, was born in 1859 and knighted in 1902. He was educated at Stonyhurst College in Germany and at Edinburgh University. He received an M.B. in 1881 and M.D. in 1885. He was a practicing physician in Southsea, England prior to his career as an author.

In 1891 he attained immense popularity for *The Great Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. These stories follow the capers of Sherlock Holmes who detected crime and untangled mysteries with an uncanny talent. *The Hound of the Baskervilles* is probably this character's most famous case. Set on the moors of northern England, it combines the atmosphere of the strange and supernatural with the suspense of skilled detective work.

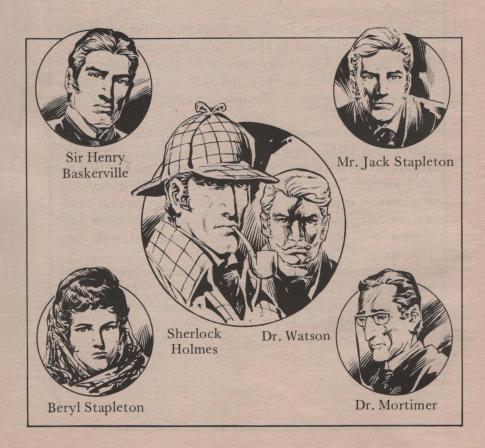
Although his stories were often imitated, none were as successful as the Sherlock Holmes stories. In his later years, Doyle was a convinced spiritualist, and he wrote and lectured on spiritualism.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

The Hound Of The Baskervilles

Adapted by JOHN NORWOOD FAGO Illustrated by E. R. CRUZ

VINCENT FAGO production







I see that this cane was given to a Dr. James Mortimer from his friends of the C.C.H., 1884.

He is, no doubt, a country doctor who does his visiting on foot.
And the "friends of the C.C.H." are members of a hunt club he has helped.











Note that the date is just five years ago. A good city doctor is not likely to move to the country.

Dr. Mortimer seems to be a young fellow, under thirty, friendly, absent-minded, and the owner of a small dog.



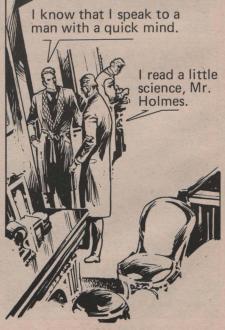




Dr. Mortimer wore a clean but rumpled suit. It made him look warm and friendly, as Holmes had guessed earlier. As he came in, the first thing he saw was his walking stick.









This family paper was put into my care by Sir Charles Baskerville. As you might know, he died suddenly three months ago.







^{*}an old story

^{**}an evil wish that often brings harm







Driven by fear, the girl





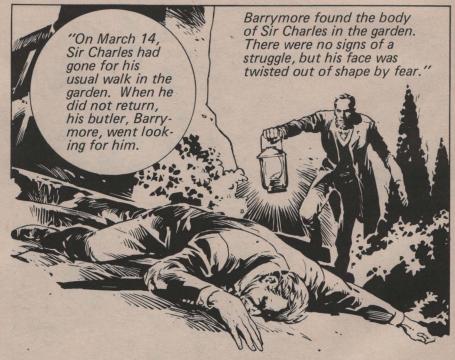




Now this from a Devon County newspaper of this year.
"The recent death of Sir Charles Baskerville has cast a gloom over the county."

"He was kind and generous. He had great plans for improving the lives of the people in Devonshire."





A doctor's report found that Sir Charles' death was caused by heart disease. It was hoped that this would end the stories people were telling about the way he died.



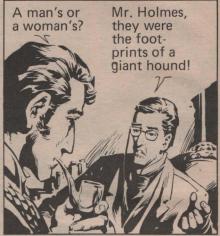
In the months before his death, it had become plain to me that Sir Charles was close to the breaking point. He had taken the family legend to heart.





^{*}the barking sound of hunting dogs













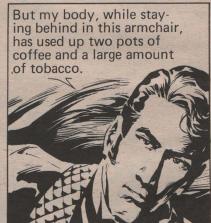
I think you should take a cab and meet him at Waterloo Station. Say nothing about this until we meet again. Please return tomorrow morning and bring him with you.









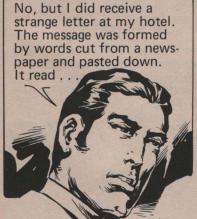








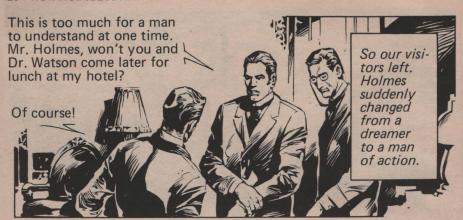




"If you value your life, keep away from the moor." But why should anyone watch or



We shall see.
Now, while I look at the letter, I think Dr.
Mortimer should tell Sir Henry the Baskerville story.









Suddenly I saw a man with a bushy black beard looking at us from the cab window. He screamed to the driver and the cab moved off down Regent Street.





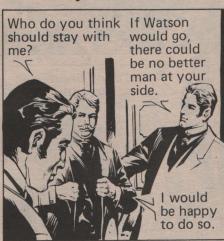
For two hours we spoke only of paintings.











We decided to leave the next Saturday for Baskerville Hall.



Let me hear from you often. Report whatever you find out.



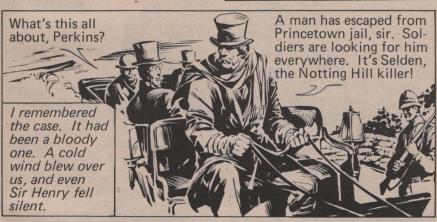
Remember the warning in the family legend, Sir Henry. Stay off the moor at night!



The trip was swift and pleasant. But I was surprised to see two soldiers at the station.













I tossed and turned and slept poorly that night. Once I thought I heard the sound of a woman sobbing



... but though I tried to listen, I heard nothing but the chiming of a clock and the wind outside.







after breakfast, I could see that her eyes were red from crying.





A long, low moan, very sad, swept over the moor.



We kept walking and Stapleton told me of the country's forgotten folk.



He also told me about Grimpen Mire** and gave me a warning.

A false step there means death! But that's where the rare plants and butterflies are if you know what you're doing Look! It's a Cyclopides!*







^{*}before history was written down

^{**}a place on the moor where there was deep, soft mud

^{***}a kind of moth







No, I am never bored. We have our books and studies. But I miss Sir Charles greatly.



Soon I started home along the path I had used before. It surprised me to find Beryl Stapleton waiting to speak to me.



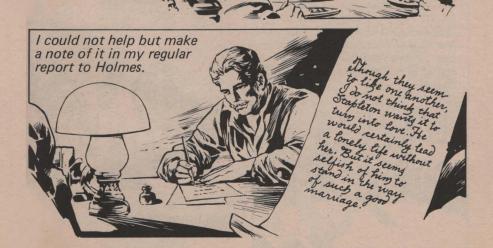
She had taken a short cut in order to catch up with me. She begged me to take Sir Henry away. I asked her why she didn't want her brother to know about her wish.











That evening I woke up in the middle of the night. Someone was walking quietly past my door.







In the morning before breakfast I visited the room. I could see that it faced the moor. Barrymore had been giving a signal to someone standing out there!



When I spoke of this to Sir Henry, he was not surprised.

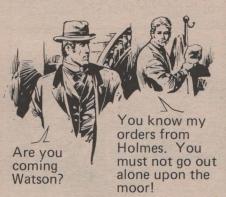


Yes. Several times I have heard steps at that hour.

I wonder if it happens every night!



Later that morning Sir Henry prepared to take a walk upon the moor.



My dear Watson, I am going out to meet Miss Stapleton! I must have some time alone with her.





To spy upon a friend is not easy. Still, I could not let something happen to Sir Henry because I did not do my job.



There was a short argument before Stapleton led his sister away. Sir Henry was angry because he could not see Miss Stapleton alone.

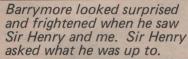




came down like







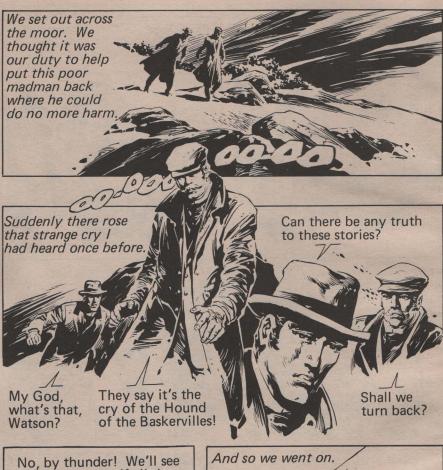




















Walking home, something strange happened. I saw the figure of another man who had been watching us.



He was tall and thin. As I turned to touch Sir Henry's arm, he was gone.





If he were out of the country, it would save the taxpayers some money!

We found the burned remains of a letter in Sir Charles' study. We were still able to make something out.





Barrymore read us a message from a scrap of burned paper. It was in a lady's handwriting and asked Sir Charles to meet her at the moor gate at ten o'clock.

death!

give him up.



She also asked him to burn the letter. She signed it L. L. It had been mailed from Coombe Tracy.*

important.



^{*}a nearby town

It rained all the next day. I thought of Selden on the cold moor. Poor devil! Whatever his crimes, he was suffering now!



On my way home I took a ride with Dr. Mortimer. I asked him if he knew a woman in the area whose initials were L. L.



Since she married against her father's wishes, he would not help her.



But what of that figure seen against the moon, that person who had watched us?

In the evening I put on my raincoat and walked far out on the moor. I found no trace of that lonely man I had seen two nights before.



Mortimer also said that Stapleton and Sir Charles had helped set the woman up in a typewriting business. They wanted to help her earn an honest living.



And that evening Barrymore gave me some more news. He said that he had not heard from Selden and that the food left for him was gone But he added that it might have been taken by the other stranger!



Selden had told Barrymore that the other man lived in the old stone huts on the moor. Food was brought to him by a child.

Very good! We will talk more of this later.

With these two pieces of news, I felt sure that more was soon to be learned.







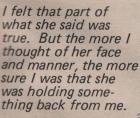
Do not judge Sir Charles. Sometimes a letter may still be read even after it is burned.



Mrs. Lyons said that she wrote to Sir Charles because she needed money to divorce her cruel husband. But she added that she never went to see him because she received the money from someone else.

Why didn't you write to Sir Charles and tell him this?



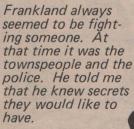






I sent the driver home so that I could walk back across the moor. I wanted to search the stone huts.





Do you know something about the killer they are looking for?

No, but his food is taken to him by a child. I see it every day through my telescope.* Come and look!



*a glass which makes things far away seem larger







Or more surprised, eh?

At first I was very happy. But later I felt that I had been tricked.



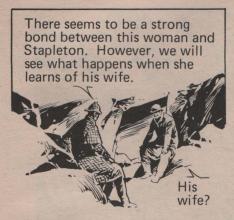
Then Holmes told me that it was important for him to be in hiding. He had not wanted our enemies to know that he was on the case.

Now when we put our findings together, the case will be almost complete.





At that, Holmes pulled my reports from his pocket. I could see that they had been read carefully. I then shared with him the results of my visit to Laura Lyons.



Holmes told me that he had learned about the Stapletons' school from my reports. He then did some studying and came across a few important facts.



He found the story of a school closing that was much like Stapleton's. There had been a crime, and the owner had left with his wife. When he learned that the missing man liked to study insects, he was sure it was Stapleton.



Then he is our enemy? He is the one who followed Sir Henry in London?

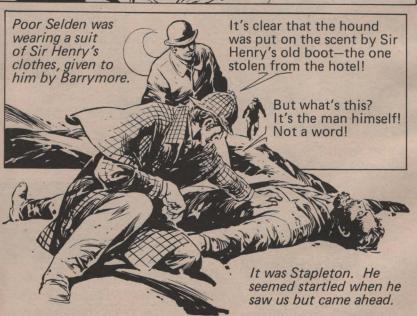
Enough for now! The end is drawing near. But Watson. shouldn't you be with Sir Henry? Good

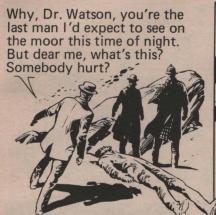
heavens! What is that?

000-000-000

But just at that moment a human scream burst out of the moor. It turned the blood in my veins to ice. After that came the terrible baying of the Baskerville Hound.









who had escaped from jail. He seemed to have broken his neck in a fall over the rocks.













Over a late supper we told Sir Henry as much of our story as he needed to know.

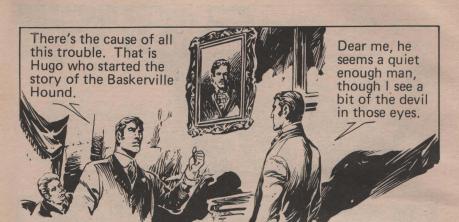












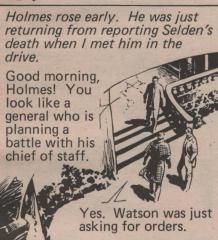






Exactly! But this picture is our missing link.
Tomorrow night he will be in our nets as helpless as one of his own butterflies.

With this, Holmes burst into one of his rare fits of laughter. I have not heard it often, but it has always meant bad luck for someone.







*a person who is left property by someone who has died





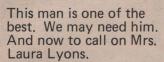


I want you to drive to Merripit House but send the carriage home. Let the Stapletons know that you intend to walk home later.







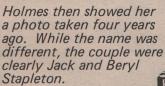




His plan was beginning to take shape. He would have Sir Henry tell Stapleton that we had gone, while we would really be close when needed.

This seems to be a case of murder which concerns your friend Mr. Stapleton. It seems also to concern his wife.

His wife? He is not a married

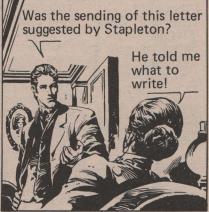




This man offered to marry me if I could divorce my husband!

He lied to me! I never dreamed. when I wrote that letter, that any harm would come to Sir Charles, my dearest friend!





















Are you armed, Lestrade?

As long as I have my pants on, I have my hip pocket. As long as I have my hip pocket, I have my gun.



You're mighty quiet about this job, Mr. Holmes. What's the game now?

A waiting game. That's Merripit House ahead, the end of our journey. I must ask that you walk on tiptoe and not talk above a whisper.





Stapleton talked loudly, but Sir Henry looked pale. Perhaps the thought of his lonely walk across the moor was lying heavy upon his thoughts.









Sir Henry passed quite close to us. As he walked, he kept looking over his shoulder, like a man who is afraid.



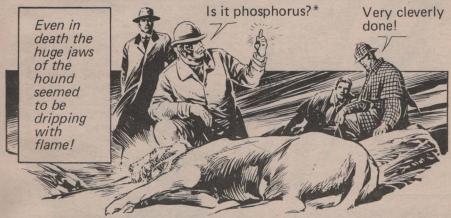








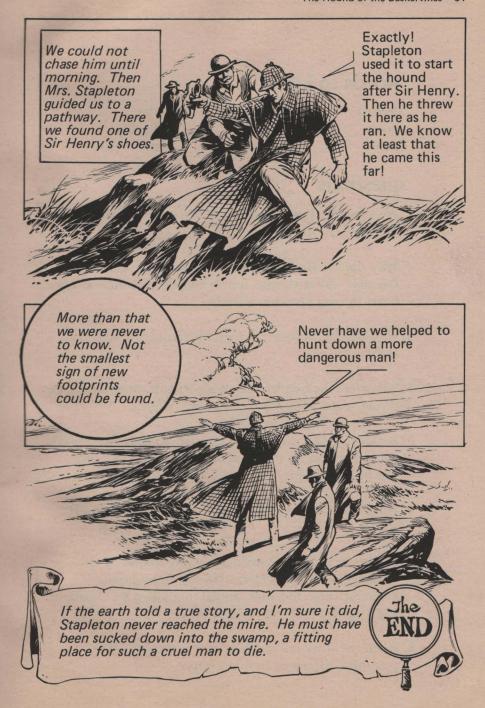






a substance that shines in the dark





words to know

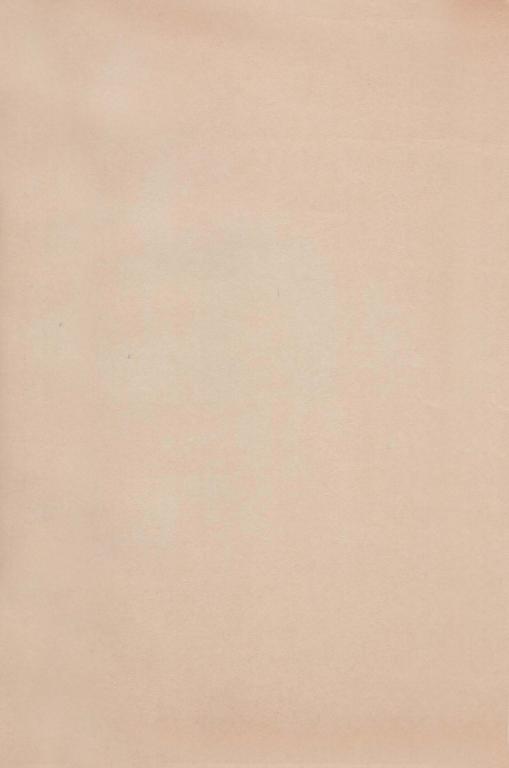
legend prehistoric flat curse telescope baying moor heir phosphorus

questions

- 1. Who was Dr. James Mortimer? What role did he play in this mystery story?
- 2. Why did Sir Henry Baskerville come to England from Canada? What strange things happened to him at his hotel the day after he arrived?
- 3. Why did Dr. Watson go with Sir Henry to Baskerville Hall?
- 4. Who were the Stapletons? What had Mr. Stapleton been trying to do throughout the story? Why?
- 5. Besides Selden, an escaped convict, someone else was living in a cave on the moors. Who was he, and what was he doing there?
- 6. Who was Laura Lyons? What role did she play in the story?
- 7. At the very end, the mystery of the hound of the Baskervilles becomes clear. Was the hound that killed Sir Hugo the same animal that killed Sir Charles and attacked Sir Henry? How do you know?
- 8. When the story is over, Stapleton is missing. What do you think happened to him? Why?









Radio Shaek