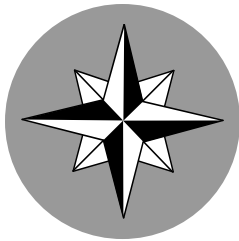




EXPLORATIONS



FROM THE PRESIDENT



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Check out our new web site at www.norwegianexplorers.org. Thanks to John Bergquist for setting it up and maintaining it.

If you enjoyed Guy Ritchie's movie *Sherlock Holmes* (December 2009), you are eagerly awaiting the sequel, scheduled for release in December 2011.

Fellow Explorers Dr. Paul Martin and Tim Johnson will be speaking at the July 10 meeting of Jane Austen Society. Dr. Martin will speak on medical care during the late 19th Century and Mr. Johnson will lead a talk and tour of the University Special Collections at Andersen and Wilson Libraries. Contact Karen Titrud at 651.647.9217 for more information.

Once again, I am going to add a plug for the conference on August 6-8 this summer. These tri-annual conferences are a major money maker for the Explorers. We make enough on these conferences to keep the dues low, contribute a little bit to the

collections and give us seed money for the next conference. In addition, I have heard a rumor that Larry Millet may show up to the conference on Saturday. This year's conference is unique, and every Norwegian Explorer should take advantage of a world quality conference at a local setting.

By the way, a number of Explorers attended the Park Square Theatre's production of "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily." Larry Millet led a discussion with the cast following the production.

For the last half of the year, watch for notice of a fall meeting of the Explorers; the September study group will meet and discuss the Hound (start reading now); and finally, our annual winter dinner will be on Thursday, December 2, 2010 at the Minneapolis Golf Club.

*"I think, Count, that it would be as well to have your friend Sam at this conference."
(The Adventure of the Mazarin Stone)*

~Gary Thaden

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The sitting room at 221B Baker Street is hallowed ground for Sherlockians. Representations have appeared on stage and screen, in print, in miniature, and even full-size recreations exist (including the late Explorer Allen Mackler's superb room that is exhibited on the 4th floor of Wilson Library at the University of Minnesota as part of the Sherlock Holmes Collections). However, I think the only *true* sitting room for each of us is the one we've created in our own mind. On occasion we should dive back into the Canon to confirm *our room's* contents.

Featured on page 3 of this issue is Soren Eversoll's sitting room research. Soren's tour of six relevant areas, reveals the 221B forged and nestled in *his* "lumber-room."

This issue also features articles from other talented Explorers such as: Robert Brusic, Charles Clifford, Pj Doyle, ASH, BSI, Mike Eckman, Mary Loving, and Karen Murdock, ASH.

I look forward to seeing the readers of *Explorations* during the August conference!


~Tim Reich, Editor

HOLMES SIGHTINGS

HOLMES AND THE MARKET

In Justin Fox's recent book *The Myth of the Rational Market*, he notes that Austrian economist Oskar Morgenstern illustrated why certainty could never exist in human affairs by citing Professor Moriarty's pursuit of Sherlock Holmes in *The Final Problem*. Since as Holmes is departing on the train to Dover he sees Moriarty at the station, Holmes assumes that Moriarty will engage a special to take him directly to Dover. Holmes then decides to get off at the intermediate station. But, Moriarty might guess what Holmes will do and also go to the intermediate station so Holmes should continue to Dover. The guessing by both parties could go on and on. Morgenstern wrote that "Always, there is exhibited an endless chain of reciprocally conjectural reactions and counter-reactions. Unlimited foresight and economic equilibrium are thus irreconcilable with one another."

Fortunately, the Hungarian mathematician John von Neumann who wrote *Theory of Games and Economic Behavior* with Morgenstern addressed the problem. "According to von Neumann's calculations, Holmes should choose randomly with a 60% probability of getting off at the intermediate station, while Moriarty should pick with a 60 percent probability of proceeding straight to Dover." In the original story, no mention is made of calculations by Holmes, but who knows how the Professor made his choice to go directly to Dover.

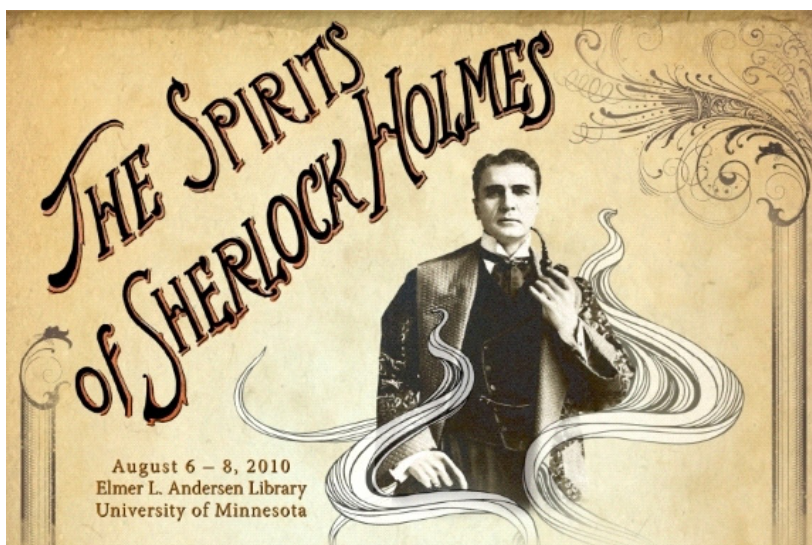


"there is exhibited an endless chain of reciprocally conjectural reactions and counter-reactions."

HOLMES AND SHAKESPEARE

In his book *Contested Will*, James S. Shapiro argues that Shakespeare really did write his plays rather than serving as a front for Francis Bacon, the Earl of Oxford, or any of the other contenders. Shapiro does note that "When Sherlock Holmes was brought out of retirement to solve the mystery of who wrote Shakespeare's plays, the famous detective concluded that it was Rutland who did it." Rutland was Roger Manners, fifth Earl of Rutland. This story is in Claud W. Sykes's book *Alias William Shakespeare*. Other pastiches deal with Shakespeare and the authorship issue, but Doyle the man rather than Doyle the literary agent inspired at least one more attempt to resolve the authorship issue. Shapiro reports that in 1946 Percy Allen was elected president of the Shakespeare Fellowship and sought "a solution of the mystery of the authorship by psychic means." "A year later Allen published his findings in *Talks with Elizabethans*, a detailed account of his conversations with Oxford, Bacon, and Shakespeare." Allen was inspired to communicate with the dead when he heard Doyle speak about psychic matters in the 1920s.

~Mike Eckman



As always, submissions for *Explorations* are welcome. Email them directly to me in plain text or in Word format at twinsfan1@earthlink.net.

~Tim Reich, Editor

THE SITTING ROOM OF 221 B BAKER STREET

THE MANTELPIECE

The mantelpiece in Baker Street probably had a shelf on the top and an ordinary mantelpiece going down. On the shelf was a jackknife to which uncorresponded letters were skewered. A Persian slipper containing tobacco was on the shelf. Also, Sherlock's cocaine bottle and a clock rested in the middle of the shelf. There would usually be a fire in the fireplace.

THE BOOKSHELF

Holmes's bookshelf ran across one side of the room. It was the number one place for information at Baker Street. On the bookshelf were bound books of criminal records, Bradshaw's timetable, reference books from A-Z, newspaper clippings and more.

THE DINING TABLE

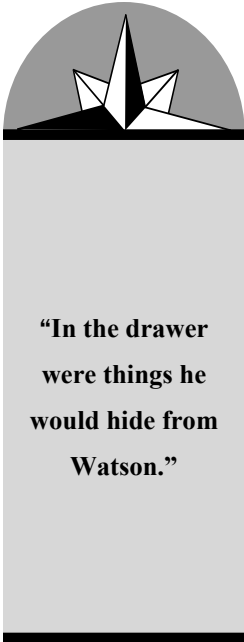
The shape of the dining table was probably an oval. In the middle was a gas lantern and on either side of it were the dinner plates for Holmes and Watson. The tablecloth was probably light blue with a pattern.

THE CHEMICAL TABLE

For a chair there was an acid-stained bench, which Holmes used often. Scientific charts were nailed to the wall above the chemical table. On the table itself were test tubes, scales, bottles of every shape and size, and corked containers containing acids, hence the acid stains on the bench. Holmes's violin rested in the corner.

~Soren Eversoll

Soren lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota with his mom, dad, and sister. He finished third grade this spring and is a member of the Norwegian Explorers.



**"In the drawer
were things he
would hide from
Watson."**

HOLMES'S DESK

Holmes's desk was an ordinary wooden desk with shelves. On the front of the desk were all the writing materials: blotting paper, pen and inkbottle. Also, the picture of Irene Adler was there too. In the drawer were things he would hide from Watson: the hypodermic syringe, for instance. On the shelves would be criminal records, his revolver, bullets, etc.

WATSON'S DESK

On Watson's desk there was a miniature bookshelf filled with William Clark Russell's fine sea stories, for they were Watson's favorite books. Oranges were in a cupboard above the desk. His drawer contained his service revolver.



221B Baker Street

SHERLOCK HOLMES FOR DUMMIES

A book by Steven Doyle. Hoboken NJ: Wiley Publishing, Inc. 2010. Pp 360. (paper).

Some might recall that a dummy is a figure made in human form who occupationally sits on the knee of a clever and entertaining ventriloquist. The antics of Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy come to mind, though it is not easy to remember anymore who was the dummy and who was the voice thrower. Perhaps it is time for someone to publish a book like *Dummies for Dummies*.

Until that time we have to inform and educate ourselves by perusing books like *Cats for Dummies*, *eBay for Dummies*, or *iPod and iTunes for Dummies*. Riding the wave of such life-enriching works is Steven Doyle's *Sherlock Holmes for Dummies*. In this book Doyle, who also is the current publisher of *The Baker Street Journal*, is on a mission to inform the reader about Sherlock Holmes: his origins, stories, and influence; his life outside the stories; the life and work of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (either distant or no relation to the author, we infer).

It is a noble task, but one that raises some questions. The book seems to be directed at the non-cognoscente, the novice, the one who is new to the contents of the canon. In short, it is a book for, well, dummies. But what about people like me? I have roamed the foggy streets of Holmes's London for much of my life, man and boy. Is this book so elementary that a relatively seasoned Sherlockian like me might learn nothing beyond the basics? And what about those who know so much that they almost always win the quizzes and can even tell you the color of Watson's mustache (if he even had a mustache)? Is this book, to be crass about it, beneath the purview of the insider, the expert, the nearly all-knowing?

Dash it all. I say no, not at all. While strong on the basics, Doyle manages to capture the spirit of the chase in a way that will inform, entertain, and educate the entire spectrum of Holmes lovers from dummy to pundit. For example, everyone can learn or re-learn that the Canon has 263 dead bodies and 119 murders; that "only 4 of the 12 stories from *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* have anything to do with murder; [and] that many of the tales have, in the end, nothing criminal about them at all." (15) One could conceivably invite a friend to an evening of port and Stilton and, with profit, discuss the author's contention that *The Valley of Fear* may be ranked

last in popularity, but that, "objectively speaking, it's an underrated masterpiece, a perfect amalgam of classic Holmes with hard-boiled detective story, with both halves succeeding." (186)

The book is contrived so that one can read it sequentially or dip in at any point. The book is a smorgasbord of Holmes and Watsoniana organized into five parts. One could sample the fare in Part I: *Elementary Beginnings and Background*. Or one could skip ahead and chew on what is revealed in Part IV: *Beyond Baker Street*. In between the reader could pick on such dishes as *What a Bunch of Characters!* or *Holmes and His Adventures*. For dessert Part V intriguingly talks about *The Part of Tens*. That is, what are the ten unsolved mysteries found in the canon? What are the ten most memorable quotes of Sherlock Holmes?

Dummies (that is, those who may be newcomers) will likely have their eyes opened to a new world. The experts (those who may be longer and sharper in the tooth) may find this stuff arguable. Either way, readers should find more than enough in this informative book to provoke thought, insight, discussion, and pleasure. Of course, a book like this – any book, for that matter – cannot be complete. With regard to Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson there will (hopefully) always be further writings, pastiches, movies, and dramatic productions. The galaxy of Sherlock Holmes, like the universe itself, is always expanding.

But if anyone – first timer or old timer – wishes to find an informative and stimulating way into the Canon and beyond, this book may be it. *Sherlock Holmes for Dummies* is a satisfying way to get to know the Great Detective and his loyal friend. Their saga is limned from their first handshake (91) to the bee-keeping days of retirement (92-93). The picture is enhanced with descriptions of life in Victorian London (69-81). And the legend is enlarged by referencing Holmes and Watson's life beyond the Canon (235-292), including an extensive list of Holmes societies and sodalities that keep the memory green (329-340). I wander through this book and I am content to be numbered among the dummies.

~Robert Brusica



"The book is a smorgasbord of Holmes and Watsoniana organized into five parts."

A CASE OF PROFESSOR MORIARTY AND THE DIAMOND JUBILEE

A production of the Red-Throated League on April 10, 2010 at the Pavek Museum of Broadcasting. A Radio play by Edith Meiser



**Directed by:
Robert Brusic**

**Music by:
Morva Klein**

**Sound by:
Adam Brusic and
Graham Leathers**

Cast of Characters and Performers:

Sherlock Holmes: Karen Ellery
 Dr. Watson: Robert Brusic
 Cy Harrice: Bill Quirk
 Prof. Moriarty: Bill Teeple
 Pomfret: Bob Schmall
 Lestrade: Jamie Hubbs
 Mrs. Jones & Woman: Lucy Brusic
 Albert: Mary Manthie



Photo by Ray Rietheimer

Left to right - Back row: Jamie Hubbs, Bill Quirk, Bob Schmall, Lucy Brusic, Mary Manthie; Front row: Karen Ellery, Bill Teeple, Robert Brusic; Not shown: Adam Brusic, Graham Leathers (sound effects). Lady in frame is Queen Victoria.

As a member of the Baby Boomer generation I have never known what it's like to not have a television in the house. In my parents' day, radio was the chief source of news and entertainment and my mother used to tell us about her favorite shows and radio personalities. Nowadays, one has to seek out radio plays of the kind they used to have. Other than on BBC Radio and our own MPR "Prairie Home Companion," there are few opportunities today to enjoy radio as it was in its heyday in the 1930s and 40s.

It was with that in mind that I attended the Red-Throated League's production of "The Case of Professor Moriarty & the Diamond Jubilee." The plot is a simple one. It is 1897 and the celebrations are soon to be underway for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Sherlock Holmes receives a note from Professor Moriarty, who announces that Holmes wasn't the only one to survive the Reichenbach Falls. In fact, Moriarty has used the last few years to rebuild his criminal organization and — like megalomaniacal super-criminals everywhere — proceeds to tell Holmes exactly what kind of crimes he's going to commit and when he's going to commit them, culminating with an explosion at the Jubilee celebration. And to top things off, he will murder Holmes and Watson, too. What followed was a story of false identities (!), Watson accused (!), Lestrade being rather dim (um, yeah), and Sherlock Holmes figuring it all out just in time to prevent the explosion (via

"Stuffed Chicken a La Bomb") and achieve the capture of Moriarty. Unfortunately, Moriarty escapes from Lestrade (!!) on their way to Scotland Yard. Perhaps we will see Moriarty again some day...

This delightful production came complete with commercials for Kreml Hair Tonic for men, "So tempting for the ladies to touch," and Kreml shampoo for women, "For naturally lustrous hair." There was also live music and sound effects which provided a sense of atmosphere. The children in the audience seemed enthralled by the play and didn't even notice the bit of unconventional casting of our own Karen Ellery as Sherlock Holmes. Although this was radio, she dressed for the part to provide the proper verisimilitude for the role and did an excellent job, as did the other actors. The play closed with a rousing chorus of "Rule, Britannia." A good time was had by all and the audience gave the players an enthusiastic round of applause.

If anyone has not taken the opportunity to attend one of these annual radio plays, I recommend that they do. Not only will they have a good time, but they will also have a chance to see the Pavek Museum displays. I particularly enjoyed the display of transistor radios and the record player shaped like a VW bus. And where else can you get a chance to play a Theremin?

~Mary Loving



FIVE-FIFTHS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

Whether inspired by last winter's film reincarnation of Holmes, or recent publicity about the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University Libraries, the Minnesota Fringe Festival decided to base its annual "Five-Fifths" fund raiser on *A Study in Scarlet*.

Minnesota Fringe is a Minneapolis-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to connect artists with adventurous audiences. The annual eleven-day Fringe Festival is a performing arts extravaganza of 60-minute (or less) shows in a variety of Twin Cities arts venues. Participants range from pros who want to operate outside the normal constraints, to performance novices. Each year, the Fringe presents a one-night fundraiser -- "Five-Fifths of..." a sometimes unpredictable, but always fun, celebration of the organization's spirit of innovation and seat-of-your-pants invention. This year, five different artistic entities were invited to deconstruct STUD and reinterpret it in their own styles.

The 2010 conspirators included companies big and small, creators of comedies, children's mystery goofball adaptations, and interpretive dance. Their endeavors involved boundary-pushing, some friendly competition, and a spirit of play and fun — all totally compatible with "the game" so beloved by Sherlockians.

captured the spirit of the first meeting of Holmes and Watson and set the stage (albeit a bare one) for the performances to follow.

The second "fifth" took a decidedly odd turn, when St Paul's Park Square Theatre combined one of their own student productions (*Of Mice and Men*) with STUD. George and Lenny donned imaginary deerstalker and bowler, while retaining their depression-era personae — the result being described as Steinbeck and Conan Doyle having a fist fight in heaven. (Undoubtedly, the team will be far more familiar when they appear in *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily* this summer.)

Dancers Monica Rodero and Dan Schuchart, from Milwaukee's Intermission Dance Company, relied on movement, a gold ring, one oversized magnifying glass and classical music to interpret their portion of the adventure. The result was graceful, whimsical and delightful.

Another cross-pollination of fictional icons permitted the Harty Boys [sic] to add their sleuthing prowess to the task. Joshua Scrimshaw and Levi Weinhagen, creators of last year's Fringe detective story *The Case of the Limping Platypus* reprised their roles in pursuit of Victorian villains.

Wrapping up the evening, Tom Reed, creator of the 2009 Fringe hit *Parry Hotter and the Half-Drunk Twins*, a solo version of all seven Potter novels, took center stage with his one-man band approach to STUD, with none-too-subtle comparisons to Tolkien's "my precious." His rap finale added to the gamut of genres that were incorporated into the overall collaboration. Reed is hilarious, has boundless energy and sings a mean show tune parody.

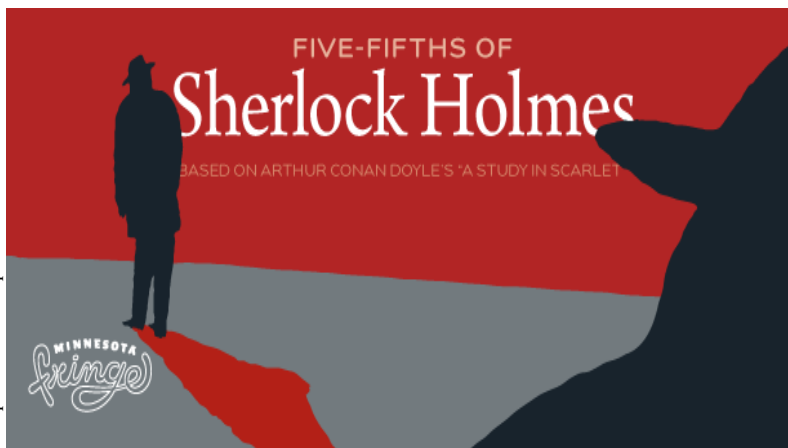
Though "Five-Fifths of..." is a one-night only event, each of the participants can be seen in other roles during this summer's Fringe. The 2010 Festival runs from Thursday, August 5 through Sunday, August 15.

(Note: I have a limited number of the promotional postcards for this event. If you would like one, please email me at pj_doyle@msn.com. First come, first served.)

~Pj Doyle, ASH, BSI



A production on
May 3, 2010 at
the Ritz Theater
in Minneapolis,
Minnesota.



Graphic used with permission

Theatre Unbound, a company specializing in women's theater work, started the evening, accompanied by two folding chairs and a Wikipedia printout of STUD. Resident playwright Anne Bertram is a Holmes fan as well, and her play "Sherry's Basement" was an homage to the Master. Anne and her partner

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE CASE OF THE JERSEY LILY

He is not Basil Rathbone or Jeremy Brett. But Steve Hendrickson is gradually becoming our local Sherlock Holmes. Hendrickson appeared in Park Square's production of *Sherlock Holmes: the Final Adventure* in 2008. Earlier this year he did a turn at the Fringe production of *Study in Scarlet* where he re-imagined Holmes as a Steinbeck character from *Of Mice and Men*.

During the 2010 Park Square Season Hendrickson was back in Baker Street in Katie Forgette's play *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily*. In this production James Cada reprised his role as Moriarty while Virginia Burke was back, not as Irene Adler as before, but as Mrs. Lillie Langtry. While she played the role with admirable panache, her persona was very similar to Irene's from *The Final Adventure*. In fact, her character bore a strong resemblance to that of Alice Faulkner from William Gillette's play, *Sherlock Holmes*. The Gas Chamber with the old cigar-in-the gasworks ploy was a familiar device too, borrowed from previous plays.

However, these familiar elements did not detract from the play's originality. Instead they re-created a cozy ambience wherein we were free to roam, listen, and laugh. The laughter, which was frequent, was largely a result of Craig Johnson's realization of Oscar Wilde, who flitted, skitted and quipped from start to finish. "Isn't it bad enough," he cracked, "that life is badly cast; must plays be too?" When Lillie Langtry sashayed across the stage in her blood red dress, Wilde irreverently gibed: "If Jesus Christ took one look at you, he'd say 'Sorry papa, change in plans'."

Ms. Langtry (like Irene Adler and Alice Faulkner before her) initiated a complex plot that involved stolen – and royally compromising – letters. A secondary plot concerned a purloined – and royally significant – gemstone. She and Wilde enticed Holmes to investigate. As might be expected, Moriarty was a significant factor in this state of affairs. At one point he sprang from the bowels of a teacart and dueled with Holmes, epees flashing and clashing. A sinister (that is, left-handed) defense barely saved Holmes from being skewered. Moriarty, a gentleman even in defeat, burnt the compromising letters; but as he stormed out the door he promised to return to fight another day – we hope so.

Watson, as ably played by Steve Lewis, was smitten by Langtry's beauty. But he remained stolid and loyal to Holmes, content to share second place with the scintillating Wilde. The loquacious playwright spent much of his time writing down witticisms as they flew by swiftly. Throughout, he massaged material for his new play *The Importance of Being Forthright*. When Holmes (who matched Wilde quip for quip) finished his investigation, he noted in his efforts the importance of being earnest.

The plot was a shimmering confection of clever badinage, delivered in such clear tones and timing that even those of us near the last row could catch the yeasty dialogue without missing a beat. As a clever parody cum pastiche the real playwright made such an impression that we will not soon forget Forgette.

Nonetheless, some demurs must be registered. For one thing, the otherwise handsome rendition of 221B did lack total verisimilitude: no Persian slipper, no jack knife piercing the correspondence, no mantelpiece at all! Moreover, at one point Watson committed a solecism he would never have made in a Holmes adventure. To soothe the distraught Jersey Lily, he hastily offered her "a spot of whiskey." Never! We all know that Watson's universal medicament was brandy, not whiskey.

These lapses aside, one hopes that some other staging for Hendrickson, Cada, Lewis, and the others is in the works in the near future. This dramatic pastiche was so pleasurable that it encourages one to think of many other characters who might be enticed to cross the threshold of 221B and seek Holmes's help: Teddy Roosevelt, Richard Wagner, Gertrude Bell, and any number of late nineteenth century femme fatales. History and imagination are full of damsels to save and enemies to be vanquished or forgiven. In this regard Wilde fired off another pertinent saying: "Forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them as much." Another victory for Holmes over skulking Moriarty, thus closing the case of the Jersey Lily.

~Robert Brusie



"As might be expected, Moriarty was a significant factor in this state of affairs."

HELP! HELP! EPIZEUXIS!

The Sherlockian Canon is liberally laced with figures of speech,¹ some common and well-known (alliteration, simile, metaphor, parallel structure), others exotic and rare (hendiadys, zeugma, polysyndeton, homoioteleuton). Repetition of words within a phrase, sentence, or paragraph is considered a figure of speech. Simple repetition (known as **repetitio**) is extremely common in the Canon:

“A singular set of people, Watson—the man himself the most singular of them all” (WIST)

“It is, I admit, mere imagination; but how often is imagination the mother of truth?” (VALL)

It was nine o’clock at night upon the second of August—the most terrible August in the history of the world (LAST)

In a type of word repetition known as **anaphora**, the word (or words) is (are) repeated at the beginning of successive verses, clauses, sentences, or paragraphs.

“Give me problems, give me work, give me the most abstruse cryptogram” (SIGN)

The opposite of anaphora is **epistrophe**, in which the repetition of a word or words occurs not at the beginnings but at the ends of successive clauses or sentences:

“You hope to place me in the dock. I tell you that I will never stand in the dock. You hope to beat me. I tell you that you will never beat me.” (FINA)

When a word or words is (are) repeated for emphasis, with no other words intervening between them, the figure is called **epizeuxis** (epp uh ZOO zicks). Epizeuxis sounds most exotic but, in fact, it is quite common in the Canon. It is almost always used in spoken words, often in moments of high emotion:

“My God, my God, my sins have overtaken me!” (Col Openshaw in FIVE)

“God help me! God help me!” (“Jem” Ryder in BLUE)

“Oh, man, it is awful—awful!” (Brother Morris in VALL)

Sherlock Holmes himself characteristically speaks in epizeuxis. In fact, the very first words Holmes utters in Watson’s hearing in the Canon are not the famous words “You have been in Afghanistan, I perceive.” They are this excited epizeuxis:

“I’ve found it! I’ve found it!” (STUD)

Holmes uses epizeuxis often:

“Data! data! data!” (COPP)

“Have a care! Have a care!” (3GAB)

“Pooh, pooh! Forgery.” (SCAN)

“Hullo! Hullo! Good old index.” (SUSS)

“Quick, quick, we must think of some way!” (SECO)

“A beard! A beard! The man has a beard!” (HOUN)

“Dear me, dear me—the postoffice again” (MISS)

“Hallo! hallo! hallo! what have we here?” (PRIO)

In most cases, however, Holmes’s use of epizeuxis shows simple impatience rather than real emotion (“No, no,” “Well, well,” “Tut, tut”).

Laura Lyons in *The Hound of the Baskervilles* is also prone to express herself in epizeuxis, but in her case this tendency shows real mental agitation. She uses epizeuxis in the first communication we have from her, a letter she sends to Sir Charles Baskerville:

“Please, please, as you are a gentleman, burn this letter and be at the gate by ten o’clock.”

(Continued on page 9)



“It is almost always used in spoken words, often in moments of high emotion.”

EPIZEUXIS (Continued from page 8)

She uses epizeuxis thrice in the course of two pages when she is told by Sherlock Holmes that Stapleton's "sister" is really his wife:

"His wife! His wife!"
 "Prove it to me! Prove it to me!"
 "And why—why?"

Beryl Stapleton, too, in a moment of high emotion upon being released from her bonds, uses epizeuxis three times in one page:


"No, no, I did not mean my husband."
 "Thank God! Thank God!"
 "But this is nothing—nothing!"

The very best example of epizeuxis in the Canon comes in "The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton":

"Take that, you hound!—and that!—and that!—and that!—and that!"

Epizeuxis is the only figure of speech dramatic enough for the moment of Milverton's murder.

¹See my article "Lost in Tobacco and Zeugma: Some Devices of Classical Rhetoric in the Sherlockian Canon," *Canadian Holmes*, Volume 27, n o. 4 (St. Jean Baptiste Day [Summer] 2004)



"The very best example of epizeuxis in the Canon comes in 'The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton.'"

QUIZ ON EPIZEUXIS

I have identified some 330 examples of epizeuxis in the Sherlockian Canon. Here are a dozen of them. See if you can match the epizeuxis with the story in which it occurs:

- _____ 1. "Oh, yes, he is gone, he is gone!"
- _____ 2. "Drive on! Drive on!" shrieked a harsh voice.
- _____ 3. 'Beware! Beware! Beware!'
- _____ 4. "Think of that, you villain, you villain!"
- _____ 5. "Help! Help! Murder!"
- _____ 6. "Oh, John, John, have I brought you to this?"
- _____ 7. "No, no, it is, it is, his very own writing!"
- _____ 8. "You clever, clever fiend! [. . .] You cunning, cunning fiend!"
- _____ 9. "Amen! Amen!"
- _____ 10. "Ha, ha! What have we here? Tiptoes! Tiptoes!"
- _____ 11. "Smack! smack! smack!"
- _____ 12. "Brandy! Brandy!"

Choose your answers from these stories: (No story is used more than once.)

BOSC	GOLD	MUSG	SHOS
COPP	HOUN	REDC	STUD
EMPT	LION	REIG	TWIS

Please see page 11 for the correct answers.

~Karen Murdock, ASH



STUDY GROUP MEETING REVIEWS

“The Resident Patient”

Discussion leader: Kristi Iverson

Date: February 20, 2010

Location: St. Paul Park Library



“Holmes was not deterred from pronouncing Blessington’s death a murder.”

What kind of fool would attempt to deceive the World’s Greatest Detective? A criminal, of course, named Sutton. Using the alias of “Blessington,” Sutton, the “Resident Patient” of this month’s story, refuses to take Sherlock Holmes into his confidence. That decision doesn’t work out to his advantage. Blessington ends up hanging, quite dead, at the end of a rope that is suspended over his bed. My fellow Sherlockians attending the February Study Group meeting doubted whether our Sherlock Holmes would have done any work on behalf of a criminal, such as a former member of the Worthingdon Bank Gang. In fact, we speculated that Mr. Holmes might have been secretly “pleased” with the outcome of the case.

We failed to understand, however, why the gang made three separate trips to Dr. Percy Trevelyan’s office. Presumably they had bribed the page, and so should have known the time of Blessington’s daily walk. Even had Blessington not been out, how could they have expected to conduct their trial of Blessington during the day when Dr. Trevelyan was in the office? The second visit seems to have been pointless, except to deflect Dr. Trevelyan’s suspicions.

We discussed why Dr. Trevelyan did not detect that the old Russian was faking the trance. Apparently, the man had many years in which to perfect his act. It was also questioned if Holmes could really determine the order in which the gang members climbed Blessington’s stair. Apparently, if the second man left some dirt upon the track of the first, Holmes could see that, and so forth. Holmes, though, apparently made his observations about the footprints on the stair without the aid

of his trusty lens. Lanner, the young police inspector gave us an interesting bit of knowledge. Evidently, hanging is much more common in suicides than in murder. Yet Holmes was not deterred from pronouncing Blessington’s death a murder. His evidence was only the footprints on the carpet, the cigar ends in the fireplace, and the lack of a cigar-holder.

We wondered why Blessington kept a picture of himself on the mantelpiece. I guess it reminded him of the one person he loved. Who are we to question, but it seemed to have been there as a literary convenience to Mr. Doyle. Holmes states that the page must have locked the door behind the gang after their work’s conclusion. The boy seems to have been involved, but we doubted that he had a part in the trial-murder. Unfortunately, Watson does not include much about the page except that the proceedings against him were ended due to a lack of evidence.

What remains in question is just how the gang located Blessington. It did not take long. Perhaps they had spies on the outside, keeping tabs on the man. Perhaps they consulted with Professor Moriarty. We chuckled about the gang presumably going down with the steamer Norah Creina. We noted that many other criminals are dealt such a fate in the Canon. Such coincidences are usually attributed to a need by Dr. Watson to show that justice is somehow served, at least in the literary world of our beloved Canon. We hope to see you all when the Study Group resumes in September, at 2 PM on the third Saturday of the month.

~Charles Clifford



STUDY GROUP MEETING REVIEWS

The Greek Interpreter

Discussion leader: John Bergquist, BSI

Date: March 20, 2010

Location: University Club of St. Paul

A group of Norwegian Explorers traveled back in time to Mycroft's oasis: The Diogenes Club. Okay, not the *actual* club, but our discussion group leader, John Bergquist, did transform the University Club into "The Diogenes Club" for a couple hours. His posted sign confirmed this for our attendees. Fortunately for us, another sign titled "Strangers' Room" was affixed to the door of our meeting room.

We began with members sharing their actual experiences using interpreters during their careers or on a personal basis. The occasional difficulty of translations can impact the success of communication.

A large (pun-intended) portion of our session focused on the importance of Sherlock's elder brother Mycroft. We believed he warrants extra attention even though Watson only published a couple cases that involved Mycroft. We enjoyed the interaction between Mycroft and Sherlock at the window regarding the personal history of the man standing outside in the street. However, we pondered Mycroft's error of placing the ad in the newspaper. We came to no definitive conclusion as to *why*, but Dick Sveum, BSI, did mention Ronald Knox's "Mycroft as an agent of Moriarty" theory (a suggestion too extreme for most of us).

Continuing with the case discussion, we covered many topics until our time together expired. We wondered who J. Davenport was. Was he a possible another suitor of Sophy Kratides? Could she have met him on a previous trip to England? Or was Davenport simply a guy who wanted the reward? Many of us thought Watson's contributions were valid during this case as well. We were also impressed by the bravery of the interpreter. We questioned who sent notification to Sherlock Holmes at the end of the case? Possible agents of Mycroft?

Diogenes Club

SILENCE AT ALL TIMES

STRANGERS' ROOM

2 Signs created by John Bergquist

One Additional Note:

After eight years as a study group discussion co-leader, John Bergquist is handing the reins over to Norwegian Explorer Steve Miller. Steve will assume John's role and rotate with co-leaders, Karen Murdock, ASH, and Kristi Iverson. Steve has been an asset to our discussions over the years and will be an excellent leader.

Kudos to John for the terrific job he did as a co-leader. His willingness to share his expertise has made us regular attendees better students of the Canon, the Game, and the history of the Sherlockian movement.

~Tim Reich



"We enjoyed the interaction between Mycroft and Sherlock at the window."

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

(from page 9)

1. MUSG, 391
2. SHOS, 1109
3. REDC, 907
4. GOLD, 620
5. REIG, 405
6. HOUN, 722
7. TWIS, 239
8. EMPT, 492
9. STUD, 56
10. BOSC, 212
11. COPP, 319
12. LION, 1092

(Page numbers from Doubleday.)

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“ YOU MAY HAVE
READ OF THE
REMARKABLE
EXPLORATIONS
OF A NORWEGIAN
NAMED
SIGERSON, BUT
I AM SURE IT
NEVER
OCCURRED TO
YOU THAT YOU
WERE RECEIVING
NEWS OF YOUR
FRIEND. ”