
Arthur Conan Doyle

Der Hund Der Baskervilles (Sherlock Holmes #5)



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Author: Arthur Conan Doyle

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Description

We can safely call *The Hound of the Baskervilles* the most famous detective story of all time . The super-intelligent detective Sherlock Holmes and his assistant Dr. Watson put their teeth firmly into the mysterious death of Sir Charles Baskerville. Residents of the dark and swampy Dartmoor are convinced that Sir Charles was the victim of the ancient curse of the Baskervilles. In the seventeenth century a devil that had adopted the shape of a bloodhound devoured the throat of one of the ancestors of the family. After the death of Sir Charles it is also feared for the life of the last heir, the young Sir Henry. Are the devil and the hellhound really on the road again? Or is it someone more human that has something to do with the murder? What is the cause of strange howling cry heard across the moor...?

Insightful reviews

Wanda: "Holmes and Watson are faced with their most terrifying case yet. The legend of the devil-beast that haunts the moors around the Baskerville families home warns the descendants of that ancient clan never to venture out in those dark hours when the power of evil is exalted. Now, the most recent Baskerville, Sir Charles, is dead and the footprints of a giant hound have been found near his body. Will the new heir meet the same fate?"

This was a re-read for me, but after many decades. I had forgotten the charm of the Holmes stories and I'm glad to revisit one of my favourites. I just attended a theatrical performance of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* last weekend and wanted to compare the production to the original.

The roots of the forensic mysteries that I enjoy today are on display in *The Hound*, as Mr. Holmes uses logic and investigative techniques to catch slippery criminals. Conan Doyle was the great-grandfather of the genre, introducing components that we still expect in modern crime novels—an expert protagonist (medical examiner, anthropologist, police detective), an attention to all kinds of details which can work as clues, and a side-kick or partner to create the conversations that allow the reader to know the thought processes that are crucial to solving the crime.

Because I had just seen the play, I'm not a good judge of whether there is still any sense of surprise when reading *The Hound*—I did enjoy the quality of the writing and the well-structured story, despite knowing the outcome. Not as elaborate or wordy as many novels from the 19th century, *The Hound* also displays a more stripped-down language, showing the evolution towards the 21st century crime procedural novel.

Doug Cannon: My Grandpa Cannon loved this story, and he often told of a time when he went to see a "picture show" about the *Hound of the Baskervilles*. "It scared the willies out of me," he said, and then he and his friend had to part ways as my grandpa rode his bicycle home in the dark.

He was thinking about this devil-hound, and then he heard something panting behind him. He pedaled faster and faster, but the panting only got faster and faster too. Then, it was harder and harder to pedal, and his bike was going slower and slower. Just when he thought for sure he was doomed to die and the hound would get him, his bike stopped, the panting stopped, and he found that his back wheel had a flat tire. A flap of rubber had made the panting sound as the air was being released.

That has nothing to do with this story, except that it is the reason I read the book. Good book too! Almost as good a story as my grandpa's.

Jonathan:

I am a big fan of any writer who is capable of creating powerful and memorable characters in literature. And Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is no exception. His work on other books may also be quality but it is Sherlock Holmes who will always be remembered. And for good reason. The man is brilliant, eccentric and also flawed in slight ways morally and ethically. He's intriguing, he's slightly dangerous, he's obsessive... Is there no adjective you cannot throw at the blended mix that is Holmes? If I were to put pen to paper and name the most interesting characters in literature Holmes would rate highly. And why is that? Because of the psychology of the character, because he's hard to nail down and because his exact nature is hard to determine. He remains an enigma.

But I digress from this Sherlock Holmes story. I've merely explained why I appreciate Holmes as a character. I very much enjoyed this novel although I must state that I do not believe it to be the greatest Sherlock Holmes adventure although it is the most renowned. It certainly does however feature all the hallmarks of a strong Sherlock story. These of course being: 1. A bizarre story, 2. various motives 3. various threads which do not seem connected and 4. A strong finish that ties it all together.

A bizarre story

The Hound of the Baskervilles follows Holmes investigating the mysterious death of an extremely wealthy baronet Charles Baskerville. Supposedly killed by a hell hound from...well hell.

Various motives

Which of course leads us to question? Was it the butler - isn't it always the butler? Or was it a distant relative hungry for more money? Was it a psychopath? Was it a hell hound?

Story threads

Which leads to: what are the various stories of the major suspects? And how do the stories of non-suspects even fit into our bizarre case?

Finished with style

After much confusing subtext we reach the climax where the villain is revealed, the threads woven together and Sherlock Holmes smugly answering every problem. Of course I saw many aspects of the conclusion before the end but I could not see how they properly fitted together.

I shall now have to read [Sherlock Holmes Was Wrong: Reopening the Case of the Hound of the Baskervilles](#) to see how this apparently closed case remains open. Because it seems apparent that the author has tied everything together. So if you enjoy Holmes stories and/or detective/crime fiction or classics try this on for size.

F.R.: 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' is the absolute better of the Sherlock Holmes novels. With its relations curses, demonic hounds, wild rural setting, escaped convicts, pink herrings galore and mysterious murders, it fairly does fillet the weather of a gothic secret right down to a fast and carefully relaxing read. Furthermore, it's the single Holmes novel which doesn't have a protracted flashback concerning neither of the most protagonists, as such we're continually within the motion and it's thrilling. This was once the 1st Sherlock Holmes tale after he 'died' (although now not but his resurrection, this story allegedly occurs prior to the unlucky event). many of the later Holmes tales be afflicted by the truth that Conan-Doyle basically doesn't particularly care approximately them and is simply churning them out for money. right here though, the characters are energetic and alive. Watson is the fellow of motion at Baskerville Hall, arising with plan after plan as he attempts to resolve the secret himself. whereas Holmes, even if hidden out on Dartmoor, continues to be a compulsive presence. Okay, the publication information its hand as to whodunit approach too early within the lawsuits (but as Raymond Chandler observed, when you consider that Conan-Doyle was once a pioneer during this box we actually need to let him the ordinary misstep). yet this, for someone drawn to Sherlock Holmes, is a cracking learn – person who will depart you with a grin in your face after spending time with such expensive friends. Well, it's 'The Valley of Fear' subsequent and having flown so high, I can't support pondering I'm approximately to be introduced very low. (I observed the Hammer model of this the opposite week. It's a superbly acceptable, if scaled down telling of the story – the place the killer is, for a few reason, made much more uncouth than he looks within the book. However, the outlet sequence, exhibiting how the curse connected itself to the Baskervilles quite is going to town. It's a Technicolor dream of untamed gothic lust, ardour and violence. looking at it I couldn't support pondering that there should be a Grand Guignol tale available in fleshing out the negative exploits of the overdue Hugo Baskerville.)

Geoff: "Now is the dramatic second of fate, Watson, in case you listen a step upon the steps that is jogging into your life, and also you be aware of now not no matter if for reliable or ill." What makes The Hound of Baskervilles not just the easiest Holmes novel I've learn so far, but in addition the definitive gothic homicide mystery, and, a few argue, the best crime novel ever written? Following is an inventory of key suspects: Manor apartment murders; mysterious missives; motivations as murderously murky because the mires & moors masked in mist; temper temper MOOD; historical curses; satan dogs! Black Shuck?! delusions! derangements! dementia! creeping fog and banshee winds and knobby shadow trees; duplicitous identities; oozy muck that swallows nefarious beings like a few hungry mouth of Hell; the single utterance even impending "Elementary, my pricey Watson" within the entire oeuvre; family members fortunes filched by means of cutthroat kin; an introductory breakfast scene that embodies the

whole lot of the Holmes technique utilized to at least one strolling stick that unites up the entire scenario; CREEPY FORESHADOWING; portentous portraits! etymological twists! the GENIUS DETECTIVE vs. the ECCENTRIC NOBLEMAN; the SUPERNATURAL vs. the labyrinths of REASON; the tightening web of plot whirling ever towards its superbly suspenseful FINALE; and naturally and most significantly our heroes Holmes and Watson afoot down the ghostly English state lanes in their without end flowing, inexhaustible mythos!-- let alone that on the outset Mortimer utters this elegant summation of my own emotions approximately Holmes himself: "It isn't really my purpose to be fulsome, yet I confess that I covet your skull."~~ ~~

Danielle The Book Huntress (Self-Proclaimed Book Ninja): My first Holmes story. I learn it simply because I loved the belief of a spooky satan puppy preying on humans within the moors. It used to be splendidly atmospheric, and who does not love the duo of Holmes and Watson? and that i simply locate fiercely clever males very sexy! However, the top delivered to brain an episode of Scooby Doo, and the way disenchanting I constantly believe on the finish of a Scooby Doo episode, that is a part of why i do not think of myself keen on this renowned comic strip series. The puppy Wasn't fairly Demonic or Supernatural!!!! What a tremendous letdown. Come on. Where's the magic? i would like the supernatural mystery. Sigh! regardless of that, I loved the tale and that i may be analyzing extra Holmes adventures.

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