

## A Study in Sherlock Book Club

1. What do you think of a short story collection as something different?
2. Do you feel like you need to be familiar with the Sherlock cannon?
3. Do you like Sherlock Holmes?
4. Overall which time period of the stories did you prefer?
5. Which is your favorite story?
6. Why?
7. Which is your least favorite story?
8. Why?
9. Do you feel like you connect with short stories?
10. Are collections better when they are close to the theme?
11. Should the authors have used their characters from their real series?
12. Was the introduction helpful?
13. What did you think of the afterword?
14. Is Holmes an archetype?

Brief descriptions of each story:

You'd Better Go in Disguise by Alan Bradley

Twist at the end is that the first person perspective is the killer. Victorian period

As to "An Exact Knowledge of London" by Tony Broadbent

Modern period. Lots of discussion of Canon from the perspective of a cab driver who isn't really a cab driver. The first person perspective is Holmes reborn

The Men with the Twisted Lips by S.J. Rozan

Victorian period. From the perspective of opium den owners who trick Holmes into getting involved in a case to take care of one of their problem clients

\*The Adventure of the Purloined Paget by Phillip Margolin and Jerry Margolin

Modern period. About a group of Sherlock collectors and a mythical short story and Paget drawing created for Queen Victoria and stolen. It was a con job and the book seller did it.

The Bone-Headed League by Lee Child

Modern period. The victim is from Lebanon, PA. The twist is that the decoy was for the American Anglophile so that visas could be stamped letting terrorists in to commit terrorism and the point of view character is in Leavenworth.

The Startling Events in the Electrified City by Thomas Perry

Victorian period. Holmes leads a conspiracy to fake the assassination of President McKinley while thwarting several real assassination attempts.

-The Mysterious Case of the Unwritten Short Story by Sticky Cotterill

Graphic novel with dual time period.

The Case of Death and Honey by Neil Gaiman

Victorian period. Flips between China and Mycroft's dying. Then onto Holme's successful quest for immortality.

A Triumph of Logic by Gail Lynds and John Sheldon

20<sup>th</sup> Century. Mystery that involved detection with some mention of Holmes at the end.

The Last of Shelia-Locke Holmes by Laura Lippman

Modern period. Eleven year old who wanted to be Holmes. Finds out about her dad's first wife.

The Adventure of the Concert Pianist by Margaret Maron

Victorian Period. Featuring Watson when Holmes is dead. Mrs. Hudson's niece asks Watson to investigate if someone is poisoning her.

The Shadow Not Cast by Lionel Chetwynd

Modern Period. Main character is teaching at Army War College solving the case of a murdered rabbi.

The Eyak Interpreter by Dana Stabenow

Modern Period. In the form of a blog from a teen in the Kate Shugart universe.

The Case that Holmes Lost by Charles Todd

Victorian Period. Someone suing Holmes about a fake case.

The Imitator by Jan Burke

1920s Period. American case of the cousins trying to inherit with a man who thinks he's Holmes as detective.

A Spot of Detection by Jacqueline Winspear

1900s Period. Young boy recovering from measles trying to solve a case from his fever delirium.