

"When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth."

Sherlock Holmes, The Sign of The Four

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. MOTIVATIONS

When I had to decide what I wanted to do my research essay about, I had no idea what to answer. There were many topics to choose from and the only thing I knew for sure was that I wanted to choose a project related to literature and books. The first question that came to my mind was: What am I going to do it about? The answer came up pretty quickly when I saw the list with the topics we had to choose from. I decided I would do the comparative study between a book and a film.

The next question I had to solve was which books and films I wanted to compare. I had been thinking about comparing some YA¹ novels like *The Hunger Games* or *Divergent* but the series didn't catch my attention. I didn't want to research dystopian futures. I was more interested in historical or mystery books. When my friend recommended me a series called "Sherlock" an idea popped into my mind. Comparing the Sherlock Holmes' books and the series would include everything I like. I could learn how the British society was in the XVIII century and compare it with today's society and advances.

1.2. HYPOTHESIS

The first hypothesis I thought about was that society has changed so much since Doyle wrote his last book. Technology has evolved, the way we communicate is very different as it used to be, and there have been many changes in different fields. I wanted to reflect those changes while comparing the similarities and differences between Doyle's series of books and the modern TV series "Sherlock".

Furthermore, I wanted to see if the way we see or judge people had changed. For example, Sherlock Holmes is considered a genie in the books, whereas in the series, he is seen as a sociopath although the character behaves in the same way. I think that it is due to the perception we have of people nowadays when a person does not follow the established rules. When this happens, the others think this person shows a bizarre behavior. Another example is found

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¹ YA stands for Young Adult

when we compare the way Sherlock Holmes and John Watson are seen. While in the books they are only seen as friends, in the series they are thought to be a couple.

1.3. METHODOLOGY

The first thing I did was to search if the chapters had any similarity with the books and I drew a chart and chose the book that was more similar to that specific chapter. I first wanted to read the books in the chronological order they were written but I finally decided it would be better to follow the series order. This is the result:

воокѕ	SERIES
	SEASON 1
A Study in Scarlet	A Study in Pink
The Valley of Fear But the drawings come from The Adventure of the Dancing Men	The Blind
Ian Monkford - The Man with the Twisted Lip Andrew West - The Adventure of the Bruce- Partington Plans & The Adventure of the Naval Treaty	The Great Game Case #1: Carl Powers Case #2: Ian Monkford Case #3: Connie Prince Case #4: Alex Woodbrigdge Case #5: Andrew West
	SEASON 2
A Scandal in Bohemia	A Scandal in Belgravia
Has also many references to many books but it mainly is an adaptation from The Hound of the Baskervilles	The Hound of the Baskervilles
The Final Problem (Moriarty VS Sherlock) The Woman in Green - film (Moriarty visiting Sherlock and nearly destroying Sherlock's reputation so that he jumps from a building) The Adventure of the Priory School (kid's disappearance)	The Reichenbach Fall

	SEASON 3
The Adventure of the Empty Hearse	The Empty Hearse
The title is an allusion to The Sign of the Four The tunnel refers to <i>The Adventure of the Red-Headed League</i>	The Sign of Three
The title refers to <i>His Last Bow</i> but the character of Charles Augustus Magnussen is an allusion of The Adventures of Charles Augustus Milverton .	His Last Vow
The opening scenario is from A Study in Scarlet but the chapter comes from The Adventures of the Musgrave Ritual	The Abominable Bride
	SEASON 4
The Adventure of the Six Napoleons	The Six Tatchers
The Adventure of the Dying Detective	The Lying Detective
The title is a reference to <i>The Adventure of the Final Problem</i> Eurus, Sherlock's sister, is a reference to Moriarty's brother in The Valley of Fear	The Final Problem

My initial idea was to watch, and therefore read, all the chapters in the series. That meant that I had to read 13 books. Summer seemed so long and I saw it as an easy task. But when I started reading I realized that it was pretty complicated. So I ended up reading 3 books. Those books are: A Study in Scarlet, A Scandal in Bohemia and The Final Problem.

I chose these books for different reasons. I decided I would read <u>A Study in Scarlet</u> because it is the first Sherlock Holmes book. I wanted to see how the characters are introduced and which relationships vary among characters in the books and the series.

<u>The Final Problem</u> was also an easy book to choose as it describes the death of Sherlock. It was a turning point for all the characters and I wanted to see their reactions.

The last book was a difficult one. There are many well-known books like <u>The Hound of the Baskervilles</u> or <u>The Sign of the Four</u>. But the reason why I chose out <u>A Scandal in Bohemia</u> was because a very important character was introduced: Irene Adler. Although only appearing once, she quickly became a very important person for the main character. She is then one of the most notable female characters in the Sherlock Holmes series.

For the introduction I had to do a lot of research. Finding a biography and social context wasn't difficult, but the amount of information was overwhelming. I had to compare and contrast many pages and decide which information to select.

As I had already decided which books I would read, I had to get them. It was difficult, as Lleida's public library didn't have these books. Neither did the university library. So, I decided to download them in the internet. It was easy to find them because Sherlock Holmes is very popular and there have been many adaptations.

Then, I decided that to start this piece of work I would first watch the chapter and then read the book. Afterwards, I would watch again the chapter to see if I had missed something. I thought that in this way it would be easier for me to remember the important facts, as it is faster to watch twice an episode than read the book twice.

When reading the book, I sometimes had to look up the meaning of some of the words at the dictionary because of the 18th-century English language. It hasn't changed that much but there are some words that no longer exist or have evolved.

Then, when writing the comparisons, I would mainly watch at the notes I had made, but I would also search for some information in different sources, so as to develop and extend my own ideas and personal opinions. It is known that an external point of view always helps to see some points you may have missed.

I finally wrote the conclusion thanks to all the research carried out and notes I had already written.

2. ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

2.1. BIOGRAPHY

Arthur Ignatius Conan Doyle was born on May 22, 1859, in Edinburgh, Scotland. His dad, being alcoholic, gave many problems to the family. But thanks to her mother's storytelling ability he could go through his dark childhood. As he says in his autobiography: "In my early childhood, as far as I can remember anything at all, the vivid stories she would tell me stand out so clearly that they obscure the real facts of my life."²

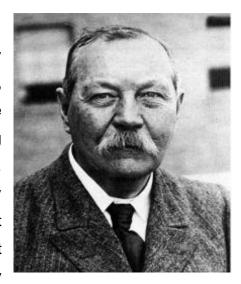


IMAGE 1: SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

When he was nine years old, the wealthy members of the Doyle family offered to pay for his studies. He was sent to a Jesuit boarding school. He rebelled against corporal punishment but stood out in cricket. It was in that school where he found out he also had the innate ability of storytelling. He'd spend evenings explaining stories he'd made up to many fascinated kids.

When he went back home he had to put his father in an asylum as he was considered seriously demented. That's why he wrote his first book: <u>The Surgeon</u> of Gaster Fell. ³

Instead of following his family's traditional artistic career, he decided to go to a medical school. He met many future authors but the person that impressed him the most was Dr. Joseph Bell. A man with excellent observation, logic, deduction, and diagnosis capacities. It is said that Bell inspired the character of Sherlock Holmes. A couple of years later he published his first book: The Mystery of Sasassa Valley.⁴

² Cf. Memories and Adventures: An Autobiography

³ James Upperton stays in a pension with Miss Eva Cameron and discovers a crazy neighbor called The Surgeon of Fell. Eva Cameron tells James, when he is locked up by his neighbour, in a letter that her father is mentally unstable and has to be brought to an asylum.

⁴ Short story published in 1878 where Tom Donahue and Jack Turnbull try to find a ghost but end up finding a diamond. Thanks to the discovery they become rich.

He had to try two jobs before opening his first practice. He had to struggle between working as a doctor and writing stories. In August of 1885, he married Louise Hawkins. He described her as gentle and amiable in his memoirs.

The famous characters of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson were first introduced in *A Study in Scarlet* in March 1886. Although he preferred his serious historical novels and poems these were the characters that catapulted him to fame.



IMAGE 2: LOUISE HAWKINS, DOYLE'S FIRST WIFE

After a meeting Joseph Marshall Stoddart, a managing editor of a famous magazine, and Oscar Wilde he wrote *The Sign of Four*, the novel that would establish Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle once and for all in the annals of literature.



IMAGE 3: FIRST CARICATUR OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

When Mary Conan Doyle, his first daughter, was born he decided to take a trip. During that trip he made one of the most important decisions in his life: he would write a series of short stories featuring the same characters. The Strand magazine would publish the stories. Sherlock Holmes was first drawn inspired by the brother's illustrator. When he came back, his second daughter and son were born.

In 1893 during a trip to Switzerland, Doyle decided he would get rid of Holmes. In <u>The Final Problem</u>, Sherlock Holmes and Professor Moriarty would jump from

a waterfall to, then, die. 20,000 people cancelled their subscription to the Strand Magazine because of the ending. But he didn't have time to worry about that because he had to take care of her now ex-wife and dad, while writing. He went through a depression and tried to solve it by going to the US to give talks. When he returned to England he met Jean Leckie, his second wife.

When the Boer War started, he volunteered as a medical doctor. After a few months he returned and threw himself into politics. He was considered a Catholic bigot so he lost the



IMAGE 4: JEAN LECKIE, DOYLE'S SECOND WIFE

elections. He decided to continue the series of Sherlock Holmes as if it was a previously untold adventure, instead of resurrecting him.

When he moved to Sussex with his family he wrote three plays before doing a fourth with Sherlock Holmes in it. The play was finally named <u>The Speckled Band</u>⁵ and became very famous. After the play he decided to concentrate on writing novels instead of theatre, mainly because he said he was too interested in theater. Another reason was the birth of his two sons, Denis in 1909 and that of Adrian in 1910. A last child, their daughter Jean, was born in 1912.

His next creation was <u>Professor Challenger</u>. The readers liked it a lot but still preferred Sherlock Holmes. He wrote four books with this character.

When the First World War started in 1914, he went to observe the position of British and French troops on the river Somme. He said he wouldn't forget the horrors of that war.

In 1922, he discovered four images of fairies dancing in front of two girls. He became interested in spiritualism and the occult. He wrote a book called <u>The Coming of Fairies</u>⁶ and was mocked because of his belief. But nothing deterred

him.

After spending over a quarter of a million pounds pursuing his enigmatic dreams, he had to write two more novels with Professor Challenger and twelve more books with Sherlock Holmes.

Arthur Conan Doyle died on Monday, July 7, 1930, surrounded by his family. His last words were addressed to his wife. He whispered, "You are wonderful."



IMAGE 5: PICTURES OF GIRLS PLAYING WITH SOME "FAIRIES"

⁵ It premiered at the Adelphi Theatre, London on 4 June 1910. The play, originally called <u>The Stonor Case</u>, differs from the story in several details, such as the names of some of the characters.

⁶ First published on 1 September 1922. It showed pictures that recreated the ones that had fascinated Doyle. The topic of the book is whether the pictures were manipulated or if they were genuine fairies. It recounts the story of the photos, their supposed provenance, and the implications of their existence.

2.2. DOYLE'S INFLUENCE

2.2.1 IN LITERATURE

Doyle was the first writer to introduce the figure of the scientific detective who is famous for his astute observation, deductive reasoning and forensic skills to solve difficult cases. Some authors used his character ideas and created their own stories from them. Agatha Christie, for example, is one of the most famous writers who has portrayed a case-solver protagonist. Her two most famous characters, Hércule Poirot and Miss Jane Marple, have the similar rational way of untangling the cases that are presented in their daily life.

The idea of a true criminal mastermind is another symbol that, if not original to Conan Doyle in its entirety, was solidified by him in Professor James Moriarty.

2.2.2 IN CINEMATOGRAPHY

The Holmes stories, which present significant Gothic elements in terms of terror, horror and the supernatural, can be reflected in Charlie Brooker's Black Mirror episodes. Both authors illustrate the good and bad things of their world thanks to their relentless imagination. They shock and terrorize the public but in a way that it comes almost natural.

2.2.3 IN SOCIETY

When Doyle decided he would kill Sherlock Holmes, many fans were surprised and outraged. There was a wave of discontent among the readers of the journal where the stories were published and 20,000 readers cancelled their subscription. In a world like nowadays, these fandoms are normal or, at least, more common. Books are normally written to please the public so it is not that common to kill the main character. But during the Victorian Era, the term "fanatic" wasn't even used. Doyle was taken aback by the public's response and had to continue writing Sherlock Holmes' novels. This is why it is considered that Doyle is the creator of fandoms. Or at least, he was the first writer to have one.

2.3 SOCIAL CONTEXT

Arthur Conan Doyle lived through the Victorian era. It was the era of changes. Many things were discovered and many inventions were created. Resources were taken from the conquered colonies making businesses flourish and science and technology blossom. The economic activity increased and national self-confidence grew among the population.



IMAGE 6: PICTURE OF LONDON DURING THE VICTORIAN ERA

Queen Victoria was on the throne. It was a time of optimism for Great Britain.

Nevertheless, not everything was happiness and prosperity. London grew at a great rate from one million people to six in a century, creating problems of urban overcrowding familiar to us today: poverty, homelessness, drug abuse, crime. The differences between rich and poor were increasing.

Physically, London could be a place of disturbing contrasts, a cosmopolitan city where the middle class drank tea in comfortable rooms while epidemics of typhoid and cholera attacked the overpopulated East End. The Thames River, the city's main source of drinking water, despite having a network of open sewers, carried a cloud of contagion to all levels of society as it flowed through the heart of the city.

London's air was not much cleaner than its water. The burning of coal for heat and cooking caused the yellow "London fog" that Holmes and Watson talked about:

In the third week of November, in the year 1895, a dense yellow fog settled down upon London. From the Monday to the Thursday I doubt whether it was ever possible from our windows in Baker Street to see the loom of the opposite houses.

From "The Bruce Partington Plans"



IMAGE 7: PHOTOGRAPH OF LONDON FOG BY LEONARD MISONNE, 1899

People were more afraid of the city itself than its pollution. Streets were owned by groups of criminals. The citizens wouldn't go through some neighborhoods because of these groups, even if they were armed.

The Sherlock Holmes mystery stories, written from 1887 to 1927, represented the good, the bad, and the ugly of Victorian society: its ideals, its accomplishments, and its deepest fears. Arthur Conan Doyle's original readers recognized their city and their time in the Sherlock Holmes stories. It was easy to imagine Sherlock around the corner, riding the next carriage. No wonder so many people believed that Holmes was real.

3. SHERLOCK HOLMES CANON

3.1 PLOT

Sherlock Holmes is a private detective who, together with John Watson, solves crimes during the Victorian Era in London. Thanks to his observation skills and deductive reasoning he is capable of finding all the culprits of the outlandish cases he takes part in. According to Holmes: "When you have excluded the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth."

Although many of his cases are based on solving a mystery and finding 'the bad guy', sometimes he has to confront his nemesis: James Moriarty, a criminal mastermind who wants to destroy Holmes' reputation.

3.2 MAIN CHARACTERS

SHERLOCK HOLMES

Watson's narrations describe Holmes as a very complex and moody character who, although of strict habit, is considerably untidy. Holmes appears to undergo episodes of mania and depression, which are accompanied by pipe smoking, violin playing, and cocaine use.



IMAGE 8: SHERLOCK HOLMES SMOKING A PIPE

JOHN WATSON



IMAGE 9: JOHN WATSON (LEFT) AND HOLMES (RIGHT)

Dr. John H. Watson is a medical doctor, who worked for the British Army. He is portrayed as a capable and brave individual and as a military man. Watson is a better strategist than Holmes, beating always his friend at chess. Together with Sherlock Holmes they are a unique but extraordinary pair. They can be described as the ordinary man against the brilliant one. He was married to Mary Watson and is the only friend and confidant of Sherlock Holmes.

⁷ Cf. The Case-Book of Sherlock Holmes

3.3 SECONDARY CHARACTERS

JAMES MORIARTY

Professor James Moriarty is the arch-enemy of Sherlock Holmes. He is a psychopathic individual with an incredible mind that can only be compared to Holmes'. He is arrogant and has an unhealthy degree of self-confidence having no remorse for anything he has done. His obsession with Sherlock Holmes is a mere way of distracting himself from boredom.



IMAGE 10: PROFESSOR JAMES MORIARTY

INSPECTOR LESTRADE



IMAGE 11: INSPECTOR LESTRADE

Inspector G. Lestrade is a Scotland Yard detective appearing in several of the Sherlock Holmes stories. While Holmes is initially dismissive of the man's capabilities, he would later come to call him "the best of the professionals".

4. SHERLOCK HOLMES SERIES STUDY

4.1 PLOT

Sherlock Holmes works as a consulting detective, a job that is only done by him. Many of his cases only consist on knowing if the clients' husband/wife are cheating on them or finding a missing pet. Sherlock is normally bored with these cases as he usually knows the answer the moment the client walks in the room. But when a difficult case is presented, he makes his best to solve it. One of his usual clients is Greg Lestrade, a detective inspector, who uses Sherlock's deductive skills to solve cases that the police can't solve.

He sometimes confronts brilliant criminal masterminds, like Charles Magnussen, but his nemesis still is Moriarty.

4.2 MAIN CHARACTERS / ACTORS

WILLIAM SHERLOCK SCOTT HOLMES



Sherlock Holmes

PERSONALITY: he is manipulative, sarcastic, tactless, prone to boredom and protective with the people he cares

RELATIVES: Mr & Mrs Holmes (parents)

Mycroft Holmes (brother)

Eurus Holmes (sister)

OCCUPATION: Chemist

Consulting detective

NATIONALITY: British

PORTRAYED BY: Benedict Cumberbatch QUOTE: "Don't make people into heroes, John. Heroes don't exist, and if they did, I

wouldn't be one of them."

Sherlock to John, The Great Game

JOHN AMISH WATSON



John Watson

PERSONALITY: he is extremely loyal, brave, resourceful, practical, selfless, modest and sarcastic.

RELATIVES: Mary Morstan (wife)

Rosamund Mary Watson

(daughter)

Harriet Watson (sister)

OCCUPATION: Army doctor

Physician Detective

Deitiele

NATIONALITY: British

PORTRAYED BY: Martin Freeman QUOTE: "I always hear 'punch me in the face' when you're speaking but it's usually

subtext."

John to Sherlock, A Scandal in Belgravia

4.3 SECONDARY CHARACTERS / ACTORS

MRS. HUDSON



Mrs Hudson

PERSONALITY: she is kind, caring, brave and has a mother-son relationship with

almost everybody

RELATIVES: Frank Hudson (husband,

deceased)

Rosamund Mary Watson

(goddaughter)

OCCUPATION: Landlady

Exotic dancer (former)

NATIONALITY: British

PORTRAYED BY: Una Stubbs

QUOTE: "Family is all we have in the end,

Mycroft Holmes."

Mrs. Hudson to Mycroft, A Scandal in

Belgravia

GREG LESTRADE



Greg Lestrade

PERSONALITY: he is helpful, patient and calmed and always tries to include Holmes

in police work

RELATIVES: Unknown ex-wife

OCCUPATION: Detective Inspector

NATIONALITY: British

PORTRAYED BY: Rupert Graves

QUOTE: "Because Sherlock Holmes is a great man, and I think one day—if we're very very lucky—he might even be a good one."

Lestrade to Watson, A Study in Pink

MYCROFT HOLMES



Mycroft Holmes

PERSONALITY: he is smart, self-confident, socially detached, calculating and childish.

RELATIVES: Mr & Mrs Holmes (parents)

Sherlock Holmes (brother)

Eurus Holmes (sister)
OCCUPATION: Government official

NATIONALITY: British

PORTRAYED BY: Mark Gatiss

QUOTE: "If you seem slow to me, Sherlock, can you imagine what real people are like?

I'm living in a world of goldfish."

Mycroft to Sherlock, The Empty Hearse

JAMES MORIARTY



Jim Moriarty

PERSONALITY: he is extremely intelligent, sadistic, arrogant, bipolar and uses humor

regardless of the situation.

RELATIVES: Unnamed brother

OCCUPATION: Consulting Criminal

NATIONALITY: Irish

PORTRAYED BY: Andrew Scott

QUOTE: "Every fairytale needs a good old-fashioned villain. You need me, or you're nothing- because we're just alike, you and I. Except you're boring. You're on the side of the angels."

the angels."

Moriarty to Sherlock, The Reichenbach Fall

5. CURIOSITIES

5.1. "ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR WATSON"

The phrase "Elementary, my dear Watson" is never said by Holmes in the sixty stories written by Conan Doyle. He often observes that his conclusions are "elementary", however, and occasionally calls Watson "my dear Watson". One of

the nearest approximations of the phrase appears in "The Adventure of the Crooked Man" when Holmes explains a deduction: "'Excellent!' I cried. 'Elementary,' said he."

It is widely considered that William Gillette originated the phrase with the formulation, "Oh, this is elementary, my dear fellow", in his 1899 play <u>Sherlock Holmes</u>. However, the script was <u>revised numerous times</u> over the course of some three decades of revivals and publications, and the phrase is present in some versions of the script, but not others.

The exact phrase, as well as close variants, can be seen in

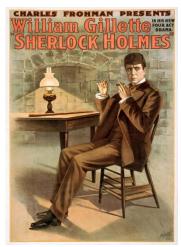


IMAGE 18: POSTER OF A SHERLOCK HOLMES' THEATRICAL REPRESENTATION

newspaper and journal articles as early as 1909; there is some indication that it was clichéd even then. The phrase "Elementary, my dear fellow, quite elementary" appears in P. G. Wodehouse's novel, Psmith in the City (1909–10), and "Elementary, my dear Watson, elementary" in his 1915 novel Psmith, Journalist (neither spoken by Holmes). The exact phrase "Elementary, my dear Watson" is used by protagonist Tom Beresford in Agatha Christie's 1922 novel The Secret Adversary. It also appears at the end of the 1929 film The Return of Sherlock Holmes, the first Holmes sound film. The phrase became familiar with

the American public in part due to its use in <u>The Rathbone-Bruce</u> series of films

from 1939 to 1946.

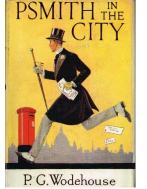


IMAGE 19: PSMITH IN THE CITY

Psmith Journalist RG. WODEHOUSE

IMAGE20: PSMITH JOURNALIST

5.2. BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH IS RELATED TO SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

Since Sherlock made its première in 2010, fans of the BBC series repeatedly claimed that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's legendary "consulting detective" Sherlock Holmes was the role that Benedict Cumberbatch was destined to play. And who

knows... they might be right!

According to "The Independent", researchers at Ancestry.com recently made a fascinating discovery: Cumberbatch and Doyle are sixteenth cousins. The ancestral link between both is former Duke of Lancaster John of Gaunt, who was Doyle's 15th great-grandfather and Cumberbatch's 17th great-grandfather.

Amazingly, this isn't the first time Cumberbatch's IMAGE 21: DUKE OF LANCASTER JOHN OF GAUNT ancestry has been linked to one of his characters. In 2014, the same team of researchers determined that Cumberbatch was the 17th cousin of Alan Turing, the computer scientist/codebreaker he played in The Imitation Game (2004) - a role that earned Cumberbatch an Oscar nomination in 2015.

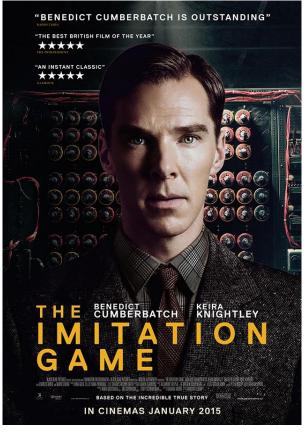
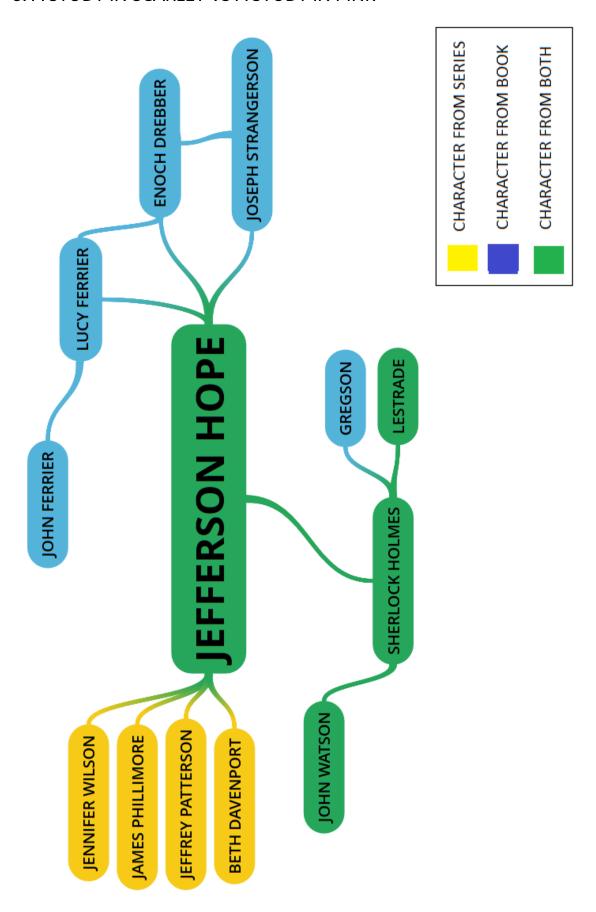


IMAGE 22: POSTER OF THE FILM THE IMITATION GAME (2014)

6. A STUDY IN SCARLET VS A STUDY IN PINK



6.1. SUMMARY

The police investigates the deaths of some people who appear to have committed suicide by taking a poisonous pill. Sherlock Holmes, with the help of John Watson, is capable of discovering the murderer.

6.2. REASONS FOR CHOOSING THIS BOOK/CHAPTER

I wanted to know how the whole Sherlock Holmes and John Watson's crimesolving relationship started. So I decided it would be a good idea to read the first book.

It is also a different book from the others because in this case, the background story of the murderer is explained, in order for the readers to understand why he committed those crimes.

6.3. REASONS FOR THE NAME OF THE TITLES

Holmes finds ordinary life colorless. For him, something that is different from normal life is much more entertaining. So the investigation of a case and the exposure of a murderer is like a stain of scarlet in an uninteresting landscape.

When he is talking with the two inspectors he refers to the place of death as a study in scarlet:

"I must thank you for it all. I might not have gone but for you, and so have missed the finest study I ever came across: a study in scarlet, eh?"

Sherlock Holmes, A Study in Scarlet

But in the series, the chapter is called A Study in Pink. That's due to the clothes of the woman that is last killed. Everything she wears, including her suitcase and phone, is pink.

The color pink even helps Sherlock to find the missing suitcase and lure the killer to his house.

6.4. AUTHOR'S POINT OF VIEW

The books are supposedly written by John Watson. After his first investigation with Sherlock he says that his skills are too good to rest unknown. He tries to convince Sherlock of keeping a journal and then publishing it, so that everybody can see how smart he is and how outlandish their cases are. Not being able to

convince him, Watson decides he will be the one who will write his experiences. That's the reason why all Sherlock Holmes' stories are written from the point of view of Watson.

In the series, Watson has a blog where he is supposed to write his daily life after the war. It's an exercise her psychologist recommends to cope with the after-war trauma. He doesn't start writing anything in it until he meets Sherlock.

In real life, Watson's blog has been recreated and it can be found in this link: http://www.johnwatsonblog.co.uk/. Someone wanted to make it look real, so every case appearing in the show is commented by Watson. There are also commentaries from other characters.

6.5. SETTING

The stories are set during the Victorian Era in a 40 year period (between 1887 and 1927). The chapters take place in the present London. The only similarity is the lodging: 221B Baker Street.

6.6. PLACE WHERE JOHN WATSON FOUGHT

Watson comes from a war in Afghanistan in both cases. Though the difference remains in the time period. The Watson from the book fights in the first Anglo-Afghan War due to the Great Game, a political and diplomatic confrontation. The Watson from the series fights in the recent war against Al-Qaeda and terrorism. Although it isn't specified - it is only said that Watson comes from Afghanistan-due to time-line restraints it can be confirmed that if Watson was real he would have fought in both of these wars.

6.7. REASON FOR WATSON COMING BACK TO BRITAIN

Watson is struck by an Indian fever in the books. As medicine isn't as advanced as it is now, he needs to go back to Britain to recover from the illness. It couldn't have been conceivable to imply that Watson has to go back to London for the same reason as the book. So, the script writers decided he had been shot in the leg. Because of the stress and the trauma Watson has psychosomatic limp.

6.8. INTRODUCTION OF SHERLOCK HOLMES AND JOHN WATSON

The name of the man who introduced Watson to Sherlock is kept the same in the series. He is Mike Stamford. But the relation between the main characters and Mike is changed completely. While the Mike from the book is the former dresser of Watson, the Mike from the series is a bit more intellectual. He is a former classmate from Watson who presently works in a university called Barts.

6.9. SHERLOCK HOLMES' IMPACT ON OTHERS

Sherlock Holmes is mainly perceived as a weird man in both cases. Although in the books, he is described as too scientific, cold blooded and too naive. Meanwhile, in the series he is seen as a psychopath and a narcissist. Sherlock then explains that he is not a psychopath but a high-functional sociopath. Nearly anybody wants to have a relationship with Sherlock. A similarity between the book and the series is that inspector Lestrade acknowledges that Sherlock is a genius and a good person. As he says in the series:

"Sherlock Holmes is a great man. And I think that one day, if he gets very, very lucky, he might even be a good one."

Greg Lestrade, A Study in Scarlet

6.10. WATSON'S FIRST IMPRESSION OF SHERLOCK

In both cases, John Watson finds Sherlock a very interesting person. He is intrigued with the capacity of Sherlock of knowing so much about one person by only taking a glance at them. But in the books he is portrayed as a much more naive person. During the book, Watson decides to write the following list:

Sherlock Holmes — his limits.8

- Knowledge of Literature.—Nil.
- 2. Philosophy.—Nil.
- 3. Astronomy.—Nil.
- 4. Politics.—Feeble.
- 5. Botany.—Variable. Well up in belladonna, opium, and poisons generally. Knows nothing of practical gardening.

⁸ List extracted from A Study in Scarlet, page 9

- 6. Geology.—Practical, but limited. Tells at a glance different soils from each other. After walks has shown me splashes upon his trousers, and told me by their color and consistence in what part of London he had received them.
- 7. Chemistry.—Profound.
- 8. Anatomy.—Accurate, but unsystematic.
- 9. Sensational Literature.—Immense. He appears to know every detail of every horror perpetrated in the century.
- 10. Plays the violin well.
- 11. Is an expert singlestick player, boxer, and swordsman.
- 12. Has a good practical knowledge of British law.

While in the series, Sherlock is portrayed as a super smart person who has got loads of knowledge in nearly every field. To put some examples, in one episode he was able to deactivate a bomb that would have exploded under the Big Ben and killed thousands of people thanks to his bomb building skills.

He was also able to prove that a Vermeer painting was fake because the Van Buren supernova, painted in the drawing, had happened 200 years before the painting was really made. That way it couldn't had been really painted by Johannes Vermeer de Delft.



IMAGE 23: FAKE VERMEER PAINTING THAT APPEARED IN SHERLOCK (EPISODE 3, SEASON 1)

6.11. THE SCIENCE OF DEDUCTION

Watson discovers an article in the newspaper talking about how a man can discover the entire life of another person just by looking at him. He jokes about it not knowing that Sherlock is the writer. In the series, the same happens but with a website. It is a clear nod to the original book.

To make it seem more real, the creators of the series have created a website called the Science of Deduction that is supposedly written by Sherlock Holmes: http://www.thescienceofdeduction.co.uk/

Some funny comments between the characters can also be seen.

6.12. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CHARACTERS

A main difference is the absence of two detectives in the series. The director said that the Lestrade from the series is a combination of both of the detectives. That's why they decided to call him Greg Lestrade, as a reference to both detective Gregson and Lestrade.

There are also many lovable characters that play an important role in the series but not in the books, such as Mrs. Hudson. That's because Doyle didn't introduce many main characters. But in the series they needed them for Sherlock and Holmes to develop in a natural way.

6.13. JEFFERSON HOPE

BOOK -- Jefferson is a man thirsty for revenge. The only thing he wants in his life is to kill the two men that turned his romantic story into a sad and lonely life. He was in love with a lady called Lucy but couldn't marry her. Though they tried to escape, Lucy was abducted, forced to marry Enoch Drebber and finally died of sadness. Her father, John, was killed, trying to help them escape. And the two men responsible were Enoch and Joseph Strangerson.

The two men run away from Jefferson. They travel to different countries supposing Jeff won't find them, but he always follows them. Although Jeff is dying for his aortic aneurysm he devotes his life to follow them. When he finds Enoch he shows him two pills (one venomous and the other defenseless). Jefferson makes the other man choose a pill thinking that God won't let him die.

SERIES -- The man is also dying because of his aortic aneurysm. But he doesn't have a vengeful backstory. He only kills for money, as he needs it for his kids. He uses the same pill trick not leaving his chances to faith. He is skilled in reading and manipulating, surviving four times at the same trick. It is a mere way of showing his skills to demonstrate that he is smarter than most people.

6.14. DEVELOPMENT OF THE INVESTIGATION

When investigating a crime scene Sherlock Holmes is a very methodic and observant person. The way Sherlock enters a crime scene, looking everywhere to recollect any data that may help him reach a conclusion, is shown in both the book and the series. There is only one little difference. While the Sherlock from the book studies the road and the entrance before going in the crime scene the other one doesn't try to recognize anything in the street as any kind of modern vehicle wouldn't leave a trail.

There are also other similarities. The murderer wants to be avoided at all costs. He wants to be undetected by everyone and the best way to do it is becoming a taxi driver. In the books, as they didn't have such technology, the murderer was a four wheeled cab.

There is also the word RACHE written in the crime scene. In the books, it is written by the murderer, in order to leave a misleading clue for the police. It is meant to mean rache, the german word for revenge. But in the series it means Rachel, the password from the woman's phone.

Something that changed is the fact that when Sherlock tries to lure the murderer, in the books, someone dressed as an old lady tries to recover the ring. Although the identity of that person isn't revealed, the only thing said about that person is that it is a friend of Jefferson. On the other hand, the murderer in the series is more of a risk-taker and goes himself to the place where he is supposed to go. But as he is the taxi driver, they don't catch him.

6.15. DIFFERENCES IN TECHNOLOGY AND THE WAY IT AFFECTS THE INVESTIGATION

In the case from the book, the murderer leaves the word RACHE on the wall with his own blood. He also kills the two men without any previous preparation. That means that he leaves a trail of DNA wherever he goes. If the murder had been done in the present, they would have caught the suspect in less than a day thanks to the prints or the blood the murderer leaves when he is killing Enoch Drebber. But as it being done during the XVIIIth century there wasn't any technology to identify someone that easily. That's why in the series the word RACHE is left by the dead person. The murderer is also a professional killer so it is very difficult to find him.

6.16. DIFFERENCES IN METHODS OF INVESTIGATION

The Sherlock from the books discovers how Jefferson could get away with murder: by being a cabbie. That's why he sends his workers to search for him and when they find him Sherlock makes Jefferson pick him up at his home. When Jeff gets inside 221B Baker Street he is caught by the two detectives, Sherlock and Watson. The murderer in both the book and the series doesn't fear being caught and brought to jail as he is already dying. That's why he ends up explaining his life to the detectives, in the book.

The murderer in the series already knows that Sherlock has discovered him and wants to confront him directly. His confrontation with Sherlock is a battle in the understanding of human behavior. It is a match to decide who can better see through the other's act. He takes Sherlock to an abandoned place and obliges him to take one of the pills. When Sherlock is about to do it, Watson shoots Jefferson killing him and thus, saving Sherlock.

6.17. REASONS FOR WATSON'S CHOICE TO LIVE WITH SHERLOCK

Watson doesn't have anywhere to go when he comes back from war. When he finds Sherlock, an interesting man with a simple but dangerous life, he decides he wants to be his partner.

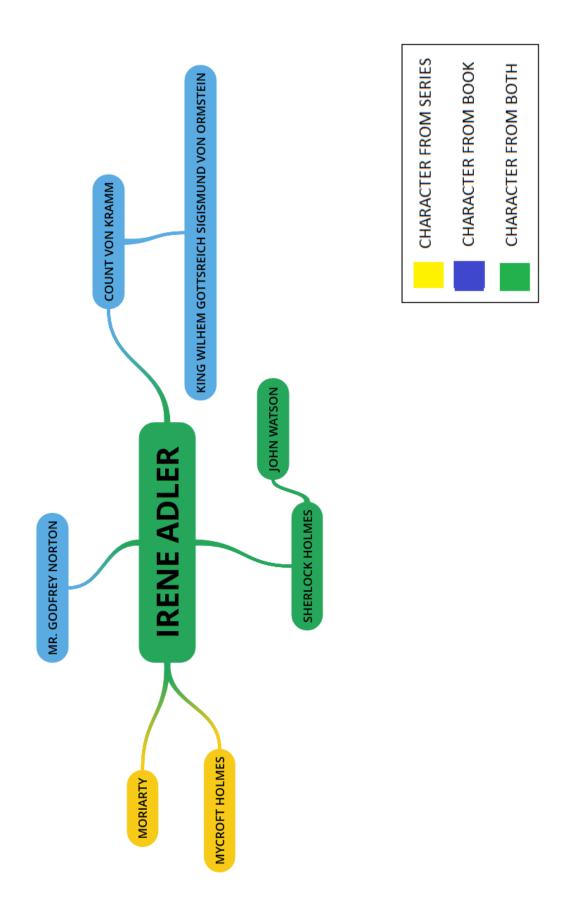
In the series the explanation is deepened. When Watson talks to Mycroft, Sherlock's brother, Mycroft says that Watson loves war too much and the only

reason why he puts up with Sherlock is because his cases are the most similar thing there is to war in London.

6.18. DISCOVERY OF MORIARTY (SERIES)

The world-known enemy of Sherlock Holmes, Moriarty, is introduced in the first episode when Jefferson, being pressed by Sherlock cries his name. In the books, Moriarty isn't introduced until The Valley of Fear.

7. A SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA VS A SCANDAL IN BELGRAVIA



7.1. SUMMARY

A case of blackmail begins a long duel of wits between Sherlock Holmes and an antagonist as ruthless, original and brilliant as himself: Irene Adler.

7.2. EXPLANATION OF THE CHARACTERS...

From the book:

- ❖ Irene Adler: she is a regular woman who had an adventure with the King of Bohemia. She is described as a truly smart woman because, apart from Moriarty, she is the only person capable of beating Sherlock Holmes.
- Count Von Kramm: he is the man that introduces Sherlock to the case. He is supposed to be a Bohemian nobleman but turns out to be King Wilhelm Gottsreich Sigismund Von Ormstein, the king of Bohemia.
- Mr. Godfrey Norton: he is a lawyer who works in Briony Lodge and the only male visitor that Irene Adler has. Norton marries Irene Adler and they both escape later with the picture of the King.

• From the series:

- ❖ Irene Adler: she is a dominatrix who was contracted by a woman close to the Queen of England. But she is more than a simple dominatrix. It is said that her phone contains secrets that could destroy entire countries, making her one of the most dangerous person in the world. She can also be described as a manipulative and incredibly intelligent woman as she is capable of faking her own death and hiding from the government.
- Mycroft Holmes: He is one of the most intelligent person in the world. He also controls most of the English government as it is seen in the chapter.
- Moriarty: He is a consulting criminal. He helps Irene Adler trace her plan to beat Sherlock.

7.3. REASONS FOR CHOOSING THIS BOOK/CHAPTER

I mainly chose this book because the character of Irene Adler appears. She is said to be the only woman who beat Sherlock Holmes and is described as an equally smart person.

The other reason is because the sexuality of the character is discussed for the first time in the whole series. While in the books, Sherlock Holmes is undoubtedly homosexual, because of the mentality of the era, in the series he is initially thought to be asexual and aromantic or gay (some people think he is in love with John Watson, as he is the only person that Sherlock actually cares about). But the ending ⁹ might make people think that he has feeling for Irene Adler, making him straight or bisexual.

7.4. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THIS BOOK AND THE OTHERS

Normally, a Sherlock Holmes book would only consist in unravelling a mystery, but this book goes further. It isn't covered with the typical mysterious aura, as the case they have to crack is plain and simple. What makes this book special is the fact that there is the component of the potential love interest for Sherlock Holmes.

7.5. REASONS FOR THE NAME OF THE TITLES?

The title of the book is pretty obvious. It is called A Scandal in Bohemia, because the King of Bohemia had a romantic relationship with another woman who is not the one that the King is going to marry. The plot revolves around this past scandal and the efforts to uncover it.

The title "A Scandal in Belgravia" isn't that obvious. Belgravia is a very exclusive part of London. It is known to be a location of rich and powerful people. Belgravia was probably chosen because of the similarity with the word 'Bohemia' and the

⁹ In the ending, Irene Adler is about to be decapitated by a terrorist cell in Karachi, when Sherlock Holmes appears and saves her. It is not known what happens next, but it is supposed that Irene lives away from society for a time. It is known that Adler and Holmes keep in touch in the chapter of The Lying Detective (season 4, episode 2), because Holmes receives a message from Adler.

reputation of the area, where Irene Adler, as a professional dominatrix, might find clients.

7.6 DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHARACRTERS SINCE A STUDY IN SCARLET / A STUDY IN PINK?

In the book, there have been many changes. John Watson is already married with Mary Morstan ¹⁰ and lives at his own house with his wife. Whereas Sherlock Holmes is still attracted to the study of crime and resolves hopeless cases. They no longer maintain the relationship that they had at the beginning. As John Watson says:

"From time to time I heard some vague account of his doings [...]. Beyond these signs of activity [...] I knew little of my former friend and companion."

John Watson, A Scandal in Bohemia

John Watson has also retaken his medical career and is treating patients for a living, instead of solving crimes.

Meanwhile, in the series, the main characters haven't developed that much. The screenwriters decided it would be better to make John Watson and Sherlock Holmes to live together for a longer time but, on the other hand, to discover the existence of Moriarty sooner. In fact, the chapter starts when Sherlock Holmes has an "encounter" with Moriarty. Moriarty wants to have a proper first introduction so he makes John put on a suicide bomb vest. That way, Sherlock has to go there to rescue his friend.

Apart from that, nothing else has changed. They solve many mysteries and John publishes them.

7.7. DEVELOPMENT OF THE INVESTIGATION

The case from the book starts when Sherlock receives a pink note with some letters woven in the texture. There is Eg (Egria, a city of Bohemia), P (papier, which means paper) and Gt (Gesellschaft, which means company). Thanks to

¹⁰ Mary Morstein (or Mary Watson) is John Watson's wife. She is normally not involved in the plot, but has a full book dedicated to her called <u>"The Sign of the Four".</u>

these letters, they discover that the note comes from Bohemia. Then, a man who pretends to be Count Von Kramm asks Sherlock for help. He explains that there is a compromising picture of him and Irene Adler and asks Sherlock if he can recover it.

The series has a different beginning. There is a case where a man mysteriously dies and Sherlock has to solve it. He doesn't know what has happened in the beginning, but will later solve it with the help of Irene Adler. When they are in the middle of that case, a helicopter takes them to the Buckingham Palace, where Mycroft asks his brother for help with the pictures.

Sherlock makes a plan which consists of going to Adler's home. In order to go inside, in both cases, Sherlock pretends he has been beaten and stolen and asks if he can go inside to recover.

The next step of the plan is made to know where the picture (or the mobile phone containing the photo, in the case of the series) is. He makes Watson throw a rocket inside Adler's home and shout: Fire! In the series he makes Watson burn a magazine to trigger the fire alarm. Sherlock knows that the basic instinct, when there is a menacing environment, is to go for the most valuable object. In this case, it is the picture. That way, he knows where to find it.

While in the book Sherlock waits one day to recover the pictures, giving Irene a chance to escape, in the series, the CIA comes inside the room where Sherlock and Irene are. They have to fight against them and escape. This part is where the book stops, because Irene escapes but the series keeps going on.

Irene pretends her own death, leaving her mobile phone to Sherlock, but he discovers the truth. During the time when Irene is supposed to be dead, Sherlock tries to guess the password of Adler's phone without any good result.

Later on, they both have an intimate moment and Sherlock, in order to impress her, explains a government secret (The Coventry Conundrum). It is then revealed that Irene and Moriarty work together. Irene blackmails Mycroft with that secret and the mobile phone in order to get special treatment and

protection. Mycroft is about to give in when Sherlock discovers the password of the phone. That way, Irene has no longer any power over Mycroft. The password is:



Thanks to this password, it is discovered that Irene has feelings for Sherlock, making them tragic lovers. In this case, Sherlock gets the girl, while in the book, she escapes with Mr. Godfrey Norton.

7.8. THE COVENTRY CONUNDRUM (SERIES)

During the Second World War, the Germans used a very complicated code to communicate. So when the British managed to crack the code, they didn't want anybody to know it, as the Germans would change it again.

One day, they learnt that an attack would be carried out on the city of Coventry. If they prevented this attack, the Germans would change the code, so they let them bomb the city.

In this episode, there is a reference to this dilemma. A terrorist cell has planted a bomb inside an airplane. The British government doesn't want them to know that they have cracked the code, so Mycroft Holmes comes up with a solution: they fill the airplane with corpses and make the airplane explode. That way, nobody gets hurt, but the terrorist cell thinks the attack has been carried out.

7.9. FEFFCT OF THE PICTURE IN DIFFERENT CHARACTERS?

In the book, Irene Adler menaces the King of Bohemia with a picture of him and her together. That way, the incoming marriage between King Wilhelm and Clotilde Lothman von Saxe-Meningen, second daughter of the King of Scandinavia will be cancelled.

In the series, in an attempt of being more inclusive, they change the gender of the person that is being blackmailed. It is not specified, but it is known that the blackmailed woman is someone close to the Queen of England.

7.10. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHERLOCK HOLMES AND IRENE ADLER.

Irene and Sherlock start being enemies in both the book and the series. The difference is that in the series, Sherlock and Irene fall in love and Sherlock ends up rescuing her.

On the contrary, in the book Irene marries Mr. Godfrey Norton and escapes, but Sherlock falls in love with her. He even calls Irene, "The Woman". In fact, Sherlock is so in love that the only payment he asks for is a picture that Irene leaves behind. In the picture Irene appears with a white dress. There is a parallelism between this picture and the mobile phone because in both cases, Sherlock Holmes ends up keeping them.

7.11. RELATIONSHIP WITH MORIARTY (SERIES)

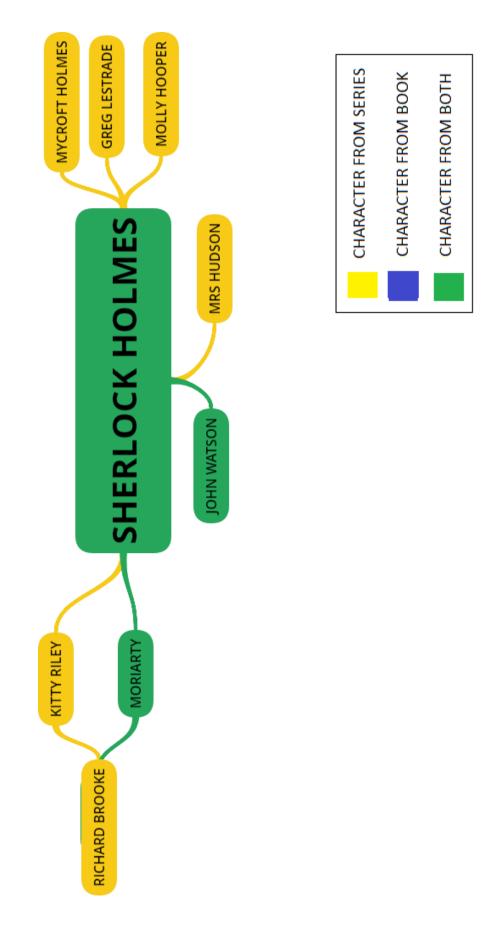
Moriarty is the main antagonist of Sherlock Holmes. In this chapter he is formally presented as the influential psychopath he really is. In the beginning of the chapter he receives a call from Irene. He tells her that if she is lying he will kill her and skin her. He also says that he can make her very rich or make her into shoes. This way, the public can see how powerful he is. Moreover, the fact that he is in contact with Irene makes him even more dangerous than the public initially expected.

7.12. ALLUSIONS

In the opening montage of the chapter, Sherlock and Watson are seen solving various crimes, turning Sherlock Holmes into a celebrity. That popularity comes mainly because of Watson's blog. Sherlock and Watson discuss which titles to write when publishing the posts in Watson's blog, which are callbacks to Doyle's original stories. Those titles are:

- "The Naval Treatment", which refers to Doyle's "The Adventure of The Naval Treaty".
- "The Speckled Blonde", which refers to "The Adventure of the Speckled Band".
- "<u>The Geek Interpreter</u>", which refers to "<u>The Adventure of the Greek Interpreter</u>".

8. THE FINAL PROBLEM VS THE REICHENBACH FALL



8.1. SUMMARY

The war between Sherlock and his greatest enemy, Moriarty, has begun. Both Sherlock and Moriarty try to discredit each other's credibility in order to survive in this struggling society. But with two extraordinary people, the end must also be extraordinary.

8.2. EXPLANATION OF THE CHARACTERS...

- From the series:
 - ❖ Moriarty: he is Sherlock's arch enemy and greatest competitor. He tries by all means to destroy Sherlock's reputation. The psychopathy of this character is best seen in this chapter where we see how he really is and what he is capable of in order to succeed.
 - Mycroft: in order to get something from Moriarty, Mycroft ends up revealing secrets vital for Moriarty to destroy Sherlock
 - ❖ Kitty Riley: novice journalist that wants to get her first exclusive. After being turned down by Sherlock, she invents a story that says that Moriarty is really a character invented by Sherlock.
 - Richard Brooke: the man that is supposed to be hired by Sherlock to act as Moriarty. The name is a joke for Sherlock as Ricard Brooke is Reichenbach in german.
 - Molly Hooper: forensic who is in love with Sherlock and helps him to fake his death.

8.3. REASONS FOR CHOOSING THIS BOOK/CHAPTER?

The first, and obvious reason, is because the deaths of Sherlock Holmes and James Moriarty happen in this book/chapter. I wanted to know how it all happened and the reason why it happened.

The other reason was because this book is mainly dedicated to Sherlock Holmes and is not about him trying to solve a case. It is a different book because it doesn't have the mystery theme but, on the other hand, the main characters are much more developed and the humanity and the abilities of both the hero and the enemy are portrayed.

8.4. REASONS FOR THE NAME OF THE TITLES

The book is called The Final Problem because it was indeed supposed to be the final issue in which Sherlock participated because he was thinking of retirement. The chapter is called The Reichenbach Fall in order to commemorate the "real" death of Sherlock Holmes, as the screenwriters couldn't make him die in the actual Reichenbach Fall.

It also has this title because of the case in the intro. It is shown that Sherlock recovers a missing painting of The Reichenbach Fall and is then called The Reichenbach hero by the tabloids. As in the chapter, the credibility of Holmes is depicted, it may be considered the Fall of the Reichenbach hero or The Reichenbach Fall.

8.5. BOOK CONTEXT

The author didn't really like writing books about Sherlock Holmes. He reached a point where he was so stressed with the character that ended up killing him.

Although Doyle wanted to kill Sherlock, he didn't want to make it an unnecessary or ridiculous death. That's why Sherlock says during the book that: "Your memoirs will draw to an end, Watson, upon the day that I crown my career by the capture or extinction of the most dangerous and capable criminal in Europe". 11 This idea was planted because Sherlock was definitely going to die and the author wanted the readers to think that his death was not in vain and that Sherlock was happy to die like that.

The public reaction to Holmes' death was unlike anything previously seen for fictional events. Even though Doyle tried to make the death more meaningful, the critics were fast to come and more than 20,000 Strand ¹² readers cancelled their subscriptions, outraged by Holmes' death. The staff of the Strand referred to Holmes' death as "the dreadful event". That's why Doyle had to revive him and write more cases about him.

¹¹ Cf. The Final Problem, page 6

¹² Newspaper where the stories of Sherlock Holmes where published.

8.6. DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHARACTERS SINCE A SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA / A SCANDAL IN BELGRAVIA?

John hasn't changed much in the book. He still has a medical office where he treats patients and is still married. Sherlock, on the other hand, has been through a lot of changes. During three months he has supposedly been working for the French Government but has really been investigating Moriarty so as to incriminate him for his criminal activities. He has survived several attempts of murder by the goons of Moriarty and is now trying to escape from Moriarty's reach until the day when a trial decides whether Moriarty is guilty or not.

Their relationship is still distant and, apart from some times when Sherlock asks John for help in a case, they do not longer see each other. Although it is thought that Sherlock would move on with this relationship, in this book it is seen that John is undoubtedly Sherlock's best friend.

In the series, nothing has changed. They still live together and are not planning of moving out. The only difference is that Watson has tried to start a family with several women and has repeatedly been rejected.

8.7. JOHN WATSON'S REASON FOR WRITING THE BOOK

John starts saying that he initially didn't want to write this book as he knew it would bring a lot of displeasure and sadness among the people who read his publications. But he felt obliged when Colonel James Moriarty ¹³ wrote some letters to different newspapers defending his brother. He felt that the confrontation had to be told from his point of view.

8.8. DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MORIARTY FROM THE SERIES AND THE BOOK

The arch nemesis of Sherlock Holmes is much more different from the series, in the books. For instance, the whole book is about Moriarty trying to cover up his criminal activities. This Moriarty is much more human than the other one and although he controls a huge criminal network, he isn't seen as an important criminal lord.

¹³ Jim Moriarty's brother

The Moriarty from the series is much more narcissist and psychopath. The whole chapter revolves around him getting recognition and making himself a public figure. It can be said that he is less human as he doesn't consider himself a part of the human race. He differentiates himself (the special one) from the rest of the world (the ordinary people). He also considers himself different from Sherlock and the police. They are the angels and he is the demon. The whole confrontation in the end between Sherlock and Moriarty is based on deciding whether Sherlock is an angel or a demon and whether he is ordinary or special.

The only similarity between both Moriartys is the way that Sherlock describes him. He says that Moriarty is really a spider who is placed in the center of his net and moves the strings as he wants but never gets dirty if something goes wrong.

8.9. DEVELOPMENT OF THE INVESTIGATION

The case starts when Sherlock goes to Watson's home, in the book. He has been missing for 3 months and now appears to be in great danger. Sherlock introduces Moriarty for the first time to Watson and tells him that he has been following Moriarty in order to incriminate him.

In the series, the plot doesn't start with the central case but with the recovery of The Reichenbach Fall painting. After that, Sherlock and Watson become national figures.

In the book, thanks to the information that Sherlock has been recovering, he decides to take the case to the court. A trial is supposed to take place in some days, so Sherlock Holmes decides to take a trip to The Continent¹⁴. The trip is supposed to be a way of escaping from the reach of Moriarty. The trial is supposed to take place because Sherlock Holmes wants it.

Meanwhile, in the series, Moriarty is trying to attract some attention in order to counteract the fact that Sherlock is becoming a national figure. As he wants to become a criminal character he decides to break in the Tower of London and hack the security from The Bank of London and Pentonville Prison. He is supposed to crack all the security codes thanks to the supposed "Key of the World".

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¹⁴ Europe

8.9.1. THE KEY OF THE WORLD (SERIES)

Moriarty has an application in his mobile phone in which he has three buttons: the first one is to activate the alarm of the Tower of London. That way, he can break the glass cabinet in which The Crown Jewels are displayed. The second button opens every prison door so that everyone who is imprisoned can escape. Finally, the third one opens the principal vault of the Bank of London, one of the most famous banks in Great Britain, and therefore, where the majority of the money is kept. It is later discovered that the key isn't real. What had really happened was that people, who worked in the three different places, were the ones who opened the vault or made the alarm go off.



IMAGE 24: THE THREE BUTTONS FROM THE "KEY OF THE WORLD"

In this case, it isn't because of Sherlock why the trial takes place, but because of Moriarty who wants to become a public figure. The trial from the series, is a way for Moriarty to prove his vast power and his influential network.

8.9.2. THE TRIAL

In the book, Sherlock and Watson try to escape by using different tricks. Sherlock knows that Moriarty is going to follow them so he informs the police that the suspect from the trial is escaping. He knows how Moriarty is going to act and which will his following moves be. That way, he knows where the police is supposed to wait to arrest him. Although Sherlock's plan is perfectly conceived, Moriarty is able to escape and disappear. The trial takes place and all of Moriarty's criminal network is discovered but Moriarty is nowhere seen.

In the series, the situation is completely different. Sherlock has no prove to make Moriarty go to prison and Moriarty proudly goes to trial. Moriarty presents no defense. Even though Moriarty has caused so much trouble, the jury finally decides that he is not guilty. That way, he becomes famous overnight. It is later discovered that Moriarty gets away scot-free because he had previously threatened the people from the jury.

It has to be remarked the fact that before the trial, Sherlock has a conversation with a journalist called Kitty Riley. She wants to help Sherlock in order to get her first big break, but Sherlock says that he is disgusted by that type of people. This situation is very important to how the story later develops and will be explained later.

In the book, when Sherlock discovers that Moriarty has escaped, he decides to go back to London so as to finish the Moriarty business once and for all.

8.9.3. ESCAPE ROUTE (BOOK)

Sherlock Holmes and Watson follow an uncommon route as they run from Moriarty. They first take the Continental Express from London's Victoria Station to Canterbury, a city in England. The train would have continued to Dover but they decide that it is too predictable and Moriarty would catch them, so they go by foot to Newhaven and then go on an amazing journey across Europe.



IMAGE 25: SHERLOCK AND WATSON'S ESCAPE ROUTE

When they are going back to London, they reach a village in Switzerland called Meiringen and are advised to visit The Reichenbach Fall. When both Watson and Sherlock reach the fall, a man tells Watson that there is a woman in the hotel that needs medical attention. Watson undoubtedly goes to help this supposed woman in distress but turns out to be a deceptive technique. When Watson discovers the truth, he realizes that he has left Holmes back and runs to the place where Sherlock was last seen only to discover that his companion is dead.

The series is much more complicated as Moriarty tries to destroy Holmes' credibility. Thanks to the Hansel and Gretel case (later explained) the seed of doubt is planted among the general public and everybody starts to think that Sherlock is a farce. Moriarty even makes people think that Moriarty is a character that Sherlock made up in order to be flattered by others, thanks to the help of Kitty Riley, the journalist who wanted to help Sherlock. Moriarty even makes up a story so as to make fun of Sherlock. This is the story of Sir Boast a Lot.

8.9.4. THE STORY OF SIR BOAST A LOT (SERIES)

When Sherlock is in a taxi he receives a video in which Moriarty explains the following story:

- Hello!
- Are you ready for the story?
- This is the story of Sir Boast A Lot.
- Sir Boast A Lot was the bravest and cleverest knight at the round table.
- But soon the other knights began to grow tired of his stories about how brave he was and how many dragons he'd slayen.
- And so they began to wonder.
- Are Sir Boast A Lot's stories even true?
- Oh no.
- So, one of the knights went to King Arthur and said "I don't believe in Sir Boast A Lot's stories. He's just a big old liar who makes things up to make himself look good."

- And then even the king began to wonder.
- But that wasn't the end of Sir Boast A Lot's problems.
- No.
- That wasn't the final problem.
- The Fnd.

There is a parallelism between the characters from this story and the characters from the series. King Arthur is supposed to be Greg Lestrade, the detective inspector. The knight is Sergeant Sally Donovan. She is the woman that warned Watson about Sherlock in <u>A Study in Pink</u>, saying that Sherlock is really a psychopath that will eventually get tired of solving cases and will be the one who will commit the murders.

The story become so famous that a campaign was started to make comic books of this story. Here is the link to the campaign:

https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/199353604/sir-boast-a-lot-a-fanbook



IMAGE 26: PICTURES OF THE KICKSTARTER CAMPAIGN FOR THE COMIC BOOK

The police chief finally decides that he has to arrest Sherlock. Some police officers go to 221B Baker Street but John and Sherlock escape from the police. They both go to Kitty Riley's home where they talk with the journalist and Moriarty. They both try to convince Watson that Moriarty isn't real, but Watson doesn't believe them.

Later, Sherlock receives a message from Moriarty explaining that they have to meet. The deceptive technique used in the book, to make Watson go away, is also used in the series. Nevertheless, it is not used by Moriarty, but by Sherlock and it is not an unknown woman who is in distress but Mrs. Hudson.

When Sherlock and Moriarty meet, they discuss if Sherlock is an angel or not. Moriarty finally considers him an equal.

In the end, Moriarty ends up committing suicide and later Sherlock does the same.

8.9.5. SHERLOCK AND MORIARTY'S REASONS FOR COMMITING SUICIDE

Moriarty explains to Sherlock that there are three snipers who are going to kill his best (and only) friends if he doesn't commit suicide. Sherlock first thinks that if he can keep Moriarty alive, the snipers won't shoot his friends. But having already thought about that possibility, Moriarty shoots himself. The only option for Sherlock is to jump, unless he wants to live knowing that he could have saved John Watson, Mrs. Hudson and Greg Lestrade. In the end, Sherlock doesn't see any other viable option and jumps.

8.10. THE HANSEL AND GRETEL CASE FROM THE SERIES

This is a case inside the main story. It is pretty important in the development of the story because it triggers the alarm of Sergeant Donovan, making her, and consequently everybody, get suspicious of Sherlock.

This investigation starts when two children (Max and Claudette, who are Rufus Bruhl's, ambassador in USA, kids) disappear. Thanks to a footprint, Sherlock is capable of knowing where the kids are being retained.

There are also other clues left behind by the kidnapper, like an envelope full of bread crumbs or an envelope with Grimm's stories.

When the police officers find them, Sherlock discovers that the candy the kids were eating is covered with mercury, saying that it is one of the best ways of killing someone as the murderer can kill someone without even doing anything and also has a lot of time to escape.

When the kids are in custody, Sherlock tries to talk to them but the girl starts screaming when she sees his face.

This abduction can be compared to the Hansel and Gretel story. The kids feast on candy to be plunged to their deaths. The place where they are retained is an abandoned chocolate fabric, which can be compared to the candy house.

8.11. THE NOTE VS THE PHONE CALL, IMPLICATION

In the end of the book and the series, Sherlock leaves a message for Watson - a note in the book and a phone call in the series - to say goodbye. The message from the book says that he already knew that he would die in this exact place, taking Moriarty with him but he accepted this death, because he would finally rid this world of Moriarty.

Whereas in the series, he tries to convince Watson that he really is a farce. In my opinion, he does that because he knows that his death will cause much pain to Watson. But it is always easier to forget someone who you are mad with than someone who you really care about. Even so, Watson still continues thinking that genius but annoying Sherlock was the real Sherlock.

8.12. DIFFERENCES IN TECHNOLOGY AND THE WAY IT AFFECTS THE INVESTIGATION

Sherlock travels to a different country in order to escape from Moriarty. In those times, this would make it impossible for someone to track down another person. Or at least it would make it more difficult. But nowadays, it would be useless to go somewhere else as you could be tracked down in no time only using a computer.

There is also the difference in the way they expose each other. In the book, Sherlock tries to assemble proves that make Moriarty go to prison. Sherlock needs the trial to go well to call it a victory. Instead, in modern times, it is more effective to discredit someone using the media. Moriarty accomplishes what he wants by posting suspicious pictures of Sherlock or by publishing an article in the internet where it is said that he is really the mastermind behind everything. As we have become a gullible society, everybody believes what the media says and Sherlock goes from being a hero to being a farce overnight.

8.13. THE END OF JAMES MORIARTY

The death of Moriarty is real. He is such a psychopath that he is prepared to die to get what he wants. But it is not the last time he appears, at least in the series. In another chapter, Moriarty and Eurus, Sherlock's sister, plan a way of beating Sherlock, Mycroft and Watson 15. That doesn't mean that he revives, but that he is still influent when dead. It is a powerful message and makes him even more dangerous than ever.

8.14. THE END OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

Sherlock Holmes' death, on the contrary, isn't real. He just fakes it so that his friends don't die. He also does that because he spends the next two years destroying the vast criminal net which Moriarty created.

In following chapters, it is discovered how he faked his death: using a mannequin, and creating a distraction so as to make it real.

8.15. ALLUSIONS

The Hansel and Gretel case is a reference to <u>The Adventure of the Priory School</u>, in which two kids are kidnapped.

There is also a moment in which John Watson goes to the Diogenes Club. This is a club which has several appearances, including <u>The Adventure of the Greek Interpreter</u>. It is a club, which was founded by Mycroft, in which everybody had to be in silence all the time, unless they were in the *Stranger's Room*. It was a club for Mycroft to help him think.

9. CONCLUSIONS

After having read the books and having seen the chapters, I have come to the following conclusions:

9.1. LENGTH OF THE BOOK / CHAPTER

The first and obvious conclusion is that while the books are shorter, and therefore simpler in plot, the chapters from the series have a longer duration and narrate a more complex story.

This point brings us to the second conclusion:

9.2. CHARACTERS

Because of the difference in duration and complexity, the characters vary. The ones from the books are much more normal, considering the parameters of normal during that era, which are: being white, straight and in the middle-class. They aren't very eccentric and although Sherlock is different from the others because of his intellect, he is much more conscious of social conventionalisms and can go much more unnoticed.

There is also a majority of male characters - apart from Irene Adler and Mary Watson, who have both an entire book dedicated to them: <u>A Scandal in Bohemia</u> and <u>The Sign of the Four</u>, respectively. That's because in the Victorian Era, women didn't use to work, and instead, stayed at home.

However, in the series the characters are more human and relatable, making them more likeable. The viewers can see what makes them happy or sad and can, almost always, understand why they act how they act. At least, that is true with the most "normal" characters like John Watson or Mrs. Hudson

Nevertheless, there are also characters who are more exaggerated, making them a bigger psychopath or an even weirder person. I am going to expand on this idea later on, when describing each character.

It has to be said too that because of the complexity of the stories, the range of characters that appear in the series is wider than the one in the books.

9.2.1. SHERLOCK HOLMES

Sherlock is characterized as an extremely intelligent and deductive person whose skills outsmart nearly every person in the world. Thanks to the help of his best friend, John Watson, he is able to solve cases, which police can't solve. Nevertheless, there are some differences between the series and books.

In Doyle's publications, everybody considers Sherlock a genie because of his skills, whereas in the series, they would brand him as a showoff or even as a psychopath.

In the books, he is also considered ahead of his time, because of his doubtful techniques to investigate. In the first book (A Study in Scarlet) it is said that, when researching how long a corpse had been dead, he beat the body of the dead person and waited for the bruises to appear. It may be right that he really was ahead of his time and if he had really existed he might have even established the foundation of modern forensic medicine. Another difference is that while the Sherlock Holmes portrayed in the series is a genius and has a lot of knowledge about nearly every aspect of the world, the Sherlock from the books only knows facts about things that he is interested in or that he thinks is necessary for his daily life. That means that he might know a lot about past murder cases, but he doesn't know a bit about the planets.

9.2.2. JOHN WATSON

John Watson is a patient and friendly man who provides the human touch in the investigations. He was an army doctor but had to return home because of a wound. There aren't that many differences between the series and the book as they did a faithful portrait of the character. The main differences are the development of the character throughout the stories. John Watson decides to marry not long after having arrived from war ¹⁵ and no longer "plays detectives" with Sherlock, in the books. On the other hand, in the series, he doesn't meet Mary until Sherlock dies¹⁶, in an attempt of going on with his life.

¹⁵ John meets Mary in The Sign of the Four, the second book, published in 1890

¹⁶ Season 3, episode 1

9.2.3. JIM MORIARTY

Jim Moriarty is known to be one of the most astute antagonist in the whole detective-story area. He controls a criminal net making him someone powerful and influential enough to make Sherlock Holmes tremble.

It is difficult to highlight the differences between book and series because he only appears in one of Doyle's publication that I have read. The only thing I can highlight about Moriarty is that the one from the BBC is much more dangerous and perilous than the one Doyle created. His net goes beyond imaginable as he can control anyone he wants, proven in <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/jhc.2001/j

He is also more narcissistic and has a huge ego, also proven in <u>The Reichenbach Fall</u>. He loves attention and doesn't care if others know what he is doing, because he thinks he is untouchable.

The one from the books is more reserved and doesn't want anyone getting in the middle of his business. He is a man that prefers traditional ways of doing things. For example, when he has to end with the Sherlock menace, he decides to throw him down a fall, even if it costs his death.

The one thing in common is that both of them are willing to do anything in order to achieve what they want.

9.2.4. IRENE ADLER

She is the only woman that interests Sherlock. But more importantly, she is one of the best minds in the whole world. Thanks to her schemes, she is able to beat Sherlock Holmes and also get away with blackmailing a king. The difference is caused because of the different eras in which they are placed and the different ways of thinking.

The goal from the Irene Adler from the book is to marry his husband and escape from Sherlock Holmes. Meanwhile, the goal from the Irene Adler from the series is to become an influential person that can control entire governments. It can be seen that the character from the series is more ambitious.

Another difference is the fact that Sherlock falls for Irene in the book, but isn't corresponded, because she escapes with her newlywed husband. In

the series, it doesn't happen this way. It is discovered that Irene is, in fact, in love with Sherlock, making their paths cross more times.

9.3. TECHNOLOGY

The difference in technology has notably changed in this hundred and fifty years that have passed. These changes can be reflected in the way the cases develop, facilitating or making it more difficult for the main characters to crack the case.

9.4. CASES

As said before, the difference in the length of the stories being told and the differences in technology, make the cases vary. Most of the cases from the books are pretty simple and are solved in a few days.

On the other hand, the cases from the BBC series are far more complex and dig deeper. They don't only need to solve a case and find the murderer, but have to fight against a strong enemy. There are also some cases where Sherlock has to solve different cases which seem to don't have anything in common but finally make sense all together. So, the writers from the series sometimes mix factors from different Sherlock Holmes' books or invent a different ending to continue the story.

That doesn't mean that the cases from the books are easily resolved, but that they normally have the same structure:

- 1. Someone asks for help.
- 2. Sherlock and Watson find some clues, but come up against something unexpected that makes the case more difficult.
- 3. Sherlock finally solves the case inexplicably.
- 4. Sherlock explains how he has solved the case so that everything makes sense for the readers.

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Thanks to all of them.

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IMAGE 23: FAKE VERMEER PAINTING (A STUDY IN PINK):

https://www.google.es/search?biw=1536&bih=754&tbm=isch&sa=1&ei=KL6jW5_MHcS RsAeA17ylBg&q=vermeer+sherlock&oq=vermeer+sherlock&gs_l=img.3...975.2043.0.2 280.9.9.0.0.0.172.841.0j6.6.0....0...1c.1.64.img..3.2.291...0j0i30k1j0i19k1j0i8i30i19k1 .0.TyJWEEsd0hY#imgrc=xf4pF6S5fn03LM:

IMAGE 24: THE KEY OF THE WORLD (THE REICHENBACH FALL):

https://www.ecosia.org/images?q=THE+REICHENBACH+FALL+KEY+OF+THE+WORLD#id=A01F3D3807058600626A4E24785064576B7B8CE9

IMAGE 25: ROUTE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES AND JOHN WATSON (THE REICHENBACH FALL):

http://www.sherlockholmes-fan.com/the-final-problem.html

IMAGE 26: THE STORY OF SIR BOAST A LOT (THE REICHENBACH FALL):

https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/199353604/sir-boast-a-lot-a-fanbook