

1

00:00:00,687 --> 00:00:17,897

This series presents information based in part on theory and conjecture.

2

00:00:17,897 --> 00:00:22,420

The producer's purpose is to suggest some possible explanations but not necessarily

3

00:00:22,420 --> 00:00:27,703

the only ones to the mysteries we will examine.

4

00:00:27,703 --> 00:00:33,707

Only a few phrases in English literature have left the printed page to gain their own immortality.

5

00:00:33,707 --> 00:00:37,709

Shakespeare's To Be or Not To Be is one.

6

00:00:37,709 --> 00:00:43,713

Charles Dickens, It Was The Best Of Times, It Was The Worst Of Times, is another.

7

00:00:43,713 --> 00:00:52,718

None perhaps has captured the world's imagination more completely than elementary, my dear Watson, elementary.

8

00:00:52,718 --> 00:00:56,721

Spoken by the most brilliant and popular private detective of all time.

9

00:00:56,721 --> 00:01:02,724

The question is still debated to this day. Who was Sherlock Holmes?

10

00:01:14,732 --> 00:01:19,735

An expert on the Sherlock Holmes period, Peter Lovesey.

11

00:01:19,735 --> 00:01:25,738

London of Sherlock Holmes was a sinister place, like these bolts of the Western dock.

12

00:01:25,738 --> 00:01:33,743

It was a place of extreme poverty and squalor, where Jack the Ripper roamed the fogging shrouded streets of the East End,

13

00:01:33,743 --> 00:01:40,747

looking for his miserable victims. And the police were quite unable to control the crime.

14

00:01:40,747 --> 00:01:48,752

But many people look back on it as a golden age, when Queen Victoria had reigned for as long as anyone could remember,

15

00:01:48,752 --> 00:01:58,758

and the upper classes could feel secure, safeguarded by the greatest of all detectives, Mr. Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street.

16

00:01:58,758 --> 00:02:07,764

The fact of the matter was, in the decade prior to Holmes' appearance in print, the London police had failed to combat the growing crime rate.

17

00:02:07,764 --> 00:02:12,767

Even corruption in the force flourished.

18

00:02:12,767 --> 00:02:19,771

There were dynamitings involving the Irish problem, ruthlessly suppressed meetings of the unemployed,

19

00:02:19,771 --> 00:02:24,774

and most of all, the notorious Jack the Ripper murders never solved.

20

00:02:24,774 --> 00:02:34,780

Not all police were inefficient or corrupt, of course, but leadership was clearly lacking. The public was not being served.

21

00:02:35,780 --> 00:02:46,787

The Birth of Sherlock Holmes as a Public Figure is documented in a rare collection owned by Stanley McKenzie.

22

00:02:46,787 --> 00:02:58,794

The big cornerstone of any Sherlock Holmes collection, which is the envy of most collectors, is Beaton's Christmas Annual for 1887.

23

00:02:58,794 --> 00:03:07,800

In this, a study in Scarlett was first published. This was the first appearance of the first Sherlock Holmes story.

24

00:03:07,800 --> 00:03:14,804

Conan Doyle was paid 25 pounds for the copyright, and he never received another penny.

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00:03:14,804 --> 00:03:22,809

Sherlock Holmes' reputation was enhanced by the play about him, written by an American actor,

William Gillette.

26

00:03:22,809 --> 00:03:28,812

This poster shows Gillette himself in the gas chamber scene in the play.

27

00:03:28,812 --> 00:03:35,817

Gillette probably played the part of Holmes more times than any other actor.

28

00:03:35,817 --> 00:03:39,819

An 1895 recording preserves his performance.

29

00:03:53,828 --> 00:03:59,831

From theater to motion pictures was also an elementary step for the master sleuth.

30

00:03:59,831 --> 00:04:04,834

Fame and fortune would quickly accrue to Doyle as well.

31

00:04:04,834 --> 00:04:08,837

We are getting on once. I'm glad to see you in a more cheerful mood.

32

00:04:08,837 --> 00:04:16,841

By 1933, a third version of a study in Scarlett had been made, with Reginald Owen playing the detective,

33

00:04:16,841 --> 00:04:20,844

whose personal and professional style set him apart from all others.

34

00:04:20,844 --> 00:04:26,847

A large number represented the page, the second, the small number, the column, and the other figures, the message.

35

00:04:26,847 --> 00:04:28,849

You'll find it decoded on the table.

36

00:04:28,849 --> 00:04:34,852

Every Holmes adventure is different, but in all of them he plays the violin, of which he was a master.

37

00:04:34,852 --> 00:04:39,855

A client, Watson? Where? The widow standing under the streetlight.

38

00:04:41,856 --> 00:04:45,859

A widow? Would you like to bet on that? Of course.

39

00:04:45,859 --> 00:04:51,862

Well, I'm not going down the street to ask her. Ah, won't be necessary. She's made up of mine.

40

00:04:52,863 --> 00:04:54,864

So you deduce her to distancing?

41

00:04:54,864 --> 00:04:59,867

Not in this case. I recognized her features. She's a Mrs. Murphy.

42

00:04:59,867 --> 00:05:02,869

Her husband was murdered three days ago.

43

00:05:02,869 --> 00:05:04,870

You mean the man that was found dead in a train?

44

00:05:04,870 --> 00:05:08,873

Exactly. Come in.

45

00:05:09,873 --> 00:05:13,876

A Mrs. Murphy to see you, sir. Mr. Holmes, I'm in such a mess. Such a mess.

46

00:05:13,876 --> 00:05:16,878

My husband up and died without leaving me as much as I could.

47

00:05:16,878 --> 00:05:21,881

Holmes would never refuse a woman in distress, whether she be plain or beautiful.

48

00:05:21,881 --> 00:05:27,884

And in some cases, he might reluctantly have to turn her over to the authorities.

49

00:05:27,884 --> 00:05:33,888

For under his cool exterior burned a passion for justice to be feared by all villains.

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00:05:33,888 --> 00:05:37,890

London's most dangerous crook, the King of Blackmailers.

51

00:05:37,890 --> 00:05:41,893

A gliding, slimy, venomous snake.

52

00:05:41,893 --> 00:05:46,896

Once in his power, he'll squeeze and squeeze until he's drained, his victims dry.

53

00:05:46,896 --> 00:05:51,899

More than once I've had my net around him so far, he's managed to wriggle his way out.

54

00:05:51,899 --> 00:05:53,900

But the time has come, Watson.

55

00:05:53,900 --> 00:05:55,901

No shark broke that window.

56

00:05:55,901 --> 00:06:00,904

How did this modern detective come into being? What was Holmes' creator like?

57

00:06:01,905 --> 00:06:07,908

Arthur Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh in 1859.

58

00:06:07,908 --> 00:06:12,911

Raised in one of the gracious Georgian homes in the New Town, he enrolled at the age of 17

59

00:06:12,911 --> 00:06:16,914

as a student of medicine at the university.

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00:06:19,916 --> 00:06:24,919

Here he learned the methods of diagnosis, which applied to the analysis of crime,

61

00:06:24,919 --> 00:06:28,921

became the basis of Holmes' famous methods of detection.

62

00:06:28,921 --> 00:06:33,924

No one questions that the inspiration for his quick-witted hero came from Doyle's tutor,

63

00:06:33,924 --> 00:06:37,926

Dr. Joseph Bell, here recreated for in search of.

64

00:06:37,926 --> 00:06:43,930

I've always considered Conan Doyle as one of the best students I've ever had.

65

00:06:43,930 --> 00:06:47,932

He was exceedingly interested in anything concerned with diagnosis.

66

00:06:47,932 --> 00:06:54,937

Never tired of trying to discover those little details that one must look for.

67

00:06:54,937 --> 00:06:58,939

I remember he was greatly amused one day.

68

00:06:58,939 --> 00:07:02,941

A man came in, sat down,

69

00:07:02,941 --> 00:07:08,945

good morning, Pat, I said, for it was impossible not to see that he was an Irishman.

70

00:07:08,945 --> 00:07:12,948

Good morning, your honour, replied the patient.

71

00:07:12,948 --> 00:07:17,951

Well, and did you like your walk across the links today

72

00:07:17,951 --> 00:07:20,952

as you came in from the south side of the town, sir?

73

00:07:20,952 --> 00:07:22,954

Yes.

74

00:07:22,954 --> 00:07:24,955

replied Pat.

75

00:07:24,955 --> 00:07:27,957

Did your honour see me?

76

00:07:27,957 --> 00:07:31,959

Well, even Doyle could not see how I came to know that.

77

00:07:31,959 --> 00:07:33,960

Obsubly simple as it was.

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00:07:33,960 --> 00:07:36,962

On a showery day, such as it had been,

79

00:07:36,962 --> 00:07:39,964

the reddish clay at the bare part of the links

80

00:07:39,964 --> 00:07:41,965

adheres to the boot.

81

00:07:41,965 --> 00:07:43,966

Some tiny part of it is bound to remain.

82

00:07:43,966 --> 00:07:46,968

There's no such clay anywhere else round the town for miles.

83

00:07:46,968 --> 00:07:50,970

Well, that and one or two similar instances,

84

00:07:50,970 --> 00:07:57,975

excited Doyle's interest and set him discovering for himself in the same direction,

85

00:07:57,975 --> 00:08:01,977

which of course was exactly what I wanted with him and all my other scholars.

86

00:08:01,977 --> 00:08:03,978

Recognition of...

87

00:08:03,978 --> 00:08:07,981

How much of Belle was in Holmes, how much of Doyle himself,

88

00:08:07,981 --> 00:08:10,983

no one can say for sure.

89

00:08:10,983 --> 00:08:13,984

As a young doctor with few patients,

90

00:08:13,984 --> 00:08:16,986

Doyle found plenty of time to write.

91

00:08:16,986 --> 00:08:19,988

Years later, he told why he found himself in Holmes.

92

00:08:19,988 --> 00:08:22,990

He told why he felt compelled to create Holmes.

93

00:08:22,990 --> 00:08:25,992

I had of course a scientific training

94

00:08:25,992 --> 00:08:31,995

and I used occasionally to read detective stories.

95

00:08:31,995 --> 00:08:35,998

It all annoyed me how in the old fashioned detective story,

96

00:08:35,998 --> 00:08:40,000

the detective always seemed to get at his results,

97

00:08:40,000 --> 00:08:43,002

either by some sort of lucky chance or a fluke,

98

00:08:43,002 --> 00:08:47,004

or else it was quite unexplained how he got there.

99

00:08:47,004 --> 00:08:50,006

I would have never given explanation.

100

00:08:50,006 --> 00:08:52,007

In a number of films from the 30s,

101

00:08:52,007 --> 00:08:57,010

Arthur Wautner is Sherlock Holmes and Ian Fleming is Dr. Watson.

102

00:08:57,010 --> 00:09:00,012

Deductive reasoning is on full display.

103

00:09:00,012 --> 00:09:03,014

You moved your shaving mirror over to the fireplace.

104

00:09:03,014 --> 00:09:04,014

Here, that's right.

105

00:09:04,014 --> 00:09:08,017

My wife has a dressing table where we used to have...

106

00:09:08,017 --> 00:09:10,018

How do you know?

107

00:09:10,018 --> 00:09:12,019

I know once that your men have precise habits

108

00:09:12,019 --> 00:09:15,021

and considerable regard for your personal appearance.

109

00:09:15,021 --> 00:09:17,022

I've observed that whilst the right-hand side of your face

110

00:09:17,022 --> 00:09:20,024

is closely shaved, the further we get to the neck.

111

00:09:20,024 --> 00:09:22,025

The more careless your shaving appears.

112

00:09:22,025 --> 00:09:24,027

So we come to the angle of the jaw

113

00:09:24,027 --> 00:09:27,028

and it is posited this suddenly.

114

00:09:27,028 --> 00:09:30,030

Behind I deduce therefore that you placed your shaving mirror

115

00:09:30,030 --> 00:09:35,033

where the light strikes on the right side of the face.

116

00:09:35,033 --> 00:09:37,034

The bed must obviously be crossed the end of the room,

117

00:09:37,034 --> 00:09:39,036

therefore the fireplace is the only place left

118

00:09:39,036 --> 00:09:41,037

which could produce that result.

119

00:09:41,037 --> 00:09:43,038

Amazing, though.

120

00:09:43,038 --> 00:09:45,039

Elementary, my dear Wautner.

121

00:09:45,039 --> 00:09:46,040

Elementary.

122

00:09:46,040 --> 00:09:48,041

Yes, with the hilarious victim.

123

00:09:48,041 --> 00:09:50,042

I mean that we should see Mr. Holmes doing stuff.

124

00:09:50,042 --> 00:09:51,043

Stuff?

125

00:09:51,043 --> 00:09:55,045

It's a modern expression Watson signifying to display one's talent.

126

00:09:55,045 --> 00:09:56,046

That's right.

127

00:09:56,046 --> 00:09:58,047

I want Mr. Holmes to tell us what father's been doing

128

00:09:58,047 --> 00:10:01,049

for the last 20 years just by looking at him.

129

00:10:01,049 --> 00:10:04,051

Holmes is always observant, even of friends.

130

00:10:04,051 --> 00:10:08,053

I'm afraid they're very little data.

131

00:10:08,053 --> 00:10:11,055

I merely observed that since we last met,

132

00:10:11,055 --> 00:10:13,056

your father has taken to billion

133

00:10:13,056 --> 00:10:16,058

that he's recently played a hundred up with Mr. Trevor.

134

00:10:16,058 --> 00:10:18,059

That's so purely correct, Holmes.

135

00:10:18,059 --> 00:10:21,061

Oh, I do, Wautner. It's implicit in itself.

136

00:10:21,061 --> 00:10:23,062

I observed that both you and Mr. Trevor

137

00:10:23,062 --> 00:10:25,063

are traces of blue chalk between the four finger and thumb

138

00:10:25,063 --> 00:10:29,066

of your left hand, which you put there obviously to settle the queue.

139

00:10:29,066 --> 00:10:33,068

There. I hope that satisfies you, Diana.

140

00:10:33,068 --> 00:10:35,069

Where were you married, Mrs. Douglas?

141

00:10:35,069 --> 00:10:37,071

In New York.

142

00:10:37,071 --> 00:10:39,072

Ah, in America.

143

00:10:39,072 --> 00:10:43,074

Holmes is not only observant, he is worldly wise.

144

00:10:43,074 --> 00:10:45,075

Nothing at all.

145

00:10:45,075 --> 00:10:47,077

That mark on his arm.

146

00:10:47,077 --> 00:10:49,078

Do you know what that is?

147

00:10:49,078 --> 00:10:50,078

No.

148

00:10:50,078 --> 00:10:51,079

You never asked him?

149

00:10:51,079 --> 00:10:55,081

Yes, I did once, but he refused to discuss it.

150

00:10:55,081 --> 00:10:56,082

So I never asked again.

151

00:10:56,082 --> 00:10:58,083

You have no idea what it is.

152

00:10:58,083 --> 00:11:00,084

None whatsoever.

153

00:11:00,084 --> 00:11:03,086

Can't you suggest anything?

154

00:11:03,086 --> 00:11:07,089

Mrs. Douglas, I suggest that you tell me the truth.

155

00:11:07,089 --> 00:11:08,089

Mr. Holmes.

156

00:11:08,089 --> 00:11:11,091

You know perfectly well what that mark is.

157

00:11:11,091 --> 00:11:14,093

You couldn't possibly have lived in America without knowing.

158

00:11:14,093 --> 00:11:16,094

I'll write it with you, Moriarty.

159

00:11:16,094 --> 00:11:19,096

In one of the films, our master detective's arch enemy,

160

00:11:19,096 --> 00:11:23,098

Professor Moriarty, is about to push Dr. Watson down

161

00:11:23,098 --> 00:11:26,100

an 80-foot abandoned elevator shaft.

162

00:11:26,100 --> 00:11:28,101

Very good.

163

00:11:28,101 --> 00:11:34,105

I will now remove the panel and wish you a sweet journey.

164

00:11:39,108 --> 00:11:41,109

Don't move, any of you.

165

00:11:41,109 --> 00:11:42,110

Ah!

166

00:11:42,110 --> 00:11:43,110

Got it!

167

00:11:43,110 --> 00:11:47,113

Except you, my dear Watson, who I'm sure would be more comfortable with us.

168

00:11:47,113 --> 00:11:50,115

You must excuse me for trespassing on your private property.

169

00:11:50,115 --> 00:11:52,116

I've had to lift, put in order again.

170

00:11:52,116 --> 00:11:54,117

You're clever.

171

00:11:54,117 --> 00:11:56,118

No compliments, please.

172

00:11:56,118 --> 00:11:57,119

Are you sure, Robert Moriarty?

173

00:11:57,119 --> 00:11:58,119

On what charge?

174

00:11:58,119 --> 00:12:00,121

Being concerned of the murder of the table boy, Edward Hunter.

175

00:12:00,121 --> 00:12:04,123

Well, it's the most amazing case we've ever solved, Holmes.

176

00:12:04,123 --> 00:12:06,124

Elementary, my dear Watson.

177

00:12:06,124 --> 00:12:08,125

Elementary.

178

00:12:08,125 --> 00:12:13,128

Most criminologists of today will tip their hats in gratitude

179

00:12:13,128 --> 00:12:16,130

to the legacy of Holmes and his creator.

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00:12:16,130 --> 00:12:19,132

In fact, a member of the Sherlock Holmes Society

181

00:12:19,132 --> 00:12:23,134

is an official of Scotland Yard, Philip Dalton.

182

00:12:23,134 --> 00:12:29,138

Mr. Dalton kindly consented to escort us to a very special exclusive place.

183

00:12:29,138 --> 00:12:33,141

Behind a pub, on an obscure street near Trafalgar Square,

184

00:12:33,141 --> 00:12:36,142

the Society has assembled a stirring tribute

185

00:12:36,142 --> 00:12:39,144

to the leading detective of all time.

186

00:12:43,147 --> 00:12:47,149

Well, here it is, the sitting room at 221B Baker Street.

187

00:12:47,149 --> 00:12:53,153

Left exactly as it was on the instructions of the Mycroft Holmes, Sherlock's brother.

188

00:12:53,153 --> 00:12:55,154

Nothing to be touched.

189

00:12:55,154 --> 00:12:56,154

Nothing has been.

190

00:12:56,154 --> 00:12:58,156

It's all here.

191

00:12:58,156 --> 00:13:00,157

With Persian slipper.

192

00:13:00,157 --> 00:13:03,159

With some tobacco still in it.

193

00:13:03,159 --> 00:13:05,160

The poker.

194

00:13:05,160 --> 00:13:08,162

But Sherlock Holmes nearly straightened.

195

00:13:08,162 --> 00:13:10,163

The violin.

196

00:13:10,163 --> 00:13:12,164

It used to play across his knees.

197

00:13:12,164 --> 00:13:14,165

There's the gasogen.

198

00:13:14,165 --> 00:13:15,166

There's the tantalus.

199

00:13:15,166 --> 00:13:18,168

Patriotic VR, picked out in bullet box.

200

00:13:18,168 --> 00:13:20,169

And behind me is the bust of Sherlock Holmes

201

00:13:20,169 --> 00:13:24,171

that was the target for Colonel Sebastian Moran's air-ride.

202

00:13:24,171 --> 00:13:26,172

And you can still see the bullet hole.

203

00:13:26,172 --> 00:13:29,174

This room is, of course, a shrine.

204

00:13:29,174 --> 00:13:33,177

And it's visited by pilgrims from all over the world.

205

00:13:33,177 --> 00:13:37,179

It's especially a shrine for the Sherlock Holmes Society of London.

206

00:13:37,179 --> 00:13:44,183

If in this room you were to ask me, was Sherlock Holmes fact or fiction?

207

00:13:44,183 --> 00:13:49,186

I'd like to echo the reply given by our president, Lord Gobu.

208

00:13:49,186 --> 00:13:53,189

Who when asked that question said, yes.

209

00:13:53,189 --> 00:13:56,191

The claim that Sherlock Holmes did exist

210

00:13:56,191 --> 00:14:01,194

beyond the imagination of Conan Doyle may seem preposterous to many.

211

00:14:01,194 --> 00:14:06,197

But as we shall see, there is evidence to support this belief.

212

00:14:06,197 --> 00:14:11,200

The first clues to why Holmes may have been more than simply a fictional character

213

00:14:11,200 --> 00:14:14,201

may be found in Doyle's life itself.

214

00:14:14,201 --> 00:14:19,204

HRF Keating is one of Doyle's leading biographers.

215

00:14:19,204 --> 00:14:22,206

But he did other things in many other fields.

216

00:14:22,206 --> 00:14:26,209

He was the man who introduced the ski to Switzerland.

217

00:14:26,209 --> 00:14:30,211

Before that it had just been a way of getting about over the snow in Norway.

218

00:14:30,211 --> 00:14:34,213

He brought it to Switzerland and started the whole great skiing industry.

219

00:14:34,213 --> 00:14:38,216

It was like bringing the pump into America.

220

00:14:38,216 --> 00:14:43,219

Then in the 1914 war, he was the man responsible for the introduction

221

00:14:43,219 --> 00:14:46,221

of the modern military steel helmet.

222

00:14:46,221 --> 00:14:49,223

He carried out experiments himself with a rifle

223

00:14:49,223 --> 00:14:53,225

and proved that protection could be given against the modern bullet.

224

00:14:53,225 --> 00:14:58,228

At the same time, he insisted that the troops going over from England to France

225

00:14:58,228 --> 00:15:03,231

were equipped with inflatable life jackets and they went to the British Navy as well.

226

00:15:03,231 --> 00:15:07,233

As significant as these accomplishments were, however,

227

00:15:07,233 --> 00:15:09,235

and knighthood would be his reward,

228

00:15:09,235 --> 00:15:13,237

what is little known is that Doyle was involved in many cases himself.

229

00:15:13,237 --> 00:15:17,239

In search of, recreates one of them.

230

00:15:17,239 --> 00:15:22,242

Conan Doyle's secretary, Major Wood, was perhaps the prototype for Dr. Watson.

231

00:15:22,242 --> 00:15:28,246

One morning in 1906, he opened a letter which he thought would arouse Doyle's interest.

232

00:15:28,246 --> 00:15:34,250

It was from George Iddalji, an Anglo-Indian lawyer who on weak circumstantial evidence

233

00:15:34,250 --> 00:15:39,253

and possibly because of his ancestry had been sent to the British Navy

234

00:15:39,253 --> 00:15:44,256

in prison charged with slashing and maiming horses with a razor.

235

00:15:44,256 --> 00:15:49,259

After serving three of these seven years, he was inexplicably released,

236

00:15:49,259 --> 00:15:51,260

but without a pardon.

237

00:15:51,260 --> 00:15:55,262

Now he wrote to Doyle, asking to clear his name.

238

00:15:55,262 --> 00:15:56,263

Morning, Alfred.

239

00:15:56,263 --> 00:15:59,265

The author of this letter here I think you ought to see.

240

00:15:59,265 --> 00:16:01,266

It's from Mr. Iddalji.

241

00:16:01,266 --> 00:16:04,268

I think it's from the British Navy.

242

00:16:04,268 --> 00:16:05,268

Morning, Alfred.

243

00:16:05,268 --> 00:16:07,270

The author of this letter here I think you ought to see.

244

00:16:07,270 --> 00:16:09,271

It's from Mr. Iddalji.

245

00:16:09,271 --> 00:16:13,273

Who it appears has been the butt of a gross miscarriage of justice.

246

00:16:13,273 --> 00:16:15,274

Iddalji, Iddalji.

247

00:16:15,274 --> 00:16:17,276

Wasn't there an article in the umpire last month?

248

00:16:17,276 --> 00:16:18,276

Yes, there was.

249

00:16:18,276 --> 00:16:22,279

He sent it with his letter. It's amongst those.

250

00:16:22,279 --> 00:16:25,280

Ah, yes, I remember.

251

00:16:25,280 --> 00:16:27,282

Extraordinary case.

252

00:16:27,282 --> 00:16:30,283

I'll have another look at it.

253

00:16:31,284 --> 00:16:38,288

As I read, the unmistakable accent of truth forced itself upon my attention,

254

00:16:38,288 --> 00:16:42,291

and I realized that I was in the presence of an appalling tragedy,

255

00:16:42,291 --> 00:16:47,294

and that I was called upon to do what I could to set it right.

256

00:16:47,294 --> 00:16:52,297

I got other papers in the case, went up to Staffordshire,

257

00:16:52,297 --> 00:16:57,300

saw the family, and went over the scene of the crime.

258

00:17:00,302 --> 00:17:04,304

Between Iddalji's house and the place where the final mutilation was committed,

259

00:17:04,304 --> 00:17:08,306

lay the full breadth of the London and Northwestern railway,

260

00:17:08,306 --> 00:17:12,309

an expanse of rails, wires, and other obstacles,

261

00:17:12,309 --> 00:17:15,311

with hedges to be forced on either side,

262

00:17:15,311 --> 00:17:19,313

so that I, a strong and a active man, in broad daylight,

263

00:17:19,313 --> 00:17:22,315

found it a hard method to pass.

264

00:17:22,315 --> 00:17:27,318

Not until I had examined every fact subtly from every angle

265

00:17:27,318 --> 00:17:30,320

that I arranged to question Iddalji.

266

00:17:30,320 --> 00:17:32,321

The meeting took place at my hotel.

267

00:17:32,321 --> 00:17:36,323

I had been delayed, and he was passing the time by reading the paper.

268

00:17:36,323 --> 00:17:42,327

I recognized my man by his dark face, so I stood and observed.

269

00:17:45,329 --> 00:17:47,330

Mr. Iddalji, I presume.

270

00:17:47,330 --> 00:17:48,330

Oh, Sir Arthur.

271

00:17:48,330 --> 00:17:51,332

Do you suffer from astigmatic myopia?

272

00:17:51,332 --> 00:17:53,334

This is indeed an honor.

273

00:17:53,334 --> 00:17:54,334

Look, don't you wear glasses?

274

00:17:54,334 --> 00:17:56,335

Never have, Sir Arthur.

275

00:17:56,335 --> 00:17:58,337

They can't fit me glasses that are any use.

276

00:17:58,337 --> 00:18:01,338

I have been to two ophthalmic surgeons,

277

00:18:01,338 --> 00:18:05,341

and both the idea of such a man scouring the fields at night,

278

00:18:05,341 --> 00:18:09,343

and assaulting animals while avoiding the watchful police,

279

00:18:09,343 --> 00:18:13,346

was ludicrous to anyone who can imagine what the world looks like

280

00:18:13,346 --> 00:18:17,348

to eyes with myopia of eight diopters.

281

00:18:17,348 --> 00:18:20,350

So bad was his defense in his trial,

282

00:18:20,350 --> 00:18:24,352

that no mention as far as I could have sustained was ever made of the fact

283

00:18:24,352 --> 00:18:28,355

that the man was practically blind.

284

00:18:29,355 --> 00:18:34,358

Finally, Doyle wrote a series of articles in the Daily Telegraph.

285

00:18:34,358 --> 00:18:36,359

They provoked the public outcry,

286

00:18:36,359 --> 00:18:41,362

and Doyle was invited to a meeting with the Home Secretary.

287

00:18:41,362 --> 00:18:45,365

Not satisfied with simply clearing Iddalji's name,

288

00:18:45,365 --> 00:18:49,367

Doyle now set out to discover the identity of the real slasher.

289

00:18:49,367 --> 00:18:54,370

Before long, he began receiving threatening letters with a Seafort postmark,

290

00:18:54,370 --> 00:18:58,373

providing him with the clues he needed.

291

00:18:59,373 --> 00:19:04,376

Clearly, the letters were written by a disturbed, perhaps pathological man

292

00:19:04,376 --> 00:19:07,378

who also despised foreigners.

293

00:19:07,378 --> 00:19:12,381

Doyle then traced Iddalji's history from the time of the crimes backwards,

294

00:19:12,381 --> 00:19:16,384

all the way to Iddalji's grammar school.

295

00:19:17,384 --> 00:19:20,386

Had there been a fellow student with a vicious nature,

296

00:19:20,386 --> 00:19:22,387

a hatred against foreigners,

297

00:19:22,387 --> 00:19:25,389

and a grudge against Iddalji himself,

298

00:19:25,389 --> 00:19:28,391

and who subsequently went to sea,

299

00:19:28,391 --> 00:19:30,392

there had.

300

00:19:30,392 --> 00:19:33,394

Doyle discovered his present whereabouts,

301

00:19:33,394 --> 00:19:37,396

and learned he had quit the sea at the time the slashings began.

302

00:19:37,396 --> 00:19:39,397

He had been trained in a slaughterhouse,

303

00:19:39,397 --> 00:19:43,400

and he showed signs of periodic insanity.

304

00:19:43,400 --> 00:19:46,402

Doyle even got hold of a long horse lancet

305

00:19:46,402 --> 00:19:50,404

with which the slashings had undoubtedly been committed.

306

00:19:51,405 --> 00:19:56,408

The Law Society re-admitted Iddalji to the role of solicitors.

307

00:19:56,408 --> 00:19:59,409

Although the Home Office granted Iddalji his pardon,

308

00:19:59,409 --> 00:20:02,411

they wouldn't agree to any compensation.

309

00:20:02,411 --> 00:20:05,413

However, the case in due course paved the way

310

00:20:05,413 --> 00:20:08,415

for establishing a court of criminal appeal.

311

00:20:08,415 --> 00:20:12,417

And this was only one of the good many real life cases

312

00:20:12,417 --> 00:20:15,419

in which Doyle achieved success.

313

00:20:16,420 --> 00:20:20,422

Sherlock Holmes and his creator were inseparably linked.

314

00:20:20,422 --> 00:20:23,424

In his autobiography, Doyle admitted,

315

00:20:23,424 --> 00:20:27,426

A man cannot spin a character out of his own inner consciousness

316

00:20:27,426 --> 00:20:29,428

and make it really life-like,

317

00:20:29,428 --> 00:20:33,430

unless he has some of that character within him.

318

00:20:34,431 --> 00:20:41,435

The horse-drawn carriages of 1895 may have disappeared,

319

00:20:41,435 --> 00:20:47,438

but the living presence of Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street persists to this day.

320

00:20:47,438 --> 00:20:50,440

Nearly a hundred years after a study in Scarlet,

321

00:20:50,440 --> 00:20:55,443

letters still come into that address at 221B Baker Street,

322

00:20:55,443 --> 00:20:58,445

now the offices of an insurance company

323

00:20:58,445 --> 00:21:01,447

who reply on Sherlock Holmes' behalf.

324

00:21:01,447 --> 00:21:04,449

And this one's from San Diego, California.

325

00:21:04,449 --> 00:21:09,452

It's addressed to Mr. Sherlock Holmes or Dr. John Watson, MD.

326

00:21:10,452 --> 00:21:15,455

For those who believe Sherlock Holmes was only a figment of a writer's imagination,

327

00:21:15,455 --> 00:21:18,457

in search of humbly submits its deduction,

328

00:21:18,457 --> 00:21:22,460

that he did, in a very real way, exist.

329

00:21:26,462 --> 00:21:28,463

Coming up next in Search of continues

330

00:21:28,463 --> 00:21:31,465

with a quest for the missing evolutionary link.

331

00:21:31,465 --> 00:21:35,467

Then 20th century with Mike Wallace reports on childcare and nannies.

332

00:21:35,467 --> 00:21:39,470

And later tonight, History's Mysteries sets out on one of history's strangest

333

00:21:39,470 --> 00:21:41,471

and most moving marches into war,

334

00:21:41,471 --> 00:21:45,473

the children's crusade at 8, here on the History Channel,

335

00:21:45,473 --> 00:21:47,475

where the past comes alive.

336

00:21:58,481 --> 00:22:03,484

The History Channel

