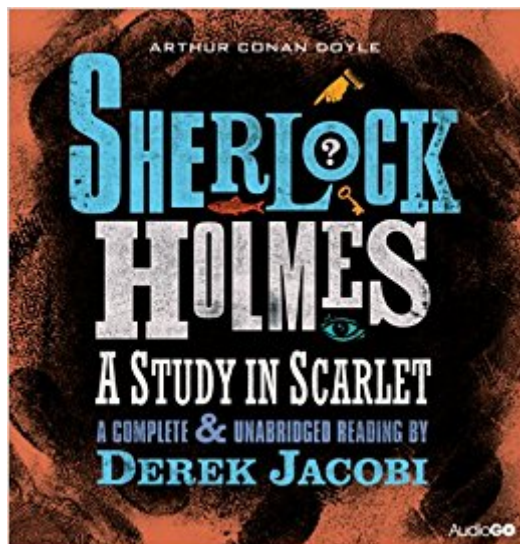


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# Sherlock Holmes: A Study In Scarlet



## Synopsis

"There's the scarlet thread of murder running through the colorless skein of life, and our duty is to unravel it, and isolate it, and expose every inch of it." Arriving in the wilderness of London and in need of lodgings, Dr. John Watson finds himself living at 221B Baker Street with one Sherlock Holmes. When a corpse is discovered in a derelict house Watson, fascinated by his brilliant, eccentric companion, is soon drawn into Holmes's investigations. There's no sign of a struggle, no wounds on the body, yet scrawled in blood across the walls is the word "RACHE" – revenge. Watson is baffled but, for Holmes, the game is afoot. . . 4 CDs. 4 hrs 42 mins.

## Book Information

Series: Sherlock Holmes

Audio CD: 1 pages

Publisher: BBC Books; Unabridged edition (July 5, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1445830361

ISBN-13: 978-1445830360

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 5.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 449 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,288,009 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( D ) #267 in Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Classics #1902 in Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers

## Customer Reviews

Arthur Conan Doyle's *Study in Scarlet* is the first published story involving the legendary Sherlock Holmes, arguably the world's best-known detective, and the first narrative by Holmes's Boswell, the unassuming Dr. Watson, a military surgeon lately returned from the Afghan War. Watson needs a flat-mate and a diversion. Holmes needs a foil. And thus a great literary collaboration begins. Watson and Holmes move to a now-famous address, 221B Baker Street, where Watson is introduced to Holmes's eccentricities as well as his uncanny ability to deduce information about his fellow beings. Somewhat shaken by Holmes's egotism, Watson is nonetheless dazzled by his seemingly magical ability to provide detailed information about a man glimpsed once under the streetlamp across the road. Then murder. Facing a deserted house, a twisted corpse with no

wounds, a mysterious phrase drawn in blood on the wall, and the buffoons of Scotland Yard--Lestrade and Gregson--Holmes measures, observes, picks up a pinch of this and a pinch of that, and generally baffles his faithful Watson. Later, Holmes explains: "In solving a problem of this sort, the grand thing is to be able to reason backward.... There are few people who, if you told them a result, would be able to evolve from their own inner consciousness what the steps were which led up to that result." Holmes is in that elite group. Conan Doyle quickly learned that it was Holmes's deductions that were of most interest to his readers. The lengthy flashback, while a convention of popular fiction, simply distracted from readers' real focus. It is when Holmes and Watson gather before the coal fire and Holmes sums up the deductions that led him to the successful apprehension of the criminal that we are most captivated. Subsequent Holmes stories--The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, The Return of Sherlock Holmes, and The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes--rightly plunge the twosome directly into the middle of a baffling crime, piling mystery upon mystery until Holmes's denouement once more leaves the dazzled Watson murmuring, "You are wonderful, Holmes!" Generations of readers agree. --Barbara Schlieper --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Grade 7-12-In the first of the Sherlock Holmes stories, Dr. Watson, discharged from military service after suffering wounds, is at loose ends until a chance encounter leads him to take rooms with Sherlock Holmes. When Watson is drawn into the investigation of a bizarre murder in which Holmes is involved, he is unaware that it is the beginning of the most famous partnership in the history of criminal detection. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

This book contains two short stories. The first one is where Dr. Watson (narrator) and Sherlock Holmes meet and work their first case together. The story isn't very good, but other reviews indicate this may not be the complete version and may have been butchered into a version that is not the equal of the original. The second story, about an old man and child who are found on the prairie is exceptionally good. Holmes and Watson do not appear until the end where a manhunt that began in the American west ends on a London street. The two stories off set to a medium rating. This kindle version has the first story in its table of contents, the second story is not recognized.

While I am certainly fond of this story, and the author, this review is related to this particular volume. STAY AWAY. It is poorly, poorly made. The book is MASSIVE in size, which makes no sense for

such a short book. Most of the page space isn't even used, and there aren't even page numbers in it. It's like they spent five minutes putting it together and it's just a pathetic attempt to make money without putting in the slightest effort. An insult to both Holmes and his creator!

I bought this book after seeing a PBS special on Conan-Doyle's influence on forensic science. I taught that subject for a year to a group of high school students, so I know things such as "The Locard Exchange Principle." What I didn't know is that Locard himself, the acknowledged father of Forensic Science, freely acknowledged that Conan Doyle had actually come up with the idea first. The principle is that "whenever two objects come into contact, each leaves traces of itself on the other." Sherlock knew that, of course, and so did Locard. Now every criminal investigator has to know that. Imagine my delight to find out that Conan-Doyle is a first-class writer and storyteller! Woo-Hoo! His works range from dirt cheap to free, so I'd say grab one of these and read away. You won't be sorry!

Well worth a read for those who enjoy a well-plotted mystery. The language was a bit off-putting, although I read many novels of this period when in college a few decades back. Much fun to observe the relationship between Holmes and some authorities. I cringed at numerous, ah, condescending references to women. However, this taught me that much time can pass while some men today appear not to have caught up.

This is the first Sherlock Holmes book that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote. What makes it interesting to me is the juxtaposition of the parts involving Sherlock, which take place in London, and the one from the US showing the background of the crimes. Before reading this book, I did not know that Doyle had such a great understanding of the US, its culture and nature. I highly recommend it.

I am a Speech Language Pathologist. I work with adults who have aphasia-a communication disorder that sometimes impacts reading comprehension. I have an Aphasia Book Club. We just finished reading this book in our club. The book was interesting to the readers and we had a great time cataloging the clues as they were presented. A good and quick read. We read it in 5 weeks.

We read this as a Book Club selection- and everyone loved re-visiting Sherlock Holmes! So craftily presented, vivid imagery and characters- too good, vile, murderous, or smart to be real, STILL got you in their clutches and held you there until it was over- and left you thinking HOW did this all

happen, and we not see it coming?! We were informed that this story changed how "clues" became paramount in solving crimes, and how gathering evidence (carefully) became/ changed how detective work was changed, and has remained somewhat the same today.

It was fascinating to read the first Sherlock Holmes novel. You learned how Holmes used deductive reasoning to solve his cases. Dr. John Watson was the narrator. How ironic that he was part of the British Army in Afghanistan and we're involved in the fighting there in 2015. Highly recommend this book to anyone who is currently enjoying the Masterpiece Series SHERLOCK with Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman.

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