

Nicholas Meyer's *Sherlock Holmes and the Real Thing* (New York: Mysterious Press, 2025; 248 pp., \$26.96) is (perhaps) the last in his long series of Sherlockian novels (his *The Seven-Per-Cent Solution* was published in 1974, and he has been writing Sherlockian stories for many years more than Conan Doyle). It's a well-told tale of chicanery and forgery and murder in the world of fine art; the author confesses that he has been a forger since he began the series, and of course he has been thoroughly successful at it. His web-site's at <[www.nicholas-meyer.com](http://www.nicholas-meyer.com)>.

The LEGO Book Nook is now available, with 1,359 pieces (and instructions) <[www.lego.com/en-us/product/icons-10351-10351](http://www.lego.com/en-us/product/icons-10351-10351)>. There's also an informative video at <[www.tinyurl.com/2jfhfyvd](http://www.tinyurl.com/2jfhfyvd)>.

"Powwows: Celebrating Native American Culture" is the theme of a new sheet of stamps from the U.S. Postal Service <[www.tinyurl.com/yck7syu8](http://www.tinyurl.com/yck7syu8)>. It is possible that Jefferson Hope witnessed a powwow when he lived amongst the Indians (as noted in "A Study in Scarlet").

*Benedict Cumberbatch Reads Sherlock Holmes' Rediscovered Railway Mysteries* (an audiobook with four new stories by John Taylor), released by BBC Audio in 2015, is available (free) at YouTube <[www.tinyurl.com/3xasesht](http://www.tinyurl.com/3xasesht)>. Many people are now listening to audiobooks at YouTube, and many more Sherlockian recordings can be found there.

The CBS-TV series "Watson" has been renewed for a second season. If you had trouble recording and watching episodes when preceding sports programs ran long, the entire series is conveniently available on-line at the network's web-site <[www.cbs.com/shows/watson](http://www.cbs.com/shows/watson)>.

The restored (and most complete) version of "The Lost World" (1925), released on DVD by Image Entertainment in 2012 and by Flicker Alley on Blu-ray in 2017, is highly recommended to anyone who's not seen this classic film; it is still available from Flicker Alley <[www.tinyurl.com/yekt43r4](http://www.tinyurl.com/yekt43r4)>, discounted to \$34.95. There are many added features on the Blu-ray, and a trailer at the web-site.

Alex Hutchinson will give the next Cameron Hollyer Memorial Lecture at the Toronto Reference Library on Nov. 29, on "Conan Doyle's Lost World: Filling in the Blank Spaces on the Map" <[www.acdfriends.org/events.html](http://www.acdfriends.org/events.html)>. The web-site offers links to YouTube recordings of past lectures, 2022-2024.

Netflix has announced that production has started on "The Final Problem" <[www.tinyurl.com/2sny4juz](http://www.tinyurl.com/2sny4juz)>, a five-episode mini-series that's based on Arturo Pérez-Reverte's novel *El Problema Final* (Sep 23 #5). The mini-series will feature Jose Coronado as Benjamin Basil ("a washed-up actor who once played the most famous detective of all time on the silver screen"); there isn't yet an English translation of the novel, so it's possible that Netflix will air the mini-series here with English subtitles, or dubbed into English. There's a summary of the novel, in Spanish and English on-line at <[www.tinyurl.com/6aeytf77](http://www.tinyurl.com/6aeytf77)>.

May 25 #2 Olivia Rutigliano was the guest speaker at the luncheon of the Red Circle of Washington on Mar. 8, discussing Charles Dickens and Arthur Conan Doyle. Olivia has posted an interesting excerpt from the talk at the CrimeReads web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/39sy7y5c](http://www.tinyurl.com/39sy7y5c)>, and video of her entire presentation is conveniently available on-line at the society's YouTube channel <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=ku8N8B2c3B8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ku8N8B2c3B8)>.

Fans of Mary Russell can sign up for an e-mail newsletter called "The Buzz from Laurie R. King" and receive news about things like a new short story she has written about Mary's Uncle Jake, available if you pre-order *Knave of Diamonds* (Mar 25 #2) from selected stores <[www.tinyurl.com/4ewsz6hm](http://www.tinyurl.com/4ewsz6hm)>. You'll also be able to read the short story in Laurie's next collection, due in February 2027. If you'd like to subscribe to Laurie's newsletter, just go to <[www.laurierking.com](http://www.laurierking.com)> and click on the "join Laurie's newsletter" button at the top of the opening page.

J. Lawrence Matthews' *One Must Tell the Bees: Abraham Lincoln and the Final Education of Sherlock Holmes* (Books Fluent, 2021; 552 pp., \$39.99) is part biography, part mystery, and part historical fiction; Holmes, younger than in the Canon, is sent by his brother to America before the Civil War to work at the DuPont powder factory and winds up in Washington, where he meets the president and many other important men. He's part of the pursuit of J. Wilkes Booth and is rewarded by Lincoln, returns to England in time to write his memoirs, and dies quietly in his Sussex country cottage.

More about plans for a Sherlockian weekend in Chicago: The Torists International S.S. have scheduled a dinner meeting on June 28, and the Watsonians will hold the 66th running of the Chicago Silver Blaze on June 29 at the Club Hawthorne in Oak Brook Terrace, Ill. (you'll get a free program and \$2 for your first bet); this may well be the first running anywhere of a Silver Blaze at an off-track betting facility. Contact Jonathan Shimberg <[www.toristintss@gmail.com](mailto:www.toristintss@gmail.com)> for more information.

The Papal Conclave has elected Robert Preston as the new Pope, and he has chosen to serve as Leo XIV. Sherlockians will recall that Sherlock Holmes was twice of assistance to Pope Leo XIII (who served from 1878 to 1903), as noted in "The Hound of the Baskervilles" and "Black Peter".

Another recent conclave was the first Baker Street Irregulars' Canonical Conclave of Scion Societies, held in Indianapolis, Ind., on Apr. 26, and intended "to assist scion societies in sharing ideas, collaborating, networking, and thriving." It was well-attended and you can hear Scott Monty and Burt Wolder discuss the goings-on at their "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" podcast <[www.tinyurl.com/272cne87](http://www.tinyurl.com/272cne87)>.

The Sub-Librarians Scion of the Baker Street Irregulars in the American Library Association (which has the record for the longest name of a Sherlockian society) will meet twice during the ALA's annual meeting. On June 28 at 4:00 pm at the Rosenbach Museum and Library, and on June 29 at 1:00 pm at the Philadelphia Convention Center <[www.tinyurl.com/w63ub68p](http://www.tinyurl.com/w63ub68p)>. The tour of the Rosenbach is limited to 30 participants, and advance registration is required <<https://forms.gle/9nAyzqUuVfdTmtQFA>>.

May 25 #3    The Beacon Society continues to publish its "quarterly gazette for younger Sherlockians everywhere," and the spring issue of Sherlock's Spotlight is available at their web-site (check the menu at the left) <[www.beaconsociety.com](http://www.beaconsociety.com)>; the contents include material both by and for younger followers of the Great Detective, and the gazette is intended to provide younger Sherlockians with information and entertainment.

Jennie Paton has spotted Cults3D <[www.cults3d.com](http://www.cults3d.com)>, a digital marketplace for 3D models where creators can showcase their designs; some of them are free, and some not. There are more than 2 million designs available, and 110 of them if you do a search for [sherlock], in case you want an excuse to do some 3D printing.

"You don't happen to have a Raphael or a first folio Shakespeare without knowing it?" asked Sherlock Holmes (in "The Three Gables"). There's news about first folios, posted at the blog of the Folger Shakespeare Library <[www.tinyurl.com/2k7b89v4](http://www.tinyurl.com/2k7b89v4)>.

The 42nd issue (2025) of Beaten's Christmas Annual has been published by The Sound of the Baskervilles of Seattle, with 60 pages of songs, recipes, articles, quizzes, and reports on the society and its members. The cost is \$15.00 postpaid (\$30.00 outside the U.S.) and checks (in U.S. dollars, please) payable to The Sound of the Baskervilles should be sent to Terri Haugen, 6710 51st Street Court West, University Place, WA 98467-2287.

"The name 'Nigel' has romantic origins—it means 'dark champion' in Celtic lore and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle titled one of his dashing medieval historical novels *Sir Nigel*," according to Nigel Jones in the Spectator (May 7) <[www.tinyurl.com/4r3xmff6](http://www.tinyurl.com/4r3xmff6)>. "But by the time of my birth," Jones added, "the name had become indelibly associated with cerebrally challenged upper-class twits with protruding teeth." He also notes that by 2022, only three Nigels were registered in the national birth statistics. How many Nigels do you know? There are two Nigels in my e-mail address book. One of them being Nigel Miles-Thomas, who has toured in "Sherlock Holmes: The Last Act" (the one-man play written by David Stuart Davies), and of course Sherlockians are indebted to two other Nigels, Bruce and Stock, who have played Watson on screen, radio, and television.

Laura F. Keyes' specialty is "teaching history with live performance," and you can see the women she portrays at <[www.tinyurl.com/ywabr977](http://www.tinyurl.com/ywabr977)>. One of them is Irene Adler, and Brenda Rossini has reported that Irene will be at the Winnetka-Northfield Library District in Illinois on Aug. 26. It will be a virtual performance, so you won't need to be there; you can register for the free event at <[www.tinyurl.com/yw9b65vv](http://www.tinyurl.com/yw9b65vv)>.

One of the exhibitors at this year's Malice Domestic conference in Bethesda, Md., was Open Book Chocolates <[www.openbookchocolates.com](http://www.openbookchocolates.com)>. who offer hand-made chocolate bars with literary-inspired flavors. It's unfortunate that they've had to discontinue their Sherlock Holmes bar, but they have instead a Doctor Watson bar (Earl Grey tea & honey in milk chocolate) (2.1 oz., \$12.00) that's not yet offered at their web-site. But you can order it by e-mail <[openbookchocolates@email.com](mailto:openbookchocolates@email.com)>. It's tasty indeed.

May 25 #4 "Meitantei Conan" [Detective Conan] was first a Japanese manga comic-book series created by Gosho Aoyama, developed into a long-running animated television series, and into animated films (May 04 #6); Shinichi Kudo is a 17-year-old master detective who is turned by villains into a child, and assumes the name Conan Edogawa and pursues evil-doers. The films continue to be popular in Japan, according to an article at the CBR web-site (Apr. 21) <[www.tinyurl.com/ykbpcomn5](http://www.tinyurl.com/ykbpcomn5)>, but not in the U.S. However, more than 1,100 episodes of "Detective Conan: Case Closed" are available with English subtitles on Crunchyroll.

The Elmer L. Anderson Library celebrated "Doors Open Minneapolis" on May 17-18 <[www.tinyurl.com/5n77phvp](http://www.tinyurl.com/5n77phvp)>, welcoming the public for tours of their underground caverns and their recreation of the sitting-room at 221B Baker Street.

There's a long list of audiobooks available to people who subscribe to Audible <[www.audible.com](http://www.audible.com)>, including 40 books in the long "Sherlock and Lucy" series written by Anna Elliott and Charles Veley, and narrated by Edward Petherbridge and others; they're all also available free to those who subscribe to Audible Plus and Audible Premium Plus. Petherbridge's voice will be familiar to those who remember him as Sherlock Holmes in the 1991-1993 radio series "NPR Playhouse: The Cases of Sherlock Holmes". His web-site's at <[www.edwardpetherbridge.com](http://www.edwardpetherbridge.com)>.

Sherlockian magicians appear (and disappear) from time to time, and one of them is S. Brent Morris, who is a magician and mathematician and the first person in the world to earn a Ph.D. in card shuffling. You can hear about his career and research in episode 509 of John Gaspard's Eli Marks Podcast <<https://preview.mailerlite.com/u3t0j5f5x7/2742956204614489374/c3r0>>.

Many Sherlockians continue to help spread the gospel: Carlina de la Cova, a professor at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, is presiding over ANTH 221 (Forensics of Sherlock Holmes) <[www.tinyurl.com/4hftf9ts](http://www.tinyurl.com/4hftf9ts)>.

Yet another Sherlockian television series is under consideration: Deadline has reported (May 14) <[www.tinyurl.com/yxtv9e69](http://www.tinyurl.com/yxtv9e69)> on plans for a series to be based on Brittany Cavallaro's four "Charlotte Holmes" books, which have sold more than 250,000 copies worldwide, and feature teen-age descendants of Holmes and Watson. There's more about Cavallaro's series at her web-site at <[www.brittanycavallero.com](http://www.brittanycavallero.com)>.

Jennie Paton continues to recommend Spoonflower <[www.spoonflower.com](http://www.spoonflower.com)> as an excellent source of fabric and wallpaper with Sherlockian designs.

The Jeremy Brett Sherlock Holmes podcast ("devoted to revisiting and honoring the world's greatest portrayal of the world's greatest detective"), was created in Jan. 2019 by Gus and Luke Holwerda (Dec 20 #3), and it has a conversation with Hugh Bonneville <[www.tinyurl.com/4djp9ncw](http://www.tinyurl.com/4djp9ncw)> about his new narrations of the "Sherlock Holmes Short Stories". Bonneville played Victor Savage in Granada's "The Dying Detective" (1994), as well as Robert Crawley (7th Earl of Grantham) in the long-running "Downton Abbey" series, and his recordings (for Noiser) <[www.noiser.com](http://www.noiser.com)> are nicely done indeed.

May 25 #5 James Chapman's *Screening Sherlock: A Cultural History of the Great Detective on Film and Television* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2025; 355 pp., £90.00) is the first book-length academic study of Holmes on the large and small screens. Chapman quotes from filmographies, academic articles, and many reviews in magazines and newspapers, and offers his own opinions on how Holmes has been presented over the decades, and the coverage of the book is extensive. He concludes with the suggestion that "if the history of Holmes on screen demonstrates anything, it is that new interpretations will appear with the regularity of seasonal fogs in Baker Street."

Brad Keefauver's "Sherlock Peoria" blog <[www.sherlockpeoria.blogspot.com](http://www.sherlockpeoria.blogspot.com)> is always interesting, and he recently attended, and reported on, the goings on at 221B Con in Atlanta and the Canonical Conclave of Sherlockian Scions in Indianapolis. You can also hear more about 221B Con at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog, where Scott Monty and Burt Wolder interviewed Johanna Draper Carlson, one of the volunteers who helped put on the Con <[www.tinyurl.com/6byj767f](http://www.tinyurl.com/6byj767f)>.

For fans of the well-received "fictional true crime" podcast "Sherlock & Co." <[www.tinyurl.com/67kh9em9](http://www.tinyurl.com/67kh9em9)> (if you're in or near Los Angeles on Aug. 2): Ed Locke has scheduled a four-hour meet-up with podcast co-creators Joel Emery and Adam Jarrell. Details at <[www.tinyurl.com/4xzvbn8](http://www.tinyurl.com/4xzvbn8)>.

And at Comic-Con in San Diego: on July 25 at 5:00 pm, Les Klinger will be moderating a panel featuring Laurie R. King, Nicholas Meyer, Craig Sweeny (showrunner of the "Watson" series), and likely Rob Doherty (showrunner of the "Elementary" series), discussing "Holmes: Past, Present, and Future". Comic-Con, which is considered to be "the largest convention of its kind in the world," fills the San Diego Convention Center to capacity with more than 130,000 attendees.

Vasilisa Larianova is a high-school student in France working on a thesis for an English oral exam, focusing on "How has the character of Sherlock Holmes been adapted and reinterpreted in cinema over time, and what makes him still popular nowadays?" She has a brief questionnaire she would like to send to Sherlockians, and she's at <[vasilisa.larionova27@gmail.com](mailto:vasilisa.larionova27@gmail.com)>.

Peter Lovesey died on Apr. 10 (Apr 25 #2), but it took quite a while for the Washington Post to publish an obituary (May 2) that noted: "His start in crime fiction had its own very English origins. In 1969, he was 'perusing the personals columns of the Times as Sherlock Holmes used to do, he recalled, and came across an advertisement for the crime novel contest by publishers Macmillan and Panther Books." And his entry, *Wobble to Death*, won the £1,000 first prize.

Michael and Jessica Kolence preside over the Grimm Life Collective, a horror-themed YouTube travel channel, and they recently posted a video about their search for Peter Cushing's grave, which they couldn't find, because it's unmarked. They did tour the nearby village where Cushing lived, and found many reminders of him <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=DupZwqrqw6c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DupZwqrqw6c)>.

May 25 #6 *Bye Bye Blackbird* (Olney: Level Best, 2025; 277 pp., \$16.95) is a sequel to her *Hounds of the Hollywood Baskervilles* (Feb 24 #8); young and somewhat more experienced private detective Babs Norman and her partner Guy Brandt, in Hollywood in 1941, are hard at work investigating bizarre threats against people involved in making the movie "The Maltese Falcon". Basil Rathbone has a cameo appearance (in the book, not the film), and the author's web-site is at <[www.elizabethcrowens.com](http://www.elizabethcrowens.com)>.

Theatrics: the musical "Sherlock Holmes and the Mystery of the Crown Jewel" (by Janet Tates Vogt and Mark Friedman) is running at the Pulse Opera House in Warren Ind., through Aug. 3 <[www.pulseoperahouse.org](http://www.pulseoperahouse.org)>.

Magician Carlos David will present "Ghosts of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle" (the illusions that mystified Conan Doyle) at the American Oddities Museum in Alton, Ill., June 6-7 <[www.dinnerandspirits.com](http://www.dinnerandspirits.com)>.

Richard Conlon's "Sherlock Holmes and the Thief of Antiquity" will be performed at the Theatre Royal in Winchester, Hants., June 11-12; their web-site's at <[www.blueappletheatre.com](http://www.blueappletheatre.com)>. If you can't get to Winchester, you can book to watch a live-stream performance on June 12; that web-site's at <[www.tinyurl.com/37um3pud](http://www.tinyurl.com/37um3pud)>.

Stephen Dietz's "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure" will be performed at the Morgan Theatre at Utah State University in Logan, Utah, June 21-July 26 <[www.usu.edu/lyricrep](http://www.usu.edu/lyricrep)>.

Jennifer Dick's new "Sherlock Holmes: A Scandal in Bohemia" (inspired by three of the stories) will be performed at the Kibble Palace Glasshouse in Glasgow, July 17-Aug. 2 <[www.bardinthebotanics.co.uk](http://www.bardinthebotanics.co.uk)>.

Molly Taylor's "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" is due at the Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre in Chester, Ches., July 18-Aug. 31; their web-site's at <[www.storyhouse.com/whats-on/the-adventures-of-sherlock-holmes](http://www.storyhouse.com/whats-on/the-adventures-of-sherlock-holmes)>.

"A Highly Suspect Murder Mystery: The Death of the Great Detective" will be performed during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe at theSpace @ Surgeon's Hall in Edinburgh, Aug 1-23 <[www.tinyurl.com/7f64jnn3](http://www.tinyurl.com/7f64jnn3)>.

Bill Amos' "Sherlock Holmes and the Scarlet Avenger" (an adaptation of "A Study in Scarlet") will be performed at the Pennsylvania Theatre of Performing Arts in Hazleton, Pa., Aug. 14-17 <[www.ptpashows.org](http://www.ptpashows.org)>.

Mark Edward Lang's "Sherlock Holmes: Scandals!" ("Scandal in Bohemia" and "The Cardboard Box") will be performed at the Cape May Presbyterian Church in Cape May, N.J., Oct. 23-25 <[www.eastlynnetheater.org](http://www.eastlynnetheater.org)>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" is scheduled at the Ulmer Auditorium in Bluffton, S.C., Sept. 19-28 <[www.mayrivertheatre.com](http://www.mayrivertheatre.com)>. Also at the Genesian Theatre in Rozelle, N.S.W., Aug. 8-Sept. 13 <[www.genesiantheatre.com.au](http://www.genesiantheatre.com.au)>. And at the Francis J. Gaudette Theatre in Issaquah, Wash, Jan. 20-Feb. 22, 2026; and at the Everett Center for the Performing Arts in Everett, Wash., Feb. 28-Mar. 22, 2016 <[www.villagetheatre.org](http://www.villagetheatre.org)>.

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