

All eight episodes of the "Young Sherlock" series streamed on Prime Video on Mar. 4, inspired by (but not based on) the series of books written by Andrew Lane. Co-developed by Guy Ritchie, who was executive producer for the first seven episodes and director of the first two, with Hero Fiennes Tiffin as Holmes, it has received favorable reviews, including one in the N.Y. Times (Mar. 3) headlined "A Young Detective Still Plays It Cool." At the paper's web-site the headline read "In 'Young Sherlock,' He's a Gen Z Heartthrob" (perhaps reflecting a perceived difference in who reads what where). Sherlockians by now will have binged the series, or watched one or more episodes and given up, or refused to watch it at all. If you have put off watching the series because you didn't want sign up for Prime Video, Jennie Paton found the series at <www.dailymotion.com/user/britcom1>.

Another interesting review of "Young Sherlock" (in the March issue of Esquire) <www.tinyurl.com/4ych2jtv> ignored both the acting and the story, and focused on "How Sherlock Holmes Became an Unlikely Style Icon" (not at all surprising for a magazine whose editor-in-chief once wrote that "with the understanding that although there is a lot more to a man than what he wears, dressing well and looking good can make a significant difference in his life").

And Variety (Mar. 5) <www.tinyurl.com/ybd9uxxh> had an interesting interview with series show-runner Matthew Parkhill; it's full of spoilers, and has some hints about a second season. Finally, if you're wondering where the series was filmed, the TravelPirates web-site has all sort of information <www.tinyurl.com/mrwvf74w>.

Jennie Paton has reported an interesting interview with Dennis Muren, who was the visual effects supervisor for Industrial Light & Magic on the film "Young Sherlock Holmes" (1984) <www.tinyurl.com/4dyzr4y>. The film featured the stained-glass knight, the first fully-digital character ever to be depicted in a feature film.

A Sidney Paget watercolor-on-paper landscape went to auction at Griffin's in Warwick on Mar. 17 <www.tinyurl.com/29km85pt>. Estimated at £40-£60, it sold for £40 (plus the buyer's premium).

David Gigauri's *The Mdivani Saga* ((Market Harborough: Book Guild, 2024; 341 pp., \$24.00) is a detailed account of the lives of the five Mdivanis; the three brothers (Serge, David, and Alexis) were widely regarded as "the marrying Mdivanis," but their sister Nina is of more interest to Sherlockians and Doyleans, for her marriage to Sir Arthur's son Denis and for her attempt to control the Conan Doyle copyrights. Gigauri has had access to the family papers at the University of Georgia, and to Nina's unpublished memoirs, in the Richard Lancelyn Green Bequest at Portsmouth (Richard also owned the pendant that Nina received from the Baker Street Irregulars as *The Woman in 1975*). You can read the first 83 pages of the book on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/52w9pmhm>, and there's a video about the Mdivanis at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMtTBAVM0uY>.

Mar 26 #2 In 1971, Peter Cushing recorded one-hour readings from *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* for the Royal National Institute for the Blind, for loan only to the blind or visually handicapped, and in 2011 the readings were released by Cosmic Hobo Productions on three CDs, with sleeve notes by David Stuart Davies. Jennie Paton has found "The Solitary Cyclist" at YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q81iXuVF12s>; three more stories are available <www.youtube.com/@igrok__1>, and more may be uploaded in the future.

Jacques Futrelle was a well-regarded mystery writer, famous for his series of stories about Professor Augustus S. F. X. Van Dusen (also known as The Thinking Machine). Futrelle also wrote a Sherlockian pastiche ("The Great Suit Case Mystery") in which he offered a fictional solution to a murder mystery then baffling the Boston police; the story, published in the *Boston American* (Oct. 5-8, 1905) was reprinted in by Freddie Seymour and Bettina Kyper (May 98 #2). Now Adrian Nebbett has found an earlier (and similar) pastiche ("A Drop of Blood") in the *Boston American* (Jan. 29, 1905), conveniently available at the Internet Archive <www.tinyurl.com/48j7rb3u>. The story is on p. 48, and you can zoom in to read it on-line.

Again, with thanks to Adrian, "The Great Suit Case Mystery" is available on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/yw7rnjkh> (p. 9), <www.tinyurl.com/ywh3jvr6> (p. 6), <www.tinyurl.com/32resj7d> (p. 9), and <www.tinyurl.com/uyd852wr> (p. 28).

Adrian also has found George Randolph Chester's "The Adventures of J. Rufus Wallingford: Detective Blackie" in the *Boston American* (Nov. 28, 1915) <www.tinyurl.com/3r5v7pfm>. This was promotion for one of a series of 14 two-reel films that starred Max Figman as Blackie Daw, who in this outing registers at a hotel as Mr. S. Holmes. If you would like to more about J. Rufus Wallingford, see Albert Borowitz's "The Rises and Falls of J. Rufus Wallingford" in *The Armchair Detective* (winter 1979), which is on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/3rwh2p93>.

Arunabha Sengupta, in an article in *Cricket Country* (May 4, 2014) put together a Sherlock Holmes XI cricket team consisting of players with names of characters in the stories <www.tinyurl.com/mwdusd8e>. Now Jennie Paton has reported a real Sherlock XI, and you can watch them play against the Elite Cricket Club in a match at the Karthikeya Cricket Ground in Hyderabad (in India) <www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Vlkks81N3w>.

Dan Smith posted an interesting discussion of "The Mathematical Crimes of the 'Young Sherlock Holmes' series" at The Conversation web-site (Mar. 24) <www.tinyurl.com/2eadux6w>. It's a fine example of commentary by someone who knows more about something than the writers and producers.

Lillian Bethel Greenwood died on Jan. 2, 2025. She was an award-winning author who spoke at a Sherlockian conference in Montréal in 1990, and her books included three well-regarded pastiches: *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Raleigh Conspiracy* (1986), *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of Sabina Hall* (1988), and *Sherlock Holmes and the Thistle of Scotland* (1989).

Mar 26 #3 The Sub-Librarians Scion of the Baker Street Irregulars in the American Library Association will hold their annual meeting in Chicago in June, and there will be a tour "Showcasing the Doyleana Collection at the Newberry" at 1:00 pm on June 26. The society's web-site is at <www.scholarexchange.furman.edu/sublibrarians> and their e-mail address is <sublibrarians.scion@gmail.com>. Their web-site includes a link to an interesting list of "Library Collections Related to Sherlock Holmes and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle".

Charlotte Ivers' suggested, in her review of "Young Sherlock" in The Sunday Times (Mar. 7), "One day in the not-too-distant future, when Britain is nothing but a bleak post-industrial wasteland, only two industries will remain: Harry Potter and Sherlock Holmes. All manufacturing having packed up, our economy will rely on the export of these two intellectual property juggernauts to Japanese teenagers and Minnesotan housewives." She went on to say that "The Holmes phenomenon is a particular economic opportunity in that it lends itself to Britain's natural area of comparative advantage: period dramas marked by good posture, homoerotic tension, and the frequent removal and redonning of hats." <www.tinyurl.com/3cuf7er8>.

Cozy mysteries with pun titles continue to be a popular subgenre. Donna Andrews' series of bird-themed titles included *The Hen of the Baskervilles* (Jul 13 #3), and Maya Corrigan's series of food-themed titles includes her *Bake Offed* (New York: Kensington, 2022; 296 pp., \$9.99) features Val Deniston and her Sherlock-Holmes-enthusiast Bram Muir, as well as a murder at the Maryland Mystery Fan Fest (undoubtedly inspired by Maice Domestic).

The Times Past web-site <www.timespast.ning.com> specializes in Old Time Radio, Nostalgia, and the Spoken Word, and there's a new Audiobooks button for a free archive that's well worth searching for [sherlock holmes] and [conan doyle]. It's the same with the new Music button.

Elizabeth Crowens' *Round up the Unusual Suspects* (Olney: Level Best, 2026; 291 pp., \$17.95) is the third in her series about private detectives Babs Norman and Guy Brandt, now in Hollywood in 1942, trying to find a murderer during the filming of "Casablanca"; their wolfhound (Sir Henry of the Baskervilles) is the only Sherlockian aspect of this book, but you'll learn a lot about how hard it was to make the film. The author's web-site is at <www.elizabethcrowens.com>.

Geraldine Beare has noted an imaginative advertising campaign by the Great Western Railway that includes a map that shows "The Line to Legend Land". Their Legend Land is southwestern England, and the artwork includes a ferocious Hound of the Baskervilles. You can see the map (and the Hound) in a recent article about the campaign; go to <www.tinyurl.com/55n9xtsn> and scroll down.

Shortform ("the world's largest summary library") <www.shortform.com> offers a list of the "100 best Sherlock Holmes books of all time," based on recommendations from Michael Dirda, Alan Kay, Douglas Starr, and six other experts <www.tinyurl.com/ywdvd6ae>, with links to buy the books at Amazon. It's a subscription service, perhaps a very modern version of CliffsNotes.

Mar 26 #4 The Jan.-Feb. issue of Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine offers its annual tribute to Sherlock Holmes, with Steve Steinbock's reviews of some Sherlockian (and other) books; Dean Jobb's "Stranger Than Fiction" column about Frederick Wensley, who had a 40-year career at Scotland Yard and in his memoirs complained about Holmes' opinion of the Yard; editorial happy birthday wishes by Jackie Sherbow; Terence Faherty's parody of "The Final Problem"; and pastiches by Michael Mallory, Andrew Armstrong, David Fryer, and Kate Hohl. Kate Hohl's piece is more than just a pastiche, and recommended.

Pierre Nordon died on July 17, 2024. He was a French scholar, author of *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle: l'homme et l'œuvre* (1964), translated into English and published in Britain (1966) and the U.S. (1967). He had access to the family papers, and had help from Adrian Conan Doyle (and there's more information in the French edition than in the translation).

Some news from Laurie R. King: her next novel will feature Raquel Laing in *Those Who Are Gone* (due from Bantam on Sept. 8), and (more important) you can expect *Mary Russell's Ghost and Other Stories* next year.

More from the Boston American (Oct. 12, 1923) <www.tinyurl.com/3xc6vwne>, reported by Howard Ostrom: Felix (the Cat) and Hurlock Sholmes Detective, in a Sunday comic created by Pat Sullivan. You can also watch Felix the Cat in the 8-minute animated "Sure-Locked Homes" (1928), available at YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=4bVCyXfSTfM>.

When in Serbia: you can visit the Sherlock Caffè Bar in Niš (kindly noted by Jennie Paton) <www.sherlock-caffe-bar.whereee.com>.

Indian film-makers continue to be inspired by "The Hound of the Baskervilles". The latest version is the Bengali "Saralakkho Holmes" (2025); see the trailer at <www.tinyurl.com/422xt2t3>. And you can see the en-tire film (with subtitles) at <www.dailymotion.com/video/x9prfqa>.

In Oxford on May 2, at the Schwartzman Centre for the Humanities: a conversation with Laurie R. King and Leslie S. Klinger about "Sherlock Holmes and the Creatures of Oxford" <www.tinyurl.com/yhzc82zk>.

Registration's still open for the "And It Is Always 1895" conference honoring Vincent Starrett planned by the Torists International in Chicago on Oct. 23-25. Their web-site's at <www.anditisalways1895.org>. The conference's organizers, Jonathan Shimberg and Linda Crohn, were interviewed by Scott Monty and Burt Wolder at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" podcast <www.tinyurl.com/3mjaat4m>.

Jennie Paton has reported video of the Baskerville Moors golf course, in North Yorkshire (rather than Devon); read the detailed description before packing your suitcases and clubs <www.youtube.com/watch?v=INSsM9ND3b4>.

"Winter Palace" is a Swiss television series with eight 45-minute episodes (there's a trailer at its official web-site) <www.oble.tv/winter-palace>. Screened in Switzerland in 2024, it was streamed in Switzerland and Australia (but not in the U.S.) in 2025; the series was co-produced by Netflix, so it's more than likely it will be streamed here. Henry Pettigrew appears as Sir Conan Doyle in six of the eight episodes.

Mar 26 #5 Len Deighton died on Mar.15. His first novel *The Ipcress File* (1962) was a best-seller, and was followed by a long series of successful spy novels, some of which included Sherlockian or Doylean allusions. He wrote an introduction to an edition of *The Valley of Fear* that was published in 1974, and another for the facsimile edition of the manuscript of *The Priory School* published by the Santa Teresa Press in 1975, and his pastiche "Sherlock Holmes and the Titanic Swindle" was included in Peter Lovesey's anthology *The Verdict of Us All: Stories by the Detection Club* (2006).

Barbara Peters has presided over the Poisoned Pen Bookstore in Scottsdale, Ariz., since 1989 <www.poisonedpen.com>, and does much more than just sell books. Go to her web-site and then to "Event Videos & Podcasts" and then search for [sherlock] for access to her long list of interviews with Sherlockian authors.

A page from the Illustrated London News (Nov. 26, 1887), advertising Beeton's Christmas Annual at "just ready" was at auction William George in Bury on Mar. 12 <www.tinyurl.com/yck4kkjb> with an opening bid of £15; it sold for £110 (plus the buyer's premium) to a happy collector who also owns a copy of the Annual, and now has a better idea of exactly when in 1887 it was published.

Further to the mention (Feb 26 #2) of Erich Schellow's "Die Liga der Rot-haaringen" (with Erich Schellow as Holmes (broadcast in Germany in 1967, at YouTube, Greg Darak reports that you can see more of the programs with a search for [erich schellow sherlock Holmes]).

The Folio Society published *The Hound of the Baskervilles* in 1987, with an introduction by Julian Symons and cover art and six linocut illustrations by British graphic artist Edward Bawden. Three lots of signed prints were offered at Forum Auctions in London on Mar. 18 <www.tinyurl.com/muyfm538>; one lot, with seven prints that included the cover art, went for £800 (plus the buyer's premium), and the other lots, without the cover art, were sold for £600 (same).

Was Conan Doyle a Victorian super-influencer? Yes, according to a post at the web-site of the Economic Times (Mar. 19) <www.tinyurl.com/mrd4aeuw>.

The Londonist web-site reported (Feb. 26) <www.tinyurl.com/4t2yhxxx> that Simpson's in the Strand was to have a "soft launch" on Mar. 3, with a formal opening set for Mar. 30. Another nicely-illustrated report is at the Elle Décor web-site (Mar. 19) <www.tinyurl.com/34u4aa35>.

Watson's Tin Box has revived its annual journal *Irene's Cabinet*, now edited by Liane Luini. The new issue's cover art shows Carla Coupe's imaginative Arthur Conan Doyle Egg (which won an ACD Society award this year) and the contents include Matt Hall's colorful article about "Simon Goodenough's Sherlockian Murder Dossiers" (Matt was able to track down and interview Goodenough). 40 pp., \$10.00 (black and white) \$15.00 color); ask Liane <toflaki@msn.com> if copies still are available.

Mar 26 #6 Further to the item (Oct 25 #1) about the (British) National Portrait Gallery's "Writers Revealed" exhibition that is now at the Shanghai Library in China through July 13: the items on display include the original artwork for Bernard Partridge's portrait of Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes <www.tinyurl.com/mtcudvhf>, and the manuscript of "The Veiled Lodger" <www.tinyurl.com/2zsszknr>.

"Touha Sherlocka Holmese" ["The Longing of Sherlock Holmes"] was a Czech film, released in 1972, and Jennie Paton has reported it available at YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=c9hwcttqsGk>. YouTube settings can be used to auto-translate the Czech subtitles into English (and many other languages).

Just in case you didn't see the Oscars ceremony (or did, and weren't paying attention), there was a mention of Basil Rathbone. You can watch the mention (and read all about it) at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog <www.tinyurl.com/4dzap2wr>.

Geoffrey Stavert, in his *A Study in Southsea* (1887), reported that in 1896 Conan Doyle bought a "smart villa" called South View Lodge for £1,800. He never lived in the house, but instead rented it out, and in 1919 sold it for £1,900. It's now for sale <www.tinyurl.com/yr9fenb2>, and the agent is asking for "offers in excess of £950,000."

Variety reported (Mar. 23) <www.tinyurl.com/yrrfde6x> on an interview with Steven Moffat and Sue Vertue at the Series Mania festival. They discussed their upcoming series "Number 10" and had some interesting things to say about "Sherlock".

Amnon Kabatchnik has specialized for years in detailed reference guides to mystery and detection plays, and his new *Bloody Broadway: Plays of Menace, Murder, and Mystery, Vol. 1, 1900-1930* (Orlando: BearManor, 2025; 446 pp., \$45.00) offers a discussion of Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" (1899) in the introduction and full reports on 80 plays that include E. W. Hornung and Eugene Presbury's "Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman" (1903) and Maurice Leblanc and Francis de Croisset's "Arsène Lupin" (1908). We'll need to wait for future volumes read about more directly-Sherlockian plays.

The University of Chichester announced (Mar. 6) <www.tinyurl.com/44nh52ch> that it is partnering with Portsmouth Museums and Portsmouth Libraries and Archives to research the Conan Doyle Collection assembled by Richard Lancelyn Green.

Ferdinand Mount will have a long and interesting review, in the London Review of Books (Apr. 2) <www.tinyurl.com/yf2r2wxw> (things often appear online before they are seen ink-on-paper) of E. W. Hornung's *Raffles, Gentleman Thief* and Ollie Randall's *Writer in Whites: How a Group of Literary Cricketers Changed English Culture*. The piece is not really a review, but rather an informative and entertaining essay about Raffles and Hornung and Conan Doyle, and Oscar Wilde and Rudyard Kipling and Virginia Woolf, and, of course, cricket.

Mar 26 #7 It has been quite a while since Sherlockians heard a song from the musical work-in-progress inspired by Lyndsay Faye's novel *Dust and Shadow* (at the Saturday reception during the birthday festivities in New York in 2011). Now, at long last, "Dust and Shadow: The Unraveling of Sherlock Holmes" is scheduled at the Syracuse Stage in Syracuse, N.Y., June 2-20, 2027; details at <www.syracusestage.org/2627>.

Theatrical news: Innes Lloyd's new "Holmes Unbound: The Lost Casebook of Sherlock Holmes" is running at the Impro Melbourne Theatre in Melbourne, Vic., through Apr. 5 <www.tinyurl.com/4kxz9rsa>. There's an excellent article about the show at The Scoop's web-site <www.tinyurl.com/548dc49w>.

Elle Michael River's new comedy "Oh Sh*t, Sherlock" {their asterisk} is on stage at the October Ensemble Theatre in Ocean Grove, N.J., through Apr. 12; their web-site's at <www.octoberensemble.com>; "A different Sherlock every night! The twist? The actor playing Sherlock has never seen the script or attended a rehearsal."

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot" is running at The Stage Austin in Austin, Tex., through Apr. 12 <www.thestageaustin.com>.

Casey Carle's new "Conundrum on the Connecticut: The Mystery of the Aunt Polly: A Curiosity in Two Comedic Acts" will be staged at the Grange Hall in East Haddam, Conn., at 7:00 pm on Apr. 4; admission free.

Tad Aviezer's "Sherlock Holmes: The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet" will be produced at the Van Cortlandt House Museum in the Bronx, N.Y., on Apr. 11-15 <www.vchm.org>.

Ken Ludwig's "Moriarty" is due at Baker Street West in Jackson, Calif., on Apr. 17-May 10 <www.bakerstreetwest.com>; and at the Ruth Caplin Theatre in Charlottesville, Va., June 20-28 <www.virginiaatheatrefestival.org>. It also is scheduled at the Boerne Community Theatre in Boerne, Texas, Nov. 6-15 <www.boernetheatre.org>.

Brian Clemens' "Holmes and the Ripper" will be produced at the Dylan Thomas Theatre in Swansea, Wales, Apr. 22-25 <www.dylanthomastheatre.org.uk>.

David Haig's "Magic" will be produced at the Festival Theatre in Chichester, West Sussex, Apr. 24-May 16 <www.cft.org.uk>.

Christopher M. Walsh's "Miss Holmes" will be produced at the Martial-Caron Theatre in Winnipeg, MB, May 7-10 <www.hoodanddagger.ca>; it's also due at the Port Angeles Community Players in Port Angeles, Wash., May 29-June 19 <www.pacommunityplayers.org>.

Eric Coble's "Sherlock Holmes: The Baker Street Irregulars" will be produced at the New Berlin West Performing Arts Center in New Berlin, Wis., May 8-10 <www.tinyurl.com/55d94ywu>.

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