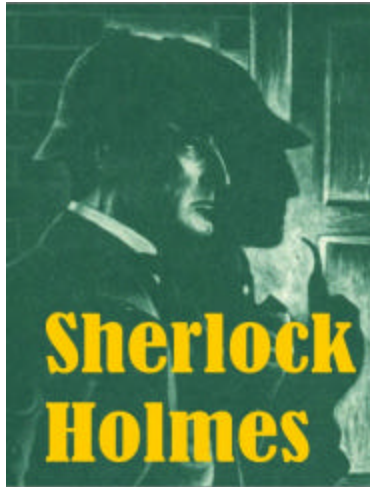


Synopsis



Watson arrives at 221B Baker Street in response to an urgent missive from Sherlock Holmes requesting the use of Watson's anatomical torso, which Holmes uses to thwart a would-be assassin's bullets. Holmes' landlady, Mrs. Hudson, does not approve of Holmes' ruses and disguises, especially when she learns that Holmes is about to take on a case involving the notorious Irene Adler, once accused of poisoning her first husband. Watson also has grave reservations, because he knows Holmes' has a blind spot as far as Irene Adler is concerned, especially now that she has become involved with Moriarty, Holmes' arch rival. Moriarty is forcing Irene into the dangerous enterprise of blackmailing the King of Bohemia with a series of compromising photographs.

Holmes is determined to rescue Irene Adler from Moriarty's clutches, and involves Watson in a scheme to feign an attack in front of Irene's home, which will allow Holmes to slip inside and steal the photographs.

In the hour before his appointed rendezvous with Irene Adler at the theatre adjacent to Covent Garden market, Holmes is able to solve an entire case involving stolen jewels inside of Christmas goose, reforming the criminal in the process.

Irene Adler greets Holmes with a pistol and shoots him dead. Watson scurries for the police.

Holmes isn't dead (of course), and was merely feigning in order to have a moment alone with Irene. He professes his perilous love for her, and she urges him to run before it is too late; she confesses she is no good for Holmes and will only cause him harm. But Holmes is determined to save her, even against her wishes.

Watson, although irked at Holmes for his callous treatment of people's feelings, agrees to the feigned attack in front of Irene's home, but Holmes is attacked by Moriarty instead of Watson.

Holmes involves one of Moriarty's spurned and discarded mistresses, Kitty Winter, in a plot to steal a confessional journal which will incriminate Moriarty of multiple crimes. Holmes convinces Watson to disguise himself as an art connoisseur in order to distract Moriarty while Holmes and Kitty slip into Moriarty's back rooms.

Moriarty, Kitty and Holmes triumph in their theft, and armed with the journal and Irene's photographs, Holmes succeeds in sending Moriarty to prison and freeing Irene. Irene, still a desperate woman, now urges Holmes to give up his life as a detective, and join her in a life of passionate crime. Holmes is tempted. But in the end, he is true to his dedication to the Art of Deduction and the absolution of the innocent.