

# 亞瑟·柯南· 道爾爵士

Sir Arthur  
Conan Doyle  
(1859–1930)



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was born on May 22, 1859, in Edinburgh, Scotland. From an early age, he received a strict Spartan education. Influenced by his mother Mary Doyle, who had a passion for books and was a master storyteller, Arthur loved to read and compose.

He studied at the School of Medicine at Edinburgh University and met a number of future authors who were also attending the university, such as James Barrie and Robert Louis Stevenson. However, the man who most impressed and influenced Arthur was one of his teachers, Dr. Joseph Bell. The good doctor was a master at observation, logic, deduction, and diagnosis. All these qualities were later to be found in the persona of the famous detective Sherlock Holmes.

A couple of years into his studies, Arthur decided to try his pen at writing short stories. Since he especially respected Edgar Allen Poe and Emlie Gabriao, he wrote mystery stories and was completely immersed in creating his own vibrant characters. He finally created the most famous detective of all, Sherlock Holmes.

In 1887, starting with *A Study in Scarlet*, Arthur began publishing mysteries, wherein Holmes and Dr. Watson take active roles. Afterwards, he presented short stories in monthly magazines where he was well received by readers, which led to his popularity as a writer.

In 1892, he compiled those stories into *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. He wanted to conclude the Holmes Series in 1894 with one last story, "*The Memories of Sherlock Holmes*." However, acting on a request from readers, he again published *The Hound of the Baskervilles* in 1902. Afterwards, he wrote *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* and other stories to continue the series.

In 1902, he participated in the Boer War as an army surgeon and was knighted for distinguished service in war. Arthur Conan Doyle died on July 7, 1930, surrounded by his family. His last words before departing for "the greatest and most glorious adventure of all," were addressed to his wife.

### ***The Adventure of the Speckled Band***

One day, twin sisters living with their father encounter a mysterious case, and the older sister was killed. The younger sister, Helen, fears her life is in jeopardy and visits Holmes to ask for help. Intuitively aware of who the criminal is, Holmes sneaks into Helen's house. The thing that appears in the room was . . .



### ***The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle***



The case begins as the doorman of Holmes's apartment accidentally picks up a goose and a hat on his way home from a Christmas party. A brilliant blue gem is in the stomach of the goose. Many people wonder how a gem could be placed in the goose's stomach.

### ***A Scandal in Bohemia***

The king of Bohemia personally visits Holmes and asks him to get back a picture that he took with his love in his youth. To solve the case, Holmes visits the king's old flame, and in a moment of bewilderment, he finds himself serving as a groomsman in her wedding. Will Holmes be able to get the picture back?



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# ***Before You Read***



## **Sherlock Holmes**

Sherlock Holmes is one of the greatest and most famous detectives<sup>1</sup> in the world. He can figure out<sup>2</sup> many things about people just by looking at a piece of their clothing. His powers of observation<sup>3</sup> and deduction<sup>4</sup> are incredible<sup>5</sup> and he uses them well to solve mysteries<sup>6</sup> that seem unsolvable<sup>7</sup>. He offers his skills for good people in trouble<sup>8</sup>. This has made him famous.



## **Dr. Watson**

Dr. Watson is Holmes' oldest friend. He is not as smart as Holmes, and usually cannot figure out what Holmes is up to<sup>9</sup>. However, Holmes likes to have Dr. Watson around, perhaps as a "sounding board"<sup>10</sup> for his theories. Watson is a faithful<sup>11</sup> friend and he does provide<sup>12</sup> support<sup>13</sup> to Holmes.



## **Helen Stoner**

I asked Sherlock Holmes for his help because I am afraid for my life. My sister died under very mysterious<sup>14</sup> circumstances<sup>15</sup>, and now I fear I am next.



## James Ryder

I'm really not such a bad man. The stone was just so big and beautiful. I couldn't help<sup>16</sup> taking it. But I lost the stone! I guess I'm not a very good criminal<sup>17</sup>.



## The King of Bohemia

Being a king isn't always good, you know. Sometimes you have to marry someone you don't love. My current<sup>18</sup> concern<sup>19</sup> is that Irene Adler, my ex-girlfriend, would try to stop me from<sup>20</sup> marrying the royal lady. Hopefully Sherlock Holmes, can help me.

### 1. detective(s) [dɪˈtektɪv(z)]

(n.) 偵探

### 2. figure out 算出；想出

### 3. observation [ˌɑːbzərˈveɪʃən]

(n.) 觀察

### 4. deduction [dɪˈdʌkʃən] (n.)

推論；演繹（法）

### 5. incredible [ɪnˈkredəbl] (a.)

難以置信的；驚人的

### 6. mystery [ˈmɪstri] (n.)

神祕之事；謎

### 7. unsolvable [ʌnˈsɔːlvəbl]

(a.) 無法解決的

### 8. in trouble 處於困難之中

### 9. up to 忙於某事

### 10. sounding board

被用作試探意見之人

### 11. faithful [ˈfeɪθfəl] (a.) 忠實的

### 12. provide [prəˈvaɪd] (v.) 提供

### 13. support [səˈpɔːrt] (n.) 支持

### 14. mysterious [mɪˈstɪəriəs] (a.)

神祕的；不可思議的

### 15. circumstance(s)

[ˈsɜːrkəmstæns(ɪz)] (n.)

情況；環境

### 16. cannot help 忍不住做了某事 (後接動名詞)

### 17. criminal [ˈkrɪmɪnl] (n.) 罪犯

### 18. current [ˈkɜːrənt] (a.)

現時的；當前的

### 19. concern [kənˈsɜːrn] (n.)

關心的事；擔心；掛念

### 20. stop A from 阻止 A 做某事 (後接動名詞)





# The Adventure of the Speckled Band

斑繩記

## Chapter One



## Helen Stoner

I awoke<sup>1</sup> very early one morning in April 1883. Sherlock Holmes and I were living together. I looked at the clock and saw that it was only seven.

Usually Holmes liked to sleep in late, but he was already dressed<sup>2</sup>, hovering<sup>3</sup> over me. I looked up at him in surprise<sup>4</sup>.

“What is it, Holmes?” I asked. “Is there a fire?”

“No, there is a woman here. I think it is a case<sup>5</sup>. I know you will want to hear everything from the beginning<sup>6</sup>, Watson,” he said.

1. **awake** [ə`weɪk] (v.) 醒來  
(awake-awoke-awoken)

2. **dressed** [drest] (a.)  
穿好衣服的；打扮好的

3. **hover** [ˈhʌvər] (v.)  
徘徊；停留

4. **in surprise** 驚訝地

5. **case** [keɪs] (n.) 案件

6. **from the beginning**  
從頭開始

7. **downstairs** [daʊn`sterz]  
(adv.) 往樓下

8. **sitting room** 起居室

9. **immediately** [ɪ`mi:diətli]  
(adv.) 立即；即刻；馬上



I quickly got dressed and went downstairs<sup>7</sup> with Holmes. We saw a lady in the sitting room<sup>8</sup>. She immediately<sup>9</sup> stood up when we entered the room. She was dressed in black<sup>10</sup> and her expression<sup>11</sup> was very grave<sup>12</sup>.

“Good morning! I am Sherlock Holmes and this is Dr. Watson. He is my dear friend and associate<sup>13</sup>,” Holmes said. “We would like to hear everything.”

We all sat down.



10. **dressed in black**  
穿著黑色衣服

11. **expression** [ɪkˈspreʃən] (n.)  
表情；臉色

12. **grave** [ɡreɪv] (a.) 嚴肅的

13. **associate** [əˈsoʊʃiət] (n.)  
夥伴；同事；朋友

“I am Helen Stoner. I am living with my stepfather<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Grimesby Roylott,” she explained<sup>2</sup>. “The Roylotts have lived at Stoke Moran for centuries<sup>3</sup>, but now my stepfather is the last<sup>4</sup> living Roylott. The family was once very wealthy.”

Holmes nodded<sup>5</sup>. “I know the name,” said he.

Miss Stoner went on<sup>6</sup>. “However, because of a long line<sup>7</sup> of terrible men, the family fortune is all gone. There is only the little land and the two-hundred-year-old house left<sup>8</sup>.

My stepfather knew that there was no money for him to live on. So he studied to become a doctor and then went to India. When my mother met Dr. Roylott there, my father had only been dead for one year. Julia, my twin-sister<sup>9</sup>, and I were only two years old at that time.”

1. **stepfather** [ˈstepfɑːðə(r)]  
(n.) 繼父；後父

2. **explain** [ɪkˈspleɪn] (v.) 解釋

3. **for centuries**  
有幾百年之久

4. **last** [læst] (a.)  
最後的；僅剩的

5. **nod** [nɒd] (v.) 點頭

6. **go on** 繼續

7. **line** [laɪn] (n.)  
(等待順序的) 行列

8. **left** [left] (a.) 遺留下來的

9. **twin-sister** [ˈtwɪnˈsɪstə(r)]  
(n.) 孿生姐妹

10. **pound** [paʊnd] (n.) 英鎊

11. **will** [wɪl] (n.) 遺囑

12. **take care of** 照顧



“Your mother had some money, perhaps?”  
asked Sherlock Holmes.

“Oh, yes. She had about one thousand  
pounds<sup>10</sup> per year. My mother changed her  
will<sup>11</sup> when they married. She left all her  
money to him, but she did say in her will that  
he must take care of<sup>12</sup> Julia and me.”

#### One Point Lesson

- ◆ When my mother met Dr. Roylott there, my father  
**had** only **been dead** for one year.

當我母親在那裡遇見羅伊羅特醫生時，我父親才過世  
一年而已。

過去完成式 (had + 過去分詞)：用以敘述比過去事件更  
早發生的事情、動作或狀態。

- e.g. I sold my car which I **had bought** last year.

我賣了去年買的車。





“We eventually<sup>1</sup> returned to England but our mother died soon after<sup>2</sup>. We all went to live at Stoke Moran. We had enough money but Roylott changed after our mother died. She was killed in a railway<sup>3</sup> accident<sup>4</sup> eight years ago.

He is surly<sup>5</sup> and fights with anyone in our neighborhood<sup>6</sup>. Everyone is scared of<sup>7</sup> him because he is strong and crazy. The only people he talks to are some gypsies<sup>8</sup> who live on his land.

He keeps some wild animals, too. There is a cheetah<sup>9</sup> and a baboon<sup>10</sup> which he brought back from India. They run freely around the place.

You can imagine from what I say that my sister and I had a hard time<sup>11</sup>. Because everyone is afraid of my stepfather, no one will work for us. We have to do everything.

Sadly, Julia has already died. She was only thirty at the time of her death, but her hair was already going gray<sup>12</sup>. My hair is becoming gray too.”

1. **eventually** [ɪˈventʃuəli]

(adv.) 最後

2. **soon after** 不久之後

3. **railway** [ˈreɪlweɪ] (n.)

〔主英〕鐵路；鐵道

4. **accident** [ˈæksɪdənt] (n.)

意外事故

5. **surly** [ˈsɜːrli] (a.)

脾氣壞的；乖戾的

6. **neighborhood**

[ˈneɪbərhʊd]

(n.) 鄰近地區

7. **be scared of**

害怕（某人或某事）

8. **gypsy** [ˈdʒɪpsi] (n.)

吉普賽人

9. **cheetah** [ˈtʃiːtə] (n.) 印度豹

10. **baboon** [bəˈbuːn] (n.) 狒狒

11. **have a hard time**

過苦日子

12. **go gray** 頭髮變灰白色





“Your sister is dead, then?”

“She died two years ago. This is why I have come to see you. We very rarely<sup>1</sup> left Stoke Moran but we sometimes visited our aunt. On one of those visits, Julia met a man. She fell in love<sup>2</sup> and they were planning to get married<sup>3</sup>. Our stepfather never verbally<sup>4</sup> opposed<sup>5</sup> the wedding<sup>6</sup> but in about ten days, Julia was dead.”

Holmes had been leaning back<sup>7</sup> in his chair, quietly with his eyes closed as she told her story. He now sat up<sup>8</sup> quickly and said, “Tell us every tiny<sup>9</sup> detail<sup>10</sup>.”

1. **rarely** [ˈrerli] (adv.)  
很少；難得

2. **fall in love** 談戀愛

3. **get married** 結婚

4. **verbally** [ˈvɜːrbəli] (adv.)  
言詞上；口頭地

5. **oppose** [əˈpəʊz] (v.)  
反對；反抗

6. **wedding** [ˈwedɪŋ] (n.)  
結婚典禮

7. **lean back** 向後傾

8. **sit up** 坐直身子

9. **tiny** [ˈtaɪni] (a.) 微小的

10. **detail** [ˈdiːteɪl] (n.) 細節

11. **wing** [wɪŋ] (n.)  
〔建〕側廳；廂房

12. **connect** [kəˈnekt] (v.)  
連接；連結

13. **hall** [hɔːl] (n.) 門廳；走廊

14. **cigar** [sɪˈɡɑː(r)] (n.) 雪茄菸

15. **tend to** 有……的傾向



# Was Sherlock Holmes real?

Sir Conan Arthur Doyle included so many details about Holmes in his stories that he seems like a real person, and some people believe he actually did exist!

If you could meet Holmes, you would see a tall, thin man, about 185 centimeters in height<sup>1</sup>. Holmes



The Statue of Sherlock Holmes

had a long, narrow nose that was hooked<sup>2</sup>. His forehead was usually locked in a frown<sup>3</sup> as he was constantly<sup>4</sup> analyzing<sup>5</sup> information.

Holmes lived in an apartment at 221b Baker Street, London, England, his native country. He studied for two years at a medical<sup>6</sup> university.

While at St. Bart's Hospital, he was introduced to Dr. John Watson. Watson would later become Holmes' best friend and biographer<sup>7</sup>. They lived together until Watson got married. Holmes never married and in fact seemed to dislike women.