



The Game Is Afoot: Parodies, Pastiche and Ponderings of Sherlock Holmes

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This long awaited volume finally brings to light several cases of the world's most renowned detective originally suppressed to avoid causing scandal and embarrassment to the Crown, to public figures, or to Sherlock Holmes himself. Now, finally, the truth is revealed about Holmes' exploits involving such figures as Ida Tarbell, Consuelo Vanderbilt, P.G. Wodehouse, and James McNeil Whistler. Related by diverse hands, including Watson, Inspector Lestrade, and Holmes himself, detailing untold incidents involving the Titanic, Holmes' rematch with Irene Adler, the childhoods of both Holmes and Watson, and one unfortunate result of Holmes' facility with disguise, this cornucopia of Sherlockiana will delight fans young and not-so-young.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This book by novelist/anthologist Kaye (Penguin Book of Ghosts) is a compilation of good-natured lampoons, clever spoofs and somewhat academic examinations of Sherlock Holmes's cases. No matter what form the considerations take, all are motivated by an obvious affection for the Great Detective. The ponderings include a reflection by Dr. Joseph Bell, who was Arthur Conan Doyle's teacher and the model for Sherlock Holmes. Also included is Kaye's lengthy "Histrionic Holmes," a study of Holmes's skill and technique as an actor. Several entries are quite obscure, including "Sherlock Holmes Umpires Baseball," an anonymous piece published in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer in 1906; others, like "Our American Cousins" by Roberta Rogow, were penned especially for this book. The selections, loosely organized in such chapter titles as "Pieces Problematic," might have been more informative if arranged chronologically to illustrate the reading public's changing image of Holmes. Nevertheless, the newcomer to Holmes, as well as the established Sherlockian, will relish having the best efforts of the best writers who have taken a turn at immortalizing the detective collected in one book.

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From Library Journal

The magic phrase that rouses joy in the heart of any Holmes fan is an apt title for this latest of many well-deserved paeans to the world's first consulting detective and his friend and Boswell to appear since their introduction in 1887. Although several of the 53 pieces, ranging from the sublime ("Sussex Interview") to the ridiculous ("The Sinister Cheesecake"), might be familiar to serious Holmesians, there are also a number of original adventures commissioned fresh for this volume. Included are contributions by James M. Barrie, Bret Harte, Fritz Leiber, Robert Bloch, and Basil Rathbone, as well as Dr. Joseph Bell, upon whom Holmes is based and, of course, two rarities by the master himself, Conan Doyle. Together the assorted dispositions by the authors--some to bury Holmes, others to praise him--produce an appropriate equilibrium in the collection. Rich with thrills and laughter, this is a true delight for all students of the Baker Street menage. Recommended for public libraries.

- Michael Rogers, *"Library Journal"*

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From Kirkus Reviews

A three-scoop helping of Holmesiana ranging from reprints of classic parodies by Bret Harte and O. Henry to evergreen pastiches by Vincent Starrett, August Derleth, and Stuart Palmer to new stories by Jon Koons, Roberta Rogow, and Carole Bugg, (whose "Adventure of the Tongue-Tied Tenor" is a particular standout). The emphasis is on fictional items--Holmes is sent to Oz (Ruth Berman) and Damon Runyon's New York (Craig Shaw Gardner), pitted against the Nazis (Manly Wade Wellman) and a doppelganger (Darrell Schweitzer), set to solve the mysteries of Edwin Drood (Edmund Pearson) and Little Red Riding-Hood (Anthony Boucher). But there are also some ten essayistic pieces contemplating Holmes's parentage (Jacques Barzun), his disguises (editor Kaye), and his adventures in Tibet (Amanda Russell), and offering testimony by Mrs. Hudson (ZaSu Pitts), Professor Moriarty (Robert Bloch), and Holmes himself (Maurice Baring). Of the 53 selections, all but a dozen reprinted--though many of the reprints are not easily available elsewhere--the stories are clearly superior to the essays, though the line between the two isn't always easy to draw. Veteran anthologist Kaye (Masterpieces of Terror and the Supernatural--not reviewed--etc.) aims for inclusiveness, right down to his useful Holmesography, and the only glaring omission is Rex Stout's Baker Street burlesque "Watson Was a Woman." Devotees will be too grateful to complain about its absence, or

about the inevitable unevenness of the assembled works--nor will they be foolish enough to devour this sumptuous feast in a single sitting. -- *Copyright ©1994, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Lapham:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? E-book is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim or even goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people feel enjoy to spend their time and energy to read a book. They may be reading whatever they get because their hobby is usually reading a book. Think about the person who don't like reading through a book? Sometime, individual feel need book once they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you should have this The Game Is Afoot: Parodies, Pastiche and Ponderings of Sherlock Holmes.

Carrie Mathis:

The Game Is Afoot: Parodies, Pastiche and Ponderings of Sherlock Holmes can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to put every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing The Game Is Afoot: Parodies, Pastiche and Ponderings of Sherlock Holmes yet doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource information that maybe you can be among it. This great information can easily drawn you into fresh stage of crucial pondering.

Valentin Gonzalez:

In this period globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher in which print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended for your requirements is The Game Is Afoot: Parodies, Pastiche and Ponderings of Sherlock Holmes this publication consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. That book was represented how do the world has grown up. The dialect styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some research when he makes this book. Honestly, that is why this book ideal all of you.

Duane Sills:

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well as can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is to be complicated. Book is very important in your case. As we know that on this period, many ways to get whatever we really wish for. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this The Game Is Afoot: Parodies, Pastiche and Ponderings of Sherlock Holmes can make you feel more interested to read.

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