

Sherlock Holmes's Character: A Comparison of Book and Television Adaptations

Michaela Surovcová

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ABSTRAKT

Tato práce se zabývá dílem sira Arthura Conana Doylea a jeho nejznámější literární postavou Sherlockem Holmesem. Cílem této práce je představit detektivní literaturu a srovnat postavu Sherlocka Holmes z Doyleových knih s televizní adaptací vytvořenou televizní stanicí BBC, která se odehrává v dnešní době.

Klíčová slova: Sherlock Holmes, Doyle, detektivní žánr, zločin.

ABSTRACT

This bachelor thesis is concerned with the work of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle that features the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. The aim of this thesis is to introduce the detective genre compare the original version of Sherlock Holmes with the BBC series which is set into contemporary London.

Keywords: Sherlock Holmes, Doyle, detective genre, crime.

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I hereby declare that the print version of my Bachelor's thesis and the electronic version of my thesis deposited in the IS/STAG system are identical.

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INTRODUCTION

Sherlock Holmes is the name of the most famous detective and the most known creation of a Scottish writer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. He is the very first consulting detective in the world. Police detectives come to him when they have problems with investigation. Sherlock Holmes was created in 1887 and since then he became an essential part of British culture and detective genre. Despite the fact that he is not the very first detective he outdistanced his predecessors and successors by his intellect, methods and skills. Sherlock Holmes along with his loyal companion Dr. John Watson appeared in many other adaptations not only in books and comics but also in films and TV programmes.

The aim of this bachelor thesis is to introduce detective genre, analyse detective stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and compare that with a TV series *Sherlock* created by Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, produced by BBC and set into modern era of 21st century. The first chapter of the bachelor thesis introduces detective genre, takes a look at the origin of detective genre and introduces other significant authors and pioneers of detective literature.

Second chapter is about life and work of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and his struggle with Sherlock Holmes. Third chapter is concerned with Sherlock Holmes his skills, people around him slightly compared to the modern version of the TV series. The last chapter compares original work with the contemporary version and it refers to similarities and differences between them.

1 THE HISTORY OF DETECTIVE LITERATURE

This chapter is about the very beginning of detective literature and how it evolved. It also includes important authors of the golden age of criminal genre.

1.1 Introduction

The very first police forces along with detectives and inspectors were established in the middle of the 19th century.¹ As the completely first detective story is considered many works it is not so clear there are many authors mentioned as the pioneers of this genre from Voltaire's *Zadig* (1748), through Wilkie Collins's *Moonstone* (1868) to Edgar Allan Poe who actually popularize this genre. Nevertheless, as the first British detective novel could be considered *Paul Lifford* from the author Bulwer Lytton published in 1830.²

When Doyle was writing Sherlock Holmes, the term detective literature did not exist yet even though several detective novels and short stories were already published.³

1.2 Important Authors of Detective Genre

Edgar Allan Poe is considered to be the pioneer of detective genre.⁴ He was the one who popularize the detective and mystery genre and also invented science-fiction. He came up with the rules for such a literature and followers stuck to those standards. In 1841 Poe introduced detective C. A. Dupin in the story *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*.⁵

Charles Dickens described in his works the life and society in Victorian England he was also concerned with crime, criminals, police and prison. That is the reason why he is also considered as one of the pioneers of detective genre. Criminals in his books were often punished rather than giving them a second chance to change themselves and drop out criminal life.

Victorian era is also known as the golden age of detective literature.

¹ Engelhardt, Sandra. *The Investigators of Crime in Literature*. Marburg: Tectum Verlag, 2003. 5.

² Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Greatest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 106.

³ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Greatest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 105.

⁴ Engelhardt, Sandra. *The Investigators of Crime in Literature*. Marburg: Tectum Verlag, 2003. 16.

⁵ Clarke Olney. Edgar Allan Poe Science Fiction Pioneer. Accessed March 25, 2015.

1.2.1 Rules of detective genre

Popular American mystery writer of twenties and thirties S. S. Van Dine who created detective Philo Vance also set up rules for detective literature.

First of all, the reader should be able to solve crimes with the detective, so all clues need to be clearly set and depicted. Love story should not be included. The perpetrator should never be the detective or anyone who helps to solve the crime. Also the perpetrator should be someone who appeared in the story and did not play an unimportant part over their readers should be familiar with this character. The detective should proceed with his skills the crime is not suppose to be solved by an accident or min-reading and other spiritualistic things. The corpse must be included in the story. There must be one leading detective if all of them are equal it might be confusing for a reader. Regardless of the amount of murders, there must be only one perpetrator. Secret societies are not appropriate in a detective story. Another rule is that the crime should not be an accident or a suicide and the reason for a crime must be personal.⁶

⁶ S. S. Van Dine. Twenty Rules for Writing Detective Story. Accessed April 6, 2015. <http://www.thrillingdetective.com/trivia/triv288.html>.

2 SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

Arthur Ignatius Conan Doyle was born on May 22, 1859 in Edinburgh. He was born to a catholic and artist family. From the childhood he had a leaning towards literature because of his mother who read him stories which helped him to developed imagination.

When he was 9 years old, he was shipped to a boarding school. He experienced bullying and later he was telling stories to younger students. After graduation, to surprise of his family, who expected him to honour family tradition and study art, he decided to get a medical degree. During his studies he met his future fellow-authors.

His first job as a doctor was aboard ship sailing from Liverpool to Africa. He opened his first practice in Portsmouth and endeavoured to expand his medical career and at the same time to write and become known author. Later on he decided to give up his medical career and focus on writing.

During his lifetime he wrote over 150 short stories and about 21 books. Among society he is known as an author of Sherlock Holmes despite the fact he wrote also historical novels, he occupied himself with spiritistic stories, fantasy stories, non-fiction literature, poetry and also with drama.⁷ One of the best books he wrote is *The White Company* and in his opinion it is better than 100 stories about Sherlock Holmes.⁸

In the early 1900's he wrote military novel *The War in South Africa: Its Causes and Conduct*. In this work he defences actions of Great Britain in South Africa. He witnessed the war, because he served as a military doctor for British army. One of the sensitive topics were concentration camps where were placed women and children, the death rate was high but Doyle claimed it was rather because of disease than bad treatment. After he published this work in 1902, he was knighted.⁹

2.1 Creation of the World's Biggest Detective

Arthur Conan Doyle studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh. His mentor, Professor Dr. Joseph Bell was a huge inspiration for Sherlock Holmes. Professor's strength

⁷ Arthur Conan Doyle Biography." *Bio. True Story* " Accessed March 27, 2015.
<http://www.biography.com/people/arthur-conan-doyle-9278600>.

⁸ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Final Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Brno: Jota, s. r. o., 2004. 190.

⁹ Sir Arthur Conan Doyle knighted. Accessed March 27, 2015.
http://www.siracd.com/life_knight.shtml.

was diagnosis not only medical, but he was also able to recognize people's occupation or traits of character just at first sight. It looked like a miracle for Doyle and others who saw him in this situation, afterwards Dr. Bell gave the audience logical explanation. The appearance of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Bell significantly resemble. Both of them were described as tall, thin, wiry, have dark hair, sharp features, long aquiline nose and penetrating eyes.¹⁰

Doyle stated that a needed characteristic of a good detective is brightness because he needs to see connections between clues. Before he started to create his own detective stories, he has read several detective stories and he was very disappointed about that, those detectives were not skilful they came to a conclusion just by an accident.

2.1.1 Inspiration

Arthur Conan Doyle studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh. His mentor, Professor Dr. Joseph Bell was a huge inspiration for Sherlock Holmes. Professor's strength was diagnosis not only medical, but he was also able to recognize people's occupation or traits of character just at first sight. It looked like a miracle for Doyle and others who saw him in this situation, afterwards Dr. Bell gave the audience logical explanation. The appearance of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Bell significantly resemble. Both of them were described as tall, thin, wiry, have dark hair, sharp lynx, long aquiline nose and penetrating eyes.¹¹

Another huge inspiration for Doyle was also detective Dupin created by Edgar Allan Poe. Even though Sherlock Holmes said to Watson in *Study in Scarlet*, that Dupin was according to him just an average man with some analytic skills but shallow methods.¹²

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¹⁰ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Final Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Brno: Jota, s. r. o., 2004. 29 – 30.

¹¹ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Final Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Brno: Jota, s. r. o., 2004. 29 – 30.

¹² Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887. 22.

¹³ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Final Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Brno: Jota, s. r. o., 2004. 187 – 188.

2.1.2 Sherlock Holmes

After reading several detective stories, Doyle thought that it would be much better to create a main character, which would be able to solve a cases by his own skills and not just by an accident. He thought about his professor from Edinburgh, what kind of moves he would make.

He began to create a story in which his detective was using scientific methods and was able to explain things logically. Sherlock Holmes became practical and systematic detective. Doyle became a medical specialist and during moments when he was waiting for his patients he occupied himself with writing.¹⁴

Difficult about writing Holmes's stories was that every single story needed to have distinctive plot and Doyle did not wanted to write anything not achieving qualities he set to himself. He did not write a story which would not be endowed with such a storyline that caught his own attention therefore is good enough for readers to be interested in reading it. If readers consider the last story as efficient as the first story it is because he never wrote any story out of necessity. Nevertheless some readers claim, that the quality of Holmes's adventures declined after he rose from the dead.¹⁵

He was not only great author of detective literature but he also investigated and helped to solve few real cases. He applied his theoretical knowledge into a real life. He used his observational talent and deduction and proved himself to be an efficient detective.¹⁶

2.1.3 The Strand Magazine

Doyle wrote Sherlock Holmes's stories for himself but then they were published in *The Strand Magazine*. He created a system of short stories written as a series which could be read as an individual story and through the agency of protagonists the story follows. This kind of system successfully used other authors after him.¹⁷

He wrote a dozen of short stories for that magazine, those were later published as *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Afterwards he was convinced not to write any other story about the famous detective. Doyle was already considering writing about other literary

¹⁴ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Final Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Brno: Jota, s. r. o., 2004. 188 – 189.

¹⁵ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Final Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Brno: Jota, s. r. o., 2004. 35.

¹⁶ Mystery authors became real detectives. Accessed March 30, 2015.
<http://www.pastemagazine.com/articles/2013/12/when-mystery-authors-become-real-life-detectives-p-3.html>.

¹⁷ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Final Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Brno: Jota, s. r. o., 2004. 189.

genres but his stories were very successful, so under pressure he wrote more detective stories. He wrote another twelve stories later published as *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*.

2.1.4 Sherlock Holmes's death

Doyle was already known as the author of Sherlock Holmes and according to him, his more valuable work was overshadowed by not so quality work. He decided to write a final story about Sherlock Holmes. He was invited to a lecture in Switzerland he went to a trip to the Reichenbach falls and thought that this beautiful place could be spectacular for Sherlock Holmes's death. Doyle was surprised that readers were so outraged and he received plenty of letters from discontented fans of Sherlock Holmes. Sherlock Holmes was dead almost 20 years but Doyle did not regret that decision at all. Conan Doyle did not consider detective genre as a quality literature. In his opinion it is just a cheap way how to get reader's attention. In almost half of a Sherlock Holmes's stories is not committed a crime, protagonists are only talking about crime and that may deceive reader.¹⁸

Creating new stories was exhausting so he focused on more ambitious literature genres.¹⁹

¹⁸ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Final Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Brno: Jota, s. r. o., 2004. 189 – 191.

¹⁹ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Final Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. Brno: Jota, s. r. o., 2004. 35.

3 SHERLOCK HOLMES

This chapter is dedicated to introducing the character of Sherlock Holmes, describing his appearance, relationship with other characters, his science of deduction, methods, skills and abilities and it all compared to a series Sherlock there are mentioned similarities and differences between those two works.

Originally Doyle named his famous character Sherrinford Hope. In 1880 Doyle sailed a ship named Hope, he wrote a diary about that which was later published as *Dangerous Work: Diary of an Arctic Adventure*. He later decided to rename him. His surname Holmes could be a tribute to an American doctor Oliver Wendell Holmes who was also good at observing and deduction. Sherlock Holmes society in London claims that Doyle chose the name Sherlock because of a well-known violinist, Alfred Sherlock. This information is not certain, he was also a fan of cricket and the name Sherlock also could be a compound of names of two prominent British cricket players Mordecai Sherwin and Frank Shacklock.

Doyle also did not come up with the name John Hamish Watson in the first place, the first option was Ormand Sacker. He renamed him after Dr. Patrick Watson who was a colleague of Dr. Joseph Bell and was a cavalier. John Watson is a combination of Doyle himself and Dr. Patrick Watson.²⁰

3.1 Sherlock's life

Sherlock Holmes is a consulting detective, he invented this occupation, he is the only one in the world. It means that he is not a police detective, he is private and detectives from Scotland Yard come to him in order to get advice, to involve him into an investigation. He helps them to solve cases but he does not get a credit for solving cases.

For the first time we meet Sherlock in *Study in Scarlet* when he meets John H. Watson and they move together to a flat on 221B Baker Street. Since then are John Watson's notes the primary source about eccentric Sherlock Holmes and adventurous life with him. It was a year 1881 and Sherlock lived there, with a 3-year break when people thought he was dead and his brother Mycroft took care of the flat, until 1903 when he was 49 years old and went

²⁰ Sherlock Extra. The Name of Sherlock Holmes. Accessed April 25, 2015.
<http://www.sherlockian-sherlock.com/the-name-of-sherlock-holmes.php#>.

to live in seclusion.²¹ Together they are fighting against crime in 56 short stories and 4 novels.²²

In the year 1903 he was already famous among public and criminals. He stayed at a little farm at the coast of Sussex where he was occupied with beekeeping. He wrote practical manual of beekeeping and also recorded two of his cases. In 1912 he received another case of German espionage so he went to USA undercover accepted name Altamont and spent there 3 years. With the help of his mate Watson the case was successfully closed.²³ The WWI started a week after that and Watson joined the army²⁴ and Sherlock spent the rest of his life alone.²⁵

3.2 Parodies

Some of the writers tried to make a substitution for Holmes, one of the most remarkable belongs to Doyle's brother-in-law who created a story of *The Amateur Cracksman*. The main character Raffles steals from rich and wealthy people his companion Bunny is outraged by his behaviour on the other hand he appreciates his courage. Bunny was very loyal to Raffles, even though he was put in prison instead of Raffles, when he was released he joined him again. Doyle did not like Hornung's stories and he rebuked him for writing stories where the main character is a criminal.

Another example is detective Arsène Lupin who helps ladies in trouble and goes after criminals. In the book appears criminal named Herlock Sholmes.²⁶

²¹ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 11.

²² Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 65.

²³ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 27.

²⁴ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 11.

²⁵ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 27.

²⁶ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 110.

3.3 Holmes on the Screen

The first actor who played the part of Sherlock Holmes in a theatre performance was William Gillette he was approved by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and he served as a model for Sherlock Holmes's illustrations.

The motion picture industry was established in 1888. The very first movie with Sherlock Holmes is *Sherlock Holmes Baffled* (1900) it is a silent movie only 1 minute long.²⁷

The great detective has plenty of film adaptations and imitators. In the book of Guinness World Records from 2012 Sherlock Holmes has a record for the most portrayed literature human character in film and TV adaptations. He appeared on the screen more than 250 times and was played by 75 actors so far.²⁸ First movies about Sherlock Holmes were created abroad, the first British movie went to cinemas in 1914 and it was the adaptation of *Study in Pink*.²⁹ The real boom came after WWI when technologies were improved and silent movies replaced movies with a sound.

In lot of film adaptations, the characters did not meet the requirements of Doyle's creation. Sherlock Holmes was missing his distance towards people and Watson became good-natured, muddle-headed person.

Nevertheless there are actors who played their role of Sherlock Holmes unforgettably. One of them is Jeremy Brett who played the role of Sherlock Holmes for more than 10 years. He portrayed this role in a television series *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* shot in 1984 and series *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* from 1986.³⁰ In the first mentioned series, played alongside him David Burke, who portrayed the clever and energetic Dr. Watson. Later he

²⁷ American Mutoscope Company. *Sherlock Holmes Baffled*. Accessed April 24, 2015. <https://archive.org/details/SherlockHolmesBaffled>.

²⁸ Guinness World Records. *Sherlock Holmes Awarded the Most Portrayed Literary Human Character in Film and TV*. Accessed April 17, 2015.

<http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/news/2012/5/sherlock-holmes-awarded-title-for-most-portrayed-literary-human-character-in-film-tv-41743/>.

²⁹ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 126.

³⁰ Jeremy Brett Biography. Accessed April 25, 2015. http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0107950/bio?ref_=nm_ov_bio_sm.

was replaced and the role of John Watson portrayed in *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* Edward Hardwicke.³¹

Another actor who played the part of Sherlock Holmes for a long time is Basil Rathbone. Along with Nigel Bruce as John Watson they appeared in *The Hound of Baskervilles* (1939) in the same year they managed to film *The Adventurous of Sherlock Holmes* and afterwards another 12 movies. Unfortunately in those movies was Sherlock Holmes a big star but Dr. Watson was left behind.

Clive Brook was the first actor who played Sherlock Holmes out of the silent movie and was also the one who came up with the famous quote “Elementary my dear Watson,” which never appeared in any of Doyle’s books.

In the 21st century became Sherlock Holmes popular again. In 2009 Warner Bros. studios introduced film *Sherlock Holmes* where starred as Sherlock Holmes, Robert Downey Jr. and as John Watson, Jude Law. Downey’s portrayal of Sherlock Holmes was extraordinary, he used costumes, foreseeing of enemy’s moves, boxing skills and of course deduction skills. This film was followed by another one *A Game of Shadow* (2011). The plot in these films is only partially based on Doyle’s work, for example in both films occurs Irene Adler who appeared in only one short story *A Scandal in Bohemia*. According to survey of a British server Digital Spy is Robert Downey Jr. on a third place as a best actor who has ever played Sherlock Holmes.

The last actor is Benedict Cumberbatch who plays Sherlock Holmes in a TV series *Sherlock*. His partner, John Watson is played by Martin Freeman. As reported by the same server Digital Spy, Benedict Cumberbatch won the survey and became the best Sherlock Holmes on the screen. The plot of this series was set into the present time full of technologies that original Sherlock Holmes did not have the use of it. The creators Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss have already revealed 3 seasons of the successful series. Each season consists of 3 episodes 90 minutes long.

Another TV series set in a current into the present day is American adaptation of Sherlock Holmes *Elementary* (2012), where the main character is played by Johnny Lee Miller. For the first time in the history is Watson female character portrayed by Lucy Liu.³²

³¹ David Burke Biography. Accessed April 25, 2015.
http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0121651/bio?ref_=nm_ov_bio_sm.

³² Elementary. Accessed April 27, 2015.
http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2191671/?ref_=nv_sr_1.

3.3.1 Followers

Such a great detective as Sherlock Holmes has a plenty of followers and imitators. To a 100th anniversary of publishing Doyle's short story *The Adventure of The Speckled Band* (1887), many well-known authors of detective literature such as Stephen King, Michael Gilbert, John Lutz, Edward D. Hoch, Dorothy B. Hughes, Peter Lovesey, Lillian de la Torre and John Gardner have created a book *New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. This book is full of short stories with Sherlock Holmes and John Watson, written in a Doyle's pattern. Many other authors tried to continue where Doyle stopped and the great detective became immortal.

Many films and TV programmes were inspired by Sherlock Holmes as well. For instance, *James Bond* who is not detective but throughout the plot he chases someone or is chased, his bohemianism during 50's and 60's resembles Holmes's bohemian lifestyle and habits at the end of the 19th century. His trips to exotic places are like the retrospective parts of few Doyle's stories (*Sign of Four*). Bond also has a great memory.³³

Another example would be TV series *House*, the main character Dr. Gregory House portrayed by Hugh Laurie resembles Sherlock Holmes. He is very smart and uses deduction methods to diagnose his patients. Another thing they have in common is, that House is addicted to Vicodin, he uses that to ease pain in his leg and also to escape from everyday life, they both are arrogant and pretty antisocial. The only person who is close to House is his colleague oncologist Wilson, equivalent for Watson. Also music is very significant for both of them, Holmes plays violin while House plays piano. Moreover he lives in a flat number 221B.³⁴

3.4 Fun Clubs

The first and still existing fun club dedicated to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and his most famous fictional character Sherlock Holmes, John Watson and their bohemian lifestyle during Victorian era. The society of Baker Street Irregulars was established in 1934 and

³³ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 118.

³⁴ House. Similarities with Sherlock Holmes. Accessed April 26, 2015.
<http://www.housemd-guide.com/holmesian.php>.

members spread among people that Sherlock Holmes was not fictional literature character but real detective.³⁵ Part of BSI is Baker Street Irregulars Trust and members of that group are collecting documents, photos, letters, business files, publications and anything that is related to members of Baker Street Regulars and Sherlock Holmes. They have archive situated at Harvard University. Since 1946 society publishes its own newspaper Baker Street Journal. Members of the society are meeting annually in January to celebrate together Sherlock Holmes's birthday.³⁶

3.5 Appearance

Sherlock is over 6 feet tall, skinny and that makes him look even taller, penetrating look, thin aquiline nose, chiselled features specific for purposeful people, his skin is studded with pieces of Elastoplast and blots of different kinds of chemicals.³⁷

He wore a bow tie stuck into collar it was his characteristic feature.³⁸ Essential part of Sherlock Holmes's outfit is a deerstalker in which he has been pictured so many times but the truth is that in book he was depicted in that hat only once right after he came back to London from the adventure at Reichenbach falls in the short story The Adventure of Empty House.³⁹ In the TV series he appeared in deerstalker in Scandal in Belgravia when he put on the hat to cover his face, as a private detective, did not want everyone to see his face. It soon became famous Sherlock Holmes's hat.⁴⁰

³⁵ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 134.

³⁶ Archiv of a work about Sherlock Holmes at the Harvard University. Accessed April 17, 2015. http://oasis.lib.harvard.edu/oasis/deliver/deepLink?_collection=oasis&uniqueId=h0u02178.

³⁷ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887.15.

³⁸ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 29.

³⁹ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 28.

⁴⁰ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "A Scandal in Belgravia," *Sherlock: Season Two*, BBC Worldwide, 2012.

3.6 Habits and skills

He usually goes to sleep before 10 p. m. and wakes up very early. Sometimes he spends whole day out in a chemical laboratory, dissecting room or he just takes a walk to the shanty town.

When he has a case, he is very energetic, does not sleep neither eat until the case is closed. Afterwards he is able to spend days on a sofa without saying a word or move.⁴¹ He is heavy smoker.⁴²

He is very good at anatomy and chemistry he is not really talkative only when he is in a good mood.⁴³

He likes to play violin and compose.

He has a limited knowledge of literature, philosophy and politics. He does not even know anything about solar system which is quite surprising for such an intelligent man as he is. Nevertheless he claims that people should remember only important information and not everything which results in displacing important things. The fact that the Earth orbits around sun is not important at all for his work neither for his life. On the other hand he knows a lot about poisons, chemistry, geology and anatomy. He is excellent at criminal literature and knows about all important crimes that happened in the last century. He is well versed in British law. When it comes to martial arts he is very good at boxing, fighting with staves and fencing.⁴⁴ He is able to recognize what people think by their glance, move or a blink. He does not really explain how but he claims that a person who has never heard of Niagara Falls or Atlantic Ocean is able to deduce their existence from one drop of water. He ensures Watson that science of deduction could be learn by systematic studying. He shows him that occupation could be revealed by people's nails, clothes, shoes and behaviour.⁴⁵ Watson finds out about his Science of Deduction through a monograph Book of Life that Sherlock wrote. At first he does not believe him, but as he showed him that it is really possible to detect so many things about people, so easily, Watson displays him his appreciation.

⁴¹ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887. 15.

⁴² Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Sign of Four*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1890. 11.

⁴³ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887. 9.

⁴⁴ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887. 16 – 18.

⁴⁵ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887. 20.

3.6.1 Treatises

He wrote treatises he believed to help other detectives to accelerate the investigation. The first treatise mentioned in *Study in Scarlet* is about 140 different kinds of tobacco ashes from cigarettes, cigars and pipes. In Victorian age was smoking quite common thing so this knowledge could be useful for investigation.⁴⁶ In 1886 was published his monograph on the anatomy of the human ear. In 1896 Holmes publishes *Polyphonic Motets of Lassus*. He also published another monographs such as *monograph about tracing of footsteps, of the influence of the trade upon the form of the hand, on secret writings, of tattoo marks, upon the dating of old documents*.⁴⁷ In *The Hound of Baskervilles*, he mentioned that professional detective must be able to identify all 75 kinds of perfumes.⁴⁸

3.7 Drugs

Sherlock Holmes needs mental strain all the time. When he has nothing to do, he is nervous, depressed and looks for amusement. He needs difficult problems to work on. He injects himself with cocaine and morphine. It stimulates and encourages his brain while the negative effects pass quickly. On the other hand Sherlock made by BBC uses nicotine patches according to him it is impossible to keep on smoking in today's London, it helps him to think.⁴⁹ In the episode *His Last Vow* he finds himself in a drug den on the grounds of a case, he took drugs and wanted that to be seen as his weakness.⁵⁰

3.8 Methods

He is a master of disguise and as a complement he is also good actor so he is able fool anyone even his good friend Dr. Watson. In *Sign of Four* he dressed up as an old sailor and he was not recognized at all.⁵¹ He became quite known person among criminals, so he need to use costumes. In the series Sherlock does not use costumes at all.

⁴⁶ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887. 36.

⁴⁷ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 11.

⁴⁸ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1908.146.

⁴⁹ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "Study in Pink," *Sherlock: Season One*, BBC Worldwide, 2010.

⁵⁰ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "His Last Vow," *Sherlock: Season Three*, BBC Worldwide, 2014.

⁵¹ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Sign of Four*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1890. 72, 73.

Time to time, he uses help of Baker Street Irregulars, boys from the street who are able to get absolutely everywhere and gives him information he needs. He uses their help for example in *Sign of Four* when he sent them to look for a specific steamboat.⁵² Sherlock from TV series uses his homeless network to keep an eye on situation.⁵³ After looking at the crime scene he is able to give incredibly exact information about perpetrator such as his appearance and height.⁵⁴

When he needs to find out information from people, he gives them impression that the information is not useful for him. He usually finds out everything he needs when he listens to people with indifference.⁵⁵ In order to solve a case, he is able to climb up to a roof barefooted to find out how criminals got in.⁵⁶ When he gets stuck, he concentrate on other things for example on chemical experiment.⁵⁷

3.9 Relationships

Throughout the story Sherlock Holmes is accompanied on his adventures. Even though he likes to spend time alone, sometimes he spends the whole day in chemical laboratory, dissecting room or just walks to the shanty town, there are important people who undoubtedly belong to the story such as John Watson, Mrs. Hudson, Mycroft Holmes or Moriarty.⁵⁸

First of all, there is the narrator, army doctor who served in Afghanistan and Sherlock's best friend Dr. John H. Watson. He became his assistant since the beginning in 1881 and tells their story. Along with readers he admires Holmes's skills and thinks that it is very unfair that Holmes does not get a credit for solving cases but detectives from Scotland Yard who consulted cases with him are admired for that. Sherlock lets John to use his methods and he tells what he thinks. Sherlock claims that John's mistakes help him to see solutions and solve cases.⁵⁹

⁵² Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Sign of Four*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1890. 64.

⁵³ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "The Great Game," *Sherlock: Season One*, BBC Worldwide, 2010.

⁵⁴ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Sign of Four*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1890. 46.

⁵⁵ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Sign of Four*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1890. 59 – 61.

⁵⁶ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Sign of Four*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1890. 51, 52.

⁵⁷ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Sign of Four*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1890. 76.

⁵⁸ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co. 1887. 15.

⁵⁹ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1908. 15.

He serves as a complement to an emotionally-limited Sherlock and his brilliant mind. Even though they make together a great team, Sherlock does not trust John totally, in *The Hound of Baskervilles* he sends Watson alone to take a look at the case and inform him by letters.⁶⁰ Holmes did not stay in London he went to Dartmoor too to keep an eye on Watson and he also did not want their enemies to realise that he watches them.⁶¹ He does not include others to his plans he likes to control and surprise others.⁶² He also let him think that he is dead after the incident in Reichenbach falls. Watson also reminds him what is normal behaviour and points out when he does not react properly. For Sherlock is hard to make friends and is surprised when John asks him to be his best man. He is flattered even though he thinks that love and other feelings stand oppose to the reason he appreciates the most. Giving a speech in front of all people at the wedding is for Sherlock much more difficult task than solving cases. Sherlock says about John that “he is the bravest, wisest, kindest human being I have ever had the good fortune to meet.”⁶³ Watson has difficulties with his memory. It is not isolated when he cannot remember dates, even his own wedding anniversary or on which part of his body he was shot. His wife Mary once called him James instead of John and he was not taken aback by this act.⁶⁴

221B Baker Street would not be the same without landlady Mrs. Hudson. She is very tolerant even though she is sometimes angry with Sherlock’s behaviour. She played a significant part in the story *The Adventure of the Empty House* in which she put her own life at risk to help out Sherlock Holmes.⁶⁵ She is important to Sherlock Holmes, in the TV series *Sherlock*, episode *The Reichenbach Fall*, Moriarty in order to destroy Sherlock, turns to 3

⁶⁰ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1908. 47.

⁶¹ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1908. 113.

⁶² Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1908. 132.

⁶³ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, “*The Sign of three*,” *Sherlock: Season Three* BBC Worldwide, 2014.

⁶⁴ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World’s Biggest Detective*. 23.

⁶⁵ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Empty House*. Accessed March 20, 2015. <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/178/the-return-of-sherlock-holmes/3226/chapter-i-the-adventure-of-the-empty-house/>.

people, Sherlock cares about the most and put their lives at risk. Mrs. Hudson is one of these 3 people, another one is John Watson and last one is inspector Lestrade.⁶⁶

Another important person in the story is Sherlock's brother Mycroft. His older brother appears only in four stories. They both have an incredible memory, deduction and observation skills. In comparison to Sherlock, Mycroft has an inclination to getting fat. They are quite close, Mycroft was the only one who knew that Sherlock did not die at the Reichenbach falls and he paid for the flat at 221B Baker Street.⁶⁷ Mycroft Holmes is a very powerful man, "the most indispensable man in the country."⁶⁸ In the series Sherlock said about him that he is "the British government."⁶⁹ He has access everywhere, when Sherlock stole his security pass, he was able along with John to access the Ministry of Defence research base in Baskerville when they are investigating the case of Henry Knight and gigantic hound he thought he has seen.⁷⁰

Sherlock Holmes had a very specific relationship towards Irene Adler, "the woman". She appeared in only one short story *A Scandal in Bohemia*. She is an independent woman, which was something quite unusual at that time. She proved him that women could be very intelligent as she outsmarted him. He saw himself as a man devoted to his work and not interested in being lover to someone. Anyway there was something about Irene Adler that fascinated him, not feelings for her but more likely for her independence and smartness.⁷¹

Such a story needs to have a villain, in this case it is Professor James Moriarty, who stands behind major crimes committed in London. Sherlock Holmes describes him as a spider, sitting in the middle of the net, because he has a lot of connections and other criminals are willing to do a "dirty work" instead of him, as long as he pays them. He is also known

⁶⁶ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "The Reichenbach Fall," *Sherlock: Season Two*, BBC Worldwide, 2012.

⁶⁷ Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. London: Carlton, 1998. 14.

⁶⁸ Doyle, Arthur Conan. His Last Bow. P. 142.

⁶⁹ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "The Study in Pink," *Sherlock: Season One*, BBC Worldwide, 2010

⁷⁰ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "The Hounds of Baskerville," *Sherlock: Season Two*, BBC Worldwide, 2012.

⁷¹ Doyle, Arthur Conan. Scandal in Bohemia. Accessed April 18, 2015.
<http://wonderfulstoriesonline.blogspot.cz/2007/07/sherlock-holmes-scandal-in-bohemia.html>.

as the Napoleon of crime. He stayed aloof from society, so people around him saw him only as a professor at the university and meanwhile he ran an underworld and owns six bank accounts in Britain and other fortune in Switzerland.⁷²

Sherlock knew that he was really dangerous man, so he bribed Moriarty's lackey Porlock to keep up with him.

In the episode of the series Sherlock called *The Reichenbach Fall*, Moriarty holds a key which enables him to access places like the Tower of London, the Bank of England or the Pentoville Prison. Later he explained to Sherlock, that he never had such a key code, but he has connections and that is how he was able to access those places. He knew that he would fool Sherlock because he wants everything to be done perfectly. He was on a trial but was not found guilty. He basically wanted to show off how powerful he really is.⁷³

In the episode *The Great Game*, he is playing game with Sherlock, gives him limited time to solve certain cases and he does not care that there are peoples' lives at stake. Sherlock finds out that Moriarty probably stands behind the case from 80's Sherlock as a student tried to solve.⁷⁴

Another character is inspector Lestrade, he works for Scotland Yard. He often consults his cases with Sherlock and co-operates with him. Holmes despises police, in the book he blames detectives Lestrade and Gregson that they overlook evidences and follow their own theories. On the other hand he claims that detective Lestrade and Gregson are the best detectives of Scotland Yard and he likes to help them with cases.⁷⁵ In the TV series, Sherlock co-operates with detective inspector Greg Lestrade, whose name is a compound of both detectives Gregson and Lestrade. He is quite close to Sherlock and John he appears at John's

⁷² Fido, Martin. *The World of Sherlock Holmes: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Biggest Detective*. P. 22.

⁷³ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "*The Reichenbach Fall*," *Sherlock: Season Two*, BBC Worldwide, 2012.

⁷⁴ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "*The Great Game*," *Sherlock: Season One*, BBC Worldwide, 2010.

⁷⁵ 21.

wedding⁷⁶ and also at Christmas party at Baker Street. In *Reichenbach Fall* when everyone from police department turned against Sherlock, he still had hope for him and warned him.⁷⁷

Character who appears only in the TV series is Molly Hooper. She is a pathologist and laboratory technician at St. Bartholomew's hospital in London. It seems that her job is to highlight Sherlock's inability to empathize with other people. She likes him very much and tries to appeal to him. He knows that she likes him but he does not know how to cope with this information so sometimes his behaviour towards her seems to be mean and inappropriate. Moriarty manipulated with her when he started to date her just to get closer to Sherlock.⁷⁸ However she helped him to implement his fake death. If the information what Sherlock gave to Anderson in *The Empty Hearse* is true, she found corpse that looked similar to Sherlock and therefore was one of the few people, who knew the truth about his death.⁷⁹

3.9.1 Museum of Sherlock Holmes

The Sherlock Holmes museum is situated at the address of 221B Baker Street in London. The museum is dedicated to life of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson and to their work. It is set into the Victorian era and the bohemian lifestyle. The museum belongs to government which takes care of its cultural and historical heritage. The interior of that building is maintained in exactly the same way as it was described in the books. The museum includes also the shop with gifts in Sherlock Holmes style from Victorian age. They publish their own newspaper *Baker Street Times*. The museum is open every day only with one exception for Christmas.⁸⁰

⁷⁶ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "*The Sign of Three*," *Sherlock: Season Three*, BBC Worldwide, 2014.

⁷⁷ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "*The Reichenbach Fall*," *Sherlock: Season Two*, BBC Worldwide, 2012.

⁷⁸ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "*The Great Game*," *Sherlock: Season One*, BBC Worldwide, 2010.

⁷⁹ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "*The Reichenbach Fall*," *Sherlock: Season Two*, BBC Worldwide, 2012.

⁸⁰ Sherlock Holmes Museum. Accessed April 30, 2015.

<http://www.sherlock-holmes.co.uk/home.htm>.

4 SHERLOCK HOLMES X SHERLOCK

This chapter of the thesis is devoted to actual comparison of Doyle's Sherlock Holmes and Sherlock in the TV series by BBC based on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's work.

Probably the biggest difference between these two works is the era. Plot in the books is situated to the Victorian period.⁸¹ In the series Sherlock the plot is set into a modern age. The modern Sherlock has access to such a technologies, the original Sherlock did not have.

4.1 Comparison of Study in Scarlet and Study in Pink

Study in Scarlet begins in 1881 when Dr. Watson returns from Afghanistan where he served as an army doctor. He got shot and had to leave Afghanistan because of that injury. He was running out of money so there was option to either leave centre of the British Empire or find someone with whom he could share a flat. Watson decided to choose the second option because he did not want to leave London.⁸² He finds Sherlock Holmes at St. Bartholomew's hospital in laboratory making an experiment with blood stains. From Holmes's point of view is this test very useful for criminalistics, because it is going to enable to find culprit much faster. Even though Watson does not see the practical use of it, he is able to appreciate it at least from the chemical point of view.⁸³

The plot is set into the Victorian age. At that time, British Empire thrived as they were gaining more and more colonies, newly they added Nigeria and basically they took all the way from Egypt to the tip of the South Africa. Britain is the biggest and the most powerful empire in the world.⁸⁴ In the middle of 19th century took place Industrial Revolution which is something that had a huge impact on population. More and more people moved to cities and that led to overpopulation. The cause of overpopulation in huge cities, was pollution and spread of diseases.⁸⁵ The differences between upper classes and lower classes were much

⁸¹ Sherlock Holmes, Victorian Gentleman. Accessed April 16, 2015.
<http://sherlockholmes.stanford.edu/history.html>.

⁸² Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887. 8.

⁸³ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887. 12 – 14.

⁸⁴ History of England, British Empire. Accessed April 17, 2015.
<http://www.historyofengland.net/british-empire/british-empire-summary>.

⁸⁵ Victorian Era, Effect of the Industrialization and Urbanization. Accessed April 20, 2015.
<http://logicmgmt.com/1876/overview/medicine/urban.htm>.

more visible. In the big cities were formed even bigger slums than before. On the other hand the economic growth was significant.

Throughout the book they call each other with their surnames in order to show respect to each other. Dr. Watson is also called with his medical title, which emphasizes his education and even though he is intelligent he is still closer to an ordinary reader than brilliant minded Sherlock Holmes and that makes Watson a great narrator.

Holmes treats the criminal who killed two people surprisingly well. He let him explained the whole story behind the act of revenge. He killed them only because they killed his lover Lucy Ferrier and her father John. Afterwards he explains how he solved the case.⁸⁶ Even though Holmes systematically uses methods of Scotland Yard, he criticise police detectives. In addition he uses variety of tricks in order to get to the needed information. He is in touch with criminals.

Study in Pink begins pretty much the same only timing is different. This story takes place in 2010 in a contemporary England. The plot does not completely stick to the Doyle's original story but it features elements from other Doyle's stories. The panorama of London has changed, there is a lot of new buildings, cars in the street and illuminated advertising. Using of technologies is seen already in the very first scene when Scotland Yard detectives are on a press conference and every time Sherlock disagree with inspector Lestrade's statements about cases that seem to be suicides, he texts "wrong" and the message is sent to everyone who takes part in that press conference.

One day Sherlock and John are introduced to each other by John's old classmate Stamford who has no idea what kind of friendship he helped to build and another day they move together to a flat at 221B Baker Street. It was quite regular at the end of 19th century that two men were living together but nowadays it might form rumours that those two could be in a homosexual relationship. Even their landlady Mrs. Hudson thought that they were couple. And also an awkward situation happens when Sherlock explains to John that he is not in a relationship because he is not really into women but he did not mention that he despises all kinds of relationships. So they need to clear up that they are not interested in each other.

⁸⁶ Doyle, Arthur Conan. *A Study in Scarlet*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887. 64.

The name Study in Pink derived from the fact that in the first case in which Sherlock and John worked together was as a victim lady who was dressed up in a pink colour even her later found suitcase and cell phone were pink. It is also the colour of homosexuals which again points out to the extraordinary relationship between Sherlock and John.⁸⁷ The possible homosexual relationship of the two major characters is being mentioned throughout the whole series. Viewers find out during the first episode that John does not get on well with his sibling. By examine John's cell phone, Sherlock finds out, that his sibling is a drinker and is getting divorced. The only thing he did not get right was that Harry is not his brother but it is an abbreviation for Harriet, who is in a homosexual relationship with Clara.

Series also points out the gender equality of 21st century society. To the story are added characters such as Molly Hooper or sergeant Donovan occupying positions that used to be a hundred years ago strictly for men.

Sherlock calls himself a “high-functioning sociopath” which is an antisocial personality disorder. Sociopaths are impulsive and it is pretty hard for them to make a connection with other people, their behaviour is unpredictable.⁸⁸ It fits Doyle's pattern as in the book *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* Watson mentioned that he is “the most perfect reasoning and observing machine.” When they moved together at 221B Baker Street, Sherlock takes with him a skull and refers to it as to “a friend” he does not really have any friends. In the heat of solving a case he completely leaves out John in the crime scene and goes to search for a pink suitcase completely without any explanation. After that John is warned by sergeant Donovan that Sherlock is a psychopath so he should rather stay away from him because she thinks that one day he will set of to the path of crime. He also insensitively reacts when he found out that victim wrote the name of her daughter as a note before she died, he does not understand why would she think about her dead daughter while she was dying. Another thing that highlights his eccentric behaviour is that he displays happiness when a serial killer is on his killing spree and he has a case to solve. That is the reason why he needs to have John Watson around, someone with common sense who would remind him when he gets too far. Even though he admires his job and his genius mind, he also sees that he cannot live an ordinary life, he needs cases and adventure in his life.

⁸⁷ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, “*A Study in Pink*,” *Sherlock: Season One*, BBC Worldwide, 2010.

⁸⁸ World of Psychology, Difference Between Psychopath and Sociopath. Accessed April 29, 2015. <http://psychcentral.com/blog/archives/2015/02/12/differences-between-a-psychopath-vs-sociopath/>.

He also used modern technologies when he examines the crime scene and with the help of his smart phone he comes up to conclusions. Technology is also used in order to track down the murderer by GPS in victim's cell phone. The victim knew that she is going to die so she left her cell phone in murderer's cab in order to catch him. He rather works alone than with police for instance he knew that the victim's cell phone is missing and he found her suitcase but he rather decided to deal with it alone without police detectives. Another problem of today's society also visible in the series is unemployment. Even such a great doctor as John Watson has difficulties with finding a suitable job for him. In *Blind Banker* he takes job on which he is overqualified but he needs to earn money. At the end of the first episode when Sherlock is in imminent danger, John takes in and shoots the perpetrator and saves Sherlock's life. He also trucks him down by using technologies. In this case technologies are portrayed in a good way on the other hand when John is meeting Mycroft for the first time, he follows his steps and when he finally reaches him, he let him see what he can do with security cameras on the street to show him how powerful he is. At the end John is quite surprised when he finds out that Sherlock's "arch enemy" is his brother who actually really worries about him. Mycroft is played by Mark Gattis who is one of the creators of Sherlock and a huge fan of Doyle's work. As a creator and actor at the same time he has more power to control the series.

4.2 Reichenbach Falls

As was mentioned in the first chapter, Doyle wanted to get rid of Sherlock Holmes and whole detective genre and focus on different topics. He decided to say goodbye to him with spectacular dead. At that time Holmes was already known and appreciated detective among people. Dr. Watson publishes an article in order to clear Holmes's name blemished by a press.

In the last episode of second series of Sherlock titled *The Reichebach Fall*, creators depict how powerful social media and press are. He is famous and people love him and call him "the Reichenbach hero" because of the case that made him famous and then Moriarty spread a rumour that he is actually villain, states that he is such a great detective because he is a criminal who stands behind his cases and is a fraud. His reputation was totally destroyed over night. Moriarty enjoyed playing a game with equally brilliant-minded Sherlock. He ends up with Moriarty the roof of St. Bartholomew's hospital where Moriarty shoots himself. Sherlock makes his last phone call to John and then jumps out of roof. He sacrificed himself

to save people he cares about such as John, Mrs. Hudson and detective inspector Lestrade. The protector of people along with the one who put them in danger both end up their journey, at least for now.⁸⁹

After 3 years since his fake dead Sherlock appears back in London for a new adventure. It takes some time and few apologies but after all, John joins Sherlock again in his journey. During those 3 years of being away, Sherlock tries to destroy Moriarty's network⁹⁰ in the last episode of third series *His Last Vow* viewers find out that it is still not over and Moriarty is back.⁹¹

Indignation of readers was so huge that after few years, Doyle brought the famous detective back among living and immediately becomes popular again.

⁸⁹ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "The Reichenbach Fall," *Sherlock: Season Two*, BBC Worldwide, 2012.

⁹⁰ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "The Empty Herse," *Sherlock: Season Three*, BBC Worldwide, 2014.

⁹¹ Steven Moffat and Mark Gattis, "His Last Vow," *Sherlock: Season Three*, BBC Worldwide, 2014.

CONCLUSION

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle introduced his very successful creation of a detective Sherlock Holmes and his companion John Watson in 56 short stories and 4 novels. His short stories were published regularly in The Strand Magazine. First novel that featured famous detective was *Study in Scarlet* and was very successful. Even though he was not a pioneer of a detective fiction he belongs to the most important authors whose legacy is internal also thanks to many adaptations in honor to Doyle's work. Readers see the story through Dr. Watson's eyes and accompany them on their journey to bring a justice into a world. Readers also observe the struggle between Holmes and Moriarty.

The BBC Series *Sherlock* shows story of Sherlock Holmes put into contemporary London. The series does not strictly follow plot of Doyle's stories but refer to it and characters deal with today's problems. Throughout the series it is visible how creators play with the idea of homosexual relationship between Sherlock and John. Another major theme is gender equality there is a number of women characters who were not in original work of Doyle. It also brings up a threat of terrorist attack and the way how technologies can help or harm people.

However the character of Sherlock is faithful to Doyle's pattern he is rational and scientific, adapted to a new problems and threats of today's society. Accompanied by his loyal friend John Watson who helps him to become a better man and with whom he is more able to adapt to a society.

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