

Book Title: *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*

Book Author: Arthur Conan Doyle

Reviewed By: Maria Lee, Age 20

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The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes continues the adventures of the famous detective Sherlock Holmes and his friend, Dr. John Watson, as they tackle twelve unique, thrilling mystery cases. From disappearing fiancés to sudden, inexplicable family member deaths to stolen valuables, the duo must gather clues in order to track down the culprit of each case. Some stories start off with seemingly harmless incidents, such as a governess who is puzzled about her eccentric duties and a pawnbroker who wants to know why his side job was suddenly suspended. Through this myriad of cases, Holmes and Watson travel to many different crime scenes in order to investigate, and Holmes repeatedly uses his ingenious deductive abilities to piece together the clues and solve the mystery.

As with his other books about Sherlock Holmes, Conan Doyle skillfully crafts each mystery in *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* with just the right amount of clues and information to keep the reader intrigued and engaged without revealing the ending of the story. I really like how the narrator is Dr. Watson, for the use of the first-person point of view creates an intimate, conversational tone that draws me into the plot details. I also appreciate Holmes' deductive style, in which he tends to solve the case halfway through the story but does not reveal the full solution until later, thereby keeping both Dr. Watson (and the reader) on their toes. The plethora of plot twists make the endings of the stories unpredictable and surprising, which is a mark of a well-written detective mystery. The culprit is not always the person who is most suspected, so readers feel compelled to keep reading. The creative and ambiguous titles of each short story are also enticing and draw the reader in. Overall, this compilation of Holmes cases is the perfect book for anyone who enjoys reading mysteries!

I recommend *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* for students in grades 6 – 8 (ages 12 – 14), but this compilation of mysteries can be enjoyed by people of all ages. It could be fun to read the twelve short stories with other people, so that everyone can work together to try solving each mystery along the way before they read the ending. This book can be a great one-time read in a library, or it can also be purchased so that one can enjoy reading the short stories over and over again. Each time you read the book, you will likely pick up on new clues and/or plot details that you had not noticed before. Hence, this book is always exciting to read, even if you already know how each case ends. I highly recommend reading other Sherlock Holmes novels and short stories if you enjoyed *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*!

Other recommended books

The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle

The Return of Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle

A Study in Scarlet by Arthur Conan Doyle

The Sign of the Four by Arthur Conan Doyle

The Hound of the Baskervilles by Arthur Conan Doyle