

# Sherlock Holmes

1886 was a good year for English literature. Sir Author Conan Doyle created a fictional character who would soon become known as the greatest sleuth and detective of all time; an icon for the mystery genre. His name was Sherlock Holmes.

Sherlock Holmes first appeared in *A Study in Scarlet*, which introduces how Watson, Holmes's trusted companion, came to meet and become roommates with the great sleuth, who astounded Watson with a demonstration of the science of observation and deduction. Watson is amazed. With one glance, Holmes is able to deduce almost every little detail about a person: his background, his profession, even his personality. When two seemingly connected murders occur, Sherlock Holmes assists the baffled detectives in the case.

Perhaps the most popular and well known story is *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. Sir Charles Baskerville, the respected master of Baskerville Hall, is found dead, dying apparently from fright, with an enormous paw print beside his body. The frightened heir of Baskerville Hall employs Sherlock Holmes to investigate, believing that the paw print belonged to the phantom hound of legend haunting the Baskervilles. This chilling tale shows Sherlock Holmes at his greatest.

If you like those two, check out the collections of short stories, including *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* and *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*. They're good reads and once you read your first Sherlock Holmes, you'll be hooked! Also, if you like the books, then watch the Sherlock Holmes movie arriving in theaters on Christmas Day 2009.

*By Teen Book Reviewer: Gary Wang*

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