

# A Study in Scarlet: [Illustrated] [More Than 55 Pictures Included] [Free Audio Links] (The Sherlock Holmes Mysteries Book 1)

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle



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A Study in Scarlet: [Illustrated] [More Than 55 Pictures Included] [Free Audio Links] (The Sherlock Holmes Mysteries Book 1) Sir Arthur Conan Doyle A Study in Scarlet Sir Arthur Conan DOYLE (1859 - 1930)

A Study in Scarlet is a detective mystery novel written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, introducing his new characters, "consulting detective" Sherlock Holmes and his friend and chronicler Dr John Watson, who later became two of the most famous literary characters in detective fiction.

Conan Doyle wrote the story in 1886, and it was published the next year. The book's title derives from a speech given by Holmes to Doctor Watson on the nature of his work, in which he describes the story's murder investigation as his "study in scarlet": "There's the scarlet thread of murder running through the colourless skein of life, and our duty is to unravel it, and isolate it, and expose every inch of it."

The story, and its main characters, attracted little public interest when it first appeared. Only 11 complete copies of Beeton's Christmas Annual 1887 are known to exist now and they have considerable value. Although Conan Doyle wrote 56 short stories featuring Holmes, A Study in Scarlet is one of only four full-length novels in the original canon. The novel was followed by The Sign of the Four, published in 1890. A Study in Scarlet was the first work of fiction to incorporate the magnifying glass as an investigative tool.

#### [Reception]

Reviewer Alex Baker noted that "By later standards of detective fiction, 'A Study in Scarlet' violates a cardinal rule: there is no way for intelligent readers to work out the solution for the mystery by themselves. The very first time that the reader hears of Jefferson Hope is when Holmes arrests him as the murderer. Nor is any previous hint given of Drebber and Stangerson's Mormon background. However, at the time when it was written, this rule did not yet exist, and detective fiction in general was taking its very first steps (to which this book greatly contributed)

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#### From reader reviews:

#### **Jeffrey Brill:**

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#### Linda Thomas:

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#### **Christopher Gonzalez:**

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