



The Demon of the Dusk: The rediscovered cases of Sherlock Holmes Book 1

Arthur Hall

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Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson are summoned to Theobald Grange, the Warwickshire home of Lady Heminworth. Being of a nervous and superstitious disposition, her Ladyship lives in fear. Her husband and elder son were recently murdered, apparently by the ghost of a court jester who was executed on the site centuries before. The apparition has warned that she, too, is to die. Holmes rejects a supernatural explanation, although his adversary seems unaffected by gunfire and is able to take flight and disappear. The Great Detective brings his powers to bear, but still the killings continue...

The Demon of the Dusk: The rediscovered cases of Sherlock Holmes Book 1 Details

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Author : Arthur Hall

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From Reader Review The Demon of the Dusk: The rediscovered cases of Sherlock Holmes Book 1 for online ebook

Nadine says

A new star (or at least new to me) in the Sherlock Holmes pastiche sky :)

This story had everything I look for in a SH story:

- outstanding mystery
- beautiful characterization of Holmes and Watson as well as their friendship (and every author who treats Watson as the competent and faithful companion he truly is deserves kudos)
- great original characters
- thrilling and suspenseful ending

Truly a page turner and I'm really looking forward to reading at least three more "rediscovered cases of Sherlock Holmes" by Arthur Hall. Thank you, sir :)

Three Roads says

Arthur Hall's "The Demon of the Dusk" captures the cadence and vocabulary of the Holmes/Watson repartee quite well. So much so, due to its setting on a lone country estate with Holmes racing off to London at one point leaving Dr. Watson in charge of the safety and welfare of their clients, at times I forgot that I wasn't reading "Hound of the Baskervilles". This is important for me, as I have been put off too often by Holmes pastiches presumably written by Dr. Watson that do not sound in the least like Watson. This can be terribly distracting and annoying when all I want to do is be lulled into a pleasant suspension of disbelief. Yet, Hall has pulled off this trick masterfully and sustained it through a full-length mystery novel. Every minute as I read I emotionally felt I was in the presence of Arthur Conan Doyle's authentic Holmes and Watson. I applaud Hall's skill and look forward to the three further books in this series. While matters as subtle as Watson's "voice" are important to me, so is a good story, and again Arthur Hall excels; "The Demon of the Dusk" is a convoluted murder mystery worthy of Nero Wolfe himself. My one complaint is that Hall introduces a number of potentially colorful props—an ancient manuscript, a telescope, a barn fire, formal meals, a mansion with a complement of servants—in an off-hand manner that belies their colorfulness. I longed to know more about the manuscript and telescope, as well as know just who it was that prepared the oft-mentioned meals, and what did those meals consist of. But this is a small matter and perhaps is more of a reflection of my own personal literary foibles than it is on Hall's considerable writing skills. The plot begins as a ghost story but then grows and branches with each successive chapter as we are introduced to new characters and potential "red herrings," as it has long since been established that trying to spot the red herrings is just as much fun and important as figuring out who the criminal is! Obviously I highly recommend "The Demon of the Dusk".

Dale says

A demonic jester at twilight...

My thanks go out to Steve and Timi at MX Publications for my copy of this book. May Undershaw stand forever!

The case is presented to Holmes by Miss Florence Monkton. She is the niece of Lady Hemingworth of Theobold Grange. She learned of Holmes from a friend of her late father. Holmes had solved a mystery for the friend, a man named Mr. Cavendish Stroud.

The case begins with old parchment discovered in the ruined East Tower of Theobold Grange in Warwickshire. It is the legend of a court jester said to have suffered at the hands of Baron Roger de Lorme, who originally owned the estate, then known as Armington Keep. Theobold Grange is built upon the old foundations.

The parchment states that the ghost of the jester will exact revenge on the descendants. Lady Hemingworth is at the head of the current family. Hemingworth is indirectly connected to the Baron's progeny, the final direct heir having died long ago.

Now Lady Hemingworth has lost her husband and elder son, apparently killed by the jester who appears at the edge of the woods cursing the Lady in extremely foul language. Holmes is certain that this is not a ghost, yet when they give chase the figure seems to fly away! It also appears to be immune to bullets! And the jester is far from finished with Lady Hemingworth and her family...

This is a truly great Holmes story! Kudos are given for the remarkable final reveal. I found the book to be fast paced but the characters very well developed. Action adventure, mystery and a hint of a ghost story combine to create a tale well worth the reading!

I give the book five stars...

Quoth the Raven...
