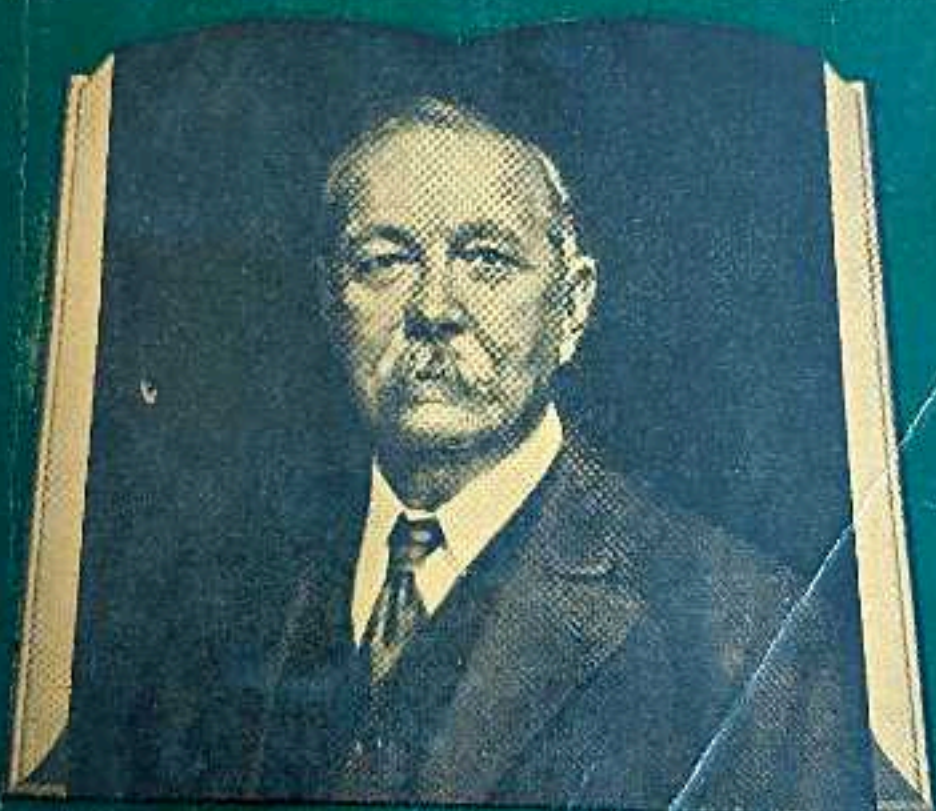


PAN-Books



THE LIFE OF SIR ARTHUR
CONAN DOYLE
John Dickson Carr



The adventurous career of the creator
of Sherlock Holmes described by a
famous detective-story writer

GREAT PAN volume

2/6

CONTENTS

	PAGE
FOREWORD	7
I. HERITAGE: THE GOLDEN LEOPARDS	9
II. ACADEMIC: THE HIDDEN TUTORS	17
III. ADVENTURE: A TASTE FOR TROUBLE	28
IV. MEDICAL: THE RESPECTABLE TOP-HAT; WITH MANUSCRIPTS	43
V. DISILLUSIONMENT: THE THINNING OF THE DREAMS	54
VI. SUNRISE: THE TRIUMPH OF DETECTION	69
VII. TRAGEDY: "WE MUST TAKE WHAT FATE SENDS"	83
VIII. EXILE: BONEY'S WARRIORS—AND THE DERVISHES	96
IX. ROMANCE: JEAN LECKIE	106
X. WARNING: BUGLES ON THE VELDT	118
XI. VICTORIAN: THE END OF AN ERA	133
XII. HONOUR: "I BELIEVE SUCH STATEMENTS TO BE LIES"	150
XIII. DILEMMA: HOW A CHAMPION REFUSED TO BE KNIGHTED, AND WHAT CAME OF IT	160
XIV. CROPPING: THE DOUBTS OF ALL THIS WORLD	172
XV. DETECTIVE: THE GREAT WYRLBY MYSTERY	183
XVI. ARCADIAN: WINDLISHAM, WITH INTERLUDES OF THE THEATRE	200
XVII. FANTASIA: SPORT, BEARDS, AND MURDER	214
XVIII. SHADOWS: NOW CAME <i>DANGER!</i>	227

- XIX. ROYAL TOUR: THE PEAK OF SUCCESS
- XX. CHAOS: BUT THE GROPING ENDED
- XXI. CRUSADE: THE LAST BATTLE
- XXII. THE BEGINNING
- EPILOGUE

About this book



SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, the creator of Sherlock Holmes, was born in 1859 and died in 1930. Within those years was crowded that prodigious variety of activity and creative work which has made him so great a figure. In writing the life-story, John Dickson Carr (whose detective stories under his own name and his pseudonym Carter Dickson are world-renowned) was unusually fortunate, for Sir Arthur, as Dr. Watson is made to say of Sherlock Holmes, "had a horror of destroying documents" and a vast amount of material was available. "This is a story of adventure," writes Mr. Carr. "To paint in dull colours, to check the gallop, would be to misrepresent the man himself. The facts are these. When Conan Doyle speaks, he speaks in his own words. . . ." So we have a narrative of exceptional vividness. Schoolboy at Stonyhurst; medical student at Edinburgh University; young doctor at Southsea, feverishly sending stories to magazines and then conceiving the brilliant idea of exploiting scientific criminology through the personality of Sherlock Holmes—such was Sir Arthur's early career. But tragedy laid hold of him: his wife was afflicted with a lingering illness, and he fell in love with another girl (it was ten years before he was free to marry her). Meanwhile he wrote a justification of British action in the Boer War, killed Sherlock Holmes and was compelled by public demand to resurrect him, and accepted a knighthood (under protest). Then he turned detective himself, and successfully championed the cause of two men wrongly convicted of crimes they never committed—George Edalji and Oscar Slater. Later came a new field of invention—*The Lost World* and the other "Professor Challenger" stories. His writings and his innumerable public activities made him one of the best-known figures of his time. Mr. Dickson Carr's biography (a *Daily Mail* Book of the Month) is packed with entertainment.

PAN Books Ltd

8 HEADFORT PLACE, LONDON, S.W.1