CLASSICS LIBRARY · STORY MAP

The Return of Sherlock Holmes

Arthur Conan Doyle · *1905 · original English text*

It was in the spring of the year 1894 that all London was interested, and the fashionable world dismayed, by the murder of the Honourable Ronald Adair. The Return opens in an empty house, and it is a new collection, not a chapter of the Memoirs.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

What does a return cost a friend who had already written a death, and can a second life of cases still be a first astonishment?

"It was in the spring of the year 1894 that all London was interested, and the fashionable world dismayed, by the murder of the Honourable Ronald Adair"

The Adventure of the Empty House, the opening

The hosted text is The Return of Sherlock Holmes (1905, PG #108), complete as this collection, beginning with The Adventure of the Empty House. The opening is exact, including "Honourable." Map the Return as its own book, not as a chapter of the Memoirs. Do not name the solutions of the later mysteries on the map, and do not spend the first tale's surprise in a sentence that belongs to the close. For a wide older band. Quote this typography.

KEY CHARACTERS

Sherlock Holmes
The returned detective of the empty house, and of the new cases that follow.

Dr. Watson
The friend who had already written a death, and who must tell a return.

the Honourable Ronald Adair
The murdered man of the first tale's opening, with whom all London is occupied.

the clients of the Return
The changing company of the later adventures in this volume.

THE SPRING OF 1894

> *"It was in the spring of the year 1894 that all London was interested, and the fashionable world dismayed, by the murder of the Honourable Ronald Adair"*
>
> The Adventure of the Empty House

Grades 7–12

Read the full text free at classicslaunch.org.

01

The Spring of 1894

THE ADVENTURE OF THE EMPTY HOUSE, THE OPENING

All London is interested, and the fashionable world dismayed, by the murder of the Honourable Ronald Adair. The first tale of the Return begins as a public crime, and as a locked question.

- The opening is exact in both witnesses, including 'Honourable.'
- This is the first adventure of this collection.
- Do not name the solutions on the map, and do not spend the tale's surprise in the map's voice.

> *"It was in the spring of the year 1894 that all London was interested, and the fashionable world dismayed, by the murder of the Honourable Ronald Adair"*
>
> The Adventure of the Empty House

02

An Empty House, and a Friendship Resumed

THE FIRST TALE CONTINUED

The empty house is the title and the hinge. What Watson finds there is the beginning of a new set of cases, not the close of the old memoirs.

- Keep the Return distinct from the Memoirs.
- The astonishment of the friend is part of the first tale.
- Teach the return without turning it into a joke only.

03

A New Dozen of Cases

THE MIDDLE OF THE COLLECTION

Norwood, the dancing men, a solitary cyclist, a priory school, and the rest follow as separate adventures. The method is old; the book is new.

- Keep the adventures distinct.
- Do not name the solutions on the map.
- A wide older band can read these with help.

04

The Last of this Return

THE CLOSE OF THE VOLUME

The hosted text is complete through the last adventure of this collection. Later Holmes books on this site (His Last Bow, the Case-Book) are other volumes.

- This map is the Return only.
- Do not import later collections.
- Quote this typography.

05

A Complete Second Coming of Cases

THE HOSTED FILE

PG #108 and the site EPUB are this complete 1905 collection. Quote stretches that appear in both.

- Complete as the Return.
- For a wide older band.
- A collection, not a novel, and not a chapter of the Memoirs.

A Return | An Empty House | Friendship Resumed | A New Set of Cases | Public Dismay

What to watch for as you read

GRADES 7–12

1. The hosted text is The Return of Sherlock Holmes (1905, Project Gutenberg #108), complete as this collection, beginning with The Adventure of the Empty House. The opening is exact: "It was in the spring of the year 1894 that all London was interested, and the fashionable world dismayed, by the murder of the Honourable Ronald Adair" (Honourable as printed).
2. Map the Return as its own book, not as a chapter of the Memoirs. Later Holmes books on this site (His Last Bow, the Case-Book) are other volumes. Do not name the solutions of the mysteries on the map, and do not spend the first tale's surprise in the map's voice. For a wide older band.
3. Quote stretches that appear in both the Gutenberg text and the site EPUB.

Quotations are verbatim from the original English text, Project Gutenberg #108, the public-domain text hosted at classicslaunch.org/works/the-return-of-sherlock-holmes/. Citations give book and chapter (or canto and line) so every line can be checked.