


The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - The Moonstone's Curse

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The aristocratic Charles Bromley arrives at 221B Baker Street to beg SHERLOCK HOLMES for his help. Bromley believes that his wife is in danger, as she has refused an offer to sell the Moonstone, a fabulous diamond that has been in her family for generations but which is said to be cursed. When a jeweller is found murdered, it seems as if the Moonstone deserves its reputation. Then the diamond is stolen, and Holmes must try to unravel a mystery centuries in the making.

The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - The Moonstone's Curse Details

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From Reader Review The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - The Moonstone's Curse for online ebook

Cindy Ladensack says

I usually do enjoy these fresh takes on Sherlock Holmes, but this one had a couple of things that I just couldn't get past: first, the replacement Watson. Ugh, was he tedious! We get it, he is a 'bosom' man, and he thinks his wife is super hot. Two, the setup for the burglary was ridiculous; I can't believe that Holmes would have let that happen. And three, the wrap-up at the end was too long -- I just skimmed it. Interesting concept but just didn't live up to its premise.

Pam says

Author, Sam Siciliano, pairs Sherlock Holmes with his cousin, Henry rather than Dr. Watson. I thought this was refreshing. Holmes is just as cerebral as always, as standoffish towards women, but we find that he works with Lestrade with more respect than portrayed in the original series. In the Moonstone's Curse, we find the age-old theft of the Indian stone, an unusual diamond, by the English to be the cause of a curse upon the family. The most recent inheritor of the curse, Alice, is fragile in mind and spirit and frightened of the diamond. Her husband hires Holmes to inspect the safe where the stone will be locked away after Alice wears it one last time.

This is a story of complications, betrayals, loyalties, love, and worth. What is the true worth of anything? Holmes takes Henry with him as he sets the stage for the final outcome when the Moonstone is stolen again. You will find the history and emotions rich in this book, but nothing detracts from the workings of the mind of Holmes. I enjoyed the byplay between Henry and his wife, Michelle, who happens to be a woman doctor in those times. I will read more of the further adventures of Sherlock Holmes especially written by Mr. Siciliano.

Storie Lynch says

In this book, the notorious detective Sherlock Holmes and his assistant, Doctor Vernier, investigate the the Bromley family after Charles Bromley came to them with concerns for his wife, Alice. Convinced that she is cursed by having the stone in her possession, Alice's mental health is slowly deteriorating. After weeks of no new leads, the investigation suddenly picks up after a dinner party when the diamond is stolen. In the end, Sherlock Holmes, with the help of the doctor and the police, lives up to his reputation and finds out who stole the moonstone, and also comes to a conclusion as to whether the stone is really as cursed as everyone thinks it is. I enjoyed this book very much, because it was suspenseful and filled with action and mystery. In addition, it was easy to get into and it was interesting the whole time I was reading it. I would suggest this book to the type of reader who enjoys mysteries, as well as many cliff hangers. I would also suggest this to someone who likes complicated yet interesting plot lines.

Bertha says

This was the first book in the series that I read. The book was well written and easy to read but I missed having Watson in the story. I felt Sherlock's cousin, Dr. Henry Verner, wasn't really necessary to the story line.

I won this book from Goodreads and have voluntarily reviewed it.

Dale says

A fabulous gem with a murderous spirit attached to it!

Siciliano is back with more blending of various authors! Siciliano's chosen author for this volume is Wilke Collins. The book is presented as a kind of sequel to Collins' novel *The Moonstone*.

The accursed jewel has passed down to a lady called Alice Bromley. Once part of an Indian temple statue, the stone had been stolen many years ago. Charles Bromley, husband to Alice comes to 221B citing danger to his wife and asking Holmes for help.

As usual with Sam Siciliano, Doctor Henry Vernier takes Watson's place in the adventure. In fact, Holmes dismisses Watson's writings as "mostly fiction." Vernier is Holmes' cousin and Vernier's wife, lady Doctor Michelle Doudet Vernier plays her part as well.

The book uses subtle hints and clues carefully, revealing just enough to tantalize the reader and keep him or her hooked. A steady pace helps, rather than hinders the plot, making time to fully develop all of the characters.

There is one thing that maybe I missed, but I don't think so. In the final reveal, it seems some of those involved are never clearly identified. I guess I could have missed something, but going back and rereading the last several chapters still left me unsatisfied.

If you can get beyond the fact that Watson doesn't appear in the story as narrator, or indeed at all, the story isn't all that bad. It is just a bit lose in the end. The mystery is solved, some crooked people identified, but not all of them I believe.

I give the book three and one-half stars...

Quoth the Raven...

Stuart says

An interesting mystery combined with an emotionally supportive Sherlock Holmes and a Watson shaped hole...

I have been really enjoying the continuation of the Sherlock Holmes story-line and each authors different

take on the famous detective. Personally I felt that *The Moonstone Curse* was too much of a departure from the kind of Sherlock Holmes novel I enjoy. This is mostly a continuation of Sam Siciliano's favourite novel *The Moonstone* with a Sherlock Holmes coating. The plot centres around the possible theft of the Moonstone Diamond, a gem stolen generations ago and handed down through Alice Bromley's family tree. The Bromley's are concerned about the jewel being stolen and have asked Sherlock to investigate who would want to steal the diamond and how they might achieve that goal.

I thought the Moonstone Diamond plotline was good, a well rounded mystery with many different elements and characters. Did it need to be a Sherlock Holmes novel...? No it did not. I think Sam Siciliano's writing is an acquired taste. He focuses on romance, class, relationships and culture, which I can appreciate fully but just not as part of Sherlock Holmes' canon. Siciliano has crafted a decent plot with plenty of avenues of investigation. There is death, mystery and several quality plot twists to keep readers interested. I felt that rich people moaning about their first world problems slightly grating but it was all included to build atmosphere and connect the characters together.

I didn't like the fact that Watson wasn't involved. He has driven away by Sherlock and replaced with his cousin, Dr Henry Vernier. Vernier is an alright companion, but he is more interested in bedding his wife than he is on figuring out the case. Finally, Sherlock is much more emotionally involved in *The Moonstone Curse* which I am not used too. There is very little back and forth between the two main characters which is a massive shame as I enjoyed the awkward dynamic that Holmes and Watson share.

There are some excellent and important themes included here. Duality; good vs evil. There is culture, religion, curses, handling sexism, jealousy and sexuality. I found myself guessing (wrongly...) all the way through, trying to get a head of the plot and figure it out. I also enjoyed the early 20th century pop culture references. Had this been a sequel to Siciliano's favourite novel *The Moonstone* by Wilkie Collins (without the Sherlock veneer) then this would have been so much better. The constant and awkward comparisons that naturally occur between Sherlock novels makes *The Moonstone Curse* feel drastically out of place.

Overall, I think Siciliano's attempt to juggle the Sherlock lore, with the noticeable changes, and the continuation of Collins' *The Moonstone* was far too much for such a short novel. This book has done Sherlock Holmes no justice in my opinion. Luckily things that don't suit me will almost definitely suit plenty of other readers. If you are interested in mystery novels that are focused on culture and romance then this will be perfect for you. I have given *The Moonstone Curse* 2.5/5 because though I enjoyed about half of the novel, I spent the other half disappointed.

Calvin Daniels says

Not a full three.

I appreciate stories that change up things, like no Watson. Sadly Dr. Vernier as narrator is bland to the extreme.

As a result the book was tedious at times, being 30-40 pages too long in my mind.
