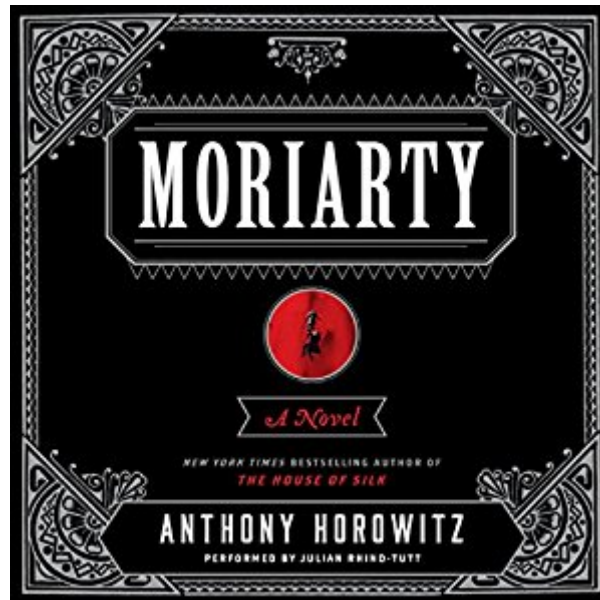




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Moriarty: Sherlock Holmes, Book 2



Synopsis

The game is once again afoot in this thrilling mystery from the best-selling author of *The House of Silk*, sanctioned by the Conan Doyle estate, which explores what really happened when Sherlock Holmes and his arch nemesis Professor Moriarty tumbled to their doom at the Reichenbach Falls. Internationally best-selling author Anthony Horowitz's nail-biting new novel plunges us back into the dark and complex world of detective Sherlock Holmes and Moriarty - dubbed the "Napoleon of crime" by Holmes - in the aftermath of their fateful struggle at the Reichenbach Falls. Days after the encounter at the Swiss waterfall, Pinkerton detective agent Frederick Chase arrives in Europe from New York. Moriarty's death has left an immediate, poisonous vacuum in the criminal underworld, and there is no shortage of candidates to take his place - including one particularly fiendish criminal mastermind. Chase and Scotland Yard Inspector Athelney Jones, a devoted student of Holmes's methods of investigation and deduction originally introduced by Conan Doyle in *The Sign of Four*, must forge a path through the darkest corners of England's capital - from the elegant squares of Mayfair to the shadowy wharfs and alleyways of the London Docks - in pursuit of this sinister figure, a man much feared but seldom seen, who is determined to stake his claim as Moriarty's successor. A riveting, deeply atmospheric tale of murder and menace from the only writer to earn the seal of approval from Conan Doyle's estate, Moriarty breathes life into Holmes's dark and fascinating world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

After reading *House of Silk* I was eager to get this novel. I didn't realize that neither Holmes nor

Watson was in it, so I was pretty disappointed. There were parts of Moriarty that I liked. Horowitz's enumeration of the problems with the events in *The Final Problem* in the beginning of the book was brilliant, and I had high hopes for the rest. But the tone changed almost immediately, and the rest of the book was, as another reviewer put it, long-winded. I found myself skimming some of it. I twice had issues with events not making sense. The villain the protagonist is after is just purely ridiculous. The ending didn't reveal anything I hadn't expected. I don't want to go into more details in case I spoil the mystery. I'll just say that Horowitz offers an alternative series of events here which should have been more compelling than they were. I read to the end of the book because I'd started it, not because I cared what happened to any of these characters or was engrossed in the plot.

The author started off writing a fairly good tale, although I would imagine the popularity of many of the Holmes retelling is that they deepen the characters and our understanding of their motivations somewhat more than the original narratives and this story was fairly two-dimensional. But the last 20% or so of the book relegated to the denouement where the author gives up any pretense of showing the story, and full blown narrates it. Exposing every last nuance of how he fooled you. He does everything but get all of the suspects in the room and unmask them in the tired mystery cliché lampooned in such more modern movies as *Clue*. A passable tale where the author seemed to get lazy or tired and the ending reads like his original plot outline, but certainly not like a finished novel. That left a bad taste in my mouth.

I was surprised at how many readers did not like this installation into the Holmes cannon. I count myself as a Jeremy Brett Sherlock Holmes fan through and through and enjoyed this book very much. Yes, it is not a standard Holmes story - but you obviously know that when you enter into this contract with this author. It requires a bit of suspended disbelief as it were as when you go into a magic show -- you know you are going to be deceived, but that is part of the fun. Minus one star for some issues I had with the ending (abrupt, a little too much like the new Holmes movies in its "showiness/timestop silliness"), but overall a solid book with escapism vacation material written all over it.

Captivating & well written-- except for the rather unsatisfying (in my opinion) ending. Some readers may not mind this style of slamming one's audience against a wall but for others, it will not likely garner continued readership.

I don't like this book. I thought Horowitz's "House of Silk" pastiche was fine, but in this instance the author quite purposely misleads and betrays the reader. I won't be a spoiler here, but this is a pretty good story ruined.

I was really looking forward to reading this book! And while the story line was good there was one thing that bugged me! Mr Horowitz uses way way to many exclamation points!!! and it just felt a little lazy

If you are a Sherlock Holmes fan like I am, you will love this book. Horowitz captures the writing style and time period superbly and blends it with fabulous characterization and plot twists to keep the reader engaged to the very end. Highly recommended!

I normally avoid books that steal the Holmes characters but liked Horowitz's work in Foyle's War, (plus a 1.99 daily deal price) so gave it a try. It was not worth the read. The only "Sherlock" feel came from reference to other Holmes cases and borrowed characters. It took about 100 pages to see where the book was going and not because of the clues left in the book, but rather one on the cover. The last pages laboriously spell out the plot line, as if it really needed any explanation. Bottom line, if not for the Horowitz name and the use of Holmes characters, I doubt this book would have been published.

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