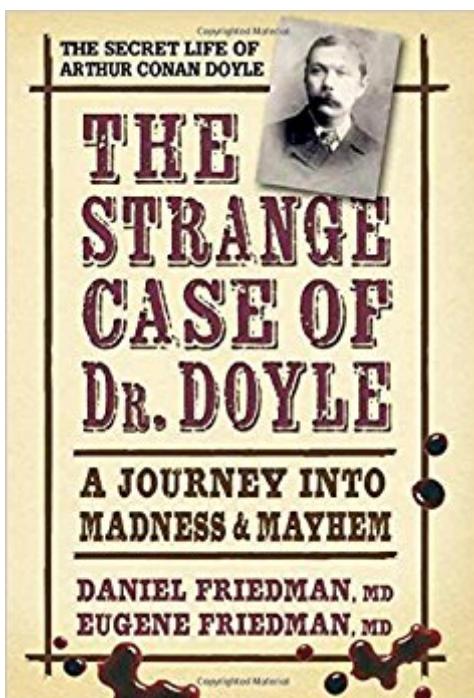


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The Strange Case Of Dr. Doyle: A Journey Into Madness & Mayhem



Synopsis

In the spring of 1905, members of an exclusive club of crime enthusiasts known as Our Society were taken on a guided excursion through Whitechapel, one of London's most notorious districts, by Dr. Frederick Gordon Brown, the chief police surgeon for the City of London. But this was no ordinary sightseeing tour. The focus of the outing was Jack the Ripper's reputed murder sites, and among the guests that day was Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of the world's greatest detective, Sherlock Holmes. Here, now, in *The Strange Case of Dr. Doyle* by first-time son/father writing team Daniel Friedman, MD, and Eugene Friedman, MD, you are cordially invited to join a recreation of that tour. This expedition, however, will differ from the original in one very important way: It will be led by celebrated author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle himself. As you stroll beside Doyle and his other guests, you will travel to the location of each of the five canonical Ripper murders. Thanks to your guide's observations and opinions, all of which are based on actual historical accounts, you will learn as much about the district of Whitechapel as you will the terrible Ripper killings that occurred there. After each stop on the tour, you will also become acquainted with the life of Arthur Conan Doyle, from his earliest days in Edinburgh to his first taste of success as a writer. You will observe Arthur's hardships at home, his experiences at boarding school, his adventures at sea, his university education, and his days as a working medical doctor. You will be granted a picture of the man as few have ever seen him. As you alternate between biography and tour, you will become a Holmes-like detective, unearthing facts, discovering details, and piecing together information about both Jack the Ripper and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. If you maintain a sharp mind and a keen eye, at the end of your journey, you may just uncover a truth you never expected to find.

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Customer Reviews

A "Featured Selection" of The Mystery Guild Book Club (Mystery Guild Book Club (Bookspan)) "A father-and-son writing team explore Arthur Conan Doyle's fascination with the Jack the Ripper case . . . the book offers us an opportunity to see how Conan Doyle might have approached the Ripper investigation, had he been involved with it, and, in a larger sense, how Conan Doyle's keen analytic mind mirrored, in many ways, that of his most famous creation . . . [The Strange Case of Dr Doyle] has] many virtues, including, most of all, the way it allows us to peek inside the mind of Arthur Conan Doyle. An annotated bibliography of sources is appended." (Booklist) "Exposees the similarities of two very strange men, Jack the Ripper and Arthur Conan Doyle . . . interesting, as the authors expose the man with a titanic ego who always had a good excuse for his failures . . . the book goes on to raise intriguing questions and possibilities for fans of both men." (Kirkus Reviews) "Accurate and well researched. . . . [A]n engaging examination . . . the Friedmans' conclusion about Jack and Doyle will raise eyebrows. . . . [B]ound to be read by fans of Victorian murder real and invented." (Library Journal) "Life is full of surprises, and The Strange Case of Dr. Doyle is written by a father-and-son pair of physicians and published by Square One Publishers, a small, indie book publisher in a town of 8,000 on Long Island, New York is one of this year's big literary amazements. This is a spectacular undertaking by Drs. Daniel and Eugene Friedman, who must be very good physicians if they can be judged by their passion, exhaustive research and absolutely flawless writing. (The Durango Herald) "A gripping and fascinating read. Give the authors a chance and, well, you may start to look at Sherlock Holmes in an altogether different light . . . [the authors'] annotated bibliography is the best I have seen . . . The Friedmans certainly raise some interesting, not to say chilling, questions." (Paul Begg, world-renowned Jack the Ripper expert Ripperologist Magazine (UK))

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recreation of that tour. This expedition, however, will differ from the original in one very important way: It will be led by celebrated author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle himself. As you stroll beside Doyle and his other guests, you will travel to the location of each of the five canonical Ripper murders. Thanks to your guideâ™s observations and opinions, all of which are based on actual historical accounts, you will learn as much about the district of Whitechapel as you will the terrible Ripper killings that occurred there. After each stop on the tour, you will also become acquainted with the life of Arthur Conan Doyle, from his earliest days in Edinburgh to his first taste of success as a writer. You will observe Arthurâ™s hardships at home, his experiences at boarding school, his adventures at sea, his university education, and his days as a working medical doctor. You will be granted a picture of the man as few have ever seen him. As you alternate between biography and tour, you will become a Holmes-like detective, unearthing facts, discovering details, and piecing together information about both Jack the Ripper and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. If you maintain a sharp mind and a keen eye, at the end of your journey, you may just uncover a truth you never expected to find.

I have an interest in both Sherlock Holmes mysteries and "true crime", whether recent or ancient. I bought this book on the recommendation of a friend who knows my interest in this kind of subject matter, but took a while to get to reading it. I have now finished it twice, and let me say the book is absolutely fascinating. The research that went into this book is beyond thorough (helped by the fact that it was written by two physicians). The fact that Scotland Yard's crime museum cooperated with and assisted the authors means quite a lot. I never realized just how bizarre and larger than life Doyle was as a person, and the biographical portions of the book provide a plethora of heretofore unknown information. But I was equally impressed by the "tour" portion of the book, a fact-based fictionalization in which an older Doyle takes a group of crime enthusiasts and experts on an expedition to the sites and locales of the Jack the Ripper murder spree. The conclusions reached by the Friedmans are pretty shocking, but based on how their evidence leads the way, they are also hard to deny... I hope they write another book, perhaps about another (up-to-now) unsolved "true crime". I would be eager to see what they come up with next.

A well researched and documented novel is one that can be appreciated, enjoyed and remembered. Such a novel is presented to the reader by Drs. Daniel and Eugene Friedman. Interlaced, one will find a biography of Sir Doyle, a history of London during the reign of Jack the Ripper and a detailed story that when you are finished your mind has been treated to "solved" mystery the likes of which Arthur Conan Doyle would be proud.

This is a great read for anyone interested into learning more about the creator of Sherlock Holmes. It gives a detailed biography of his life sandwiched between chapters dealing with a Doyle conducted tour of the Jack the Ripper crime scenes. A very riveting, page turning thriller!

Fun, compelling and well written.

Such an interesting and "cool" book. Never expected to get as drawn in as I did and the conclusions that are made were even more unanticipated. This book is a real page turner and the history/facts behind this "nonfiction" story are fascinating and actually really educational. Never really considered myself a historical fiction/true crime type of person, but I am now!

The reader comes to intimately know the man who was the never caught Jack the Ripper through historical facts + a fictional walk through the crimes. This provides more insight into the more than a century old unsolved horror a lone murderer inflicted on a region which baffled the masses and became lore. To attribute these acts to a noted writer of the time now seems obvious!

Great read! Excellently written with a very novel format. An interesting follow up would be to press the case against Dr. Doyle with the famed author in the dock.

Tremendous read and very enjoyable. Recommend to both Sherlock Holmes fans and anyone who loves a mystery.

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