

## The Hound Of The Baskervilles

The Baskerville family is cursed. Sir Charles Baskerville has lived in obsessive fear of a family legend in which a spectral hound wreaks vengeance on his ancestors. His death seems innocent enough but Mortimer, his friend and physician, is uneasy and suspicious. There is evidence of a desperate dash for safety. Much worse, the distinct footprint of a gigantic hound close to the corpse sends Mortimer to perhaps the most famous address in fiction: 221b Baker Street.

Legendary detective Sherlock Holmes is sceptical. Supernatural legends are the stuff of children's fairy tales. His acute, rational mind recoils from the illogical. But he reluctantly agrees to meet the heir, Henry Baskerville.

Strange things confound Sir Henry from the first moment he arrives in London: inexplicable thefts occur, dire and anonymous warnings are delivered to his hotel, a bearded man pursues him. It seems he is coming into an inheritance fraught with danger.

Surrounded by the forbidding moor, Baskerville Hall is a grim, grey place. Watson's courageous, passionate spirit is a match for it but he has much to contend with: a dangerous and desperate mass murderer who has escaped from prison lurks on the moor; the bearded butler Barrymore creeps furtively around the Hall; and at night a woman cries inconsolably. Despite his robust mind, Watson is more than shaken when he hears the eerie baying of a hound on the ancient, wild moorland and sees the outline of a man shadowed against the moon. When mystery resolves itself as murder, Dartmoor is full of danger for Holmes and Watson as they struggle to keep Sir Henry safe.



Sherlock Holmes confronts his most famous and complex case, which tests his deductive skills to the limit. At times it seems that he will lose the game as his foe outwits and eludes him. Is his adversary human or occult? Is it possible that one of the century's most developed deductive minds has met his equal? At times he has decisive, passionate energy, at others he almost sinks under the weight of the task. Watson fears for the precarious balance of his great friend's mind as events spiral out of control.

Brilliant, secretive, volatile, convoluted: Sherlock Holmes must use all his powers to expose the truth of the mystery of *The Hound Of The Baskervilles*.