

A Study in Scarlet — Review

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Go at once if convenient. If inconvenient, go all the same.

There is a unique theatre experience currently being presented in New York. Any attempt to dramatize A Study in Scarlet is unusual, but this one is done in a small space (about 30 seats) by ten actors playing over 25 roles – and **it is very well done!**

The set consists of four chairs, which become a bar, a window, or a hansom cab. All other props – the mantelpiece at 221B, Mrs. Hudson's crockery, the Mormon wagon train are all exactly as you imagined them when you read the story – because you are allowed to imagine them here.

You become a patron in the Criterion Bar, overhearing Stamford and Watson, you sit in a corner of the rooms at Baker Street as Holmes and Watson discuss the case, you are in John Ferrier's house when Brigham Young admonishes him – you are there.

The adaptation by Bart Lovins remains quite faithful to the Canon – the few minor changes are easily accepted. Mr. Lovins is also the Director. Lighting and sound by Jerry McAllister are very effective.

Erik Singer and Steven Williams make a marvelous Holmes and Watson, and the supporting cast – Barbara Balph, Duane Domutz, Leonard Gibbs, James Hay, Rebecca Ingalls, Mark D. Ransom, Charles Roden, and Larry Stock – slide easily through their multiple roles. Producers Robert and Jennifer Spahr are to be thanked for this effort.

In years to come, if Mr. Lovins fulfills his intention of doing more of the Canon, you will be proud to say you saw his initial offering.

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Community College Student, Willie G Hinton February 15, 2019

The Novel Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, the play, was set in the year 1881 in the city of London. The performance was held at The PAC (Performing Arts Center) in Hardin County on January 26, 2019, at 7:00 in the evening. In the play, Sherlock Holmes is a very intelligent, precise and detailed investigator. Sherlock Holmes who was played by Landon Sholar was invited to investigate a murder in an empty house with no clues or mark on the body and Watson, an Army doctor, who was played by Jared Eaton, was there to study Sherlock and was invited to come along and view the investigation. The investigation was centered on a murder that occurred in an empty house. The only clue was the word, "RACHE."

The Novel Adventures of Sherlock Holmes was a very good play. For my first [play], I really enjoyed watching people with a limited amount of props act as if the props were in front of them. The cast did an amazing job with helping the audience to use their imagination.

Landon Sholar put on an amazing performance. It was amazing to listen as his voice change to sound as if he was from London. The back-story was very creative on the writer's part. Additionally, the love that Jefferson Hope had for Lucy Ferrier was amazing. He waited so long to get his revenge and then he gets an aneurysm. That fact that it finally took his life when able to get his revenge was so poetic.

All I can say is "wow" about the costumes. The costumes were excellently chosen for this show. They helped the audience to feel as if you traveled in a time machine that took you back in time. It was as if you were watching a live show sharing the time period with the cast.

In conclusion, because this was my first time experiencing a play, I have [nothing] to compare it to however I really enjoyed it. The use of [just] chairs causes the audience to have to tap into their imagination. The experience was important to me because I do not believe I would have gone to a play like this without a reason. The effect of the show in a theater where the acting is in your face, and the audiences is able to watch it before all the kinks are removed was refreshing. Watching actors in multiple roles, knowing that they had to learn the lines and change character with each role was extremely enjoyable.

The cast truly put on a great show. I would highly recommend this play. There should be a sequel. I give The Novel Adventures of Sherlock Holmes four out of five stars, for this was truly an amazing experience.