

Date 3 / 22 PV Log: (circle one) **Poem** / Movie / Picture / LyricTitle The Adventures of Sherlock HolmesAuthor / Director / Jerry B. Montoya

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

I saw *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* at the B Street Theater in Sacramento, CA.

Content / CD / Summary / Precis (Say? "Plot? Setting/Situation? Key lines/phrases scenes, etc?)

The Adventure of Sherlock Holmes follows one of the mysteries that Sherlock tries to solve with his assistant Dr. Watson. After a brief introduction in which Holmes is seen killing wolves like in the tale "The Hound of the Baskervilles," he is then put to work at another mystery in which he tries to discover who stole some ancient dinosaur eggs. Holmes is put to the task by a woman who is supposedly the daughter of Professor Owen, a man who turns out to be Professor Moriarty, his nefarious archenemy. Holmes searches all over England, even encountering Charles Darwin, until he arrives at Stonehenge and discovers a secret cult, of which the people that belong are trying to hatch dinosaur eggs into dinosaurs in order to return the earth to its prehistoric state. Holmes found out that the people of the cult stole the eggs by using a time machine, an item that Professor Owen, now revealed as Professor Moriarty, strongly desired. Holmes and Watson quickly hop in the time machine and use it to return to the beginning of the play in order to have Moriarty arrested before the deceitfulness even begins.

Content / CM / Meaning? / Theme(s)?

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes is a play about betrayal, justice, and the triumph of good over evil in society. Constance Owen, a seemingly young, charming, and naive lady, manages to pull off a scheme to lead her father to the time machine that the secret cult known as the Druids possess. Her betrayal proves the importance of perception and observation in one's pursuits and endeavors, and it urges the audience to contemplate whom they really trust in life. Moreover, all of the Sherlock Holmes' adventures also revolve around the theme of justice. Once he's solved a case, Holmes has a lot of leeway to decide whether the wrongdoer deserves mercy or not, and he always ends to bring justice and righteousness to the situation by giving the wrongdoer what he deserves. Finally, this play and all of the adventures of Sherlock Holmes are optimistic in the sense that they show good triumphing over evil in almost all cases. Holmes always seems to find a way to solve a mystery, putting villains into prison and fixing the lives of the innocent. Despite the constant battle between good and evil, light and darkness, good seems to always triumph no matter the circumstance for Holmes.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

In *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, Professor Moriarty symbolizes the evil that conflicts with the goodness of the world, ever so persisting and enduring despite the fact that it is put down all the time. On the other hand, Sherlock Holmes clearly represents what good is left of the mankind and how, no matter how minutely or slowly, one person can ultimately change the world for the better.

Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections / Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q's? etc.)? "Poetic" Traits?

Although *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* seems to be too optimistic, as Sherlock always manages to solve his mystery and bring justice to society, I always find mysteries and thrillers to be captivating and intriguing, and so I sincerely enjoyed this play. Because of the mysterious atmosphere and plot of the play, the audience is unaware and oblivious of many of the things that are truly going on behind the scenes and thus are surprised by the various plot twists that arise in the play, making the storyline so interesting and engaging. This play significantly relates to *The Once and Future King* by T.H. White. Not only does this novel portray the constant struggle between good and evil in society, but it also shows the formation of a civilization from complete indecency, essentially the goal and end result that Holmes is trying to achieve with his job. His work as a detective ultimately promotes the betterment and progression of society towards a more civilized, refined, and decent future. Overall, I find this play to at least be somewhat poetic with its optimism and belief that everything will ultimately turn out for the best. The play truly suggests that goodness will always reign over the evil in human society, a far reaching and seemingly unrealistic belief, but at least it proves that glimpses of goodness do exist and that those glimpses are worth fighting for, no matter how much darkness or evil one has to crawl through in order to get there.

over (do not mix logs; e.g., no poem log in front, and movie log on back)