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Section 4

Theater: *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*

This particular rendition of *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, performed at the B Street Theater in Sacramento, depicts an original and elaborate escapade filled with trust, betrayal, and justice, written and directed by B Street's own, Jerry Montoya. Just like any other thrilling, adventurous story involving Sherlock Holmes, this play ends with the mystery solved and Holmes bringing justice and righteousness to society, promoting the betterment and progression of humanity towards a more civilized, refined, and decent future. This consistent triumphing of good over evil ever so present in mystery works, such as *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, produces a poetic quality to the play, which seemingly suggests that everything will ultimately work out for the best. Although this implication may be too much of an idealistic and irrational generalization about life, the play at least proves that glimpses and instances of goodness in this world do exist, and that fighting through all of the evil and darkness in life is ultimately worthwhile in order to attain them. This play is also poetic because it forces people to accept the presence of evil, malevolence, and wrongdoing in their lives, even if they are completely oblivious or unaware of it. Evil exists in a multitude of forms, essentially surrounding human existence until it is temporarily displaced by brief moments of goodness, causing the acceptance of evil to be the first step in beneficial progression and growth. Without evil, which reaps destructive and undesirable consequences on all of humanity, a motivation for people to work towards ultimate righteousness and integrity in the human community would not exist. Thus, *The*

*Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* effectively presents a solution to the rampant problems of human nature through the poetic belief that humans can and will achieve overall goodness in their lives.