

ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S

THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

A GRAPHIC NOVEL



BY POWELL & FERRAN

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ABOUT SHERLOCK HOLMES

Sherlock Holmes is often referred to as the world's most famous detective. In fact, he's so well-known that many people believe he was a real person. However, Sherlock Holmes is actually a fictional character created by Arthur Conan Doyle.

Although Sherlock Holmes wasn't a true-life detective, his character was based on a real person. While at Edinburgh University, Doyle studied with a surgeon named Dr. Joseph Bell. Doyle admired Dr. Bell's ability to diagnose his patients simply by examining the clues of their diseases, so he gave Sherlock Holmes the same brilliant detective skills.

But where did the name "Sherlock Holmes" come from? Some people believe it's a mystery, but others think Doyle used the last name of another doctor, Wendell Holmes, and the last name of a violinist named Alfred Sherlock.

At age 27, Conan Doyle wrote his first Sherlock Holmes mystery in just three weeks. The story, titled *A Study in Scarlet*, appeared in the *Beeton's Christmas Annual* magazine in 1887. One year later, the story was published as a book with illustrations by Doyle's father, Charles Altamont Doyle.

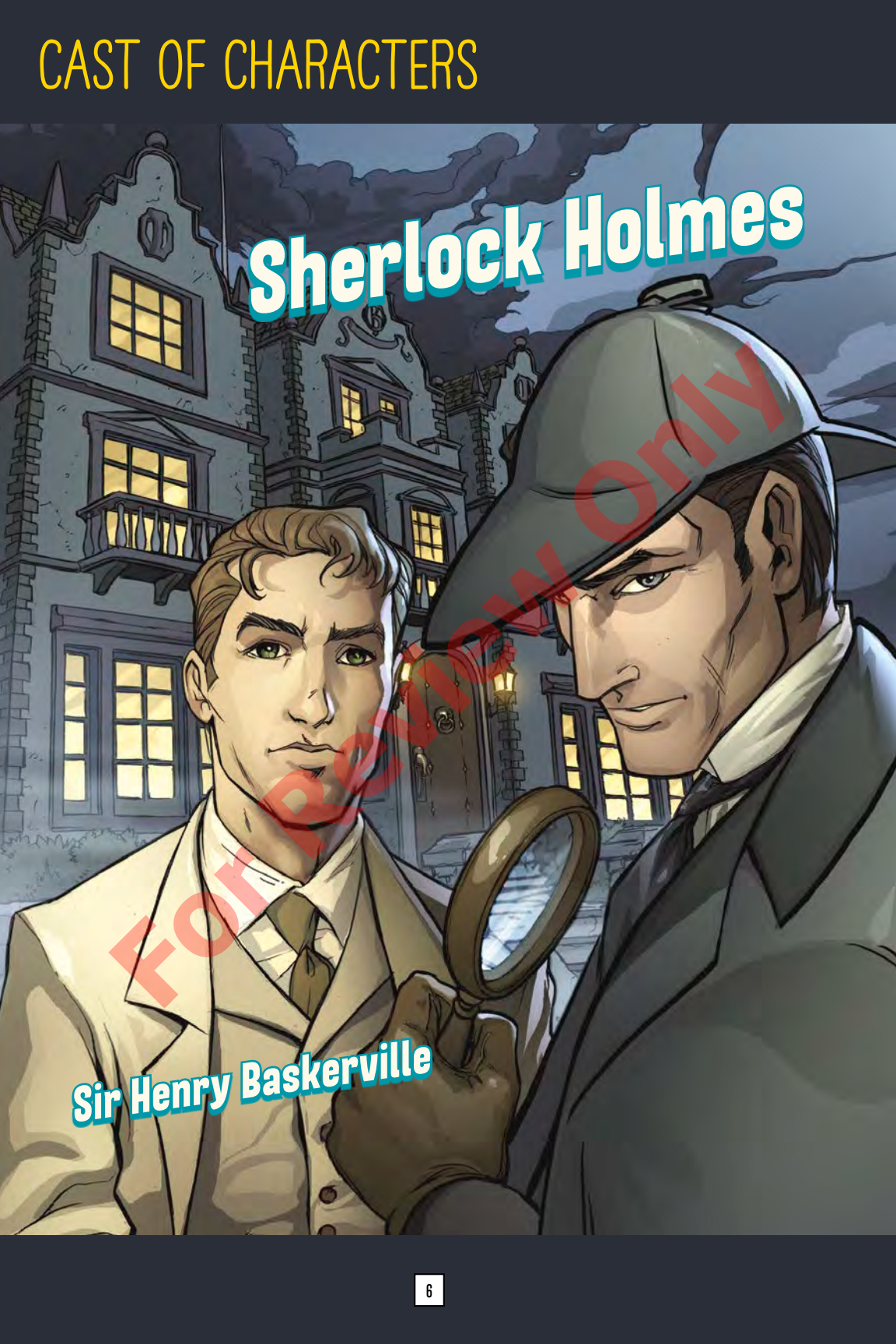
After *A Study in Scarlet*, Doyle wrote a dozen more Sherlock Holmes stories, which appeared in the *Strand Magazine* in London, England. These stories also included illustrations by an artist named Sidney Paget. Many people credit Paget for creating the detective's famous look, including his pipe, deerstalker cap, and inverness coat.

By 1893, Doyle decided to stop writing Sherlock Holmes mysteries. In the story *The Final Problem*, the author killed off the great detective. Readers around the world became extremely upset by this decision. At their request, Doyle resurrected the character and continued writing Sherlock Holmes mysteries until 1927. Before he died on July 7, 1930, Doyle had written a total of 56 stories about the detective.

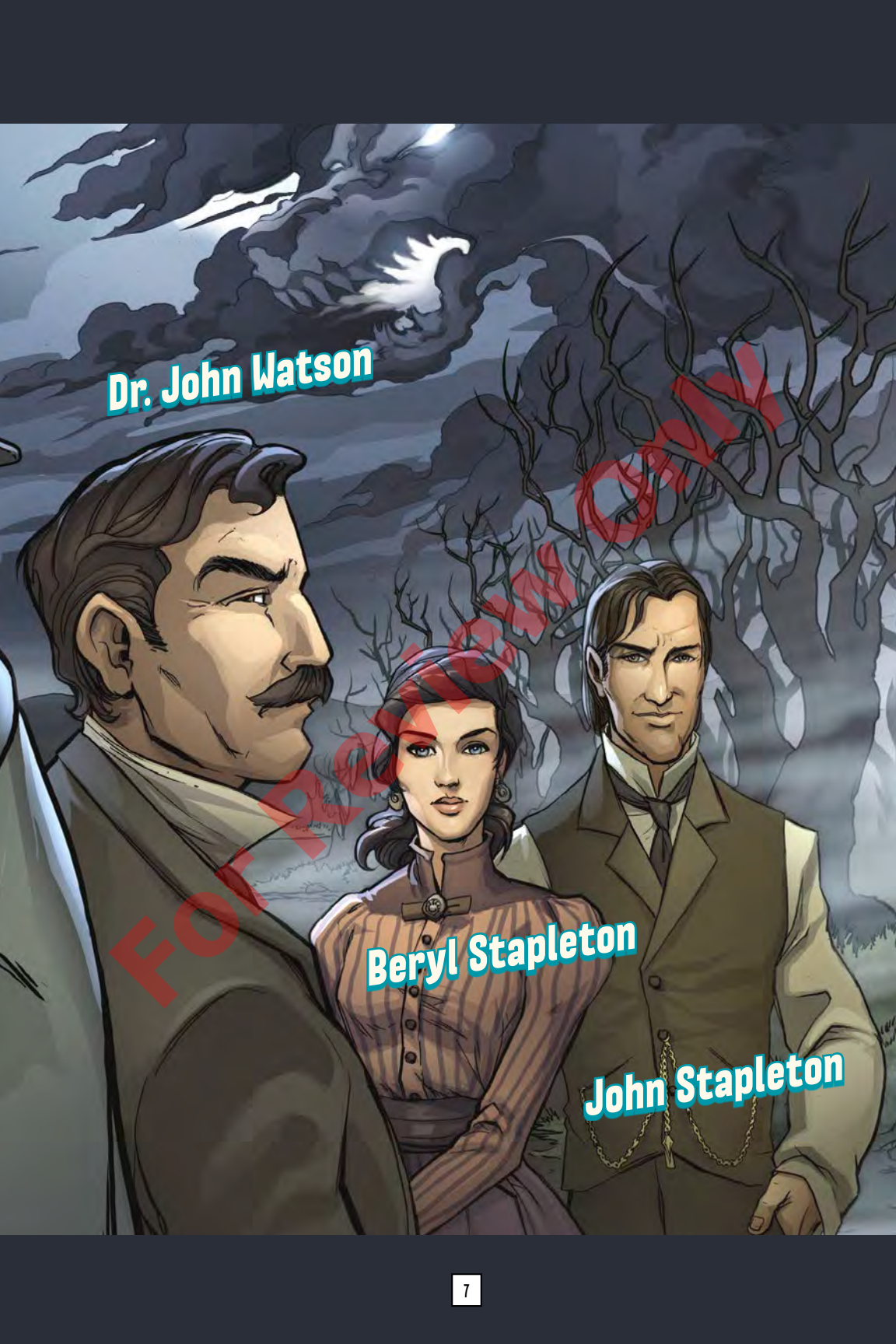
In the stories, Sherlock Holmes lived at 221B Baker Street in London, England. Today, this real address has been turned into a museum for the great detective. Visitors to the residence can learn more about Doyle, his mysteries, and his most famous character, the brilliant Sherlock Holmes.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Sherlock Holmes

A comic-style illustration of Sherlock Holmes and Sir Henry Baskerville. Sherlock Holmes, on the right, is wearing a grey deerstalker hat and a dark suit, holding a magnifying glass over Sir Henry's face. Sir Henry Baskerville, on the left, is wearing a light-colored suit and tie. They are standing in front of a large, multi-story building with many windows, some of which are lit up. The sky is dark and cloudy. A large red watermark "FOLIO Only" is diagonally across the image.

Sir Henry Baskerville



Dr. John Watson

This illustration depicts three characters in a dark, atmospheric setting. On the left, Dr. John Watson is shown in profile, looking towards the right. He has a prominent mustache and is wearing a dark coat. In the center, Beryl Stapleton is a woman with dark hair, wearing a red headscarf and a brown, vertically striped high-collared dress. On the right, John Stapleton is a man with dark hair, wearing a brown suit with a white shirt and a dark tie. He has a chain hanging from his waist. The background features dark, swirling clouds and bare, gnarled trees. A large, diagonal red watermark with the word 'FORWARD' is overlaid across the center of the image.

Beryl Stapleton

John Stapleton

Midnight at Baskerville Hall in Dartmoor, England, Sir Charles Baskerville waits for a visitor.



You're late!

I was getting worried.



Wait, you're not—!

No, it can't be!

THE HOUND!

THE GREAT DETECTIVE

The next day . . .



What do you make of that walking stick, Watson?

How did you know I was looking at it? You must have eyes in the back of your head, Holmes.



No, but I do have a well-polished coffeepot in front of me.





There's a name on it. "To James Mortimer, M.D. From His Friends at the C.C.H."

I'd say the owner is an elderly doctor and was awarded this cane from a hunting club.

He probably lives in the country and visits his patients on foot. This stick is too worn for city use.



Excellent, Watson!

You've learned much by copying my own methods of observation.

Then I'm right?



You are almost right, my friend.





The cane is more likely from a hospital than a hunting club.

Also, elderly doctors would not visit their patients on rough country roads.

I'd say Dr. Mortimer is a tall, thin man who wears glasses.



How could you know all that?

Elementary, my dear Watson.



Unless I'm mistaken, he's about to ring the doorbell.



Come in, Dr. Mortimer.

How do you know my name?

