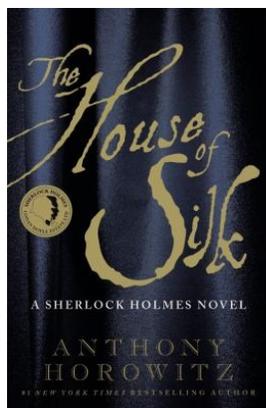


Lillie M. Evans Library District Book Club

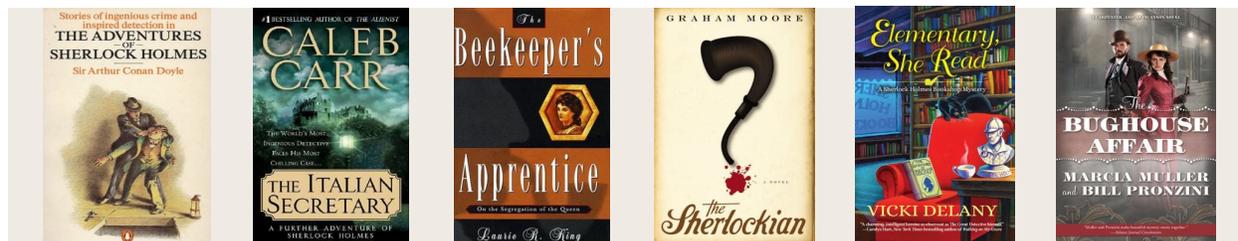
May 22, 2017

Biography:



Author and television scriptwriter Anthony Horowitz was born in Stanmore, England. He attended boarding and public schools. He graduated from the University of York and published his first book, Enter Frederick K. Bower (1979), when he was 23. Anthony writes mostly children's books, including the *Alex Rider* series, *The Power of Five* series, and the *Diamond Brothers* series. The first *Alex Rider* book was made into a movie entitled Stormbreaker. He also writes novels for adults including The Killing Joke and *The Magpie Murders*. He has created *Foyle's War* and *Midsomer Murders* for television as well as written episodes for *Poirot* and *Murder Most Horrid*. Most recently he was commissioned by the Ian Fleming Estate to write the James Bond novel Trigger Mortis. Anthony was awarded Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his services to literature in January 2014. (Source: Bowker Author Biography)

Similar Resources:



Discussion Questions:

1. Anthony Horowitz's acknowledgements say, "Writing this book has been a joy and my hope is that I will have done some justice to the original." From what you know of Arthur Conan Doyle's novels, how does Anthony Horowitz's version compare?
2. "Holmes, you insist upon seeing yourself as a machine." — John Watson. Do you believe this to be so? Or do you think that Dr. Watson is oversimplifying Holmes character based on previously solved cases?
3. What were your reactions to the realization of what the House of Silk was and what it entailed? Some early novelists insisted that murder was the worst of crimes: has murder been devalued so much that other things are needed to shock readers?
4. Watson writes, "For all men are equal at the moment of death and who are we to judge them when a much greater judge awaits." Do you agree, even if the person in question tried to harm you or your family?
5. Holmes's way of looking at people, making a grand statement, and then explaining it based on his observations is meant to convey the idea that he sees things that the reader cannot see, and from these observations he makes calculated guesses based on his knowledge, which you do not share. Does that still work, now that we are used to seeing the evidence that the detective sees? (Questions adapted from: <https://www.nypl.org/blog/2012/01/19/readers-den-january-house-silk-discussion-questions>)