“SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE DEVIL’S DAUGHTER”

“PREY TELL” CASE OUTLINE

BY LUKE OPENSHAW


Used With Permission

“This is an early draft proposal for the Prey Tell case covering story, scheme, narrative, characters and other abstractions. Further consideration, iteration and polish required. Not all of this content made the final game.”
SYNOPSIS

When a young street urchin is found sobbing on the step of 221B because his father went away on a ‘special job’ never to return, Holmes suspects foul play.

In the slums of Whitechapel, Holmes deduces that a particular peasant has subtly risen above his status and yet decides to remain in the guise of a peasant. This fascinating ruse reveals an anonymous money man hiring ‘privileged’ peasants to be facilitators of victims for a very special crime.

For years, someone has preyed upon the desperate and less fortunate by making them offers they can’t refuse. Holmes soon uncovers a facilitator who operates in London and arranges for certain peasants to vanishing at the promise of a ‘special job’. This sees them dispatched to remote locations that are in fact stalking grounds for a hunt. A man hunt!

The Quatermain Club, as the hunters like to be called, consider themselves above the law, hunting for sport, sheer bloodlust and especially for trophies!

But now it seems that the hunter’s time has come round to face retribution, when their latest hunt delivers a deadly prey who is on to their criminal game. Someone has orchestrated it for the hunters to become the hunted.

While Watson protects two vulnerable children who have been orphaned by this despicable crime, Holmes ventures after the culprits alone.

However, when Holmes’s investigation plunges him into the stalking ground for this latest hunt, he discovers a far darker secret, that he is now fair game in this twisted game of death. Holmes has in fact been served up as prey for the hunt!
OVERVIEW / TIMELINE

ARRIVE AT 221B BAKER STREET

- Watson finds a peasant boy with a lame arm, TOM HURST (8 years), on the doorstep of 221B, sobbing, because his father, GEORGE HURST VANISHED ON A ‘SPECIAL JOB’.
  - TRUTH: George’s only friend in the Whitechapel slums, Jacob, vanished under suspicious circumstances and pretences of a ‘special job’. And so George investigated and devised a special job of his own, in preparation of discovering the truth, infiltrating the hunt and exacting vengeance on the hunters, waiting for the right time to strike.
- George and Tom Hurst lived in the WHITECHAPEL SLUMS.
- Tom does not know how the job came about for his dad apart from that the rumours say dad is not the first to vanish.
- George Hurst’s own background to be a facially disfigured farming/labouring type guy, having been a farm hand with his wife and son Tom. But when his wife died, George came to London with Tom hoping for better prospects only to fall into a destitute life in the slums of Whitechapel.
- George’s past is somewhat mysterious. Tom says dad didn’t like to talk about his past and thinks it has something to do with the terrible facial disfigurement.
- George Hurt’s past is tricky to pin down. A family drifting from farm to farm, city to city until Whitechapel became home, of a sort.

ARRIVE AT WHITECHAPEL SLUMS

- Holmes and Watson arrive in Whitechapel where they recall elements of the Jack the Ripper case and observe the destitute, poor, diseased and uneducated peasants here.

HURST HOVEL

- Holmes discovers that George Hurst left certain possessions and provisions behind at the hovel with his son Tom, but did not indicate to Tom why he left on the special job.
Holmes finds nothing else in the hovel but meets a NEIGHBOUR OF INTEREST who speaks of rumours regarding a special job and SEVERAL OTHER VANISHED PEASANTS OVER THE YEARS.

THE SPECIAL JOB CONFUSION

Holmes therefore thinks that the special job that Tom Hurst says his dad vanished on is the same special job that these other peasants vanished on (this isn’t quite the case).
Holmes’s investigation discovers that the Hurst rent is paid weeks in advance for Tom.
The only clue from Tom Hurst is that his DAD MET WITH A GUY CALLED FLEISCHER at the PUB.

ARRIVE AT THE PUB

Holmes arrives at the pub and inquires and eves-drops conversations to sniff out FLEISCHER.
Fleischer could mention the term ‘special job’ in a conversation here which peaks Holmes interest.
Holmes thinks he has found the guy responsible for George Hurst and the other peasant’s disappearance because of the use of the phrase SPECIAL JOB.
Fleischer leaves the pub and Holmes follows him to LORD MOSLEY’S HOUSE.

ARRIVE AT LORD MOSLEY’S HOUSE

MOSLEY’S HOUSE

DURING DAY.
Holmes reveals self and requests a conversation with the Lord of the house. Mosley is unwell but is intrigued by the presence of Holmes and Watson so accepts the visit. Despite being ill in bed, Mosley is able to talk and INTRIGUED BY WATSON’S PRESENCE because Mosley reads Watson’s stories.
Holmes meets LORD MOSLEY who is upstairs in bed with a TOUCH OF THE ENGLISH SNIFFLES/FLU with a SLIGHT FEVER.
Fleischer is the Physician in attendance, caring for the bed-ridden LORD MOSLEY.
There is a very slim link between Fleischer and George Hurst which is the use of the term ‘special job’, which Holmes subtly inserts in the conversation to see what response it triggers. And indeed Holmes discovers that Fleischer is in charge of a ‘special job’ for Lord Mosley which is NOTHING TO DO WITH TOM/GEORGE HURST (deliberate confusion). Fleischer/Mosley’s special job is HELPING PEASANTS.

**LORD MOSLEY**

- Lord Mosley is a smart, cunning and amiable old boy, bushy white beard, well groomed, friendly, optimistic, charming old man, like a happy granddad, full of stories, big red nose and cheeks, very likeable. Parents were Christian Missionary’s. Lord Mosley does not hide the fact that he has hired many from less fortunate backgrounds and lower classes to work for him, who he puts through his EDUCATION PROGRAM to be of better value to society and themselves.

**DOCTOR FLEISCHER**

- FLEISCHER IS A PHYSICIAN caring for Mosley and is an example of someone Mosley helped raise from the gutters via the EDUCATION PROGRAM, through medical college to be his PHYSICIAN.
- Fleischer says Lord Mosley is a good man, looking to give opportunities to the poor and less fortunate, like himself, to make London a better place.
- Fleischer is STOPPING WATSON from examining Mosley because it is Fleischer’s responsibility (seems a little arrogant and overprotective perhaps).

**MOSLEY’S ILLNESS**

- Despite his usually perky demeanour, Mosley’s illness (symptoms of fever, chills, no appetite and exhaustion) has left him weary. Fleischer says it is time for Holmes and Watson to leave, and that Lord Mosley appreciated the ‘unexpected visit’.

**LORD BUDDIES**

- On the way out Holmes sees a PROMINENT PHOTO of MOSLEY posing with two CAMBRIDGE BUDDIES who are also now LORDS, COLLINS and HARRINGTON. Those were the days, but age catches up.
ARRIVE AT 221B BAKER STREET

ARCHIVES

- Holmes uses his ARCHIVES to look at newspaper and articles on LORD MOSLEY and the SPECIAL JOB and discovers that Mosley is a major supporter of raising the poorer people of London up, educating, nourishing and more. Holmes and Watson are incredibly impressed by Mosley’s work.
- Mosley has made statements and political moves regarding, “Peasants are not genetically programmed to be bad but must be separated from their lowly social positions in order to give them access to the potential for a more nutritious life and education. A publicity/propaganda move to separate the poor kids from their hopeless lot in life and to educate them to become better members of society. Such intentions require radical ideas and decisions.”
- Lord Collins and Lord Harrington (Mosley’s friends) have openly supported Mosley’s stance.
- Generally speaking Mosley is a trailblazer helping the peasants. So now with this wholesome image of Mosley and the special job, we/Holmes are well off target and confused.

WIGGINS

- Wiggins arrives with a message for Holmes (triggered Wiggins earlier or we do time-lapse of a few hours), that he has been inquiring on the ‘special job’ and that he has a SOMEONE IN WHITECHAPEL called SALLY GIBSON who may know something.

ARRIVE AT WHITECHAPEL SLUMS

SALLY GIBSON

- Wiggins takes Holmes and Watson to meet an 8 year old PEASANT GIRL called SALLY (scrawny, tall for her age, but ON CRUTCHES and has a flea-bitten teddy bear tucked in her crutch, button eyes). Kind hearted Watson shares a bag of sweets with Sally and Wiggins.
- Sally can be MUTE, NOT DEAF, and communicates in HAND GESTURES. Even hand-signs ‘WOLFJACK’, for a unique and interesting puzzle and emotional character). Watson or Holmes can decipher the hand gestures as a puzzle.
• WATSON (Caring): Well now you are a cute little twinkle toed cherub aren’t you.
• SALLY (spoken or signed): And you’re a little Wolfjack!
• The playful NICKNAME “WOLFJACK” INTRIGUES WATSON.
• Sally says her MOTHER VANISHED ON A SPECIAL JOB A FEW MONTHS AGO. Sally’s mother HAD MET A STRANGER (red herring here, because it could be Fleischer or George and the description is vague) who was ASKING QUESTIONS (this is George maybe inquiring about the vanishings or Fleischer setting the mother up for the special job - mystery) a few weeks before she vanished.
• Holmes’s inquiries suggest Sally’s mother met this STRANGER at the X Pub.
• Sally is waiting for a placement on MOSLEY’S EDUCATION PROGRAM.
• Sally does not know Tom Hurst. No, never.
• Sally has a PHOTO OF MOTHER, which Holmes asks to borrow briefly. Perhaps Sally is too attached to the photo to part with it so HOLMES USE HIS EXPERT SKETCH SKILLS to TRACE THE PHOTO so he has a PORTRAIT OF MRS GIBSON.
• Holmes asks Wiggins to take Sally under his wing. Watson gives them a shilling each.

ARRIVE AT WHITECHAPEL SLUMS – HURST HOVEL

• Holmes and Watson return to the HURST RESIDENCE where TOM is to ask about Sally Gibson.
• WATSON (greeting Tom): Hello Tom you little Wolfjack.
• Wolfjack was the nickname that the peasant girl Sally had used earlier on Watson.
• But Tom suddenly breaks down in hysterical laughter and tears. Holmes inquire as to what upset Tom so suddenly, and Tom says that ‘WOLFJACK’ is the nickname his dad George calls him.
• Tom says he DOES NOT KNOW SALLY GIBSON, so no relation there to share the nickname/use.
• Holmes believes there can be no coincidence that such a specific nickname as Wolfjack was used on both Tom and Sally. George Hurst has surely been interacting with Sally or Sally’s mother (to gain information on the vanishings) who by no coincidence was also orphaned in similar circumstances to Tom and other past victims of the special job. Perhaps George was onto the truth of the special job.
• As they investigate, WATSON ACCIDENTALLY GETS OIL/GREASE OVER HIS JACKET.
ARRIVE AT 221B BAKER STREET

SHARPSHOOTING

- Watson says the nickname ‘Wolfjack’ is very familiar but he can’t quite recall.
- Holmes uses the ARCHIVES to investigate the nickname ‘Wolfjack’ and discovers the FIRST LOVAT SHARPSHOOTERS, a Scottish Highland regiment formed in 1899.
- The heroic Major Fredrick Burnham had described the exceptional skill of the Lovat Sharpshooters as “half wolf and half jackrabbit”. Hence the nickname of “Wolfjack”. This was during the 2nd Boer War.
- George Hurst could have merely picked up on the nickname during his life, but currently he was involved in the sharpshooters and was gravely wounded and discharged (ARCHIVES may show honourably or dishonourably to create more mystery). George’s facial disfigurement made it hard to find work so that’s how they ended up in the slums.

THE PUB LINK

- A link that makes Holmes suspicious of Fleischer (enough to examine further) is that he frequented the same Pub mentioned by Tom Hurst and Sally Gibson. Maybe just a coincidence.

ARRIVE AT THE PUB

- We RETURN TO THE PUB to speak with the BARMAN to ask about various clues and lines of interest such as Fleischer, the STRANGER meeting with MRS GIBSON (shows the portrait sketch of Sally’s mother), Wolfjack, Lovat Sharpshooters etc.
- The Barman does indeed recognise Mrs Gibson (Sally’s mother) and that it was she who met with the STRANGER. When pushed for a description of the Stranger, Barman DESCRIBES GEORGE HURST – NOT FLEISCHER. We perhaps need some visual reference of George Hurst (showing facial scars).
- Also the Barman mentions he SAW FLEISCHER AND GEORGE PLAY CARDS ONCE OR TWICE TOGETHER, gambling, but not necessarily friends. Just a hint of a connection.
ARRIVE AT MOSLEYS HOUSE AGAIN

- AT NIGHT
- Watson visits to offer his professional services as a Doctor to assist the ILL MOSLEY (creating a diversion for Holmes) because Watson thinks the symptoms suggest something worse and wishes to investigate.
- Holmes uses Watson as a decoy to sneak into the house so he can find out more about Fleischer.
- Watson and Fleischer have professional medical differences, which doesn’t allow Watson the full access towards Mosley that he would like for a ‘second opinion’.
- Holmes’s sneaking reveals SEVERAL LETTERS FROM PEOPLE (once peasants) who left for foreign lands on a better life after BEING HELPED BY LORD MOSLEY (and thanks to Lord Harrington and Lord Collins) on his EDUCATION PROGRAM.
- The letters say that they are happy and healthy and life is good in the foreign lands. *This could be genuine, because Mosley is helping these people to attain better lives to help the Empire (TRUTH: Mosley is picking off certain select peasants for the special hunting job. Who will miss 1 in a 100 peasants? No one). Or it is a complete fraud and the letters are all fake (as per Petiot?).*
- We should not suspect Mosley at this point but perhaps be a little suspicious of Fleischer (because Sally mentioned her mum meeting someone at the pub).

POLITICS

- There is also CORRESPONDENCE of Mosley’s political fight against arrogant and backwards-thinking politicians who think that peasants are scum without the minds to learn and should be swept aside.
- Mosley is painted in a good light, a trailblazer in helping the less fortunate and fighting oppression.

LORD BUDDIES

- Holmes finds and HACKS A SAFE to reveal various CORRESPONDENCE with a LORD COLLINS and LORD HARRINGTON, who are SUPPORTERS OF MOSLEY’S EDUCATION PROGRAM.
- All looks positive for Mosley but Holmes finds ONE STRANGE CORRESPONDENCE between Mosley, Collins and Harrington that makes him suspicious.
ARRIVE AT 221B BAKER STREET

ARCHIVES

- Holmes and Watson return home to examine the evidence gathered and cross reference with the ARCHIVES, which highlights some interesting clues.
- Holmes studies Lord Collins and Harrington’s backgrounds and finds that they are nothing but honourable members of society.

WATSON’S MEDICAL CONCERNS

- Watson is concerned by Mosley’s illness and says that the symptoms suggest something far worse than a bad cold, and WATSON MUST KNOW. But Doctor Fleischer’s overly guarded manner seems like professional arrogance and Watson wants to return and insist on a closer examination!
- MEDICAL PUZZLE: Watson and Holmes deduce from a series of MEDICAL BOOKS and comparisons of Mosley’s strange SYMPTOMS that Mosley probably has Tuberculosis (an agonising debilitating illness synonymous with poor peasant folk), which is in many aspects contracted through exposure to infected blood. Holmes suggests that Lord Mosley must have been in contact with infected blood, although some famous/healthier people have been known to contract TB and die.
- Even so, Watson now insists more than ever that his professional duty demands he return to Mosley.
- Tension between Watson and Holmes over priorities.

TOBY’S NOSE

- TOBY IS BARKING AND SNORTING AT WATSON for some reason. There is something about you he doesn’t like the smell of dear fellow.
- Holmes examines Watson and finds THE OIL/GREASE ON WATSON’S JACKET that he accidentally got from the HURST HOVEL.
- Holmes takes a SAMPLE OF THE GREASE/OIL.
EXPERIMENT

- Holmes performs an analysis of the GREASE/OIL and discovers that it is OIL USED IN CLEANING and MAINTAINING GUNS.
- Why would the Hurst hovel have such weaponry?

TENSION

- Watson berates Holmes for paying more attention to some accidental grease than Lord Mosley’s life! So Watson heads to see Mosley again while Holmes follows the gun oil clue, WITH TOBY.

ARRIVE AT WHITECHAPEL - HURST HOVEL

TOM AND GEORGE HURST’S PAST

- Holmes arrives with TOBY.
- TOM HURST could be absent/missing at this point (for a period).
- Holmes uses TOBY to sniff out the Hurst hovel and find the CENT OF RIFLE OIL, which leads Toby/Holmes to a SECRET CELLAR DOOR.

THE CELLAR

- Holmes investigates the CELLAR and discovers that the SCENT OF RIFLE OIL accompanies STRANGE FOLIAGE/CLOTH (Ghillie suit construction) and A SINGLE HIGH-CALIBRE BULLET (examination reveals it is MILITARY GRADE, used in hunting rifles).
- Holmes deduces that GEORGE'S FACIAL SCARS and these clues suggest that George is/was indeed a LOVAT SHARPSHOOTER and is even more involved in this Machiavellian special job than first thought.
- George was surely wounded during the Second Boer War and rendered so grotesquely disfigured of the face that he COULD NOT EASILY FIND COMMON WORK to support his family, which lead to the destitute rough life in the slums of Whitechapel.
- We have a chance to really incriminate George Hurst hear and cast major suspicion on him and draw it away from Fleischer. More mystery.
“SHERLOCK HOLMES THE DEVIL’S DAUGHTER – PREY TELL CASE” BY LUKE OPENSHAW

- News clippings of Mosley, Fleischer, Collins, Harrington, the Education Program.
- Notes on MANY OTHER MISSING PEASANTS including MRS GIBSON.
- The general setup looks like George Hurst is a psycho who is perhaps stalking these people.
  - Holmes is suspicious as to what is George Hurst really up to on this ‘special job’?
  - Holmes finds a MAP CLUE TO THE HUNT LOCATION.

IF TOM PRESENT

- Tom recalls his dad telling him stories about SOLDIERS but little Tom thought they were just that, stories, to send him to sleep. George is up to something suspicious.

ARRIVE AT 221B BAKER STREET

- Holmes uses GEORGE HURST’S MAP to determine the LOCATION OF GEORGE’S SPECIAL JOB.
- HOLMES TAKES WATSON’S GUN and LEAVES A NOTE FOR WATSON saying WHERE HE HAS GONE (coordinates for the map location) and it involves GEORGE HURST.
- Holmes LEAVES. Even at this stage we are not be aware (beyond a hint) that the hunt is next.

ARRIVE AT LORD MOSLEYS HOUSE - PLAYING AS WATSON

- Watson visits Mosley’s home once more with urgency, and a little angry at Holmes, but THERE IS NO ANSWER. Mosley and Fleischer are OUT. Watson finds CLUES THAT SHOW MOSLEY’S AUTOMOBILE IS GONE (if we use that era as discussed) and MARKINGS on the LAWN that suggest A WHEELCHAIR.

ARRIVE AT 221B BAKER STREET - PLAYING AS WATSON

WATSON AND TOM ARRIVE

- Watson returns to 221B to only to find TOM HURST WAITING but NO SIGN OF HOLMES but the NOTE FROM HOLMES stating the MAP LOCATION COORDINATES, it
involves GEORGE HURST’S LIFE and that Holmes has taken Watson’s gun. It must be serious!

- Tom insists on coming to SAVE HIS FATHER! Watson agrees because he fears for both Holmes and George Hurst’s lives and he personally believes that Tom can help save his father.
- Watson and Tom leave.

**ARRIVE AT HUNT LOCATION – PLAYING AS HOLMES**

**THE HUNTING LODGE**

- Holmes arrives at the hunt location forest and finds a HUNTERS LODGE where he meets RUBIN FLEISCHER casually smoking on the veranda, waiting. Fleischer checks the time on his pocket watch and Welcomes Holmes (if Fleischer instigated for Holmes to be the prey then Fleischer would have perhaps been the one to plant a clue for Holmes to find).
- Holmes is nervous to hear Fleischer say that they expected him. To make matters worse LORD HARRINGTON, LORD COLLINS and LORD MOSLEY (perhaps in a wheelchair?) step out of the lodge onto the veranda in their hunting clothes and wielding rifles. Holmes is keenly observing them and trying to remain cool.
- This is the QUARTEMAIN CLUB.
- Mosley, despite being ravaged by illness, coughing and spluttering, has still attended.
- Holmes is realising that Fleischer is indeed a consummate con man professional and facilitator whereas Mosley and the Lords are just arrogant aloof toffs with money. A good pay day for Fleischer no doubt.
- It would appear that being as Mosley is dying and hasn’t long to live, he wants to ‘go out with a bang’ by HUNTING SHERLOCK HOLMES!
- Mosley shoots Holmes in the hand. Mosley menacingly eyeballs Holmes, long gone has the grandpa kindness from earlier. Mosley demands Holmes RUN and that he does. The hunt is on!

**TRAUMA OF THE HUNT**

- This truly is a manhunt and Holmes is the wounded prey!
- Mud, hard ground, twisted ankle, numb, sleep deprivation, shivers, cold at night, blue lips, misty forest, foggy breath, exhaustion, alone, out his element, varying temperatures.
• Holmes gets to demonstrate his Buritsu and perhaps marksmanship at some point maybe.
• I would like to have the mantrap in there as a puzzle and even the assembling of a walking stick.

OTHER PEASANT – MORAL DECISION

• During the hunt Holmes finds ANOTHER VICTIM/PEASANT (mentioned earlier involved with the special job – perhaps even Mrs Gibson). This Peasant has been SHOT AND IS DYING FROM THE INOPERABLE WOUND. Holmes’s has the morale decision to put the Peasant out of their misery or get more information on the situation, before they die.

HOLMES IS WOUNDED

• Holmes is being hunted by the Lords with a combination of rifles, traps and worse. Holmes is trying to stay calm but the intense situation and conditions are toiling with his emotions.
• Holmes’s bullet wound has left his hand useless (although we earlier mentioned flank), numb and bloody. Holmes even examines his hand closely to SEE A HOLE IN THE PALM and the moonlight/sunlight peering through. How quaint. A war wound with which to rattle with Watson.
• Clarify Holmes has expended ALL BUT ONE BULLET left in his revolver and the threatening with an EMPTY GUN situation (gameplay).
• Bleeding out, blood trails, spent brass, camp fire.
• HOLMES: Where are you when I need you Watson...

HUNTERS ARE THE HUNTED

• But Holmes discovers contradictory events when he comes across the DEAD BODY OF LORD HARRINGTON who has been shot and then BEHEADED, and the HEAD IS MISSING.
• Holmes finds footsteps and traces of material that suggest the Ghillie Suits worn by the Lovat Sharpshooters and surely INDICATING GEORGE HURST IS PRESENT.
• HOLMES: As expected.
After a short while in the manhunt, Holmes is sure that there are at least three parties involved, the Hunter Lords, George Hurst and Holmes, and they seem to each be after one another.

**LORD COLLINS**

- **FROM PROLOGUE: LORD COLLINS.** Holmes Collins goes to shoot Holmes when suddenly COLLINS IS SHOT in the back and crumples to his knees.
- A FIGURE CLAD IN FOLIAGE EMERGES FROM THE FOREST as if the foliage has come alive and approaches the whimpering Lord Collins on his knees, wounded. The figure reveals themselves to be GEORGE HURST wearing a camouflage Ghillie suit who intervened in the nick of time to save Holmes.
- George icily watches Lord Collins suffering, spluttering blood, begging for mercy. Holmes watches in horror as George allows Collins to bleed out like a slaughtered pig.

**GEORGE AND HOLMES**

- Holmes explains that George’s son, Tom is what brought him here on this case. George is not happy that Holmes may have endangered his son’s life but Holmes ASSURES GEORGE THAT TOM IS SAFE in London with his trusted friend Watson.
- George is clearly a little damaged in the mind, his mad empty eyes, he has seen war and death and lost friends on the battlefields and in the slums.
- THE SPECIAL JOB PROCESS: George briefly states what the villain’s special job was.
- George draws a MACHETE and BEHEADS LORD COLLINS then holds the severed head up for Holmes to see before stuffing it in his sack. George doesn’t trust Holmes and Holmes realizes just how crazy George Hurst is. Two bastards down, one to go!
- **CHOICE:**
  - Holmes pleads with George to stop this vengeance for the sake of Tom.
  - Or Holmes says he will join George in bringing the Quatermain Club to justice.
  - Or Holmes attacks George (depending on Man Trap), using his final bullet to shoot and wound George (slows George down). George says he will leave Holmes till last because he cannot risk the Quatermain Club escaping his justice!
- Either way, George leaves the wounded Holmes behind and vanishes in the forest.
HOLMES TRAILS GEORGE

- Despite his wound, Holmes has been able to regain his breath and trails George’s fresh blood trail from George’s gunshot wound (if Holmes shot George) or Holmes hears a SCREAM and gunshots follows them BACK TOWARDS THE HUNTING LODGE.

HUNTING LODGE - SHOWDOWN

- Holmes arrives at the lodge and FINDS FLEISCHER BEHEADED ON THE STEPS. Inside the lodge Holmes finds GEORGE HURST COVERED IN BLOOD with LORD MOSLEY ON HIS KNEES. Mosley is defiant to the last, refusing to beg and says that he has lived a full life without others setting the limits. He will die happy. George empties his sack of severed heads belonging to the other Lords and Fleischer.
- Holmes tries to talk George down and explains that even though Mosley is guilty and a despicable criminal, killing him will give him exactly what he wants, to die feeling he has fulfilled his life in control. But if you allow him to live and be arrested, he will suffer from the terribly debilitating Tuberculosis and have the control he so desires taken from him!
- Holmes is sure that the beheading/trophy-taking of peasants infected with Tuberculosis is what intrinsically infected Lord Mosley.
- George Hurst is emotional, angry, bloody and raked with vengeful psychosis for all those that have been hunted, murdered and beheaded for trophies by the Quatermain Club!
- Holmes has the opportunity to INFLUENCE GEORGE’S DECISION with factors.
- CHOICE - SPARE MOSLEY:
  o Holmes says that he will see that Lord Mosley’s wealth will be USED TO SUPPORT THE AFFECTED FAMILIES, but only if George spares Mosley’s miserable life.
  o Mosley snaps angrily, spluttering, in pain, at Holmes’s claim. The thought of losing his wealth is making Mosley irate.
  o HOLMES: As you see George, the very thought of Lord Mosley losing all that he has gained, even off of the suffering of others, still pains the man, a man who claims to be fulfilled in this life and happy to move on to the next life. He is every bit a human.
  o Think about the future of his own son Tom who needs a father (perhaps this is where Watson’s more emotive manner could resonate).
  o Mosley will suffer for the rest of his short life with the terrible illness he has contracted and die an agonising death.
o Mosley will not escape justice because the evidence against him is now certain.

- CHOICE - EXECUTE MOSLEY:
  o Holmes perhaps does say that considering George has already killed the other members of the Quatermain Club that he may as well kill Mosley and end the club completely. No lose ends.
  o But think of the damage that this vengeful spree has caused you George and how it will affect your son?
  o Other reasons etc.

GEORGE’S DECISION

- George can see that Mosley is in both physical and mental agony at his illness and predicament, and despite his evil ways Mosley can indeed suffer more if he lives. But George also realises that Mosley must be eliminated in order to satisfy those he has murdered or left without a loved one or parent.
  o SPARE MOSLEY - CONSEQUENCES:
    ▪ Mosley is SENTENCE TO DEATH BY HANGING.
    ▪ George is jailed but with a LENIENT JAIL SENTENCE
    ▪ Holmes helps see that the ENTIRE QUATERMAIN CLUB WEALTH goes to THE FAMILIES AFFECTED.
  o EXECUTE MOSLEY – CONSEQUENCES:
    ▪ George EXECUTES MOSLEY (beheads him)
    ▪ George is jailed with a SEVERE SENTENCE OF DEATH BY HANGING.
    ▪ Only a SMALL PORTION of the QUATERMAIN CLUB WEALTH goes to THE FAMILIES AFFECTED.

- George is about to make his decision when...

WATSON AND TOM ARRIVE

- To add complexity to the showdown, Watson arrives at the lodge with Tom Hurst. George sees his son and gets ANGRY AT HOLMES that Tom has been brought here to this dangerous place. George is angry at Holmes for ‘lying when he said Tom was safe in London’. George is confused, crazy and dangerously waving his gun and machete around.
- Lord Mosley is on his knees caught in the middle of it all, and perhaps is SNEAKILY REACHING FOR A DERRINGER GUN BOOT.
George and Tom are emotional at seeing each other. Tom is horrified to see his dad smothered in blood and looking so crazy. Tom pleads with his dad to stop murdering and come home. George is ashamed that he looks the way he does in front of Tom.

- Does Holmes still have the REVOLVER IN HIS POCKET BUT ONLY HAS ONE SHOT?
- It is a stand-off. Lots of confusion, emotion, anger and shouting.
- NEGOTIATE WITH GEORGE or SHOOT?

### OUTCOME

**IF HOLMES SHOOTS:**

- Holmes can shoot Mosley.
- Or Holmes can shoot the ‘dangerously unstable’ George.
- Or George can shoot Mosley.
- Or George can even shoot Holmes for endangering Tom
- Or Mosley shoots Holmes or Tom or Watson?

**IF HOLMES TRIES TO NEGOTIATE**

- As Holmes tries to talk through the crazy situation, George sees his emotional son crying and loses his temper. But George’s brief distraction sees tricky LORD MOSLEY DRAW THE SMALL DERRINGER PISTOL from his boot and SHOOT GEORGE HURST point blank. But then HOLMES SHOOTS LORD MOSLEY with the last bullet in his revolver. A crazy but exciting and dramatic few moments.
- Tom rushes to his father who is dying from the derringer gunshot. MOSLEY IS DEAD.

**IF GEORGE HURST IS SHOT**

- Watson quickly tends to George Hurst and tries to save his life.
- WATSONS SURGICAL PUZZLE:
  - **FAIL:** George dies in front of poor little Tom.
  - **SUCCESS:** The wound and blood flow is controlled and George is saved.
- Naturally there are a few ways this exciting confrontation could play out. Either way the ending is somewhat bittersweet.
CHARACTERS & POSSIBLE SUSPECTS

MAIN CHARACTERS (Core role)

• **TOM HURST**

• **LORD MOSLEY**

• **DOCTOR RUBIN FLEISCHER**

• **GEORGE HURST** (few words/dialog)

• **SALLY GIBSON** (can be mute, few words/dialog)

• **OTHER PEASANT** (may be Mrs Gibson – just a few words/dialog)

• **LORD COLLINS & HARRINGTON** (few if any words/dialog)

• **BARMAN** (few words/dialog)

• **WIGGINS** (few words/dialog)

LOCATIONS

MAIN LOCATIONS

• **221B BAKER STREET**

• **WHITECHAPEL SLUMS/HOVELS**

• **LORD MOSLEY’S HOUSE**

• **PUB**

• **HUNT LOCATION FOREST/LODGE**

THE END