



# Sherlock Holmes and the Vampires of London

*Sylvain Cordurié , Daniel Chabon (Editor) , Laci (Illustrations)*

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Sherlock Holmes died fighting Professor Moriarty in the Reichenbach Falls. At least, that's what the press claims. However, Holmes is alive and well and taking advantage of his presumed death to travel the globe. Unfortunately, Holmes's plans are thwarted when a plague of vampirism haunts Britain.

This book collects Sherlock Holmes and the Vampires of London Volumes 1 and 2, originally created by French publisher Soleil.

## Sherlock Holmes and the Vampires of London Details

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Author : Sylvain Cordurié , Daniel Chabon (Editor) , Laci (Illustrations)

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# From Reader Review Sherlock Holmes and the Vampires of London for online ebook

## Alex Panagiotopoulos says

Η υπόθεση ακολουθεί τον Σέρλοκ Χολμς μόνες μετ' την εξαφάνιση του στους καταρρέκτες του Ρίχενμπαχ και συγκεκριμένα τον Ιούλιο του 1891. Η υπόθεση είναι σε μορφή flashback όπου το τέλος είναι η αρχή και ο Χολμς σε ένα απομνημόνευμα που προορίζεται για τον Γουότσον εξιστορεί την περιπέτεια του. Ποια είναι αυτή; Μα η εμφάνιση βρικόλων στο Λονδίνο. Ο Χολμς εμπλέκεται στην υπόθεση προσπαθώντας να συλλάβει έναν εξαιρετικό επικίνδυνο βρικόλακα που απειλεί τόσο την κοινωνία όσο και τις σχέσεις του στρώματος με την διοίκηση των βρικόλων. Μίας και ο Χολμς δουλεύει γκάνγκνιτο στο Λονδίνο και ο Γουότσον ακμα τον θεωρεί νεκρό, τον κολαούζο του δεν τον βλέπουμε παρά ελάχιστα στο κείμενο.

Το σενάριο την παλεύει (πλήν εντός πλαισίου βιβλίου) και το σχέδιο είναι καλό προς αρκετό καλό ειδικά στα τοπία. Ο χρωματισμός κάνει πολλές διακυμάνσεις μιας και σε κάποια καρέ είναι φοβερές και σε κάποια άλλα παιδικές και εκτός κλίματος. Πάντως σε κάποιο που ήρεσε το Society, σ'γούρα θα γουστάρει και αυτό. Γενικά ρολάρει μορφή.

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## Oscar says

El cómic comienza en Londres, en 1891, con Holmes contándonos que en realidad no murió en las Cataratas de Reichenbach, pero que debe mantenerse oculto por el bien de su amigo Watson y su esposa Mary, ya que los secuaces de Moriarty andan tras él. Pero la historia no va de esto. Se están produciendo brutales crímenes de nobles londinenses y todo apunta a un vampiro.

Es un pastiche holmesiano muy pulp, donde lo que más me ha gustado ha sido el detallado dibujo. La trama, floja.

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## Sr3yas says

Thankfully, they kept it short. So Why does it suck?

- (1) Remember *Abraham Lincoln, the vampire hunter*? Didn't work well, did it? (*If it worked for you, check this book out*).
- (2) The Queen of England is weirdly chill about Vampires.
- (3) The introduction of Vampires and the reaction, or lack of reaction from Holmes brothers.
- (4) While boasting an unpredictable territory, the story is painfully predictable, especially towards the end.

In my opinion, art is the only redeeming quality here.

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## **Shantanu says**

Giving it one star for the artwork alone.

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## **Krissy says**

Thanks to Netgalley and Diamond Books Distributing for sending me an ARC of this book!

This is an interesting (and welcome) addition to Sherlock Holmes lore. I've read other books where Sherlock and Watson have encountered vampires, but those books were done from Watson's point of view. It was refreshing to have the chance to be inside Sherlock's head and experience the story from his point of view.

After Sherlock's supposed death at the Reichenbach Falls, the famous detective has remained in hiding. He is, however, tracked down by a Master Vampire of London who needs his help in catching a rogue vampire killing relatives of Queen Victoria. The narrative follows Sherlock as he gathers information on the vampire, who has a connection to Sherlock's past. There is also a vampire doppelganger of Irene Adler who assists Sherlock.

While I found the story interesting, I felt removed from the narrative. This could be a function of its structure (Sherlock is writing down the tale after it is over) but it felt much more passive than the original novels. The artwork was detailed and not too dark. There was contrast which made the violence (immolation, staking, heads being ripped off) stand out without being too "cartoon-y". A few times, I did have to take closer looks at the panels in order to try and distinguish which character was meant to be Sherlock and which character was his source. At times, Sherlock was indistinct from the other characters, and I do not think that was because he was in disguise.

All in all, I would recommend this to anyone who is interested in Sherlock Holmes or vampires. There are some interesting takes on vampire lore, including ways to kill vampires that don't involve weapons. Readers shouldn't be worried about being aware of other Sherlock Holmes novels – there are some surprises for readers who are familiar with the novels – since the story still make sense without that knowledge.

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## **Calvin Daniels says**

3.5

Many SH Meets vampire takes out there. This is a solid offering with nice art.

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## **Charles Prepolec says**

Holmes, still believed dead by the masses after Reichenbach, is enlisted by vampires to track down one of their own who has gone rogue. In short, it's largely the plot of Blade 2 with Sherlock Holmes in the lead role. As dismissive and derivative as that might sound, it's actually an excellent and thoroughly enjoyable read. Some awkward sentences here and there, likely a result of translation, but characterization is solid. The art is

stunningly detailed, realistically rendered and beautiful throughout the book. I would rate this as one of the very best Sherlock Holmes comic books of recent years, sitting alongside the wonderful Victorian Undead: Sherlock Holmes Vs Zombies, but of course, if you don't care for stories that mix Holmes with the supernatural, your opinion will differ. Happily I love this sort of thing, especially when as well done as it was in this book.

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### **Alex Hainsworth says**

Rating: 3

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### **Jack Falerni says**

Bellissimo fumetto

mi sono piaciuti la storia i disegni Sherlock e i VAMPIRII

lo consiglio agli amanti di Holmes e i vampiri

non vedo l'ora di iniziare sherlock vs. Lovecraft

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### **LSWebb says**

DNF'd around 25% through. It was not making good use of the graphic novel format as most of the text was for the narrative, this Sherlock looks much more bland than any version I've seen, also the fact that the supernatural is occurring is glossed over in a single line. All his study is completely glossed over. The villains aren't scary. Sherlock is typically a very intriguing character...here he's just an annoying Mary Sue who will always be and always appear one step ahead of everyone else. And that's so boring.

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### **Jessie says**

So completely ridiculous...

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### **Navessa says**

BWAH HA HA HA HA HA HA!!! CROTCH GRAB COVER!!!

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## Otherwyrld says

A graphic novel featuring Sherlock Holmes up against vampires should be a treat to read, but this book makes the cardinal sin of being simply boring.

A lot of it has to do with the artwork, I suspect. The artist tries to cram too many panels onto many of the pages, which reduces the quality of the art to the point that much of the story is incomprehensible. Added to this is the muddy quality and limited colour palette of many of the panels, and you just can't see what is going on a lot of the time. The writer must share some of the blame though, for putting so much text into those already too small panels. Much of that text is musings from Sherlock Holmes himself rather than conversation, which also strips the story of some of its mystery. The reason that John Watson writes the Holmes cases up is that Holmes himself refuses to do so. By doing this, Arthur Conan Doyle maintained much of the central mystery of who Sherlock Holmes really is. However, by being privy to so many of Holmes thoughts in this book makes him less of the mysterious superman he needs to be to solve the case and have us all wonder about how he did it.

I have no idea if this is a one-off or part of an ongoing series, but it needs to be a lot better to hold my attention. The New Deadwardians did a much better job and I would recommend reading that story instead.

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## Sean Gibson says

In the canonical Sherlock Holmes stories, Holmes and Watson have the occasional dalliance with the supernatural, but they never really get past first base with it (unlike, say, Ray Stantz in Ghostbusters, who, we presume, rounded third with that ethereal lady floating above him during a montage, but that's neither here nor there...still, one imagines the cleanup after that encounter was a rather sticky business).

In the vast body of Holmesian pastiches, however, direct engagement with the supernatural is almost de rigueur, which makes sense when one considers the Victorian origin of Dracula, Frankenstein, Jekyll & Hyde, Jack the Ripper, and other tales of the macabre. The foggy, gaslit streets of London make for the perfect backdrop against which to pit our ace sleuth and his man Friday against an array of otherworldly forces, and Sherlock Holmes and the Vampires of London does this as well as most, due in large part to the incredible art.

The story itself, a post-Reichenbach affair wherein our man Holmes maintains the charade of being deceased (without Watson's knowledge), is solidly done, with Holmes matching wits against a sect of London vampires led by a vicious Duke. It's the art, however, that elevates this from a serviceable tale to an atmospheric tour-de-force that will lift you bodily from your chair and fling you back across the decades to land in a time and place that, if not entirely historical, couldn't feel more perfect.

I will now return forthwith to my place of origin, or to the nearest convenient parallel dimension. Or, at least, to the place where Ray met that ghost.

(Also, let's add Laci to the list of artists who need to be working on a graphic novel adaptation of The Camelot Shadow.)

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## Mark Flowers says

SLJ review:

CORDURIÉ, Sylvain. *Sherlock Holmes and the Vampires of London*. tr. from French. illus. by Laci and Axel Gonzalbo. 96p. Dark Horse. Feb. 2014. pap. \$17.99. ISBN 9781616552664.

Adult/High School—In this relentlessly silly but thoroughly fun mash-up, Sherlock Holmes finds himself in a triangular face-off against a group of semi-officially sanctioned vampires on the one hand and a rogue, apparently psychotic vampire on the other. The vampire clan, led by Selymes, has deep ties to the British government, reaching all the way to Queen Victoria, but those ties are threatened by the activities of a vampire named Owen Chanes, who has been on a feeding frenzy of low-level government operatives. So Selymes hires Sherlock to hunt down Chanes, using Watson and his wife, Mary, as hostages, but in typical Holmesian fashion, Sherlock seeks a way to play the vampires off each other and win the day for the humans. Cordurié and Laci give readers several strong reasons to suspend their disbelief: Laci's incredibly detailed, gritty illustrations of Victorian London, featuring a Sherlock with a much more hardened, lined, and frankly old face than we've come to expect; Cordurié's wry humor, as when Sherlock abruptly pivots from disbelief to belief in vampires without a backward glance; and a fun, fast-moving plot that leaves little time for second guessing. This graphic novel is probably more for Holmes aficionados than for vampire fans, but teen lovers of both will be especially pleased.—Mark Flowers, John F. Kennedy Library, Vallejo, CA

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