

Scenes That Didn't Make It -- #2

And so it happened that I found myself in Sussex, and proceeded *post haste* to visit my friend, Sherlock Holmes, who had retired there to his bee studies. Holmes was pleased to see his compatriot of old, and amid our ramblings I handed him a story I had recently penned, highlighting his masterly skills in resolving a case of unquestionable difficulty.

After a bit of reading, Holmes lightly tossed the manuscript aside. "I really cannot congratulate you on it, my dear fellow," he began. He suggested I read aloud a sentence on the first page of foolscap:

But there are few cases that compare to this very one, in which I have presented the Theory, facts and denouement as rendered by my friend, Sherlock Holmes.

"How often have I pointed out," continued Holmes, "that it is a mistake to capitalize a Theory in advance of facts."

I replied that I had always held a certain level of respect for his literary talents, and as such I would take his Theory under advisement.

JW,

I have cut this scene from your manuscript. Holmes was completely correct. I have also cut the offending passage from the earlier manuscript.

I have received word that Holmes will be submitting his OWN story shortly. He says (and I again chuckle at his delightful play on words) that it is "tentaclly" titled "The Lion's Mane," and it promises to be the best Sherlock Holmes story to date.

Of course, I still look forward to your future accounts of Holmes' adventures as they occur in Sussex.

Best,

ACD