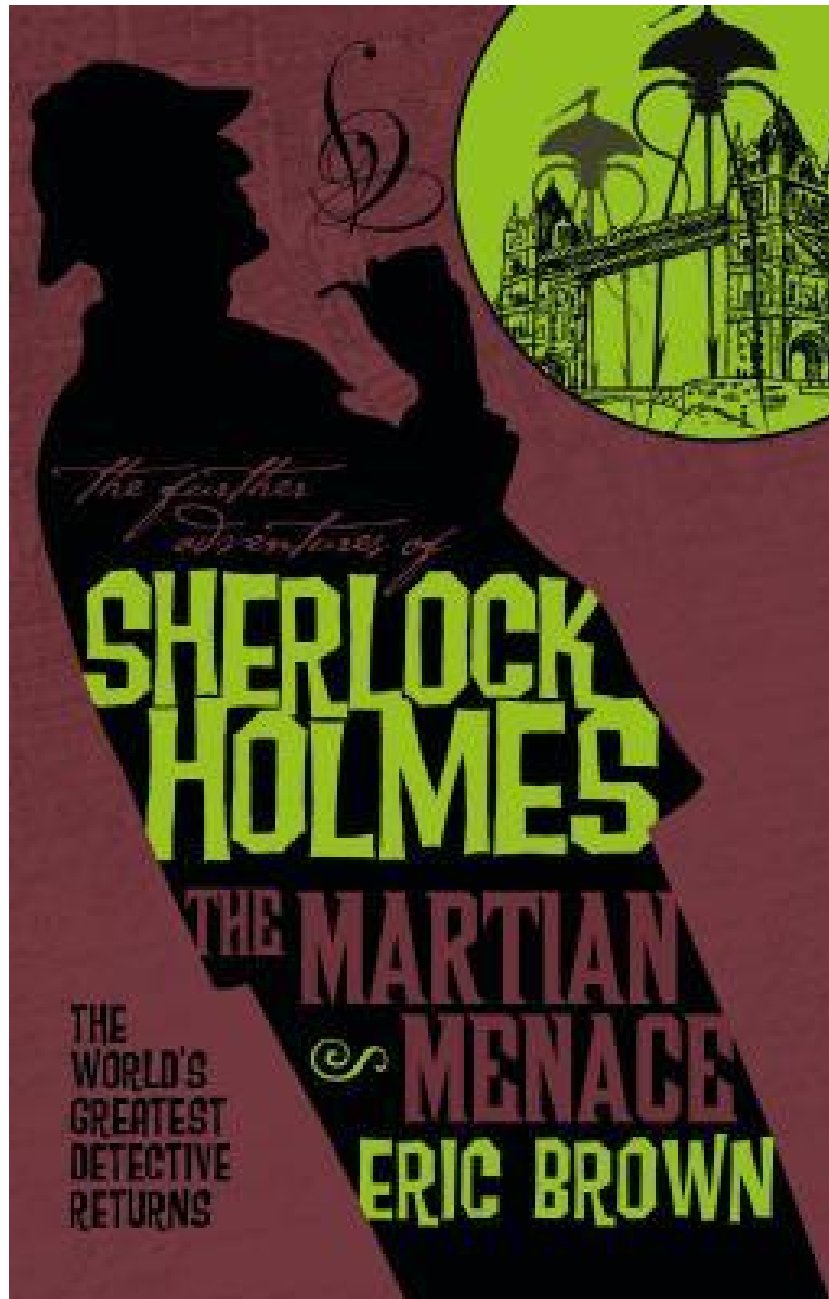


The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - The Martian Menace Book PDF Download



By:
Eric Brown

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What people Say:

Amy Walker

The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes series by Titan Books is one of my favourite series of Sherlock Holmes books. The series gives readers a broad mixture of stories, some very similar to the original books and could fit in nicely with the tales written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, others, such as this one, mix things up and present weird and wonderful new versions of the Holmes universe.

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The Martian Menace combines the classic detective with the science fiction classic of The War of the Worlds, by H. G. Wells. I've adored this series when it's combined Sherlock Holmes with other classic Victorian era books, such as Sherlock Holmes vs Dracula, and Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Holmes, and this story continues that tradition.

Set more than a decade after the events of the original War of the Worlds, readers are dropped into a world where the Martians returned following their initial defeat. This time, however, they came with the offer of friendship, explaining that the Martians involved in the initial invasion were part of an aggressive, rogue faction. With these new, benevolent Martians welcomed to Earth a new age of technological development has begun, and Humanity have started to work alongside their new allies to create a better future for themselves.

When Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson are approached by the Martian ambassador to England, Grulvax-Xena-Goran, to help investigate the strange murder of one of Mars' most eminent and respected philosophers the two of them jump at the chance. Having previously worked with the ambassador in the past, and desiring to see the red planet for themselves, they quickly find themselves whisked off world and into a much deadlier mystery than they first thought. When the two detectives discover that the new martian friends might not be so different than those in the first invasion, they get drawn into a battle for the very survival of humanity itself.

Before getting into the meat of the story, readers are given a short prologue story where Holmes and Watson investigate the murder of the current Martian ambassador, a story that features H. G. Wells himself. Whilst this was a good introduction to this new world, I was a little worried that the

main story would become a similar rehash, though over a longer page count. This was especially worrying as I didn't think Holmes and Watson would be able to investigate a murder on Mars in the same way they normally would. As such, I was hugely happy when it turned out that this case was just a ruse, hiding a much bigger and grander story beneath.

Holmes and Watson aren't big heroes, they're not going to be on the front lines of a fight against the Martians, especially during this time period when they're older men. However, they're both incredibly intelligent and resourceful people, who have ruined far too many evil plans in the past for the Martians to just ignore them completely. This means that we get to see the heroic uprising story told from a point of view of someone other than the leader, or the front-line hero. They dip in and out of the greater story, working in the shadows on small details that ultimately make a big difference to the overall survival of humanity. The two of them just wouldn't work as figureheads leading the charge, and Eric Brown knows this, using them in a much cleverer way instead.

The story draws upon some of the history of Holmes too, with some surprise characters appearing during the narrative. It also throws in some real world figures for the two heroes to interact with, such as George Bernard Shaw and G. K. Chesterton. Brown even throws in another Arthur Conan Doyle hero, Professor Challenger, much to my immediate delight. The book is filled with literary and historical nods that it'll keep any fan of the Victorian era smiling.

The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes: The Martian Menace is a great example of why this series is not just full of great books, but some of the best Sherlock Holmes books around. It manages to seamlessly put the iconic duo into this wonderful sci-fi setting without it feeling weird or out of place, in a story that's a worthy follow up to the classic tale. An absolute pleasure to read from start to finish.

David D. Knapp, Ph.D.

While I am a huge fan of Sherlock Holmes - both the original Arthur Conan Doyle cannon and the modern pastiches written by countless others - I certainly am NOT a fan of sci-fi. So I debated even getting this entry in Titan Publishing's "The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" series.

But I've read every other book in the series. So I broke down and read this one.

The story takes place in 1910 and 1912 London...and on Mars (eye roll). But as long as I ignored the impossibility of the overall

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The story takes place in 1910 and 1912 London...and on Mars (eye roll). But as long as I ignored the impossibility of the overall plot and locations, I was able to enjoy large sections of the novel. And the ending, which involves Holmes' arch-enemy Professor James Moriarty, was both surprising and interesting.

Overall, I'm glad I read it. But it's definitely not a book I'd ever read again. Do I recommend it? Yes, with the following qualifications: 1) if you're a Holmes' purist like me, you might want to skip it, but 2) if you love Holmes AND sci-fi, you may really love it.

Shaun

Never before have I read such a simple book with such intense vocabulary. I mean, this was pretty horrible. In saying that.. I did finish it so I guess it wasn't all that bad.

This was a random read of a book just released at my library so I guess I deserved to not be thoroughly entertained.

Holmes + Science Fiction was something I just couldn't resist.

Steve Gillway

Brown manages to recreate the flavour of Holmes and Watson particularly in their exchanges. He is quite playful with the characters, the plot (which moves apace) and the Martians.