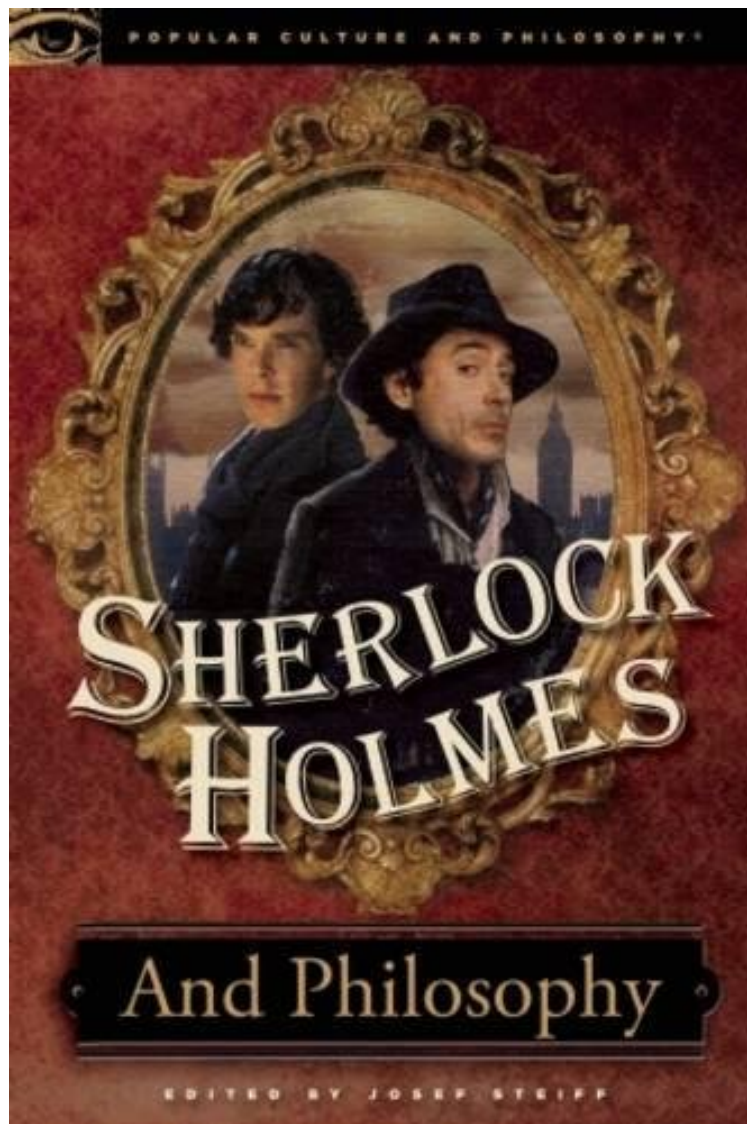


(Free and download) Sherlock Holmes and Philosophy: The Footprints of a Gigantic Mind (Popular Culture and Philosophy)

## Sherlock Holmes and Philosophy: The Footprints of a Gigantic Mind (Popular Culture and Philosophy)

*From Open Court*

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**From Open Court : Sherlock Holmes and Philosophy: The Footprints of a Gigantic Mind (Popular Culture and Philosophy)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sherlock Holmes and Philosophy: The Footprints of a Gigantic Mind (Popular Culture and Philosophy):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. I thought I was done with Holmes, until I read this. By Mark

Luster I've read a couple dozen of these "Philosophy and Pop Culture" books. This is one of the few that made me want to go back to the source material. All too often, the essayists are only familiar with limited exposure to the subject, e.g. having only seen a movie or cartoon. These writers know their Holmes. Sure, like any given volume, not every writer is truly familiar with the source material, relying on movies or TV, but most of the essayists know their stuff, and that makes for a truly enjoyable volume. This book tells you things you might not have known about Sherlock; enough to make you want to read the originals again. Full marks. 5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Philosophy of The Detective By Arador Sherlock Holmes and Philosophy is a fun read for any Holmes fan. The book is part of the Popular Culture and Philosophy series and contains 33 short chapters broken up into 7 categories. The "amateur detectives" authors deal with all sorts of topics about Sherlock Holmes, many of them include discussions of philosophers and theories, including summations of cases. I found the philosophy parts to be easily understandable for a non-philosophy minded person and the examples were helpful to portray aspects of Holmes character and mental processes. Several of the authors pick their favourite Holmes actor and give supporting evidence, there are chapters on the development of the detective genre, Moriarty, virtual reality, the problem with being bored, and how Holmes adjusted to married life. The book deals with all sorts of Holmesiana: the official Doyle canon, the non-canonical Doyle stories, pastiches, television, theater, and film manifestations (including Star Trek and Japanese), and modern fiction. A lot of ground is covered and many cases are referenced throughout the book. It has a nice index and bibliography at the end. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. awesome By P. Harris It is better than I thought it would be and I had high expectations.

This entertaining collection of essays deserves to exist because Sherlock Holmes sees things others don't. He sees the world in a different way, and by so doing, allows us to see that same world and human behavior in different ways as well. Oh, sure, there have been countless detectives who have followed in his footsteps and who seem to rival his abilities. Just turn on the TV or browse the local bookshop and you'll find idiosyncratic super sleuths using forensics and reasoning to solve a whole host of crimes and misdeeds. And yet no one rivals our dear, dear Holmes. Why does Sherlock reign, even more than a century later, as king? Can this mystery be solved? Unable to reach either Holmes or Watson (or Doyle for that matter, though we've tried every medium we can think of), we've been forced to gather our own team of investigators to practice their powers of observation and perception, to apply their own reasoning and methodologies to the task at hand. The results, I fear, have led us to a number of cases that must be solved first. Is Holmes simply eccentric or a sociopath? Is he human, a dog or something from the holodeck? Is he as dangerous on the page as he is in person? Wait does he even exist? For that matter, do you? (I fear several investigators have been forced to take a much needed holiday after wrestling with that one.) What is the source of his faculty of observation and facility for deduction? Systematic training as Watson surmises? Genetic? Or is he just really lucky? And is this whole logic thing compatible with emotions? Are Holmes and Watson good friends or soul mates? Just what is the nature of friendship? Do they complete each other or just get on each other's nerves? And why all the secrecy? Disguises? Deceptions? The plot thickens. What is the essence of consciousness? Is the observable world subject to our intentions? Why does Holmes debunk mysticism when Doyle so readily embraces it? Why is Holmes our favorite drug user? Our notebooks are filled with clues and, dare I say, answers. Is there more than one way to define the concept, justice? Is hope necessary in the world? Is boredom? Play? Can any thing really be understood? Objectively? And just what is the last unresolved mystery involving Sherlock Holmes? The game that's afoot isn't just the thing being pursued but the fun to be had as well.

"... resembles Conan Doyle's writings in composition, structure, style, form, wit and humor ... to give meanings to 21st century knowledge, life and reality." -- Ramona Hosu, Journal for the Study of Religions and Ideologies [readperiodicals.com/201112/2535448121.html](http://readperiodicals.com/201112/2535448121.html) "... these writers are serious about Sherlock Holmes [h]owever, don't appear to take themselves too seriously. ... it's easy to tell that the 'game is still afoot' and that it's time to have a little fun." -- Catherine Ramsdell, PopMatters (December 12, 2011) [popmatters.com/pm/review/152178-sherlock-holmes-and-philosophy-by-josef-steiff](http://popmatters.com/pm/review/152178-sherlock-holmes-and-philosophy-by-josef-steiff) About the Author Professor Josef Steiff is Associate Chair of the Film Video Department at Columbia College, Chicago. He is the author of *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Independent Filmmaking* and co-editor of *Battlestar Galactica and Philosophy*, *Anime and Philosophy*, and *Manga and Philosophy*. He lives in Chicago.