### It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Sherlock, The Comedic World of Holmes

by

Howard Ostrom

### Part IV

**Zach Sherwin** and **Kyle Mooney** lay down the rap as Sherlock Holmes And Doctor Watson in "Batman vs. Sherlock Holmes Rap Battle". "Batman vs Sherlock Holmes is the twenty-sixth installment of Epic Rap Battles of History and the eleventh episode of Season 2. It features the greatest detective of all time, Sherlock Holmes, rapping against the crime-fighter from the comic series of the same name, Batman. It also features Sherlock's companion and friend, Dr. Watson, and Batman's side-kick and Boy Wonder, Robin. It was released on November 27th, 2012."<sup>1</sup>



Kyle Mooney and Zach Sherwin

Watch the Batman vs. Sherlock Holmes Rap Battle at: <u>http://vimeo.com/</u>54863602

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>http://epicrapbattlesofhistory.wikia.com/wiki/Batman\_vs\_Sherlock\_Holmes#Cast</u>

#### SHERLOCK HOLMES! VS BATMAN! BEGIN!

Batman:

Nice hat, dork, you look like a duck I had Alfred read your books, he told me they suck I'll crush your British nuts until they're bangers and mash I've seen better detective work in Tango & Cash You chump, I kick punks like you off the streets While you and Velma here are solving Scooby Doo mysteries Nothing makes me laugh, but I bet your raps can So bring it on, bitch, I'm Batman!

Sherlock Holmes: I once met a rich fellow who smelled of guano and pain

> Dr. Watson: Holmes explain

Sherlock Holmes: I deduce this deuce stain as Bruce Wayne

> Dr. Watson: The billionaire?

Sherlock Holmes: Yes, his wealth would allow this adversary of ours To afford the toys he needs

> Dr. Watson: Since he has no superpowers!

Sherlock Holmes: You want a battle, bat? Bring it then

Dr. Watson: I heard he has a British butler

Sherlock Holmes: Good! Then he'll be used to getting served by Englishmen! You're a wack vigilante black pantied spud with no skill My sidekick's a doctor Dr. Watson: Because his flows are so ill!

Batman: Shut up, nerds, I serve justice, so eat it My sidekick only comes around

Robin:

When he's needed! Boy wonder make you wonder how your ass got killed Bite harder than those hounds down in Baskerville I'll blast you with that bat-whack-rap repellant Rappel a building,snatch a villain then by dinner be chilling Gotta secret about your homegirl Irene Adler Took her back to my nest, to bam pow kersplat her I'll shatter that fiddle with a chop of the hand! Holy Conan Doyle, let's get 'em! Aw god damn!

#### Batman:

You're not smart, you're selfish, you endanger everyone's life Why don't you let your boyfriend here go home to his wife? Nobody likes you, not your brother, not your partner, not Scotland Yard! You'll die alone with no friends except that needle in your arm!

Sherlock:

This mustn't register on an emotional level... First, exploit childhood tragedy...then gesture with pipe... Watson finishes punchline...next, acknowledge compliment Conclude with killer catchphrase.... I believe your parent's homicide is why you mask your face You're shamed and traumatized and haunted by the vast disgrace Of watching like a passive waste as momma died and daddy was dispatched with haste!

> Dr. Watson: Holmes, you've cracked the case!

Sherlock Holmes: You're a bat shit crazy basket case!

> Dr. Watson: Bloody good rhymes!

### Sherlock Holmes: I've got tonnes! Dissing these dynamic douchebags was elementary, my dear Watson

**Christian Chevalier** and **Mark Samuels** as Holmes and Watson in "L' Extravagant Mystère Holmes" (2012).

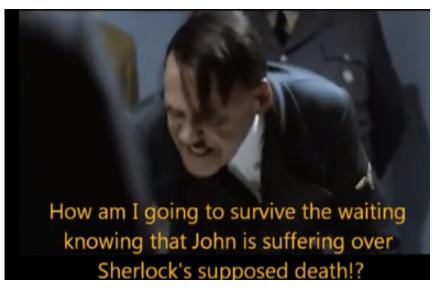


**Christian Chevalier and Mark Samuels** 

Watch L' Extravagant Mystère Holmes at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>feature=endscreen&NR=1&v=QCqUeN4OBYY</u>

Fandom, a term used generally in reference to the huge following of fans of the BBC's "Sherlock" series, has created literally thousands of Youtube and Vimeo videos. In this essay you will fine some of the most humorous ones, but there are far to many to be all inclusive, plus the focus of this essay can't be just Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman, despite my love of their show. The next two listings of "Hitler's Reaction to "The Reichenbach Fall" and "Sherlock Blue's Clues" are examples of fandom's videos which had me laughing out loud!

**Bruno Ganz (1941 - )** - plays Adolf Hitler in the movie called "Der Untergang" or "Downfall". What fandom does with a scene from it, they call "Hitler's Reaction to "The Reichenbach Fall" (2012) is brilliant. When Hitler found out what happened to Sherlock, his fanboy mind went puff.



Bruno Ganz

Watch "Hitler's Reaction to "The Reichenbach Fall" at: <u>https://</u> www.youtube.com/watch?v=4SPJmobSq9g

**Thomas Middleditch -** plays the Sherlock roll for College Humor's "Sherlocks Blue's Clues" (2012). He just figured out Blue's Clues, because he's infinitely smarter than us.



Thomas Middleditch and David Kerns

Watch "Sherlocks Blue's Clues" at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=vKgtvYS6YVo</u> BBC's "The Reichenbach Fall" episode was so traumatic for the fandom that you can find many videos of fans reactions to it, and they are quite humorous. I'm not including any of those, however the next two reenactments of the leap from St. Bart's rooftop I find unique enough to include. They involve a plush and a Lego, Holmes and Watson.

**Benedict Cumberplush** as Plushlock Holmes and **Martin Plushman** as Dr. John Feltson "Plushlock The Reichenbach Fall" (2012).



## **Benedict Cumberplush and Martin Plushman**

See "Plushlock The Reichenbach Fall" at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=1RIc-zGjs5A&feature=player\_detailpage</u> Lego Sherlock in the BBC Reichenbach Fall ( Rooftop Scene) with Lego Watson too.



Lego Sherlock and Lego Watson

Watch "Lego Reichenbach Fall" at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=uYw35LCSRmc&feature=related</u> **Chris Kendall,** is a comedian who appeared in two parodies of "Sherlock" for the Dawson Bros. Funtime show.



**Chris Kendall** 

Watch Chris Kendall in "Sherlock" Parodies at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>list=RD24c5jeHGnsU&v=oCL-QUltYGY</u>

and at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24c5jeHGnsU&feature=youtu.be</u>

**Lewis Macleod** (comedyplaza.co.uk) voices **Sherlock Holmes (Basil Rathbone)** complains about fake Sherlock Holmeses (2012), very funny, but I wish it was longer.

"Watch fake Sherlock Holmeses" <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=FmjaoS6ZPxs</u>

**Pioneer Drama** - http://www.pioneerdrama.com has published plays for school and amateur theater. The first play was "Sherlock meets the ghost" (Tim Kelly's "Sherlock Meets the Phantom" (1975). More recently, they offered the play "The Secret of Sherlock Holmes Case" (Craig Sodaro's "The Secret Case of Sherlock Holmes" (2012). Upstart detectives Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson are on their first case. Their client, a young H.G. Wells, has hired the novice detectives to find a manuscript by Arthur Conan Doyle. Hiding from their angry landlord, Holmes and Watson duck into Wells' time machine, push a few buttons and soon find themselves in the 21st century. They end up at the Freudly Institute



Pioneer Drama - "The Secret of Sherlock Holmes Case"

where they meet Marilyn Monroe, George Washington, Tarzan, Emily Dickinson, Count Dracula, Lizzie Borden and Queen Victoria. Actually, these are patients at the institution with grandiose delusions that they are these famous characters, which explains why Holmes is treated like just another patient! And they think Watson is his doctor who's just "playing along"! When the body of an unknown victim is found on the grounds of the institute, Holmes sets out to uncover the clues, while trying to prove that he is the real Sherlock Holmes. With many levels of depth and humor, this clever mystery has a lot of fun with a Sherlock quite reminiscent of the character in the recent popular movies.

**Nick Cloud** and **Dorian Cunningham** as Holmes and Watson in "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of his Missing Girlfriend" (2013). Sherlock and Watson try to crack their most challenging case yet --women! A teenage spoof with tons of gay subtext.



Nick Cloud and Dorian Cunningham

Watch "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of his Missing Girlfriend" at: <u>http://vimeo.com/70743285</u> **Jaspar Mitchell**, plays Sherlock Holmes, with **J. P. Beaudoin**, as Dr. Watson in "221B - The Web Series" (2013). This web-series is a creation of Carter DeLaat, a recent film student graduate from Humber College. While only being a five episode series, it is still important, as an early part of the new growing craze of the Holmes web adaptions, initiated by Ross K. Foad with his 'No Place Like Holmes Players' adaptations. In Jaspar's performance there's much promise and she compares well with Ekaterina Vasilyeva's creation. Jaspar Mitchell is quite a fetching Holmes. The series puts an emphasis on the home-life of the classic "odd couple". Showing the dangerous life style Watson gets himself into living with Holmes after recently returning from Afghanistan. The period piece revolves around the mental trials Holmes puts Watson through in their Victorian London flat, keeping the doctor constantly on his toes. The series features guest characters including the faithful landlady Mrs. Hudson and the nefarious villain, Professor Moriarty. The series is also the first the feature a FEMALE Holmes.



# J. P. Beaudoin and Jaspar Mitchell

Watch 221B: The Sherlock Holmes Web-Series Trailer at: http:// www.youtube.com/watch?v=KY06X9IhcUs

**Lawrence Leung** invites Sherlock to the Comedy Festival. Lawrence wants to be like Sherlock. Taking cues from the world's greatest sleuth, Lawrence battles wits, exposes lies and uncovers hidden truths. Can anyone become a great detective or is he just deceiving himself?



Lawrence Leung

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Watch Lawrence Leung converse with "Sherlock" at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u>
<u>watch?v=G9Gvs9Mh8SA</u>
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**Michael T. Coleman** (Sherlock) and **Wallace Bruce** (Watson) in the selfproclaimed best Sherlock Holmes parody ever made, "Sherlock The Scarlet Rose" (2013).



Michael T. Coleman and Wallace Bruce

Watch "Sherlock The Scarlet Rose" at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=qRaMLMee6U4</u>

Michael T. Coleman and Wallace Bruce also made the "Sherlock" parody, The Empty Void" (2014). Two years after the death of Sherlock Holmes, John Watson finally strikes up the nerve to deliver a proper eulogy to his friend.

Watch The Empty Void" at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JcB1\_xfPKgg</u>

**Arthur Shipanov** plays Holmes, with **Sergey Chetverikov** as Dr. Watson, in "Sherlock is Playing the Game" (2013), a BBC Sherlock parody which has been nominated for 'Done in Sixty Seconds Award' Jameson Empire Awards (2014) for Best Films of 2013. Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman fans will especially enjoy this one minute parody.



# Sergey Chetverikov and Arthur Shipanov

Watch "Sherlock is Playing the Game" on Youtube at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> <u>watch?v=lCueyVagDNQ</u>

**Seth MacFarlane (1973 - )** - was the voice of Sherlock Holmes in the 'Secondhand Spoke' episode of the show "Family Guy", only thirteen seconds long, but got a laugh from me!



Watch Family Guy Sherlock at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=FxEDv8TpvjE</u>

**Benedict Townsend** and **Adam Wadsworth**, a British comedy duo that goes by the name CupOfTeam, do a Sherlock sketch in "Sherlock Meets the Doctor".



Adam Wadsworth and Benedict Townsend

Watch "Sherlock Meets the Doctor" at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=aSWxKSt5jco</u>

**Agha Majid** (aka Aroo Grenade) played Sherlock Holmes on "Khabar Naak", an Urdu and Punjabi Comedy television show, in the August 18, 2013 episode, titled "Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson". **Iftikhar Thakur** (?) may have played Dr. Watson.



Iftikhar Thakur and Agha Majid aka Aroo Grenade

"Khabar Naak" the "Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson" episode can be watchedon Youtube at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-jUQLlLGrE</u> **Nick Abadzis** is Sherlock Holmes and **Chris Miskiewicz** is Dr. John Watson in "The Adventures of Shakespeare & Watson: Detectives of Mystery"- Episode One: "Russian Sundae". The Detectives of Mystery find themselves on the run after Shakespeare steals a bag of cocaine from a Russian crime boss. (2013)".



David Blatt and Chris Miskiewicz

Sherlock Holmes and Watson travel to William Shakespeare's era to solve The Riddle of a Thousand Faces, but Professor Moriarty springs a clever ruse, breaking Sherlock's "time cane," causing a "temporal storm" that sends Sherlock and Moriarty to times unknown, and Shakespeare and Watson to the present in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Now, the unorthodox partners have formed a detective agency to fight crime while trying to figure out a way to get back to their own eras.

Episode One: "Russian Sundae". <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=uHUTSqAASgg</u>

The Adventures of Shakespeare & Watson: Detectives of Mystery - Episode Two: "Ground Control to Arizona" "While attempting to build a new time cane, Dr. Watson accidentally pulls Ziggy Stardust a.k.a. David Bowie and actor Nick Cage into the present. David Blatt as William Shakespeare.

Episode Two: "Ground Control to Arizona http://www.youtube.com/watch? v=3RJU8weCyZ4 **El Teatro Clásico - América TeVé** an unusual Holmes & Watson show up around the 3 minute mark in this video (2013). Have your ever sat by a guy as annoying as the guy who keeps interrupting this play?



El Teatro Clásico - América TeVé

Watch El Teatro Clásico at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6fyIQwtlRSo</u>

**Benedict Cumberbatch** and **Martin Freeman** as Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson doing the sugar plum fairy dance (2013).



# Martin Freeman and Benedict Cumberbatch

Watch them dance at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiZKvB25zTU</u>

**Edward Daw** as Sherlock Holmes and **David Forde** as Dr. Watson, "Sherlock Holmes and the Stolen Emerald" (2013). A Celine Terranova Production.



## Edward Daw and David Forde

"Sherlock Holmes and the Stolen Emerald" (2013) is a six-minute comedic short silent film. The premise is that Watson is the real genius of the duo, it features several characters dressed in exuberant steampunk attires. From an original idea by Celine Terranova, this short film was initially developed in May 2012 and financed thanks to a funding campaign on IndieGoGo. The film was shot at Bart's Pathology Museum in London in two weekends in early 2013. Word is they will be making a sequel, and it will be called "Sherlock Holmes and the Wrath of Moriarty." More information can be found on Facebook, or twitter (@StolenEmerald).

See "Sherlock Holmes and the Stolen Emerald" at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leZW\_p\_zIwU

**Stephen Fry (1957 -)** who was once rumored for a Sherlock Holmes TV show with Hugh Laurie as his Dr. Watson, does a humorous Sherlock Holmes bit on his "QI" TV show. The bit is titled "Sherlock Holmes Ejaculation" (2013) from the "Jargon" episode. "There are 23 ejaculations in the Canon". That is quite the deerstalker he is wearing, isn't it?



**Stephen Fry** 

Watch "Sherlock Holmes Ejaculation" at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>v=x5JEJiiSZCM</u>

**Jerrold Ridenour** and **Frank Langley**, are Poplock Holmes and DJ Wattson, and are after a local Yeti, in "Monster Hunters" (2013). Hijinks pursue in this Steampunk comedy adventure! Be sure to visit <u>www.poplockholmes.com</u> and you can buy the whole album on iTunes now!



Jerrold Ridenour

Watch Poplock Holmes in "Monster Hunters" at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watchv=w2PKkV47WgE">https://www.youtube.com/watchv=w2PKkV47WgE</a>

**Brian Rosenthal** and **Joey Richter** of Team Starkid as Sherlock and John in "Sherlocked" (2013).



Joey Richter and Brian Rosenthal

See "Sherlocked" Skit at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocRo1Ty7EZY</u>

**Mohi Reza** as Sherlock Holmes and **Naveed Hossain** as Dr. John Watson, in "Sherlock Holmes in Bangladesh: A Study in Red and Green" (2013), a fan film by Hundred Stories High, written and directed by Aaraf Afzal. "Set in modern day Bangladesh, Dr. John Watson is acquainted to the eccentric yet genius Sherlock Holmes by unusual circumstance. Now, he is about to discover there is more to this man's life than meets the eye, as the two become entangled in their first case together and join forces against a mysterious opponent."<sup>2</sup>



Naveed Hossain and Mohi Reza

Watch Sherlock Holmes in Bangladesh video at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> <u>watch?v=oknmxnMM31c</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oknmxnMM31c</u>

## The End - Part IV