

THE GREAT DETECTIVES



ON SCREEN

Week Two

The Road to Baker Street

Welcome to *The Great Detectives*

Week Two

Welcome back to the Great Detectives. Last week, we looked at the mystery of Poe's C. Auguste Dupin and his almost unerring ability *not* to end up on film in a recognisable state.

This week we take a step forward in time (and one step back) to look at the handful of literary detectives *between* Dupin and the arrival of one Mr Sherlock Holmes that have made their way to screens both big and small.

Between Dupin's arrival in 1841 and the birth of Holmes in 1887, the detective – be they police or amateur – did take some notable steps forward.

Charles Dickens himself got in on the action in 1852, with *Bleak House's* Inspector Bucket. We had detectives from Mary Elizabeth Braddon (*The Trail of the Serpent*) and Emile Gaboriau (*Monsieur Lecoq*).

Mrs Paschal and Mrs Gladden were among the first of, happily many, female detectives to grace the page, both appearing in 1864, in novels by, respectively, William Haynes and Andrew Forrester.

Wilkie Collins' 1868 *The Moonstone* is often spoken about as the first (modern, at any rate) detective *novel*, and features not only an official detective in the form of Sergeant Cuff, but also an adventuring amateur by way of Franklin Blake.

All of these and other stories contributed to the form we know now, but there is no denying that Arthur Conan Doyle's creation came to define the public's perception of detectives and detective stories.

Even as early as 1900, in the earliest days of cinema, Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson have proved and popular and enduring on the screen and stage as between the covers of a book.

This week, we look the few of their immediate antecedents that have found their way into films and TV, before starting our journey into Baker Street past and present.

FILMS WEEK TWO

The Celebrated Cases of Judge Dee (2024)

Dir. Yunliang Li

The Moonstone (2016)

Dir. Lisa Mulcahy

The Ticket of Leave Man (1937)

Dir. George King

Bleak House (2005)

Dir. Susannah White

Les Grands Detectives: Monsieur Lecoq (1975)

Dir. Jean Herman

Sherlock Holmes : Baffled (1900)

Dir. Arthur Marvin

Sherlock Holmes (1916)

Dir. Arthur Berthelet

Sherlock Holmes: The Dying Detective (1921)

Dir. Maurice Elvey

Sherlock Holmes (1922)

Dir. Albert Parker

The Speckled Band (1931)

Dir. Jack Raymond

Sherlock Holmes (1932)

Dir. William K Howard

Hound of the Baskervilles (1939)

Dir. Sidney Lanfield