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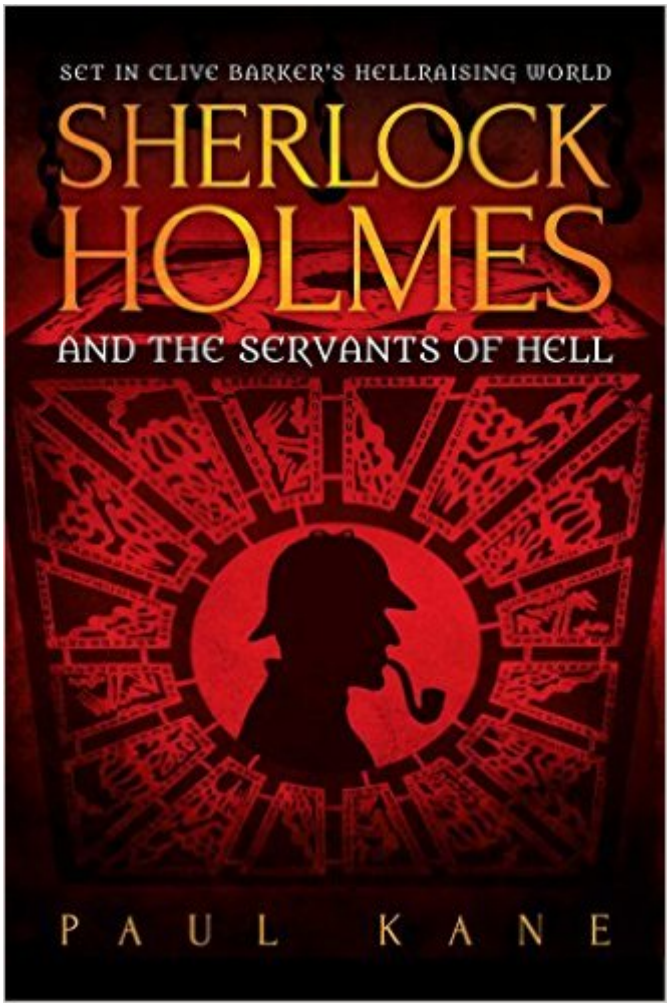
Sherlock Holmes And The Servants Of Hell



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Synopsis

Sherlock Holmes faces his greatest challenge yet when he meets the Cenobites, the infamous servants of hell.Late 1895, and Sherlock Holmes and his faithful companion Dr John Watson are called upon to investigate a missing persons case. On the face of it, this seems like a mystery that Holmes might relish â “ as the person in question vanished from a locked room â “ and something to occupy him other than testing the limits of his mind and body. But this is just the start of an investigation that will draw the pair into contact with a shadowy organisation talked about in whispers and known only as â ˆThe Order of the Gashâ ™. As more and more people go missing in a similar fashion, the clues point to a sinister asylum in France and to the underworld of London. However, it is an altogether different underworld that Holmes will soon discover â “ as he finds himself face to face not only with those followers who do the Orderâ ™s bidding on Earth, but those who serve it in Hell: the Cenobites...

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sherlock Holmes and the Servants of Hell. There is so just much potential in the concept. Handle it right, and you’ve got yourself a horror/mystery that is destined to become a genre staple. Fumble it at any point, however, and you have two separate camps of fandom ready to critique, condemn, and drag you to . . . well, Hell.Fortunately, Paul Kane knows his stuff, and what we have here is no mere imaginative lark. Sherlock Holmes and the Servants of Hell is a very carefully constructed story that considers the legacies of both Doyle and Barker, and which not only finds a point at which the two can meet, but one in which that intersection actually adds something to each respective

story.In terms of narrative, this absolutely feels like a Sherlock Holmes story. Kane captures the voice of Dr. Watson exceptionally well, and explains away any irregularities by presenting it as a tale that Watson never intends to publish. Furthermore, he sets it after the incident at Reichenbach Falls, using the Hellraiser mythology to cleverly explain the shift in Holmes' character and personality in those latter tales. He also does some clever work with The Hound of the Baskervilles, taking one of the most horrific Sherlock Holmes tales and casting some doubt upon its casual dismissal of the supernatural.As far as Hellraiser is concerned, reading this is like an epic Easter Egg hunt. Kane touches upon all aspects of the extended mythology, including details from the original Hellbound Heart tale; the Hellraiser films; Barbie Wilde's tales of Sister Cilice in Voices of the Damned; and even several tales from the Hellbound Hearts anthology.

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE SERVANTS OF HELL, by Paul Kane, takes place in the late months of 1895. How could anyone resist the "World's Greatest Detective" coming across the dreaded Cenobites from Clive Barker's Hellraiser series? The introduction was written by Barbie Wilde--an author, herself--and an actress cast as the female Cenobite in the movie Hellbound: Hellraiser II. I mention this because the introduction, in this case, was every bit as interesting as the book itself.The novel immediately grabs you--even those with only a rudimentary knowledge of Sherlock Holmes' adventures can appreciate the dialogue with his faithful companion, Watson." . . . I asked him again what I should expect and Holmes, as enigmatic as usual, came back with: "The unexpected, Watson. Nothing more than the unexpected." "Beginning with a missing person's case--Frank Cotton, from the original Hellraiser movie adaption--the two legendary books instantly show a shared chemistry as Paul Kane flawlessly blends them together. Although I am a fan of both Sherlock Holmes, and the Hellraiser series, this novel is so complete that even those unfamiliar with either will be able to enjoy this epic journey. Those with more prior knowledge will certainly pick up on the crafty references to places, people, and cases past, but again--the novel provides enough depth, characterization, and atmospheric tension to grab any reader.The point-of-view shifts from Holmes, to Watson, giving us an even more detailed and complete "feeling" for each character and their individual motivations. I really appreciated the use of this tactic by Kane, as I felt it was the best way to give added depth to the tale.

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