

VISUAL STORY FOR KEN LUDWIGS'S *BASKERVILLE: A SHERLOCK HOLMES MYSTERY*

A Visual Story helps people prepare for coming to a show or decide if this show is right for them.

Here are the show times for Ken Ludwig's *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery*

Thurs. April 11 – 7:30PM (Pay-What-You-Will Preview)
Fri. April 12 – 7:30PM (Opening Night)
Sat. April 13 – 1PM & 7:30PM
Sun. April 14 – 1PM
Wed. April 17 – 1PM
Thurs. April 18 – 7:30PM
Fri. April 19 – 7:30PM
Sat. April 20 – 1PM (Open Experience)
Sat. April 20 – 7:30PM (VocalEye Live Audio Description)

About Open Experience

Usually at the theatre, the audience is supposed to be quiet and sit still during the show. We know that this isn't possible for everyone – some people like to make noise, or need to move around and fidget to stay comfortable.

At the Open Experience show, audience members can relax and be their natural selves. You can move in and out of the theatre, laugh as loudly or quietly as you want, and fidget in your seat as much as you need. If you need to take a break from watching the show, you can go to the "chill-out zone" in the lobby on the 2nd floor. There will be comfortable seats and stim toys for you to use. A volunteer can help you go back to your seat when you are ready.

What information is in this Visual Story?

You can click on the things you want to know about:

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Schedule / Important Times

These times may be slightly different for every show.

The performance is about 2 hours long, including a 20-minute intermission, approximately halfway through the show. You are welcome to leave the theatre and then return to your seat during the show.

Evening Shows

6:30 PM – Lobby doors open and you can pick up your tickets

7:00 PM – Theatre doors open and you can find your seat

7:30 PM – The performance starts

9:45 PM – The performance ends

Afternoon Shows

12:00 PM – Lobby doors open and you can pick up your tickets

12:30 PM – Theatre doors open and you can find your seat

1:00 PM – The performance starts

2:15 PM – The performance ends

Arriving at the theatre

When you arrive at the theatre, you will enter the main lobby through one of two doors. Volunteers will be at both doors and in the lobby. They will be happy to help you if you have any questions or do not feel sure about where you should go.

If you need to pick up your physical ticket from the Box Office, you will enter through the doorway marked "Theatre Entrance." The Box Office is through these doors. Box Office staff will be able to help you

If you already have your ticket, then you will enter through the doorway near the concession.

This is the Box Office where you can pick up your physical tickets:



Before the show

You can enter the theatre to find your seat 30 minutes before the show begins. You are also welcome to hang out in the lobbies. There are comfortable seats in the lobby where you can sit. When it is time to go into the theatre, the lights in the lobby will flash on and off and someone will make an announcement.

You can also leave your coat, sweater or bags at the Coat Check, if you would like. Volunteers at the Coat Check will safely store your items for the duration of the show. When you drop something off, they will give you a token with a number on it. When you want to get your item back, you bring your token back to the volunteers at the Coat Check.

Our concession will be open. You can purchase snacks or drinks there if you would like to eat or drink something. You are welcome to bring your purchased food and/or drink from the concession into the theatre.

The Set

There is one main set that stays on stage the whole time. It has brick archways and walls in the front with lots of entrances and exits, and then the backdrop is made to look like the "moor" (a British term for an open area of grassy hills).

This is what the set looks like when you enter the theatre.



Throughout the story this set will be used to be lots of different settings. Often lots of the stage will be dark and lighting will be used to highlight only specific areas of the stage to help the audience understand that the story is taking place in different settings. Part of the set is also a kind of big treadmill that moves different furniture on and off stage. Here are some of the main settings in the story:

This is what the set looks like for Sherlock Holmes's home.



This is what the set looks like when they are in Watson's room at Baskerville Hall.



This is what the set looks like when the characters are on the moor.



This show will be fully subtitled in simplified and traditional Chinese. The subtitles are projected onto a screen above the stage. This is what it looks like:



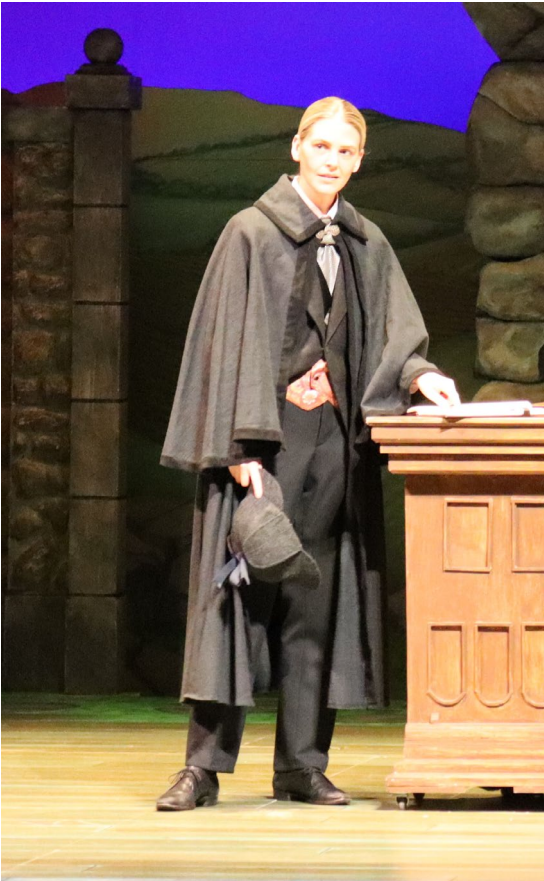
The Cast

Here is a picture of Genevieve Fleming, who plays the character of Sherlock Holmes.

This is what Genevieve looks like normally.



This is what Genevieve looks like in costume.



Here is a picture of Gerry Mackay, who plays the character of Watson.
This is what Gerry looks like normally.



This is what Gerry looks like in costume.



Andrew Cownden plays a lot of different characters, but his name in the programme is "Actor One". This is what he looks like normally.



Often he is changing quickly in and out of costumes, and changing his body and voice so that the audience can tell the difference between these characters.

Here are some of the characters he plays:



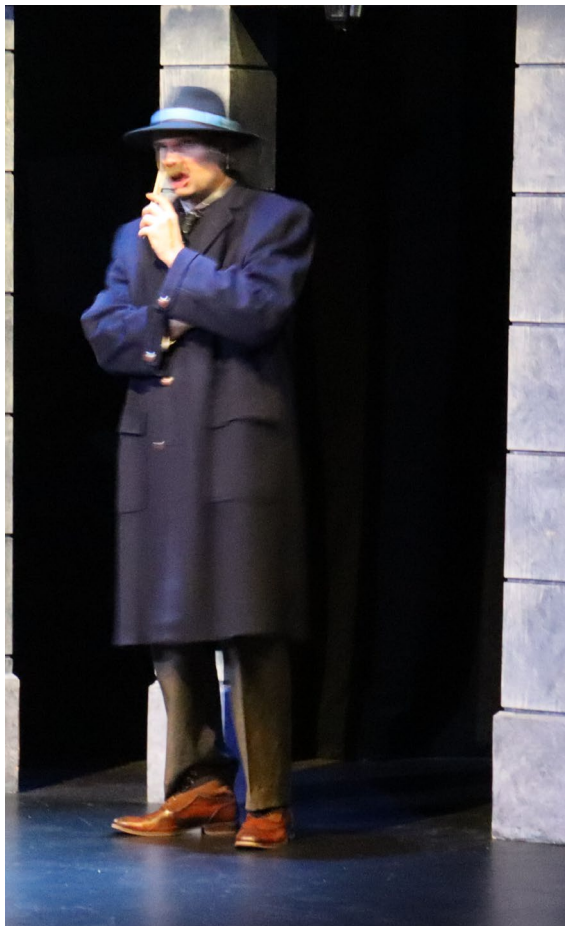
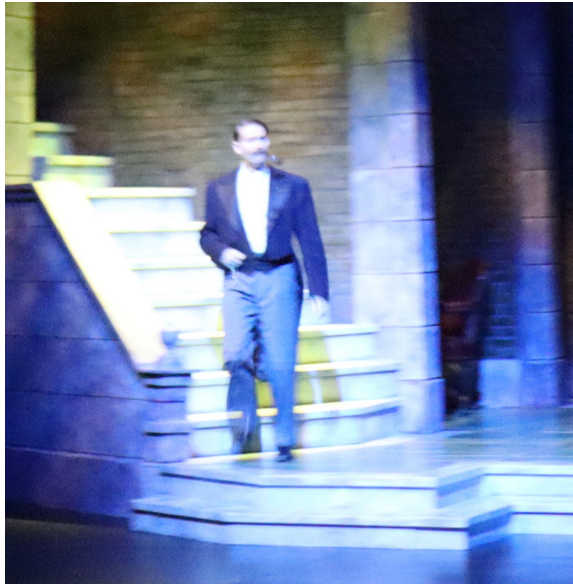




Mack Gordon plays a lot of different characters, but his name in the programme is "Actor Two". This is what he looks like normally.



Often he is changing quickly in and out of costumes, and changing his body and voice so that the audience can tell the difference between these characters. Here are some of the characters he plays:



Melissa Oei plays a lot of different characters, but her name in the programme is “Actor Three”. This is what she looks like normally.



Often she is changing quickly in and out of costumes, and changing her body and voice so that the audience can tell the difference between these characters.

Here are some of the characters she plays:





About the story

This is a show based on the classic book *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. In this playful and funny version, only five actors play all the characters in the story.

The story begins when a man visits Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson to ask them to solve the mystery of Sir Charles' Baskerville's death. There is a legend about a terrifying hound that hides in the moor (a grassy area with lots of hills) outside the Baskerville estate, which haunts the Baskerville family, and the people of the village believe it was the hound that killed him. Sir Henry Baskerville is going to inherit the estate and people are worried that he will be killed by the hound too. As Holmes and Dr. Watson investigate, they meet many strange characters who all seem to be involved in the mystery.

There is action, romance, mystery, and comedy as the detectives try to find the real murderer! Keep reading the next few sections for more details about what happens during the play.

Things in the show that might be intense

These are some things in the show that might be intense.

On the following pages, we will explain more, or you can click on items on the list.

- [Lighting](#)
- [Loud Noises](#)
- [Weapons](#)
- [Fighting & Violence](#)
- [Fog & Haze](#)
- [Kissing & Physical Touch](#)
- [Accents](#)
- [Descriptions of death](#)
- [Intense emotions](#)
- [Fainting](#)
- [Blood](#)

If something feels too intense, you are allowed to leave the theatre during the performance. A volunteer will help you return to your seat if or when you feel ready to return to the theatre to watch the show.

LIGHTING

The lighting changes a lot during the show to signal that the scene is changing or that something important is happening. Some of these changes might feel intense if you are not expecting them. In general, the lighting design of the show is very dark and you may not be able to see what's around you very well while watching. Here are some pictures of what the lighting looks like at different times in the show:





LOUD NOISES

There are some sound effects that might be louder than you expect. There are dog howls, train whistles, screams, sounds of thunder and wind, and gun shots. These may be surprising if you are not expecting them. Here are some moments where there will be sudden or loud sound effects:

Every time the characters say “Grimpen Mire,” the lighting changes suddenly and a sound clip of creepy organ music will play. This is supposed to be funny but may be surprising if you’re not expecting it. This happens twice in Act One when Stapleton is telling Watson about the moor, and once in Act Two when Mrs. Stapleton is telling the others where Stapleton has gone. Here’s what it looks like when this happens:



Sometimes, Watson will talk directly to the audience to explain what is happening in the story. To make it feel spooky, thunder will play and the lighting will flash a bit to make it look like lightning. Here's what it looks like when Watson is talking to the audience:



There is a scene where Watson and Holmes are in a stone hut at a place called the Black Tor, looking for clues. At the end of this scene there is a sudden scream from outside the hut. Here is what it looks like right before this happens:



WEAPONS

Sherlock Holmes, Dr. Watson, and Sir Henry all carry guns and pull them out in times when they feel they are in danger. The guns are not real, they are rubber prop guns that can't shoot real bullets. When the characters "shoot" their guns, there are sound effects and a flash of lights that make it look like the guns are firing. There are also sometimes knives and other weapons, but they are not sharp and could not hurt anyone.

Here is a scene in Act One, where one of the actors playing out a scene from the opera is carrying a knife:



Here is one of the characters holding a fake axe:



Here is one of the characters holding a gun:



FIGHTING & VIOLENCE

There are a few instances where people fight or attack each other. One big example of this is when Watson and Sir Henry are attacked by Victor. The actors will pretend to punch and throw each other around. This has been carefully choreographed to make it look like they are actually hitting each other, but they are not hurting each other. At the end of the scene, Victor hits Watson with a rock. It is not a real rock – it is much lighter and won't actually hurt the actor, but it is supposed to look real, so it might be scary. Sir Henry will see this happen and start saying that Watson is dead, but he isn't really. Here are some pictures of what the fight looks like:





At the very end of the play, we see the beginning of the next mystery Holmes and Watson have to solve. It happens when they are at the opera and one of the actors falls over, with a knife in his back. It might look like they have been stabbed by a real knife, but it's fake and the actor isn't hurt.



FOG & HAZE

Fog or haze are used throughout the show. Sometimes it's to create the "spooky" atmosphere of the moors, and sometimes it's done as part of the storytelling. For example, when Sherlock Holmes is smoking a pipe it's meant to look like there is a lot of smoke in the room.

Here is what it looks like when there is fog:



KISSING & PHYSICAL TOUCH

There are a few characters who are romantic with each other during the show. Ms. Stapleton and Sir Henry kiss and embrace when they are getting engaged and also at other times that they proclaim their love. This is what the scene looks like when they kiss:



ACCENTS

Accents are used quite a few times during the show to help the actors portray the difference between many of the characters they play. Depending on what accents you are used to hearing these might be hard to understand. Sometimes they are exaggerations of accents done for comedy.

DESCRIPTIONS OF DEATH

At the very beginning of the show, Sir Charles Baskerville is killed, and this is the beginning of the mystery that Sherlock and Watson have to solve. We don't see him die, but there are times during the show where other characters describe how he died to the detectives. This can be intense if you don't like to hear about death and violence.

At one point, Actor Two acts out what Sir Charles's body looked like when he was found dead. This moment is supposed to be funny and he acts it out in a silly way. Here's what it looks like:



There is also a moment where Mrs. Barrymore describes one of the hound attacks in more detail than the characters usually use to talk about it. Here's what it looks like when this happens:



INTENSE EMOTIONS

In the scene where we meet Beryl for the first time, she shows some very intense emotions. She is very worried about the curse of the Baskervilles, and gets so worked up that she becomes hysterical and starts to cry. This can be intense to watch, but she is just showing that her character is very scared. Here's what it looks like when this happens:



FAINTING

In that same scene where we meet Beryl, she gets so afraid of the mysterious hound that she faints. The actor is fine, but it might feel like she is really fainting and be surprising if you are not expecting it.



BLOOD

At the beginning of Act Two, Watson is recovering from a head injury and is being treated by a nurse. He will have a bandage on his head and there is a red spot on one side of the bandage to make it look like he was bleeding. This is fake but it might be surprising to see if you don't like looking at blood. Here's what this scene looks like:



How people react/

When a scene ends, people might clap to show that they're enjoying the play. You can clap or cheer if you want to, but you don't have to. You can also laugh if you think something is funny.

There's a lot of action and mystery in this show, so people might gasp when something is surprising or unexpected. You can also do this if you like.

The end of the show

When the show ends, people will clap and cheer to show their appreciation for the performance. If they really like the performance, they might stand while they do this. This will go on for a few minutes, while each performer steps forward to take a bow. You can clap or cheer to show that you liked the play, but you don't have to. If the clapping is too loud, you can cover your ears or wear ear protection.

Everything That Happens in the Show

IMPORTANT NOTE: This section includes a detailed description of every thing that happens in the show. If you do not want to know every thing that happens in the show, then do not read this section.

This story is told by five actors who play many different characters. The actors playing Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson generally don't switch characters, but the other three actors will. They will show that they are playing a different character by wearing different costumes, hats, wigs, and by using different accents when speaking.

The story begins in Baskerville Hall, where we see Sir Charles Baskerville. Speaking to his attendant offstage, Sir Charles says he wants to stay in the garden for a bit longer and walks out into the mist. We start to hear spooky sounds, like something is chasing him. Sir Charles gets very scared, looking out into the audience as if there's a monster in front of him. He screams and the lights go out.

The next scene is at 221B Baker Street, where Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson live. The two are visited by Dr. Mortimer, who brings a manuscript with a scary legend written on it. According to the manuscript, there is a supernatural hound that has been haunting the Baskerville family for generations. While he reads the manuscript, two actors will act out the story on stage.



Dr. Mortimer talks about how suspicious Sir Charles' recent death was and that a hound has been spotted on the moor. He is worried that Sir Henry Baskerville, who is coming from America to inherit the estate, is in danger. Holmes agrees to help and tells him to bring Sir Henry to London for safety.

That evening, Watson and Holmes discuss the clues while Holmes smokes a pipe. Holmes thinks Sir Charles must have been running from something dangerous, because he ran away from the house instead of towards it. Holmes says they should go to the opera to relax.



At the opera, Watson talks to the audience about how Holmes loves the opera. He says even though Holmes looks calm, he is probably thinking over the clues of the mystery. Two actors play out the opera that Watson and Holmes are watching, in a funny, over-the-top way.

The next morning, Dr. Mortimer and Sir Henry visit Holmes and Watson at 221B. Sir Henry got a mysterious letter telling him to stay away from the moor. The words in the letter were cut from a newspaper article. Holmes thinks Sir Henry and Dr. Mortimer are being followed, so he tells them to go back to their hotel while he and Watson follow them discreetly.

Watson and Holmes realize that there's a man with a black beard in a cab who is also following Sir Henry and Dr. Mortimer. The man sees Watson and Holmes and tells the cab to go as fast as it can to get away from them. Holmes gets the cab number they go to the Messenger Office to investigate.

At the Messenger Office they find Lucy and Wilson working there. They know Holmes because he helped them with a mystery in the past. Holmes asks for Cartwright and Milker, two boys who live on the streets, so they can help him look for clues. Holmes asks them to visit all the hotels in the area and look for the newspaper article with words cut out of it that was used to make the letter for Sir Henry.

Holmes and Watson go to Sir Henry's Hotel and run into Inspector Lestrade, who is working on the same mystery. Sir Henry enters and is looking for his missing boot. Holmes checks the register and notices no one has checked in to the hotel since Sir Henry arrived. Dr. Mortimer comes in and they all discuss the man with the black beard and who it might be. They agree that Dr. Mortimer, Watson, and Sir Henry should go to the Baskerville estate, and Holmes will stay in London to work on a different case.

At the train station, Holmes and Watson talk about two potential suspects: a man that escaped from a nearby prison last month, and a scientist named Stapleton that lives near the estate. A woman named Mrs. Clayton comes up to them and says she was the driver of the cab that was hired to follow Sir Henry. She says the man with the black beard told her that he was Sherlock Holmes and that she was supposed to keep this a secret. She leaves. Sir Henry and Dr. Mortimer arrive, and Holmes tells them all to be careful and not go to the moor at night. They leave on the train. During this part, the furniture on stage is arranged to make it look like they are inside the passenger car of a train.



Watson and Sir Henry get off the train and meet a coachman who takes them to Baskerville Hall. During this part, they sit on the stage and bounce up and down to make it look like they're on a bumpy carriage ride.



When they get there they meet Mr. and Mrs. Barrymore, the attendants of Baskerville Hall who are very creepy. The Barrymores say they will be leaving the estate as soon as Sir Henry has settled in because they are upset by Sir Charles' death. They bring Sir Henry and Watson to their rooms. Once he is alone, Watson starts to write a letter to Holmes about how eerie and sad the mood at Baskerville is. While he narrates the letter, Holmes is seen onstage and begins to read the same letter out loud.

The next day, Watson runs into Stapleton while walking out on the moor. Stapleton says that the hound isn't real, and that Sir Charles probably died of fear. They also talk about the Grimpen Mire, which he says is a bunch of bright green sink holes in the moor. Every time they say "Grimpen Mire," the lights go red and a creepy organ sound plays. This is supposed to be funny and will happen a few times during this scene, and once later on in the play. Stapleton sees a butterfly and runs off to chase it. He will run off the stage and up the right-side aisle, through the audience.



Stapleton's sister, Miss Stapleton, runs in and is very distressed. She has mistaken Watson for Sir Henry and tells him he needs to leave Baskerville at once. Stapleton comes down the other side of the audience and returns to the stage, then sees another butterfly and runs off. Sir Henry arrives and has a "love at first sight" moment with Miss Stapleton. She warns them about the curse and says they should go back to London. Suddenly they hear a howl in the distance. Miss Stapleton says it's the cursed hound

and gets very afraid, screams, and faints. This becomes a funny moment – she faints in Watson’s arms at first, but then gets up and faints in Sir Henry’s arms instead.

The next scene is at 221B. Holmes’ eyes are bandaged because he got injured while doing an experiment, and he’s waiting for Cartwright and Milker. The boys arrive and say they didn’t find anything at the hotels, but they have a letter from Watson. In the letter Watson talks about seeing a mysterious person around the Baskerville estate. He calls him the “Man of Mystery.”

The next scene is back in Baskerville. Watson wakes up Sir Henry after seeing a strange person passing by his room at night. They follow the man and realize it’s Mr. Barrymore, who is standing at a window and signaling to someone outside with a lantern. Mrs. Barrymore says that it’s her brother Victor, who is an escaped prisoner. She has been trying to take care of by giving him food. The Barrymores leave, and Watson and Sir Henry agree to find Victor.

Watson and Sir Henry take pistols and go out on the moor. Victor appears and attacks them both. He hits Watson very hard with a rock and then runs away. Sir Henry thinks that Watson is dead and yells for help.



This is the end of Act One. The lights will come up and it will be intermission. This is a chance to stretch your legs, go to the bathroom, get a snack from the concession, or

whatever you need to take a break from the show. The intermission will be about twenty minutes in length.

At the beginning of Act Two, the fight from the end of Act One will be re-enacted. Watson then wakes up at Baskerville Hall. A doctor and nurse are treating his head injury. Holmes sneaks in and scares Watson. They go over the list of suspects and talk about the Man of Mystery. Holmes tells Watson to watch Sir Henry closely, and then leaves. Sir Henry comes in and tells Watson he's going to the moor alone, even though Holmes told him not to, because he wants to see Miss Stapleton.

Out on the moor, Sir Henry and Miss Stapleton meet in secret. Sir Henry proposes to Miss Stapleton. She says yes and they kiss. Stapleton enters and is very angry at their engagement. He makes Miss Stapleton leave with him. Watson sees this happen and goes up to Sir Henry. Stapleton comes back to apologize, and invites him over for dinner to talk about the marriage. At the end of the scene, we hear thunder and Watson reads another letter to Holmes out loud.

The next scene shows the events that Watson describes in his letter. Mrs. Barrymore admits to Sir Henry and Watson that before Sir Charles' death, she had found a letter from a woman with the initials "L.L." asking Sir Charles to meet him on the moor. Watson and Sir Henry decide to ask Dr. Mortimer if he knows anyone in town with those initials.

They go out to find Dr. Mortimer, but it's very windy outside. The actors will flap their coats to make it look like they are struggling to walk through the wind.



Dr. Mortimer and he invites Watson and Sir Henry to his house. He says the only woman with the initials LL is named Laura Lyons, and tells them a little about her past. Dr. Mortimer notices the Man of Mystery standing outside and says he lives in one of the stone huts on a rocky hill called the Black Tor. Watson and Sir Henry decide to find the Man of Mystery.

To get to the Black Tor, Watson and Sir Henry have to go down a steep hill. They trip and slide down the hill to the stone hut.



Inside, they find clues that make them think someone is following them. Sir Henry leaves to see if he can find who it is. Watson hears a twig snap outside the hut and hides in the shadows. The Man of Mystery comes in and takes out a pistol. Watson jumps out and points his gun at him, but the man reveals that he's been Sherlock Holmes all along. Holmes says he has been working on the case alone to see if he can find different clues from Watson. He says he's discovered that Laura Lyons and Stapleton are close, and that Miss Stapleton is actually Stapleton's wife, not his sister. Then they hear a scream and the sounds of a hound. They go outside to find a body and think it's Sir Henry, but then the real Sir Henry arrives, and they realize the body is Victor wearing some of Sir Henry's clothes. Stapleton and Miss Stapleton arrive and seem surprised to see Sir Henry. Holmes and Watson say they will head back to London since they don't have enough evidence to solve the mystery yet.

Holmes and Watson meet with Milker and Cartwright at the train station. The boys give Holmes a letter that arrived for him, and he says their next move is to visit Laura Lyons.

Holmes and Watson visit Laura Lyons while she's at work. Laura admits that she sent a letter to Sir Charles, but says she never met him on the night of the murder. Holmes says she is lying, and tells her that Stapleton and Miss Stapleton are married, not siblings. Laura is shocked, because Stapleton had promised to marry her if she gets a divorce from her husband. They realize Laura was in danger and tell her to stay at work for her safety. Holmes and Watson decide to go back to Baskerville and set a trap to catch the murderer.

Back at Baskerville, Holmes tells Sir Henry to go to dinner with the Stapletons and tell them he will walk across the moor on his way home. They look through portraits of Sir Henry's ancestors and discover that Stapleton is distantly related to the Baskervilles. They think this must be his motive, because if he kills all the other Baskervilles, he will inherit the estate.

Holmes and Watson meet Lestrade at the train station, who has just arrived from London. They invite him to help catch the murderer.

The three of them wait outside Stapleton's house. Watson sees Stapleton come out of the house to check on something in a nearby shed. The shed is represented by a trap door that opens from the floor on the stage, and red light comes out from the door.



They hear the sounds of a large dog coming from the shed, and Stapleton goes back inside. Watson goes back to tell Holmes and Lestrade, but suddenly it gets very foggy. They watch Sir Henry say goodbye to Stapleton. After he leaves, we hear the shed door unlock and the sounds of a dog running and growling. Holmes and Watson shoot the dog, saving Sir Henry.



Holmes, Watson, and Lestrade enter Stapleton's house to look for him. They find Miss Stapleton, who is gagged and tied up.



They release her and she and Sir Henry hug. Miss Stapleton says that Stapleton probably fled to an old tin mine on an island in the heart of the Mire. She said she moved the markers on the path so that he wouldn't know how to get there safely. We hear a scream. They look out the window to discover that Stapleton got sucked into the Mire. Miss Stapleton cries.

Holmes and Watson are now back at 221B Baker Street. Watson tells the audience that this case troubled Holmes deeply and it took him a while to be able to talk about it. Holmes reveals how the mystery was solved and explains all the clues. Sir Henry and Miss Stapleton arrive and announce that they are getting married. They ask Watson to be the best man. Everyone goes to the opera to celebrate their engagement.



Suddenly, an actor in the opera falls over on stage and the music stops. There is a knife in the actor's back. There is a scream and the sound of an explosion. Holmes says it's time to get back to work on this new mystery. This is the end of the play.