

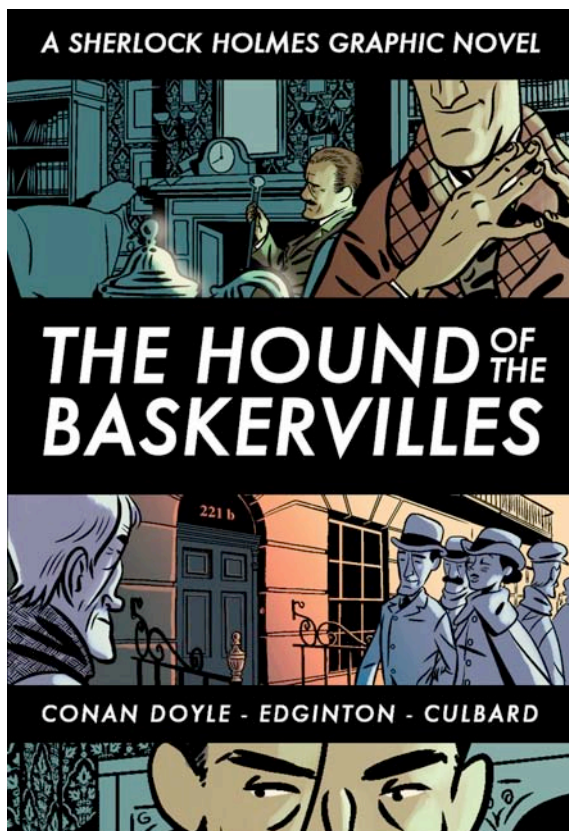


**Press Release**  
For Immediate Release

Title: *The Hound of the Baskervilles*  
Original novel by: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle  
Adapted by: Ian Edginton  
Illustrated by: I.N.J. Culbard  
Size and extent: 144 pages, PB w/flaps

Colour: Full colour throughout  
Publication date: 29<sup>th</sup> May 2009  
Published by: SelfMadeHero  
Price: £14.99  
ISBN: 978-1-906838-00-3

## *The Hound of the Baskervilles*



A gnarled walking-stick; a missing boot; a neglected family portrait; a convicted killer on the loose; and the ancestral curse of a phantom hound... The great detective Sherlock Holmes needs all his powers of “elementary” deduction – as well as the staunch support of his devoted friend Dr. Watson – to solve the terrifying mystery of his most famous case.

In *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (1902), Conan Doyle resurrected his great “specialist in crime” – and dramatized a lifetime’s obsession with the supernatural. Joining him in the ancient and treacherous landscape of the Devonshire Moors are a cast of gentleman scientists: as well as his faithful chronicler Dr. Watson, we meet another medic, Dr. Mortimer, a self-confessed “dabbler in science;” the lawyer Frankland, an amateur astronomer; and the Darwinian butterfly-collector Stapleton, whose mania for logical classification rivals Holmes’ own. But that is only half the story. For what can rational science do to help Sir Henry, the new incumbent of Baskerville Hall, escape the ancestral curse of the phantom hound that has claimed his uncle’s life? Why are the servants behaving so strangely? And who is the mysterious figure glimpsed through Frankland’s telescope? This atmospheric graphic novel adaptation – by Ian Edginton and I.N.J. Culbard – will keep you guessing.

SelfMadeHero's new Sherlock series will be formed by Conan Doyle's four great detective novels: *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *A Study in Scarlet*, *The Sign of Four* and *The Valley of Fear*. The series launches in Spring 2009 with *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.



#### NOTES FOR EDITORS:

- *Hound...* is published in May 2009 to coincide with the **150th anniversary** of Conan Doyle's birth.
- Two Sherlock films are currently in production. The first film is due out at the end of 2009 and stars **Robert Downey Jr.** and **Jude Law**. The second film is a comedy starring **Sacha Baron Cohen** as Holmes and is due for release in 2010.
- *Hound...* first appeared as a serial in the pages of *The Strand Magazine* from August 1901 to April 1902.
- SelfMadeHero's offices are on Upper Wimpole Street, just a few **doors from where Conan Doyle lived and wrote**.
- Upper Wimpole Street is a **stone's throw from 221B Baker Street**, where Sherlock (supposedly) lived.
- Culbard's Holmes is faithful to Conan Doyle's vision and free from the deerstalker hat and calabash pipe of earlier theatrical productions.

#### FURTHER NOTES FOR EDITORS:

**Adaptor** – **Ian Edginton**, one of Britain's best-known writers, has had a tremendous impact on the world of comics. Has worked for Lucasfilm, Paramount Pictures, and 20th Century Fox to adapt Star Wars, Star Trek, Alien, Predator and Terminator properties, as well as with the H.G. Wells estate to adapt *War of the Worlds* for Dark Horse. He owes his success to good collaborations with other artists from the industry, most famously D'Israeli (*Scarlet Traces*) and Steve Yeowell (*The Red Seas*). He recently adapted Edgar Allan Poe's "The Murders in the Rue Morgue" (illustrated by D'Israeli) for SelfMadeHero's graphic anthology *Nevermore*. In 2007, his graphic novel *Scarlet Traces: The Great Game* was nominated for Best Limited Series and Best Writer at the prestigious Eisner Awards.

**Artist** – **I.N.J. Culbard** is an artist and writer. In 2006, he surpassed thousands of other writers and had his work published in Dark Horse Comics' *New Recruits* anthology. He has since appeared in the anthology series Dark Horse Presents, the *Judge Dredd Magazine* and *2000AD*. Culbard is an acclaimed animation director with considerable experience in directing commercials, developing projects for television, and producing and directing short films. This is his second full-length graphic novel as an artist, having collaborated on *The Picture of Dorian Gray* with Ian Edginton.

**Original author** – In later life, **Sir Arthur Conan Doyle** (1859–1930) revealed that the main inspiration for Sherlock Holmes was Joseph Bell, his old teacher at Edinburgh University's medical faculty, whose methods of minute deduction and objective analysis informed Dr. Conan Doyle's own career. A surgeon named Watson, as warm-hearted as Bell was austere, supplied the template for Holmes' loyal friend Dr. Watson. In Conan Doyle's parallel career as a writer, though, begun as a student, he repeatedly probed what a later collection called "Tales of Twilight and the Unseen."

**Media pack** (Including PR and a selection of publication cleared web & print images): [www.selfmadehero.com/hotb.zip](http://www.selfmadehero.com/hotb.zip)

**Press contact** Doug Wallace Tel: 0207 487 4395, Mob: 07815 04 11 52, Email: [press@selfmadehero.com](mailto:press@selfmadehero.com)