

NAXOS
AudioBooks

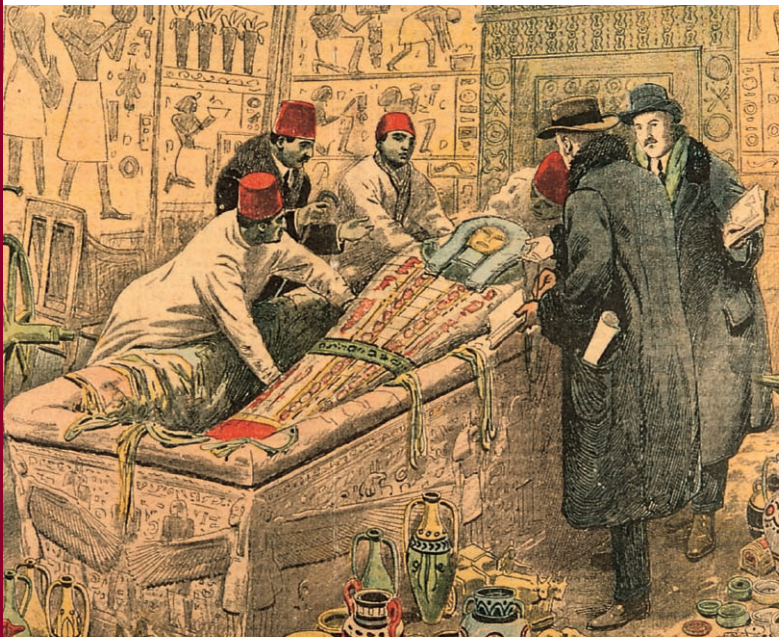
**CLASSIC
FICTION**

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Four Short Stories

The Horror of the Heights • The Terror of Blue John Gap
Lot No. 249 • The Sealed Room

Read by **Carl Rigg**



NA205012D

1	The Horror of the Heights	12:09
2	The flight begins	10:37
3	41,000 feet	8:26
4	The monster attacks	5:44
5	The Terror of Blue John Gap	9:27
6	April 22: The first exploration	11:27
7	April 25: An incredible adventure	7:38
8	June 10: Six weeks later	7:14
9	I regain consciousness	6:27
10	Lot No. 249	7:47
11	Bellingham's Room	10:08
12	The strange habit	7:34
13	One afternoon...	8:06
14	The next evening...	9:37
15	The next day...	7:30
16	The Sealed Room	7:03
17	At the end of the passage	8:36
18	Some days later...	8:36

Total time: 2:34:29

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Four Short Stories

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh in 1859, the son of a civil servant. He was educated at Stonyhurst School and then spent a year in Austria before taking a degree in medicine at Edinburgh University. His medical studies, especially the method of diagnosis used by one of his professors, formed the basis of the deductive methods of his most famous creation, Sherlock Holmes. In 1885, Conan Doyle graduated and began to practise as a doctor in Southsea. He also began to write detective stories: *A Study in Scarlet*, which introduced Holmes, appeared in 1887. Many short stories featuring the hero who was to make Conan Doyle a household name, such as *A Scandal In Bohemia* and *The Man With The Twisted Lip*, were first published in the *Strand Magazine*. Conan Doyle's other novels and stories were often overshadowed by those featuring Sherlock Holmes and his fellow sleuth and foil, Dr Watson. In 1893 he killed off Holmes (together with the arch-criminal Professor Moriarty) in a drama set in Austria. But, due to strong public pressure, he had to resurrect Holmes in 1902, in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

Conan Doyle became so successful as an author that he was able to give up medicine and devote his time to many other things. Obviously far ahead of his time, he was a passionate advocate for the Channel Tunnel. He campaigned for divorce law reform and spoke out so forcibly for those whom he believed had been wrongly imprisoned, that his efforts were instrumental in the setting up of the Court of Criminal Appeal. Ever practical, he also campaigned for the issuing of steel helmets to soldiers and inflatable life jackets to sailors.

Conan Doyle was knighted in 1902 for his defence of British policy in the South African war. After his son died in the First World War, he became a spiritualist, and his later work, such as *The Wanderings*, deals with this. He died in 1930.

Conan Doyle's stories are still read all over the world, not only for their ingenious plots but also for their marvellous evocation of late-Victorian England.

Notes by Lesley Young

The music on this recording is taken from the NAXOS catalogue

GRIEG STRING QUARTETS
Oslo Quartet

8.550879

Cover picture: Archeology: Lord Carnarvon's discoveries in
the Valley of the Kings. Damblans in Le Pèlerin.
By courtesy Mary Evans Picture Library, London.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Four Short Stories

The Horror of the Heights • The Terror of Blue John Gap
Lot No. 249 • The Sealed Room

Read by **Carl Rigg**

In these stories, Conan Doyle draws the listener in to experience drama, suspense and, ultimately, the shock of surprise. Here is a unique combination of a famous analytical intellect telling spine-tingling tales against a background of turn-of-the-century England. Nothing is quite as it seems. What is the secret of *Lot No. 249*? What lies in wait for an aviator in the stratosphere? And what lies inside *The Sealed Room*? The master storyteller builds up layers of tension.



Carl Rigg trained at The Central School of Speech and Drama before working extensively in theatre for the RSC and in repertory. His numerous TV appearances include *Softly Softly*, *Emmerdale Farm* and *Squadron*. Film credits include *The Body Snatchers* and *The Living Daylights*. He is also an experienced scriptwriter.

CD ISBN:
978-962-634-296-1

View our catalogue online at
www.naxosaudiobooks.com



Abridged by Lesley Young. Produced by Perry Keenlyside
Post-production: Simon Weir, The Classical Recording
Company
Engineer (speech): Alan Smyth, Bucks Audio Cassettes

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. UNAUTHORISED PUBLIC PERFORMANCE,
BROADCASTING AND COPYING OF THESE COMPACT DISCS PROHIBITED.
© 1995 NAXOS Audiobooks Ltd. © 1995 NAXOS Audiobooks Ltd.
Made in Germany.

Total time
2:34:29