

**Praise For:**  
***Who Done Houdini:***  
***A New Adventure of Sherlock Holmes***

**“A riveting and thoroughly entertaining read from beginning to end...”**  
***Midwest Book Review, January 2016.***

**Synopsis:** Detroit Free Press reporter Timothy Wiggins learns of Harry Houdini’s death on Halloween 1926 with more than casual interest. He had been at the great magician’s final performance the night before. Wiggins had grown up as a sort of magician himself on the streets of London, stealing to survive. But then he met the real-life Sherlock Holmes, who made him his chief Bay Street Irregular. Now, years later, Holmes notifies Wiggins he is in the U.S. at the request of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who is being investigated as a possible murder suspect in Houdini’s death. What follows is a mad dash to New York and Boston, with a deranged Spiritualist medium on the tail of Holmes and his team of investigators: Wiggins, his feminist wife, and Rose Mackenburg, Houdini’s top investigator into phony Spiritualism, which was rampant at the time. In Boston, Sir Arthur introduces the team to Margie, the most highly regarded Spiritualist of the day. Her séance and the bizarre form of treasure hunt that follows lead to a stunning climax that will change everyone’s perception of Holmes’s character.

**Critique:** Ever since Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes became public domain, any number of stories featuring the famous detective have been written. Raymond John’s “Who Done Houdini: Another Sherlock Holmes Mystery” is one of the best of them. A riveting and thoroughly entertaining read from beginning to end, “Who Done Houdini: Another Sherlock Holmes Mystery” is an absolute ‘must read’ for the legions of Sherlock Holmes fans. Very highly recommended for community library collections, it should be noted for personal reading lists that “Who Done Houdini: Another Sherlock Holmes Mystery” is also available in a Kindle edition (\$9.99).

**“This is a marvelous outing ... on my short list for best book of 2016. It’s that good.”** Review by drstatz, Amazon reviewer of Sherlock Holmes-related books, January 2016.

This is a marvelous outing. Many Holmes/Watson pastiche writers fall down when trying to integrate our heroes into existing history. What happens too often is a writer may get sidetracked into historical details, settings, and the like and forget the story is the thing. This writer avoided these traps to perfection. The reader is provided many insights into Houdini and his efforts to expose mediums, spiritualists, and others who claimed to have connections to the supernatural. He (Houdini) wrote his own book titled ‘Miracle Workers and their Methods’ attempting to do this,

although considering how many psychics are separating people from their money in these enlightened days, Houdini wasn't too successful.

The time period for this novel was when Germany was smarting from the loss of WWI, the country was in despair, and conditions were ripening for the rise of a charismatic leader who could take the helm. The fast-paced plot includes all of these elements without bogging down and forgetting the story is indeed the thing of most importance. Save this book for a weekend; it is a page turner.

One of many realms where the story excels is keeping the reader reminded that wrong doing—even of the most horrendous types—is not something limited to the squalid areas of cities. The highest classes in society have members committing crimes of the horrific kinds. Many professions are fiercely protective of members whom the others know are committing the most gruesome crimes. the medical profession, organized churches, the military, academia and others watch out for their erring members to the point that organizations like Scotland Yard's members know that accusing a member of the nobility or other high-ranking individuals of crimes constitute career enders or worse. .

This story addresses one such circumstance and how it is resolved. You have to read the story for specifics but you will find your time well spent. This book is on my short list for best book of 2016. It's that good.