

MORIARTY

COLLIN GOSSEL

EXT. VICTORIAN-ERA BRITISH STREET - MORNING

INSPECTOR LESTRADE strokes his beard. SHERLOCK HOLMES and DR. WATSON enter.

LESTRADE

Holmes! Strange to see you here.  
This was an open-shut case.

HOLMES

Nevertheless, Lestrade, I thought I  
might be of service.

WATSON

Sherlock Holmes's powers of  
deduction are without match.

LESTRADE

That's true, Dr. Watson. Well, as  
you can see: on this building, some  
trouble-maker has painted the word  
"wanker".

HOLMES

I've arrived just in time.

LESTRADE

Clearly an act of teenage mischief.

HOLMES

This is the work of my nemesis,  
Moriarty.

Lestrade pauses.

LESTRADE

Holmes, this is a childish prank.

HOLMES

More like a Moriarty-ish prank!  
Look at the up-strokes, Lestrade,  
look at the up-strokes! A highlight  
of his handwriting. And the  
message: wanker! He's mocking me.

LESTRADE

Mocking you?

Holmes withdraws slightly.

HOLMES

I was recently...defeated by Moriarty. He stole the crown-jewels right from under my nose. But no matter! I have him now! I will outwit him!

A POLICE OFFICER enters, dragging a sullen TEENAGER by the arm.

OFFICER

Right, tell them.

TEENAGER

I painted wanker on the wall.

LESTRADE

Ah. Well, that's that then.

HOLMES

Oh, Moriarty, you are clever.

LESTRADE

You can't be serious.

WATSON

Holmes's genius is without peer.

LESTRADE

I know, Watson, but we have a confession!

HOLMES

Can't you see, Lestrade?! The youngster is just a smokescreen. A red-herring to throw you off track! This has Moriarty's finger-prints all over it.

Lestrade, takes a sandwich out of his jacket pocket and waves away the officer and teenager. They exit.

LESTRADE

Believe what you want, Holmes, I'm going to lunch.

HOLMES

Lestrade! What's that you're holding?!

LESTRADE

A sandwich.

Holmes snatches the sandwich from Lestrade's hand and throws it to the ground.

LESTRADE  
Bloody hell, man!

HOLMES  
Sandwich! Ha! Clue more like!

WATSON  
I've never known a man more astute  
or clever than Sherlock Holmes.

LESTRADE  
Yes, Watson, I'm well aware!

Sherlock is rearranging Lestrade's lunch meat on the ground.

LESTRADE  
Holmes, I'm sorry Moriarty  
outsmarted you and stole the crown  
jewels.

HOLMES  
And my woman.

LESTRADE  
What? How?

HOLMES  
She was won over by his intellect  
and ability to defeat me.

LESTRADE  
Well, I'm sorry about all that, but  
this is just a standard  
misdemeanor.

HOLMES  
But look!

Holmes has arranged the lunch meats to spell "Moriarty".

HOLMES  
It spells Moriarty!

LESTRADE  
That proves absolutely nothing.

WATSON  
Holmes's powers of observation are  
truly remarkable.

LESTRADE  
Watson, shut up!

MORIARTY passes by with a WOMAN on his arm and an ELDERLY COUPLE behind him.

MORIARTY  
Good Lord, does that house say  
wanker?

Holmes looks up with fury.

HOLMES  
Moriarty! I knew you were behind  
this!

MORIARTY  
Behind what? This petty vandalism?  
Holmes, I'm sorry your parents here  
adopted me and disowned you after  
our last bout, but this is truly  
too far.

LESTRADE  
I agree.

HOLMES  
Wait, Lestrade! Look at this door!

LESTRADE  
Sherlock, go home!

Sherlock runs to the door and opens/closes it several times.

HOLMES  
Don't you hear it? The creaks!  
Kree-kree-krik kra-kree-krik stop,  
krick-kree-kree-kra-krik! It's  
saying Moriarty in MORse code!

LESTRADE  
Holmes, you need some rest.  
(To Watson)  
What are you doing?

Watson is writing in a notepad.

WATSON  
Recording this for publication. I  
shall call it The Case of the  
Telltale Wanker.

Lestrade slaps the notepad out of Watson's hand.

LESTRADE

This is over. Dr. Moriarty, you're  
free to go.

HOLMES

No!

Lestrade exits.

MORIARTY

I'm so sorry, Holmes. Tell me...did  
you catch the sandwich or have I  
fooled you once again?

BLACKOUT