

Suspect 6 - Professor James Moriarty

This is my first time seeing Professor Moriarty in person. I have heard much about this extremely intelligent and ruthless crime lord whom Holmes described as the “Napoleon of crime”. He orchestrates the vast London criminal ring from behind the scenes, getting others to do his bidding without exposing himself to the risk of being tied to his crimes. Holmes’ current investigations have brought him to the verge of delivering a fatal blow to Moriarty’s criminal ring, and Moriarty has vowed that he would “do as much” to Holmes in retribution. Was the murder of Dr Black in Holmes’ study a set up to frame him? Is Moriarty responsible for Holmes’ disappearance, when he realised that this ploy had failed?

Yet Moriarty in person looks just like what one would expect of a learned academic professor, and hardly gives away a hint of his diabolical side. Former mathematical chair in a university, author of a treatise on the binomial theorem at age twenty-one, and celebrated author of “The Dynamics of an Asteroid”. But the warnings from Holmes have prepared me well for the cunning adversary standing before me.

“A pleasure to meet you, Doctor Watson. A pity Sherlock Holmes is unable to avail himself for this meeting, if you could say that. I am afraid this meeting is a waste of our time, though. Rest assured that I hold no information that will help you in this murder case. Or unless you hypothesize a well-respected individual like myself as a suspect?”

“I don’t see what could have given you that idea, Professor! Inspector Lestrade was told that you knew Dr Black quite well, so we were hoping if you could shed some light on your relationship and anything else you know about him.”

“Oh, I knew Nigel from the university. We are in different fields, but occasionally had, what you might call some disagreements in opinions on professional matters. He is a man of ideals, and always takes the moral high ground; he is not really someone I would miss. But I do appreciate his inquisitive mind and attention to detail.”

I was a little taken aback by Moriarty’s frank answer, and wondered what was going on in that brilliant mind of his.

Professor Moriarty, the mathematical genius and criminal mastermind, always loves to challenge other great minds in a game of cunning and logic.

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