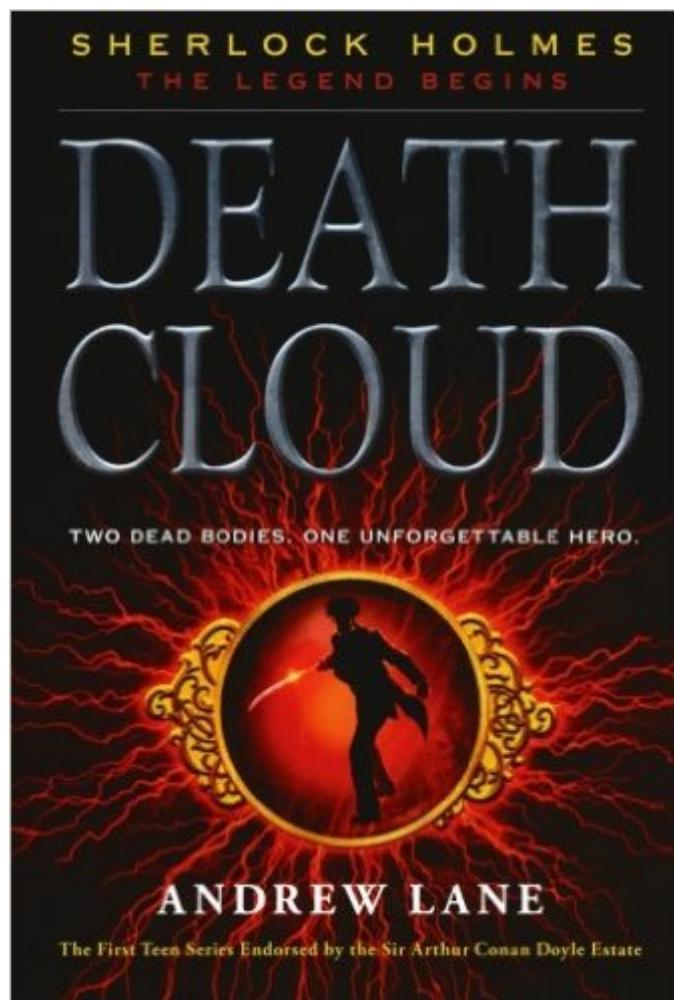


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Death Cloud (Sherlock Holmes: The Legend Begins)



Synopsis

It is the summer of 1868, and Sherlock Holmes is fourteen. On break from boarding school, he is staying with eccentric strangersâ •his uncle and auntâ •in their vast house in Hampshire. When two local people die from symptoms that resemble the plague, Holmes begins to investigate what really killed them, helped by his new tutor, an American named Amyus Crowe. So begins Sherlock's true education in detection, as he discovers the dastardly crimes of a brilliantly sinister villain of exquisitely malign intent.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 940L (What's this?)

Series: Sherlock Holmes: The Legend Begins (Book 1)

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; Reprint edition (October 25, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 031256371X

ISBN-13: 978-0312563714

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 1 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ ¤ See all reviewsÂ (74 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #27,358 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 inÂ Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Historical #21 inÂ Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Europe #27 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Customer Reviews

I so much enjoyed the Sherlock Holmes novels written by Arthur Conan Doyle that I thought I would give Andrew Lane's younger version a try. As a teenager, this version of Sherlock was not as I expected. Perhaps I was leaning too much on the adult character, but I thought young Sherlock would be a boy genius. Instead, he is portrayed as a lad with an above average intelligence and a seemingly boundless curiosity. We therefore see the progression in Sherlock from his formative years to the astute detective made famous by A.C. Doyle. The novel begins with 14 year old Sherlock waiting for his father to collect him from boarding school for the summer holiday. Instead he finds his brother, Mycroft, waiting in the headmaster's office. Mycroft informs Sherlock that their

father has been sent to India and arrangements have been made with Uncle Sherrinford and Aunt Anna in Farnham to care for him during the summer. Resigned to his fate, Sherlock tries to make the most of his situation. He meets a young orphan, Matty Arnatt, and the two boys become quick friends. Matty tells Sherlock of the Death Cloud he saw coming from a house in town. It came out of the window and went up the drain pipe. The man in the house had large boils on his face and hands reminiscent of the plague. This peaks Sherlock's curiosity and the two boys begin investigating. About this time, Sherlock discovers that Mycroft has hired a tutor to help further his education. The tutor in question, Amyus Crowe, has come from America with his daughter Virginia, who Sherlock immediately becomes infatuated with. Later, while Amyus and Sherlock are hiking through the forest to learn about edible plants, another body is discovered bearing the same characteristics as the previous one.

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