

(continued from front flap)

unjust convictions, and run for Parliament twice; and became the world's foremost spokesman for the new religion of Spiritualism.

This life in letters, under the stewardship of editors renowned for their expertise on both Conan Doyle's life and the Sherlock Holmes stories, artfully reveals the multifaceted personality of the great writer, bringing new understanding to the man and his brilliant creation.

CHARLES FOLEY is the great-nephew of Arthur Conan Doyle and great-grandson of Mary Foley Doyle and is the present executor of the Conan Doyle estate.

JON LELLENBERG is the editor of *The Quest for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle* and is the Conan Doyle estate's U.S. representative.

DANIEL STASHOWER is the author of the Edgar Award-winning *Teller of Tales: The Life of Arthur Conan Doyle* and, more recently, *The Beautiful Cigar Girl: Mary Rogers, Edgar Allan Poe and the Invention of Murder*. All three are members of the Baker Street Irregulars, a club of Sherlock Holmes enthusiasts founded in 1934.

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to Mary Doyle

MORLEY'S HOTEL,
London, 1903

I dont think you need have any fears about Sherlock. I am not conscious of any failing powers, and my work is not less conscientious than of old. I dont suppose any man has ever sacrificed so much money to preserve his ideal of art as I have done, witness my suppression of Girdlestone, my refusal to serialise "A Duet" and my refusal to republish in a book the "Round the Fire" series of stories. But I have done no short Sherlock Holmes Stories for seven or eight years, and I dont see why I should not have another go at them and earn three times as much money as I can by any other form of work. I have finished the first one—the plot by the way was given me by Jean—and it is a rare good one. You will find that Holmes was never dead, and that he is now very much alive.



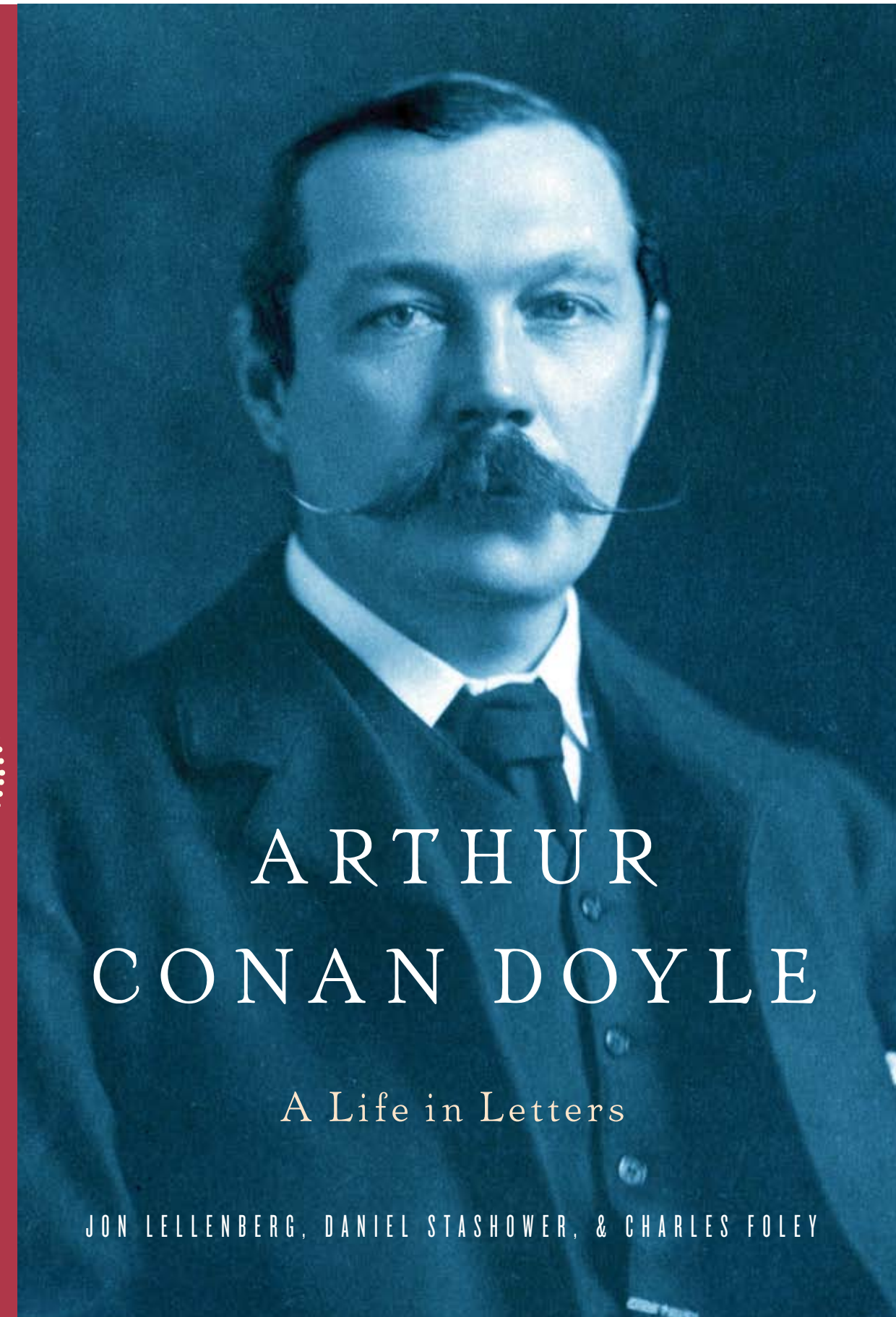
ARTHUR
CONAN
DOYLE

A LIFE
IN LETTERS



JON LELLENBERG,
DANIEL STASHOWER,
& CHARLES FOLEY

The
Penguin
Press



U.S. \$37.95
Canada \$45.50

This remarkable annotated collection of the previously unpublished private correspondence of the creator of Sherlock Holmes offers unique insight into one of the world's most popular authors. For the first time, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle emerges from the shadow of Sherlock Holmes, revealing a man whose character and exploits rival that of his famous creation.

From the time he was sent away to boarding school at age eight, Conan Doyle was an extraordinarily avid correspondent—particularly with his mother, who was his primary confidante and most trusted counsel throughout her long life. In his uncommonly witty and heartfelt letters to "the Mam" over a period of fifty-four years, Conan Doyle expresses his innermost thoughts on matters both literary and deeply personal, engaging in lively debates that range from world events to affairs of the heart, including his torturous longing for another woman while his wife lay dying of tuberculosis. He reveals his early difficulties getting established as both a physician and a writer, his later dismay over the critical reception of his more serious writing, and, as his irritation with the clamor for more and more Sherlock Holmes adventures mounts, his decision to kill off the character.

An ambitious author and a fearless adventurer, Conan Doyle always considered Sherlock Holmes to be one of his less interesting achievements. He was a ship's surgeon on an Arctic whaling ship at only twenty years of age; traveled to exotic regions of the world; served as a war correspondent and military historian; used his fame as an author to promote social reform, overturn

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