

# Sherlock's addiction and the 7% solution



Holmes becomes involved in a case and simultaneously involves both Watson and Freud in the adventure.

The film is a comedy yet it still contains the aroused interest the stereotype Holmes mystery is noted for. Its specific attraction lies in the transformation of Holmes and Freud. Not only does it involve the audience with the characters, it also arouses their interest in the action.

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**THE 7% SOLUTION WITH NICOL WILLIAMSON, ALAN ARKIN, VANESSA REDGRAVE, ROBERT DUVAL, & LAWRENCE OLIVIER.**  
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Both the characters and what they are doing are highlighted. Holmes and Freud are revitalized as human beings. Here master detective has faults and the brilliant psychologist has virtues. These new images release the audience from the habitual expectations and allow for a new interpretation and a varied form of enjoyment.

The film goes further than changing the image of Holmes. It

enters the sequence of events on why Holmes is now a snivelling addict screaming blasphemies at a seemingly "Little" man.

The 7% Solution combines good acting with a well-written story. At times it appears overdone as if the only way to change stereotypes is through comedy which reaches absurdity. However this is an artifact of comic films and appears only once throughout the duration of the movie.

Underlying both the transformation of predetermined personalities is social comment on two levels. Superficially the film has something to say about such facts of life as addiction, medicine, and logic. Beneath the surface however, there is a direct assault on the art of stereotyping and this helps account for why both Holmes and his art of detectivery have been changed. There is more to people, fictional or real, than what has been written and thus taken for the gospel.

An exceedingly witty and original film, the 7% Solution offers new characters in a plot molded to these reformed personalities.

by donalee moulton

"Who Done Its?" have always been major box office attractions and perhaps the biggest of them all have been those mysteries which are solved by Sherlock Holmes. The 7% Solution is another Holmes film but not starring the typical Conon Doyle character.

Holmes has been in seclusion for three years, unheard of by anyone. This film is an attempt to explain

this disappearance. Dr. Watson receives a telegram to visit Holmes. Once there, it is apparent that Holmes is seriously ill both emotionally and physically. His problem is twofold - cocaine addiction and Professor Moriarty. By a clever scheme, Holmes is duped into leaving England for Vienna where he finds himself at the house of Dr. Sigmund Freud. As Freud helps Holmes over his addiction,

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