

THE SPECKLED BAND

ПЁСТРАЯ ЛЕНТА

On glancing over my notes of the seventy odd cases **in which I have during the last eight years studied the methods of my friend Sherlock Holmes**¹, I find many tragic, some comic, a large number merely strange, but none commonplace; for, working as he did rather for the love of his art than for the acquirement of wealth, he refused to associate himself with any investigation which did not tend towards the unusual, and even the fantastic. Of all these varied cases, however, I cannot recall any which presented more singular features than that which was associated with the well-known Surrey family of the Roylotts of **Stoke Moran**². **The events in question occurred** in the early days of my association

¹...в которых я на протяжении восьми лет изучал методы своего друга Шерлока Холмса
 Об образовании и употреблении Present Perfect см. Грамматический справочник (ГС) 229

² *Stroke Moran* — название загородного дома. В Англии, особенно в сельской местности, домам принято давать названия.

³ *Эти события случились... когда мы холостяками вместе снимали комнаты на Бейкер-стрит.*

were sharing rooms — мы вместе снимали комнаты; *were sharing* — форма Past Continuous глагола *to share* — делить; употребляется для описания незаконченного действия в прошлом в какой-то период времени. Образуется при помощи вспомогательного глагола *to be* и причастия настоящего времени основного глагола. См. ГС 225

⁴ *Как правило, он вставал поздно*

a late riser — человек, который поздно встаёт (по утрам). Лексическое словосочетание; стоит запомнить

as a rule — как правило; употребительный оборот; стоит запомнить.

⁵ *Прошу простить меня, Ватсон, что разбудил вас very sorry* — прошу прощения, простите. Очень употребительное выражение в речи.

to knock up — разбудить; фразовый глагол.

⁶ *миссис Хадсон разбудили has been knocked up* — была разбужена; форма пассивного залога глагола *to knock up* в Present Perfect; образуется с помощью вспо-

with Holmes, when we were sharing rooms as bachelors in Baker Street³. It is possible that I might have placed them upon record before, but a promise of secrecy was made at the time, from which I have only been freed during the last month by the untimely death of the lady to whom the pledge was given. It is perhaps as well that the facts should now come to light, for I have reasons to know that there are widespread rumours as to the death of Dr. Grimesby Roylott which tend to make the matter even more terrible than the truth.

It was early in April in the year '83 that I woke one morning to find Sherlock Holmes standing, fully dressed, by the side of my bed. **He was a late riser**⁴, as a rule, and as the clock on the mantelpiece showed me that it was only a quarter-past seven, I blinked up at him in some surprise, and perhaps just a little resentment, for I was myself regular in my habits.

“Very sorry to knock you up, Watson,”⁵ said he, “but it’s the common lot this morning. Mrs. Hudson **has been knocked up**⁶, she retorted upon me, and I on you.”

“What is it, then—a fire?”

“No; a client. It seems that a young lady **has arrived** in a consid-

erable state of excitement, who insists upon seeing me. She is **waiting now in the sitting-room**⁷. Now, when young ladies wander about the metropolis at this hour of the morning, and knock sleepy people up out of their beds, I presume that it is something very pressing which they have to communicate. **Should it prove to be an interesting case, you would, I am sure, wish to follow it from the outset**⁸. I thought, at any rate, that I should call you and give you the chance.”

“My dear fellow, **I would not miss it for anything**⁹.”

I had no keener pleasure than in following Holmes in his professional investigations, and in admiring the rapid deductions, as swift as intuitions, and yet always founded on a logical basis with which he unravelled the problems which were submitted to him. **I rapidly threw on my clothes and was ready in a few minutes**¹⁰ to accompany my friend down to the sitting-room. A lady dressed in black and heavily veiled, who had been sitting in the window, rose as we entered.

“Good-morning, madam,” said Holmes cheerily. “My name is Sherlock Holmes. This is my intimate friend and associate, Dr. Watson, before whom you can

могательного глагола *to be* и причастия прошедшего времени. См. ГС 249

Об образовании и употреблении Present Perfect см. ГС 229

⁷ *Какая-то молодая дама приехала. Она сейчас ждёт в приёмной.*

has arrived — приехала, при-была; форма Present Perfect глагола *to arrive*; употреблена здесь для обозначения действия в недавнем прошлом, связанного с настоящим временем. См. ГС 229

is waiting — (сейчас) ждёт; форма Present Continuous глагола *to wait*. Present Continuous употребляется для описания действия, которое происходит в настоящий момент. См. ГС 222

⁸ *Если это интересное дело, я уверен, вы захотите следить за ним с самого начала.*

would like — захотите, хотели бы; *would* — модальный глагол, употребляется для выражения вероятности действия. Об употреблении *would* и конструкции *would like* см. ГС 204

I'm sure — я уверен; употребительное словосочетание, стоит запомнить.

⁹ *...я ни за что это не пропущу.*

¹⁰ *Я оделся и был готов через несколько минут*

Здесь простое прошедшее время Past Simple, см.

ГС 214

to threw on — надеть (одежду); фразовый глагол, очень употребительный *in a few minutes* — через несколько минут; о предложениях времени см. ГС 179. Об употреблении *a few* см. ГС 159

¹¹ *Это не холод заставляет меня дрожать*

which makes me shiver — который заставляет меня дрожать; особая грамматическая конструкция Complex Object (сложное дополнение), употребляется с рядом глаголов, например, *to want* — хотеть, *to think* — думать, *to make* — заставлять, *to see* — видеть, *to hear* — слышать, *to watch* — наблюдать и др. Переводится на русский язык придаточным дополнительным предложением с союзами *что, чтобы, как*. См. ГС 263

¹²⁻¹³ *«Вы не должны бояться, Мы поможем вам, я не сомневаюсь».*

must not fear — не должен бояться; модальный глагол *must* в отрицательной форме. См. ГС 198

we set matters right — мы поможем; форма Future Simple, см. ГС 217. Об употреблении *shall* см. ГС 201

· speak as freely as before myself.
· Ha! I am glad to see that Mrs. Hudson has had the good sense to light the fire. Pray draw up to it, and I shall order you a cup of hot coffee, for I observe that you are shivering.”

· “It is not cold which makes me shiver¹¹,” said the woman in a low voice, changing her seat as requested.

· “What, then?”

· “It is fear, Mr. Holmes. It is terror.” She raised her veil as she spoke, and **we could see¹²** that she was indeed in a pitiable state of agitation, her face all drawn and grey, with restless frightened eyes, like those of some hunted animal. Her features and figure were those of a woman of thirty, but her hair was shot with premature grey, and her expression was weary and haggard. Sherlock Holmes ran her over with one of his quick, all-comprehensive glances.

· “**You must not fear,**”¹² said he soothingly, bending forward and patting her forearm. “**We shall soon set matters right, I have no doubt¹³. You have come in by train this morning¹⁴, I see.**”

· “You know me, then?”

· “No, but I observe the second half of a return ticket in the palm

of your left glove. **You must have started early**¹⁵, and yet you had a good drive in a dog-cart, along heavy roads, before you reached the station.”

The lady gave a violent start and stared in bewilderment at my companion.

“There is no mystery, my dear madam,” said he, smiling. “The left arm of your jacket is spattered with mud in no less than seven places. The marks are perfectly fresh. There is no vehicle save a dog-cart which throws up mud in that way, and then only when you sit on the left-hand side of the driver.”

“Whatever your reasons may be, you are perfectly correct,” said she. “I started from home before six, reached Leatherhead at twenty past, and came in by the first train to Waterloo. Sir, **I can stand this strain no longer**¹⁶; **I shall go mad if it continues**¹⁷. I have no one to turn to—none, save only one, who cares for me, and he, poor fellow, can be of little aid. I have heard of you, Mr. Holmes; **I have heard of you**¹⁸ from Mrs. Farintosh, whom you helped in the hour of her sore need. It was from her that I had your address. Oh, sir, do you not think that you could help me, too, and at least throw a little light

I have no doubt — я не сомневаюсь; употребительное лексическое словосочетание, стоит запомнить.

¹⁴ *Вы приехали поездом сегодня утром*

you have come — вы приехали; форма Present Perfect глагола *to come*; употр.

здесь для обозначения действия в недавнем прошлом, связанного с настоящим моментом. См. ГС 229

to come by train — приехать поездом; продуктивная конструкция: *to come by bus/tram/taxi* — приехать на автобусе/трамвае/такси

¹⁵ *Вы, должно быть, выехали рано утром*

Здесь модальный глагол *must* выражает вероятность, логическое предположение с глаголом *to start* в форме Present Perfect, так как действие совершенно раньше предположения.

Об употр. *must* см. ГС 198. О Present Perfect см. ГС 229

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ *Я больше не могу выносить этого напряжения; я сойду с ума, если это будет продолжаться. Я услышала о вас, мистер Холмс*

longer — сравнительная степень наречия *long*, см. ГС 171

I shall go mad — часть условного предложения, где есть придаточное предло-

жение с *if*. Об условных предложениях см. ГС 275 *I have heard* — я слышала, услышала; форма Present Perfect глагола *to hear* — *слышать*; обозначает действие, которое произошло раньше, но результат его имеет значение в настоящий момент. См. ГС 229

¹⁹ *Что касается вознаграждения... вы можете заплатить мне в любое удобное вам время.*

as to reward — что касается вознаграждения; *as to* — что касается; очень полезное словосочетание, стоит запомнить

through the dense darkness which surrounds me? At present it is out of my power to reward you for your services, but in a month or six weeks I shall be married, with the control of my own income, and then at least you shall not find me ungrateful.”

Holmes turned to his desk and, unlocking it, drew out a small case-book, which he consulted.

“Farintosh,” said he. “Ah yes, I recall the case; it was concerned with an opal tiara. I think it was before your time, Watson. I can only say, madam, that I shall be happy to devote the same care to your case as I did to that of your friend. **As to reward**, my profession is its own reward; but **you are at liberty to defray whatever expenses I may be put to, at the time which suits you best**¹⁹. And now I beg that you will lay before us everything that may help us in forming an opinion upon the matter.”

“Alas!” replied our visitor, “the very horror of my situation lies in the fact that my fears are so vague, and my suspicions depend so entirely upon small points, which might seem trivial to another, that even he to whom of all others I have a right to look for help and advice looks upon all that I tell him about it as the fancies of a nervous wom-

an. He does not say so, but I can read it from his soothing answers and averted eyes. But I have heard, Mr. Holmes, that you can see deeply into the manifold wickedness of the human heart. You may advise me how to walk amid the dangers which encompass me.”

“I am all attention, madam.”

“My name is Helen Stoner, and I am living with my stepfather, who is the last survivor of **one of the oldest Saxon families in England**²⁰, the Roylotts of Stoke Moran, on the western border of Surrey.”

Holmes nodded his head. “The name is familiar to me,” said he.

“The family was at one time among the richest in England²¹, and the estates extended over the borders into Berkshire in the north, and Hampshire in the west. In the last century, however, four successive heirs were of a dissolute and wasteful disposition, and the family ruin was eventually completed by a gambler in the days of the Regency. Nothing was left save a few acres of ground, and the two-hundred-year-old house, which is itself crushed under a heavy mortgage. The last squire dragged out his existence there, living the horrible life of an aristocratic pauper;

²⁰ *один из старейших родов в Англии*

oldest – самый старый, старейший из всех; превосходная степень прилагательного *old* – *старый*. С превосходной степенью прилагательных употребляется всегда определённый артикль *the*. См. ГС 171

²¹ *Эта семья была одно время среди богатейших семей в Англии*

richest – самый богатый; превосходная степень прилагательного *rich* – *богатый*. См. ГС 171

: but his only son, my stepfather,
 : seeing that he must adapt himself
 : to the new conditions, obtained an
 : advance from a relative, which en-
 : abled him to take a medical degree
 : and went out to Calcutta, where,
 : by his professional skill and his
 : force of character, he established
 : a large practice. In a fit of anger,
 : however, caused by some robberies
 : which had been perpetrated in the
 : house, he beat his native butler to
 : death and narrowly escaped a capi-
 : tal sentence. As it was, he suffered
 : a long term of imprisonment and
 : afterwards returned to England a
 : morose and disappointed man.

: “When Dr. Roylott was in In-
 : dia he married my mother, Mrs.
 : Stoner, the young widow of Ma-
 : jor-General Stoner, of the Bengal
 : Artillery. My sister Julia and I
 : were twins, and we were only two
 : years old at the time of my moth-
 : er’s re-marriage. She had a con-
 : siderable sum of money—not less
 : than £ 1000 a year—and this she
 : bequeathed to Dr. Roylott entire-
 : ly while we resided with him, with
 : a provision that **a certain annual
 : sum should be allowed to each of
 : us in the event of our marriage**²².
 : Shortly after our return to Eng-
 : land my mother died—she was
 : killed eight years ago in a railway

²² *определённая сумма
 должна выплачиваться
 каждой из нас каждый год в
 случае нашего замужества.
 should be allowed* — должна
 выплачиваться; *should* —
 модальный глагол со зна-

accident near Crewe. Dr. Roylott then abandoned his attempts to establish himself in practice in London and took us to live with him in the old ancestral house at Stoke Moran. The money which my mother had left was enough for all our wants, and there seemed to be no obstacle to our happiness.

“But a terrible change came over our stepfather about this time. Instead of making friends and exchanging visits with our neighbours, who had at first been overjoyed to see a Roylott of Stoke Moran back in the old family seat, he shut himself up in his house and **seldom came out save to indulge in ferocious quarrels with whoever might cross his path**²³. Violence of temper approaching to mania has been hereditary in the men of the family, and in my stepfather’s case it had, I believe, been intensified by his long residence in the tropics. A series of disgraceful brawls took place, two of which ended in the police-court, until at last he became the terror of the village, and the folks would fly at his approach, for he is a man of immense strength, and absolutely uncontrollable in his anger.

“Last week he hurled the local blacksmith over a parapet into a

чением *следует, должно, надо*. См. ГС 203
be allowed – выплачена, предоставлена; форма Passive Voice (пассивного залога) глагола *to allow* – *платить*. См. ГС 249

²³ *Когда он изредка выходил из дома, то начинал ссоры с каждым, кого встречал.*
to come out – выходить (из помещения, на улицу); очень употребительный фразовый глагол

²⁴ *У него совсем нет друзей, за исключением цыган.*

Об употреблении глагола *to have* см. ГС 185

at all – совсем; очень употребительно в речи.

Стоит запомнить всё предложение.

· stream, and it was only by paying
· over all the money which I could
· gather together that I was able to
· avert another public exposure.
· **He had no friends at all save the**
· **wandering gipsies**²⁴, and he would
· give these vagabonds leave to en-
· camp upon the few acres of bram-
· ble-covered land which represent
· the family estate, and would ac-
· cept in return the hospitality of
· their tents, wandering away with
· them sometimes for weeks on end.
· He has a passion also for Indian an-
· imals, which are sent over to him
· by a correspondent, and he has at
· this moment a cheetah and a ba-
· boon, which wander freely over
· his grounds and are feared by the
· villagers almost as much as their
· master.

· “You can imagine from what I
· say that my poor sister Julia and I
· had no great pleasure in our lives.
· No servant would stay with us, and
· for a long time we did all the work
· of the house. She was but thirty at
· the time of her death, and yet her
· hair had already begun to whiten,
· even as mine has.”

· “Your sister is dead, then?”

· “She died just two years ago,
· and it is of her death that I wish
· to speak to you. You can under-
· stand that, living the life which

I have described, we were little likely to see anyone of our own age and position. **We had, however, an aunt**, my mother's maiden sister, Miss Honoria Westphail, who lives near Harrow, and **we were occasionally allowed to pay short visits**²⁵ at this lady's house. Julia went there at Christmas two years ago, and met there a half-pay major of marines, to whom she became engaged. My stepfather learned of the engagement when my sister returned and offered no objection to the marriage; but within a fortnight of the day which had been fixed for the wedding, the terrible event occurred which has deprived me of my only companion."

Sherlock Holmes had been leaning back in his chair with his eyes closed and his head sunk in a cushion, but he half opened his lids now and glanced across at his visitor²⁶.

"Pray be precise as to details," said he.

"It is easy for me to be so, for every event of that dreadful time is seared into my memory. The manor-house is, as I have already said, very old, and only one wing is now inhabited. The bedrooms in this wing are on the ground

²⁵ *У нас была тётушка, которую нам было позволено изредка посещать.*

we were allowed to pay short visits — нам было позволено посещать; пассивный залог, простое прошедшее время. См. ГС 249. Об употреблении инфинитива см. ГС 253

however — однако; очень употребительное вводное слово.

²⁶ *Шерлок Холмс сидел в кресле, откинувшись назад, закрыв глаза и положив голову на подушку, но теперь он приподнял веки и взглянул на посетительницу.*

had been leaning back — форма Past Perfect Continuous глагола *to lean back* — откинуться назад; употреблена здесь для обозначения действия длительного характера, совершавшегося раньше другого действия (тоже в прошлом). См. ГС 241

²⁷ *Из этих спален... вторая — спальня сестры*
these — указательное местоимение во мн. числе. См. ГС 163

the second is my sister's — вторая (спальня) моей сестры; существительное *sister* — *сестра* в притяжательном падеже. См. ГС 154

²⁸ *мы знали, что он не лёж спать*

Это предложение — пример согласования времён: в главном предложении глагол *to know* — *знать* стоит в форме прошедшего времени, поэтому глагол в придаточном предложении, следующем за главным, употреблён в прошедшем совершенном Past Perfect. О правиле согласования времён см. ГС 244

²⁹ *она посидела некоторое время, говоря о предстоящей свадьбе.*

chatting about her approaching wedding — говоря о своей свадьбе; *chatting* — причастие настоящего времени (герундий), в такой позиции образует деепричастный оборот, переводится на русский язык деепричастием; *approaching* — причастие настоящего времени, стоит перед определяемым словом, на русский язык

floor, the sitting-rooms being in the central block of the buildings. **Of these bedrooms** the first is Dr. Roylott's, **the second my sister's**²⁷, and the third my own. There is no communication between them, but they all open out into the same corridor. Do I make myself plain?"

"Perfectly so."

"The windows of the three rooms open out upon the lawn. That fatal night Dr. Roylott had gone to his room early, **though we knew that he had not retired to rest**²⁸, for my sister was troubled by the smell of the strong Indian cigars which it was his custom to smoke. She left her room, therefore, and came into mine, where **she sat for some time, chatting about her approaching wedding**²⁹. At eleven o'clock she rose to leave me, but she paused at the door and looked back.

"Tell me, Helen," said she, **'have you ever heard anyone whistle in the dead of the night'**³⁰

"Never," said I.

"I suppose that you could not possibly whistle, yourself, in your sleep?"

"Certainly not. But why?"

"Because during the last few nights I have always, about three in the morning, heard a low, clear whistle. I am a light sleeper, and