

2021 Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual and Sigerson Awards

The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota publishes a Christmas Annual which has gained international recognition within the Sherlockian community. This publication is distributed each year to attendees of our annual dinner in December as well as to those attending the Baker Street Irregulars Annual Dinner and the Gaslight Gala during the Sherlock Holmes Birthday weekend in New York. The Sigerson Awards, our light-hearted recognition for contributors, will also be presented at the Norwegian Explorers' annual dinner. Every year our members are challenged to submit original works based on a topic we hope will inspire their creativity.

Throughout this past year we have seen how scientific advances have allowed further exploration on Mars, and how medical advances hope to stem the ravages of COVID-19. Both Holmes and Watson were science-based people; Holmes with his experiments and tests, and Watson needing it for his education and career. Both were also deeply involved in medicine; Watson as a doctor and Holmes using the knowledge to pursue criminals. For the 2021 Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual, the theme we have chosen is:

SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

The subjects of science and medicine run throughout the entirety of the Canon, from the mention of Bart's Hospital and Holmes's experiments in the first chapter of *A Study in Scarlet*, to his use of a microscope in the opening sentence of "Shoscombe Old Place," the last Holmes adventure published in *The Strand Magazine*.

There are many ways in which medicine or science, as used by Holmes or Watson (or by any character from the Canon), could be explored in the Christmas Annual. Is there an as-yet-untold tale involving either subject that you can write? How about an essay on how they applied or used science or medical procedures to solve cases? Maybe an exploration of Holmes's focus on science with a contrast against Watson's focus on medicine? Perhaps a summary of what new advances there were in the fields of science or medicine during their years together. While the subject is wide-ranging, we will also consider contributions that fall outside of the topic. We look forward to seeing your submissions.

Suggested Categories for Submissions (2000 word maximum):

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| 1. Article or essay | 5. Joke |
| 2. Poem | 6. Illustration / Artwork |
| 3. Cartoon | 7. Quiz / Puzzle |
| 4. Sherlockian or Doylean review | 8. Pastiche |

Rules for Submissions:

1. You must be a member of The Norwegian Explorers (local or corresponding). If you are not yet a member, a link to our membership form is located on our website: www.norwegianexplorers.org
2. Entries must be received no later than **October 1, 2021**.
3. Submit electronic versions of papers (Microsoft Word preferred) to: ray@PULPlications.com
You should receive a reply e-mail within two days from one of the editors, Ray Riethmeier or Phil Bergem, acknowledging the successful receipt of your submission. Please include the registration information (below) with your submission. Mailing a paper copy of your entry is not required, but if you prefer to do so, use this address: Ray Riethmeier, 12015 Townview Road, Minnetonka, MN 55343.
4. Artwork or illustrations may be submitted by pdf or jpg scan, or by mail (the original or a good copy). The Norwegian Explorers accept no responsibility for the safety of a submitted original illustration or cartoon.
5. All entries must be the original work of the contributor, and must not have had any prior publication.
6. Contributors with submissions published in our Christmas Annual will continue to retain all rights to have their work published elsewhere.
7. Physical entries will be returned only if return postage is provided by the contributor, or if other arrangements are made.
8. Multiple entries may be submitted for each category.
9. Judges for the Sigerson Awards will be selected by the Norwegian Explorers. Decisions of the judges are final.
10. Winners of the Sigerson Awards will be announced at the Annual Meeting in December. Absentees will be notified by email.



Registration Information

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____