



The Sherlock Holmes School of Self-Defence: The Manly Art of Bartitsu as used against Professor Moriarty

E.W. Barton-Wright

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When Sherlock Holmes wrestled with Moriarty on the Reichenbach Falls, he was employing a system of self-defence that was all the rage in Victorian Britain. In an age when footpads and fogle-snatchers meant a man of breeding took his life in his hands when walking across town, a martial arts craze took hold that did not escape Conan-Doyle's keen eye for research. Schools sprung up all over London, chief among which was E.W. Barton-Wright's "Bartitsu" method. The Sherlock Holmes School of Self-Defence commemorates Barton-Wright's exploits and the fighting techniques of the famous sleuth himself (though Conan-Doyle mischievously spelled it Baristu). Learn how to defend yourself with an overcoat, cane, or umbrella, or even to wield your bicycle against an attacker. Wonderful illustrations based on original photographs instruct the reader in skills that range from the sublime to the elementary.

The Sherlock Holmes School of Self-Defence: The Manly Art of Bartitsu as used against Professor Moriarty Details

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From Reader Review The Sherlock Holmes School of Self-Defence: The Manly Art of Bartitsu as used against Professor Moriarty for online ebook

Karl Øen says

This DIY self-defence manual for the stick-carrying gentleman, is a rather handsome volume. The elaborate texts and the period illustrations give the book a authentic flavour of a time gone by.

Matt says

A little bit dated but some of the methods described could still be of use. More of a fun read for fans of Sherlock Holmes than a serious self defence manual for modern society.

Simon Bruce says

Good fun for the Holmes fan... Very little practical use in today's environment.

John-Philip says

A quick read, with great illustrations. Its value is completely for entertainment, even if Bartitsu was a serious martial art.

Tim O'Neill says

Definitely the best guide for gentlemen or ladies who wish to defend themselves genteelly if accosted by ruffians. Of course, this system works best if one carries a cane and wears a straw boater. Alas, it lacks the information I sought about how to decapitate a blackguard with a silk top hat. Overall, however, a fine guide for taking an unpleasant oaf in hand when chilly disdain and brusque verbal admonishments are unequal to resolving the situation.

Thomas Moffatt says

Short book but quite entertaining. The Aikido/JuJitsu techniques shown you could not really learn from this book. Go to a club to learn these.

Dudley Smith says

Teaches more than how to keep a stiff upper lip... Amusing

Mathias Gaunitz says

Brilliant and funny!

Ashley says

I'm still now entirely sure if this is serious or sarcastic or a mix, but one thing's for sure: the step-by-step illustrations are pretty great. :D

Johan Karlemo says

This book have a nice layout and good illustrations which gives the feeling of late 19century. The content feels really exotic, for example in describing how to defend yourself against a ruffling. I think this book appeals to different kind of people in different ways.

Zoe Kennedy says

Amusing and interesting, what's really great about this is that you actually get the full info on where the martial art actually originated and they even show you how to perform the self-defensive moves with vistorian picture of the art being practiced. The book also contains quotes from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes and from the creator of the art. In between the mini chapters they had these humorous little sayings about how and when presented with a "troublesome gentleman," etc... They continued this in the summaries of each defense technique. I really enjoyed this ^__^ it was cute and informative

Mitch says

A fine example of a gentleman's defence.
