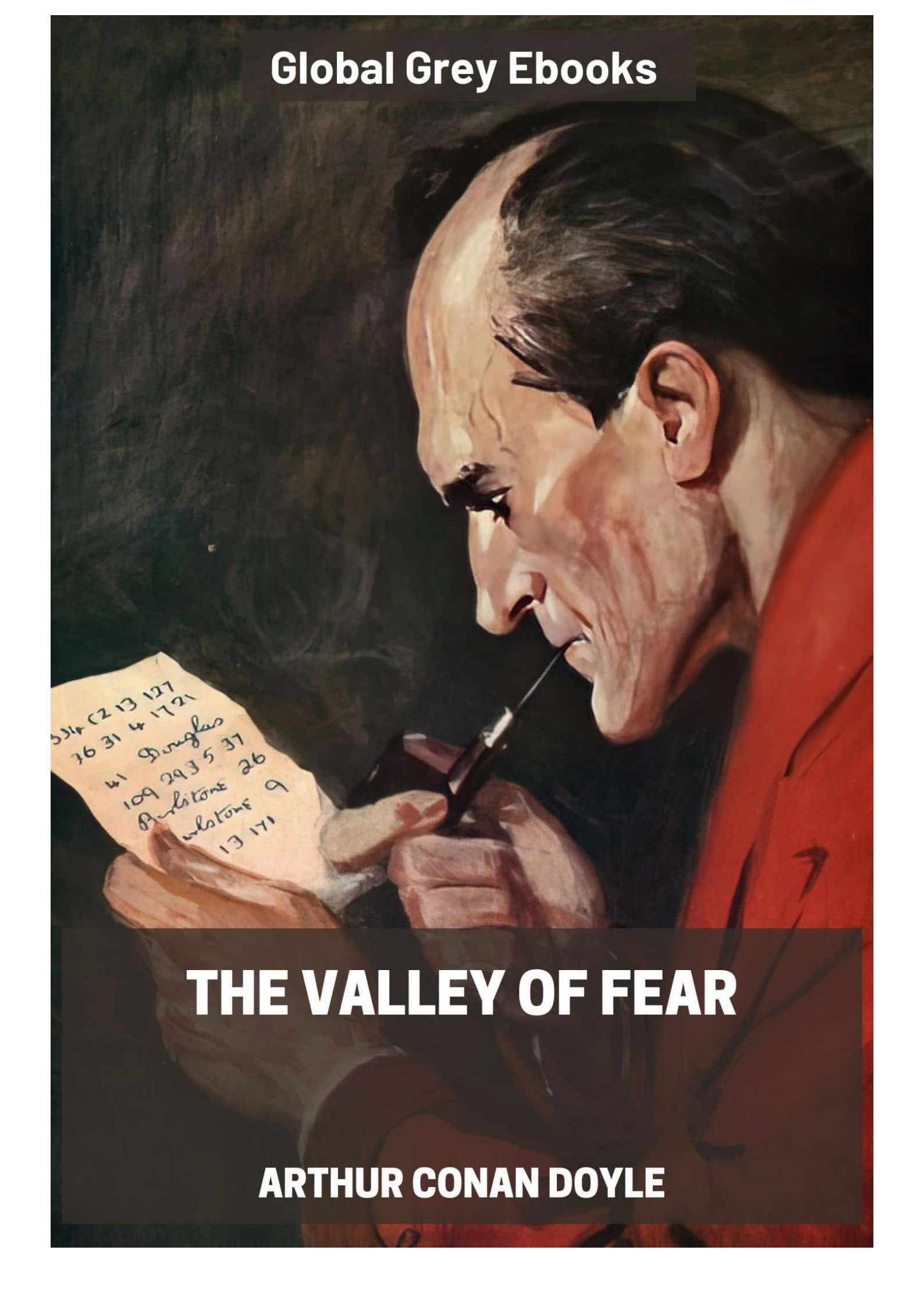


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THE VALLEY OF FEAR

ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

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The Valley of Fear by Arthur Conan Doyle.

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Contents

Part 1. The Tragedy Of Birlstone

1. The Warning
2. Sherlock Holmes Discourses
3. The Tragedy Of Birlstone
4. Darkness
5. The People Of The Drama
6. A Dawning Light
7. The Solution

Part 2. The Scowrsers

1. The Man
2. The Bodymaster
3. Lodge 341, Vermissa
4. The Valley Of Fear
5. The Darkest Hour
6. Danger
7. The Trapping Of Birdy Edwards

Epilogue

“Because it is done by a man who cannot afford to fail, one whose whole unique position depends upon the fact that all he does must succeed. A great brain and a huge organization have been turned to the extinction of one man. It is crushing the nut with the triphammer—an absurd extravagance of energy—but the nut is very effectually crushed all the same.”

“How came this man to have anything to do with it?”

“I can only say that the first word that ever came to us of the business was from one of his lieutenants. These Americans were well advised. Having an English job to do, they took into partnership, as any foreign criminal could do, this great consultant in crime. From that moment their man was doomed. At first he would content himself by using his machinery in order to find their victim. Then he would indicate how the matter might be treated. Finally, when he read in the reports of the failure of this agent, he would step in himself with a master touch. You heard me warn this man at Birlstone Manor House that the coming danger was greater than the past. Was I right?”

Barker beat his head with his clenched fist in his impotent anger. “Do not tell me that we have to sit down under this? Do you say that no one can ever get level with this king devil?”

“No, I don’t say that,” said Holmes, and his eyes seemed to be looking far into the future. “I don’t say that he can’t be beat. But you must give me time—you must give me time!”

We all sat in silence for some minutes while those fateful eyes still strained to pierce the veil.

THE END

I'm Julie, the woman who runs [Global Grey](#) - the website where this ebook was published. These are my own formatted editions, and I hope you enjoyed reading this particular one.

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