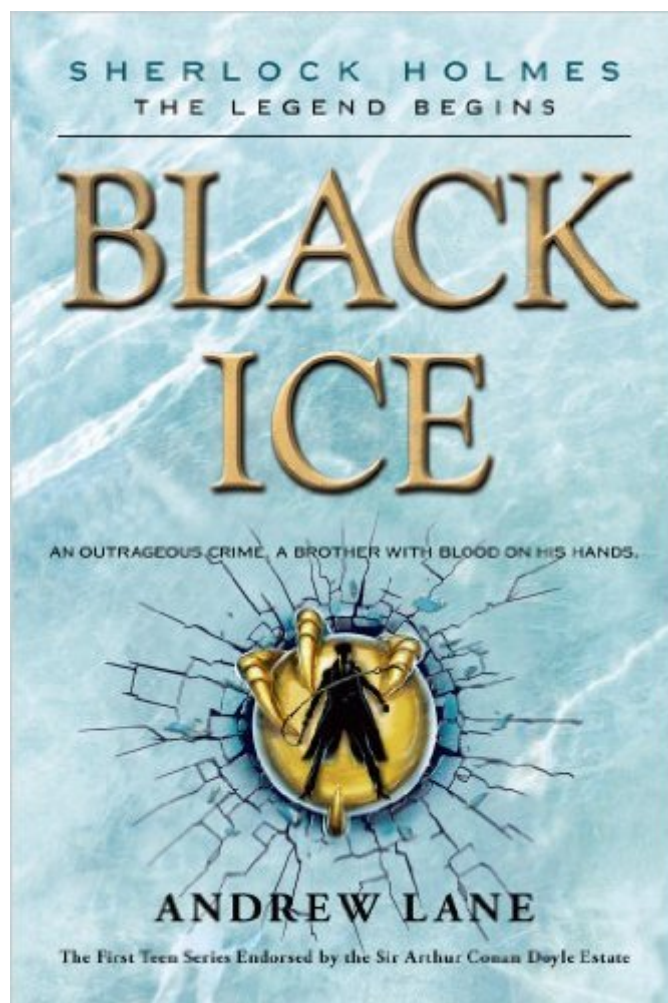


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# Black Ice (Sherlock Holmes: The Legend Begins)



## Synopsis

A third case for teen Sherlock involves a heinous crime . . . and a brother with blood on his hands. When Sherlock and Amyus Crowe, his American tutor, visit Sherlock's brother, Mycroft, in London, all they are expecting is lunch and some polite conversation. What they find shocks both of them to the core: a locked room, a dead body, and Mycroft holding a knife. The police are convinced Mycroft is a vicious murderer, but Sherlock is just as convinced he is innocent. Threatened with the gallows, Mycroft needs Sherlock to save him. The search for the truth necessitates an incredible journey, from a railway station for dead bodies in London all the way to the frozen city of Moscow where Sherlock is afoot in a world of secrets and danger. *Black Ice* is the third book in Andrew Lane's series *Sherlock Holmes: The Legend Begins*.

## Book Information

Series: *Sherlock Holmes: The Legend Begins* (Book 3)

Paperback: 304 pages

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Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (44 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #278,648 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Asia](#) #136 in [Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Historical](#) #197 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Europe](#)

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

## Customer Reviews

This is the third book in Andrew Lane's ongoing series of young Sherlock Holmes novels: 1. *Young Sherlock Holmes: Death Cloud* 2. *Young Sherlock Holmes: Red Leech* (reissued as 'Rebel Fire' in the US) 3. *Young Sherlock Holmes: Black Ice* In *BLACK ICE*, Mycroft Holmes invites 15 year old Sherlock and his tutor Amyus Crowe to lunch at the Diogenes Club in London. They arrive at the appointed time and a club footman ushers them in, and they find Mycroft alone in a locked room with a dead body. Mycroft is in a confused state and can't recall what happened, but he is found

holding the bloody murder weapon (a knife made of ice!) in his hand. The police immediately arrest Mycroft for murder, and Sherlock and Crowe must now unravel the mystery and face many unexpected dangers in both England and Russia as the story progresses. Mycroft also plays a large role in this story because international espionage is behind the attempt to frame him for the murder; he assumes the role of business manager for a small theater company traveling to Moscow to perform. It is good to read the books in order to fully understand the background, but this is not really necessary because each story does stand alone as is. Andrew Lane remains faithful to Doyle's portrayal of Holmes, showing us how the training and experiences of young Sherlock contributed to forming the personality and skills of the adult we know so well. So far I've read and enjoyed the first 3 books and I look forward to reading subsequent titles in the series, which will hopefully also become available on Kindle. Andrew Lane writes well and his clever plots can keep readers of all ages interested in his stories, and I recommend his works to anyone who might be interested in stories featuring a teenage Sherlock Holmes.

One of the most intelligent series I've ever read, especially for a children's series. Not condescending, embarrassing or stupid at all. A throwback to when they used to write really great books regularly like McCaffrey's Dragonriders series, The Harper Hall of Pern, The Shannara Series and Coville's Magic Shop series.

Sherlock is back and going to visit his brother in London regarding Sherlock's education. When Amyus and Sherlock arrive however, they see Mycroft holding a knife with a dead man behind him. The police are convinced that Mycroft is a murderer, but Sherlock doesn't believe it for a second. He and Amyus want to prove his innocence, but it's Mycroft and Sherlock who travel to Moscow. Of course, there are bound to be many bumps in the path but hopefully they can still find Mycroft innocent. This was a fun one. It was nice to see some more Mycroft in this novel. Also, maybe I just didn't notice it in the first two novels, but Amyus seems especially Southern in this novel. His drawl is very apparent in this novel. It was a shame that there was hardly any Matty or Virginia in this novel. I quite like them and Sherlock just isn't quite the same without them. I guess Sherlock has to shake them loose at some point, but I missed them a bit in this novel. Matty always had something witty to say that reminded me of Watson. Maybe Sherlock is too embarrassed to deal with Virginia currently. I hope they are back for the next adventure though. Pieces from the previous novels start to fall into place with the Moscow adventures. It's very nice to have some of the blanks filled in and to get a better picture of what and who Sherlock is facing. I don't know what to tell you to get you to

read this series if you haven't already. I mean, it's awesome. It's Sherlock. What more do you want?!  
First Line: "Sunlight sparkled on the surface of the water, sending daggers of light flashing towards Sherlock's eyes."  
Favorite Line: "Birds everywhere, staring at him with cold eyes."

I read this to be companionable to my grandson. It reads quickly and moves fast. There are frequent references to the first two books, which made me wish I had read them first. There are, I feel, almost too many threatening adventures necessary for Sherlock to complete his goals. Also, there many characters introduced near the end of the book in order to complete the mystery that one have little time to absorb. I found the methods of murder or attempts to murder a little unlikely -- by a knife of ice, and by an attack by an armed falcon--but I suppose they'd be possible. My 14 year old grandson really liked the book.

I'm loving this series so much. There are one or two places where it becomes clear that these are teen novels, but for the most part, I expect any adult reader would enjoy them perfectly well. I'm especially loving the development of Mycroft as a fully-fleshed character with quirks and goals and concerns. Poor Mycroft doesn't get nearly enough love in literature.

Sherlock Holmes, the character who can look at you and instantly analyze and deduce every aspect of your life. The honed skills of looking and noticing the details in a situation that allow him to deduce and solve the crime. But somewhere along the way, he had to be taught this skill. Andrew Lane's Sherlock Holmes series is about the teenage Sherlock Holmes. Sherlock is growing in his ability to notice and make deductions. In this thriving series, we see the genesis of the great Holmes. Sherlock is learning how to look at a person and deduce the details he is famous for noticing. The scenes where his mentor Amyus Crowe is explaining how to testing him, really make interesting scenes. Black Ice is the 3rd book in the Young Sherlock Holmes series by Andrew Lane. In this book Sherlock's brother Mycroft is framed for murder and Sherlock and his friends must travel to Russia to unravel the conspiracy. Filled with the type of action we expect from a good teen mystery, this book has the advantage that it is also a character we know as an adult. This incarnation of Sherlock really feels like he could become Doyles Holmes. I firmly recommend this series for teens looking for a good action book. Similar titles include the Young Bond series, Alex Rider and Enola Holmes.

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