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INT. THE ROYALE - NIGHT

Holmes sits in the center of a booth waiting for Watson to arrive. He is quite uncomfortable in this setting. WE SEE HIS OBSERVATIONS -- he picks up little pieces of information from the other guests. He notices the details on a pair of gentleman's cufflinks, the name on a bottle of wine, a surreptitious argument between waiters. It all becomes quite overbearing.

\*INSERTS

And then Watson and Mary arrive, talking, intent on each other -- surprised when they realize Holmes is already there.

WATSON

Holmes! You're early.

HOLMES

Fashionably.

WATSON

May I present Miss Mary Morstan.

Holmes looks at MARY MORSTAN -- she's beautiful, 30s and clearly a woman worth marrying.

Holmes stands. She extends her hand.

HOLMES

My pleasure. For the life of me I don't know why it's taken him so long to get us properly introduced.

Holmes gestures politely, they sit, Mary and Watson on either side. There is a decanted bottle of wine on the table.

MARY

The pleasure's mine. It really is a thrill to meet you, Mr. Holmes. I've a whole stack of detective novels at home.

WATSON

It's true.

MARY

They can seem a bit far-fetched sometimes, though. Making these grand assumptions out of tiny details.

HOLMES

(livening up)

Oh, no no. The little details are by far the most important. Take Watson...

7A  
MORSTAN

7B

7D

7E

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