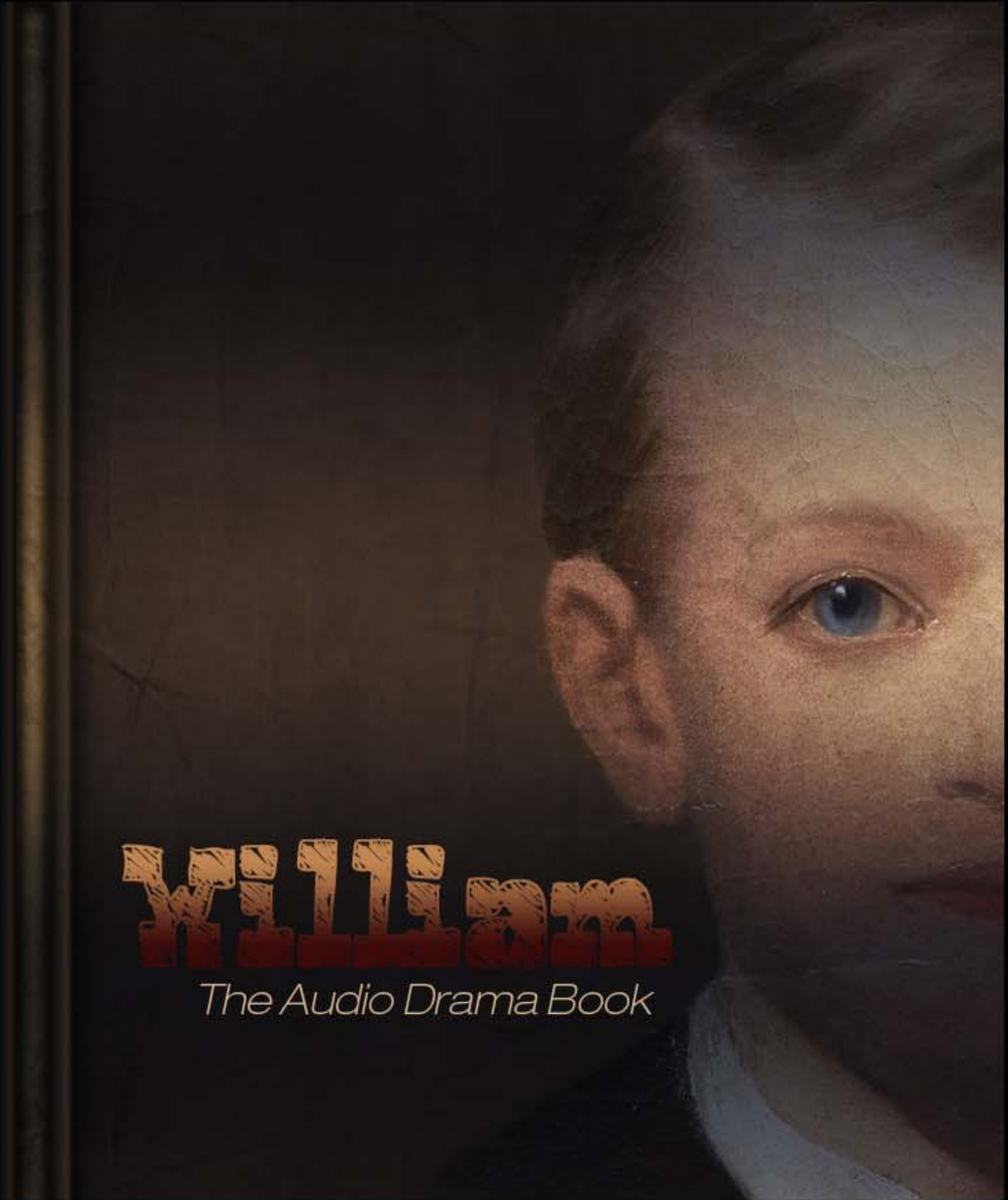
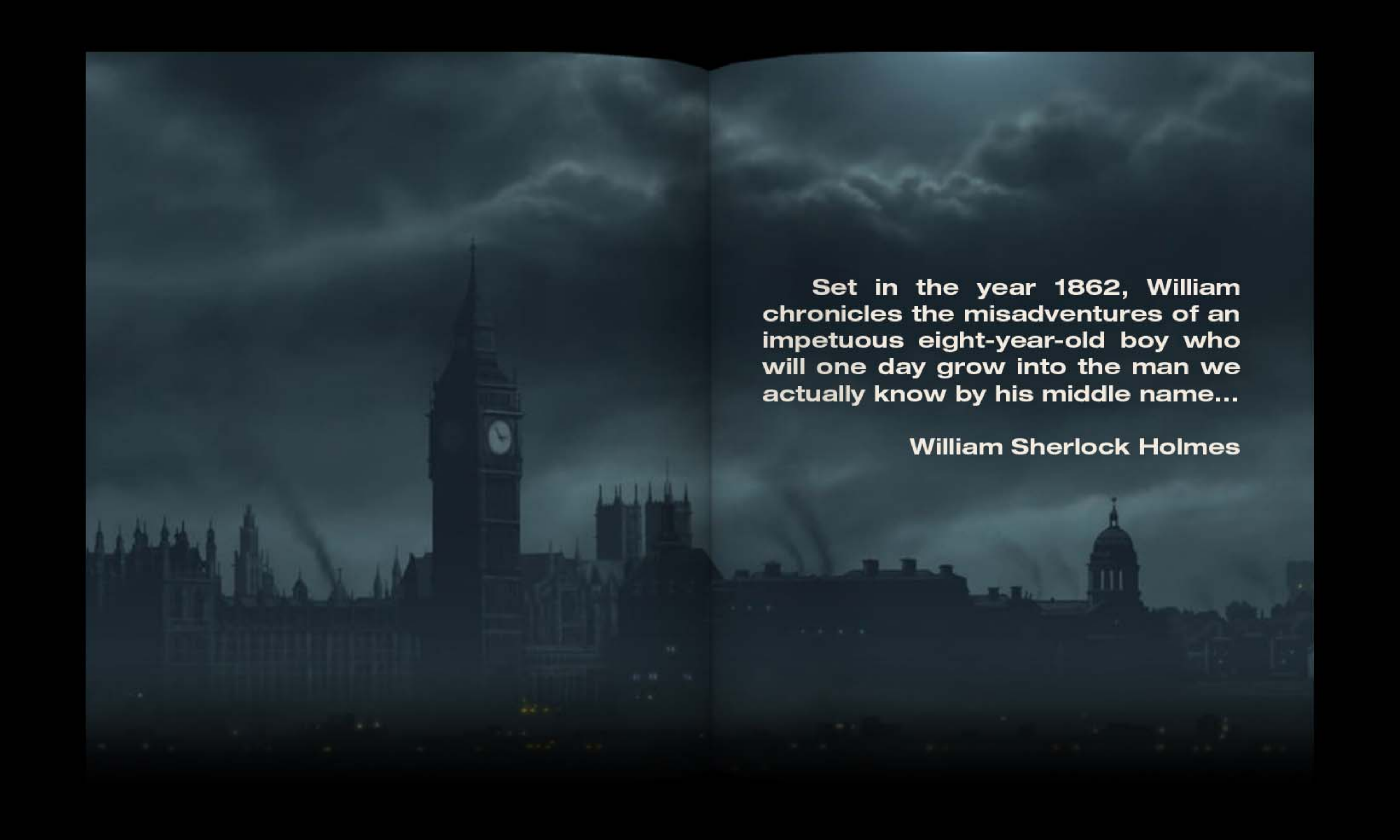




William

The Audio Drama Book



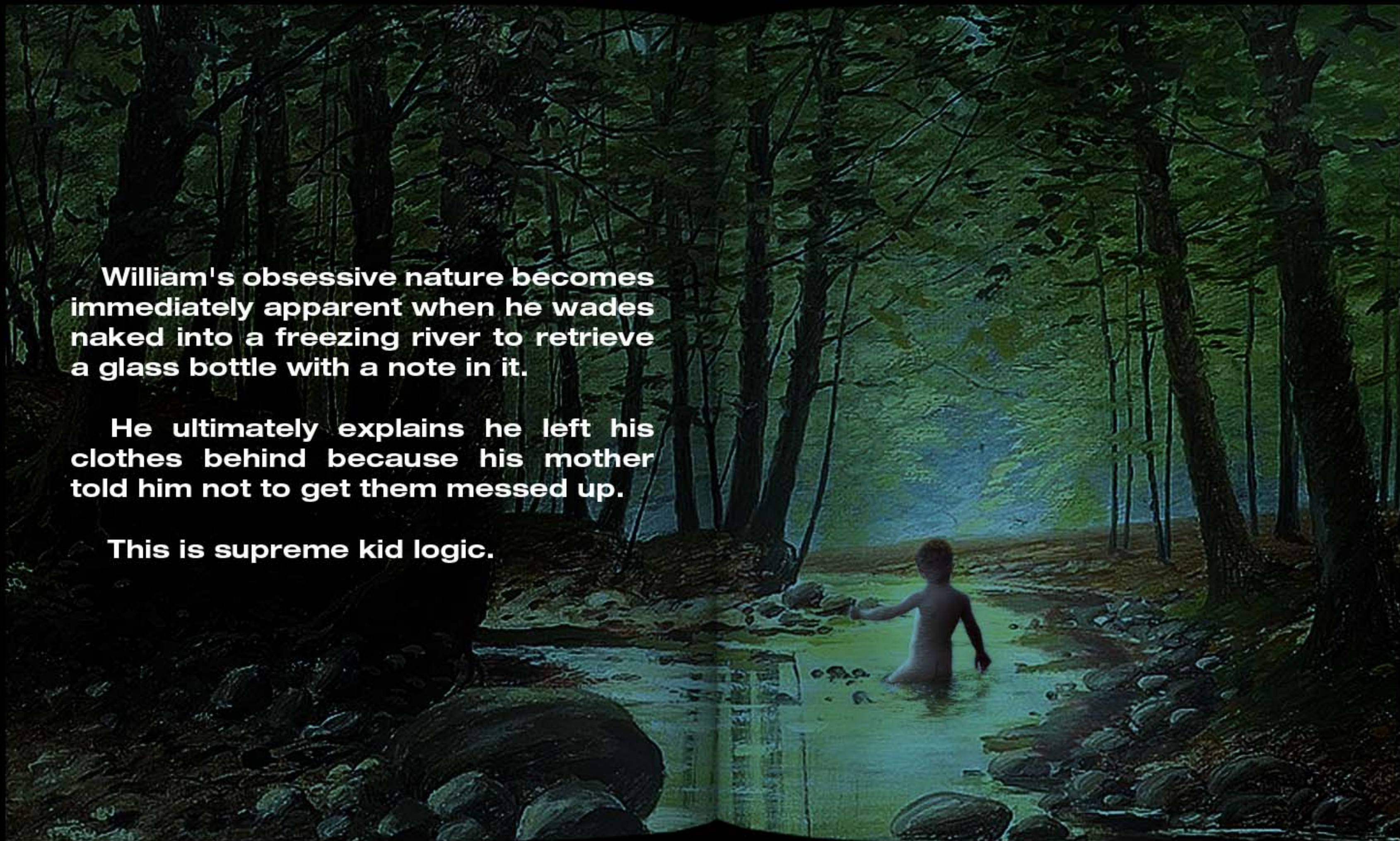
Set in the year 1862, William chronicles the misadventures of an impetuous eight-year-old boy who will one day grow into the man we actually know by his middle name...

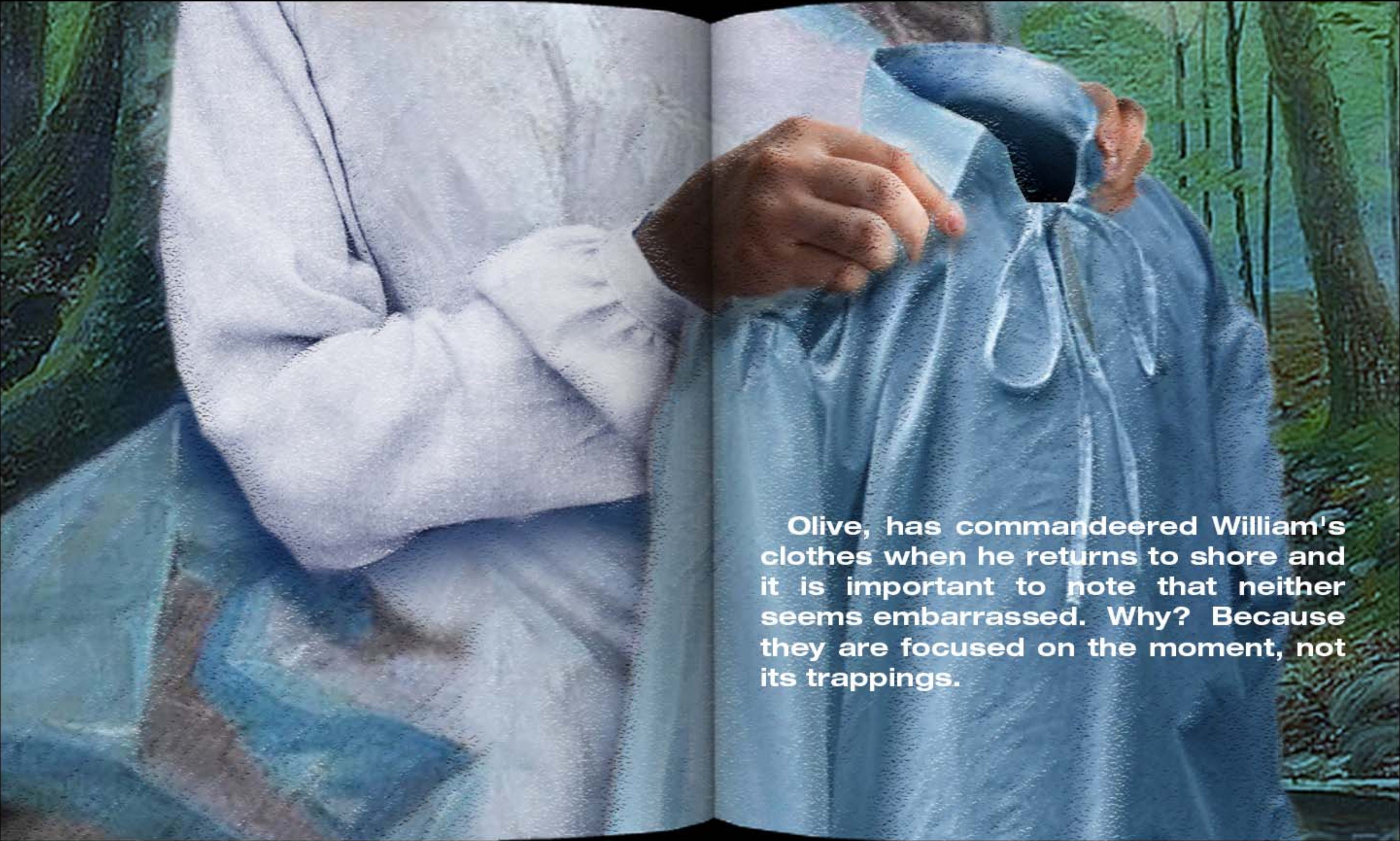
William Sherlock Holmes

William's obsessive nature becomes immediately apparent when he wades naked into a freezing river to retrieve a glass bottle with a note in it.

He ultimately explains he left his clothes behind because his mother told him not to get them messed up.

This is supreme kid logic.



An oil painting of a person, likely a woman, wearing a long, flowing blue robe. Her hands are clasped together in front of her chest. The background is a dense, green forest with tall, thin trees. The painting is executed in a soft, painterly style with visible brushstrokes.

Olive, has commandeered William's clothes when he returns to shore and it is important to note that neither seems embarrassed. Why? Because they are focused on the moment, not its trappings.



William

This is our introduction to young William and throughout the series we will discover more and more about the depths he will plumb and the distances he will go to solve any problem or mystery.

Olivia Winthrop ("Olive") is the same age as William but being a girl is far more mature. Olive fancies William but is forever loathe to let him know. Instead, she needles him whenever she can and rarely lets him get away with anything.

Olive would probably grow up to marry William if William were the marrying kind. For now, she works to keep our main character on the path... or knocks him off that path when appropriate.

Olive



William - THE FIRST SEASON

In this first season of *William*, the "A" story, which runs throughout, is the main character's obsession with his bottle collection and ultimately the deciphering of all the notes he found in them. And while this story resolves itself by the end of the first season with the revelation that all the notes combine into a single story and mystery to be solved, it also sets up the following season's "A" story because we learn at the last moment that the notes can be assembled in more than one sequence which can create completely different stories.

The "B" story is the relationship between the characters, primarily between William and Olive. Also established are the beginnings of the classic relationships which will mature throughout the existing world of Sherlock Holmes. *William* provides the beginnings and the reasons for those ongoing relationships that audiences and readers know so well and have loved since the late 19th Century.

The "C" story is the per-episode mystery to be solved. Of course, as is proper, each of these stories weaves in and out of both the "A" and "B" stories.

William - THE CHARACTERS

Principal Characters ("*" first appearance in Episode One):

WILLIAM SHERLOCK SCOTT HOLMES – An Eight-Year-Old Boy *

OLIVIA ("OLIVE") WINTHROP – An Eight-Year-Old Girl *

MAY HOLMES – William's Mother

MORLAND HOLMES – William's Father

JIMMY MORIARTY – An older annoying bully of a boy

JEAN GAUTHIER – A young French boy who befriends William

JOHN WATSON – William's future confident and aide who makes an ever so brief appearance

SIR RODERICK TENNYSON – A Gentleman Fisherman and Occasional Confidant *

MYCROFT HOLMES – William's 15-year-old brother (only shows up occasionally)

Many of the character arcs are essentially pre-established in that those characters already have lives as adults in the original Holmes stories.

William - SEASON ONE EPISODES

Episode One - "Olives and Other Green Things"

We meet William and Olive. Olive confronts William without his clothes after he retrieves a green glass bottle from a frigid stream. We see William obsessed over his collection of 103 bottles. He discards onto his desk what may be an important note that was in the latest bottle.

Episode Two - "Bully for You"

We encounter Jimmy Moriarty for the first time. Jimmy picks on Jean. Olive tries to intervene. William offers a distraction. We learn William has a trunk full of discarded notes-in-a-bottle—every bottle had a note in it. Olive asks why he kept them if he doesn't think they're important. William says he keeps everything – just in case. Shows Olive his old journal with the list of all the bottles.

Episode Three - "A Woof in Sheep's Clothing"

William finds he has no choice but to enlist the help of Olive and Jean to thwart a group of older children who are engaged in a scheme of trying to sell the same dog to multiple unsuspecting city folks.

Episode Four - "An Arm and a Leg"

William undertakes the first of what will become many similar adventures throughout his life when he disguises himself as a girl in order to infiltrate a group of wealthy young girls whose dolls have been mysteriously disappearing from their tea parties.

Episode Five - "Nearly Friends"

William is injured in the process of retrieving another bottle in some treacherous rapids and meets 12-year-old John Watson who treats his wounds. Watson announces his intention to become a doctor. William suggests that, based on his surgical technique, he'd be better suited as a butcher.

Episode Six - "The Professor"

Although in this case, "professor" means "one who professes." The professor in this episode is Olive who insists William must marry her when they are older. William asks why on Earth she would want to marry him whereupon Olive says, "To repair you, of course."

Episode Seven - "Man of Mystery"

William must try to determine why his father has brought a strange man to their house and why the man is offering to buy his collection of bottles. William works hard to ignore Olive's continuing interest in "repairing" him.

Episode Eight - "Noted"

William begins to piece together the various notes from the bottles and soon realizes they represent a story that's being told. But the problem is: How to get them in the right order. Because the "wrong" order tells a very different story.

Episode Nine - "Holmes Is Where the Heart Is"

William disguises himself as a tree in order to catch whoever has been stealing Sir Roderick's morning newspapers. Meanwhile, William's friend Jean begins to show an interest in Olive and the jealousy William experiences takes its toll on his burgeoning skills as a detective.

Episode Ten - "If It Ain't Broke..."

William finally confronts Olive and lays down the law regarding her obsession over "fixing" him. But when he learns Olive and her family may be moving to another country, he suddenly has a change of heart. He also reveals to Sir Roderick that he believes he's pieced together the story from the notes and whatever it is does not bode well. He 's not sure if it's the "right" story or if rearranging the notes produces the real one. What to do...?

William...

episode one 

In Episode One, we're introduced to William's growing collection of bottles, all of which it turns out, have been retrieved from the same spot in the same stream. And each has a note in it which William seems to ignore in favor of curating his bottle collection.

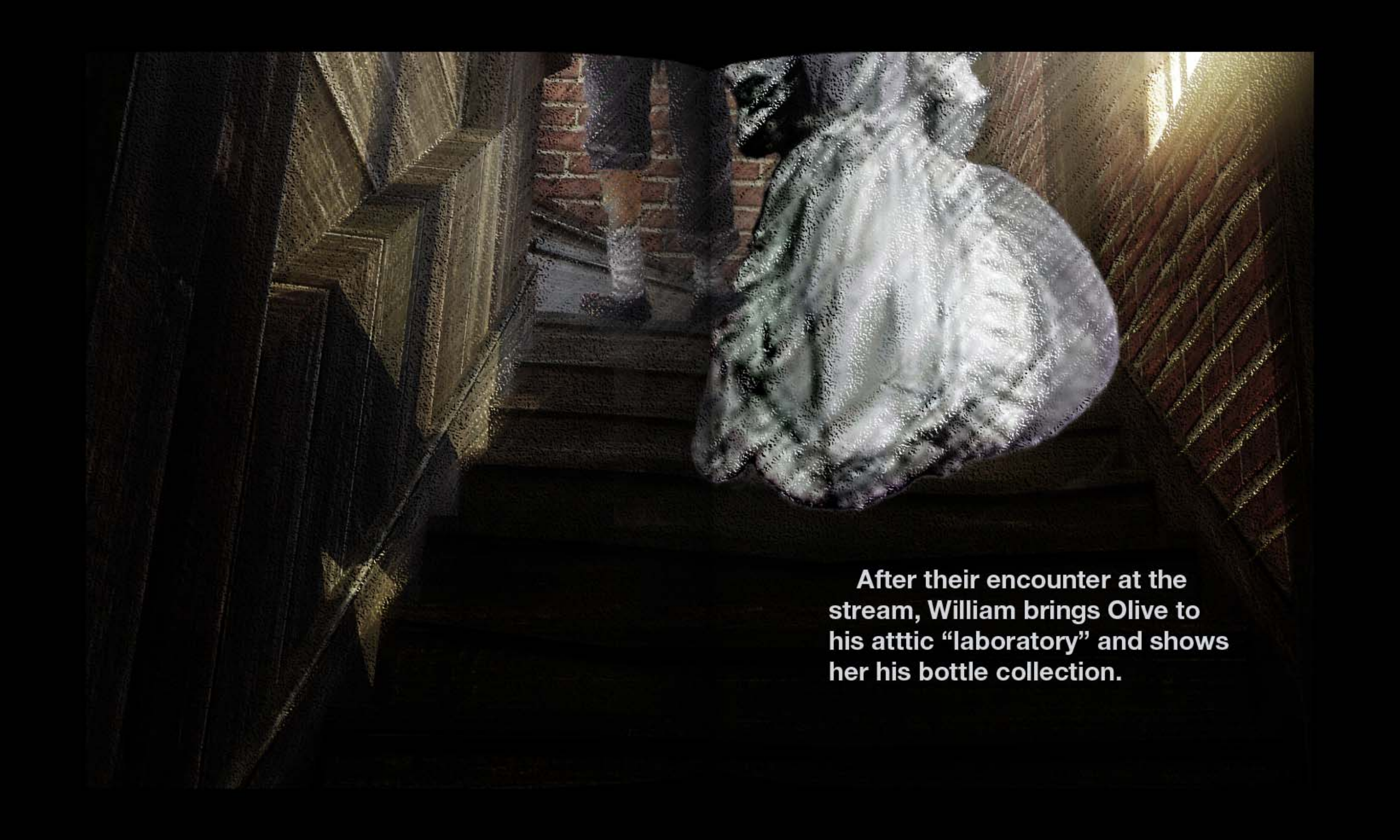
As this first season progresses, we will learn that each note represents part of a story and when they're assembled in the right order, the story is told.

But...

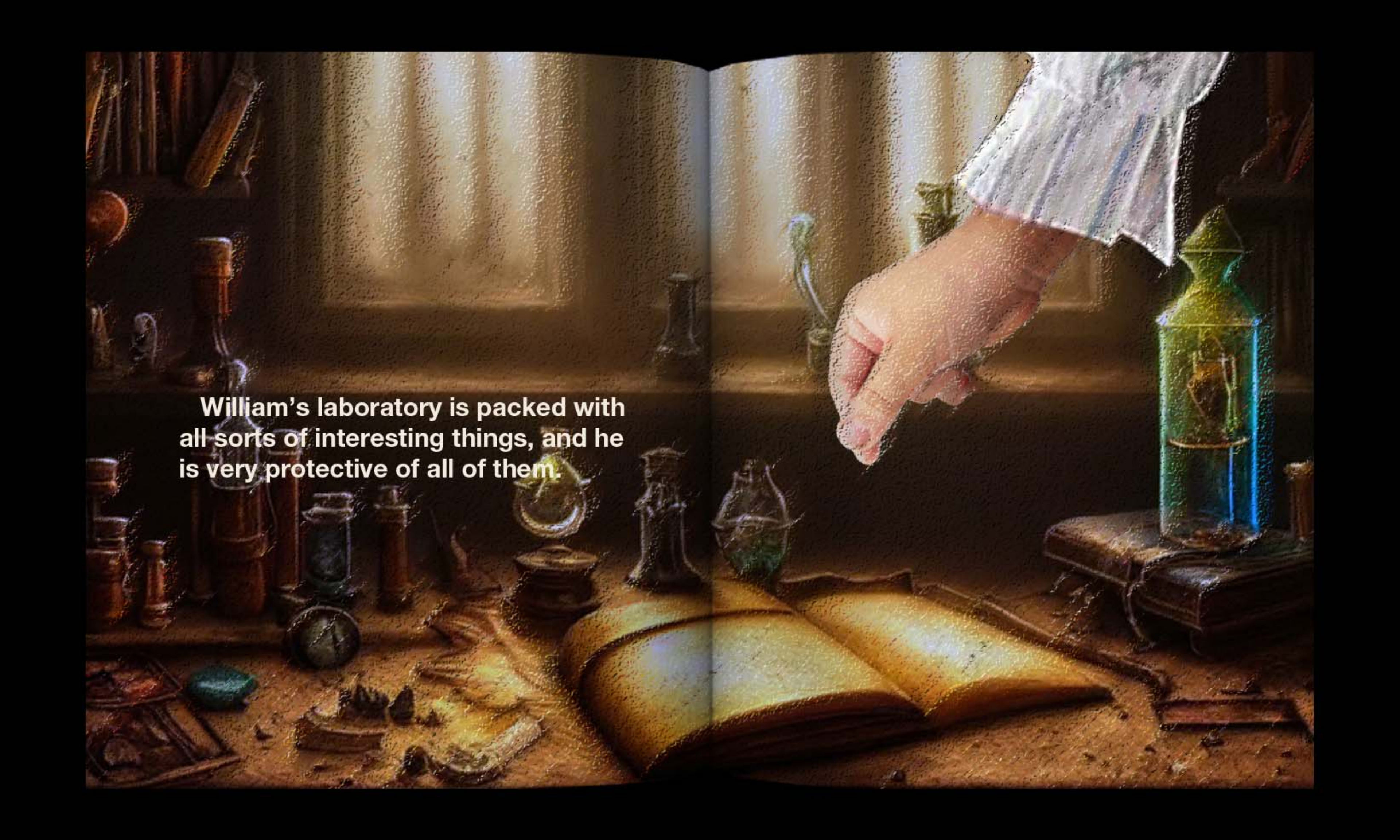
...we also discover that the notes can be put together in more than one order and different orders tell different stories. So the question which will lead us into Season Two is:

Which story is the right one?

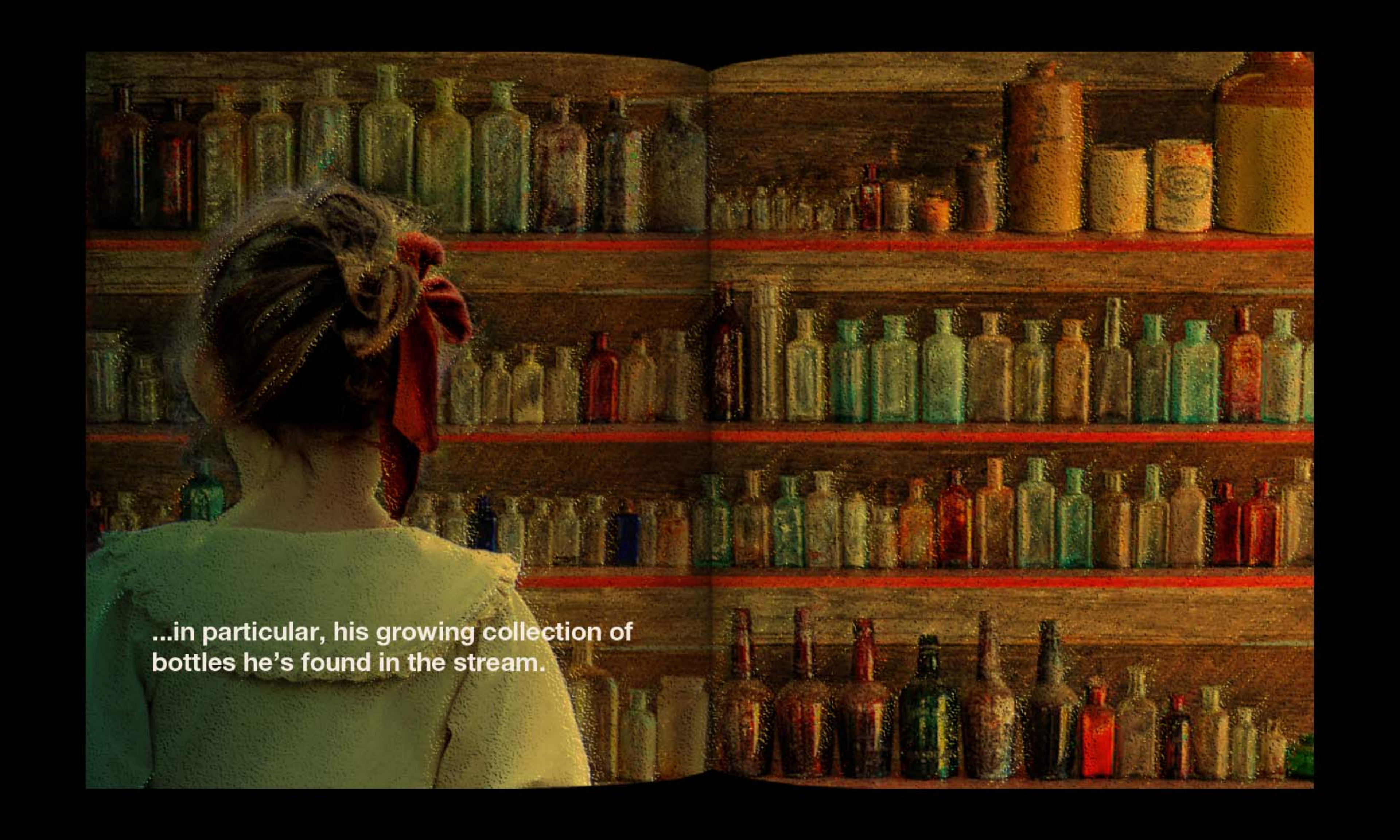


A woman in a long, white, flowing dress stands in a dark, narrow attic space. The walls are made of dark wood paneling and brick. The lighting is dramatic, with a strong light source from the right, casting long shadows and highlighting the texture of the dress and the surrounding environment. The woman is looking down, and her expression is somber.

After their encounter at the stream, William brings Olive to his attic “laboratory” and shows her his bottle collection.



William's laboratory is packed with all sorts of interesting things, and he is very protective of all of them.

A woman with her back to the camera, wearing a light-colored top and a headscarf with a red bow, is looking at a large collection of glass bottles arranged on wooden shelves. The bottles vary in shape, size, and color, including clear, green, and brown. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, golden light illuminating the bottles and the woman's headscarf. The shelves are made of dark wood and are filled with the bottles, creating a sense of a vast collection.

...in particular, his growing collection of
bottles he's found in the stream.



A huge collection by any standards and each bottle apparently had a note in it.

A close-up, high-angle shot of an open, antique wooden chest. The chest is made of dark, worn wood with brass hardware, including a large handle and a lock on the front. Inside the chest, a large, disorganized pile of old, yellowed, and stained papers and notes is visible. The papers are of various sizes and shapes, some with visible text and others that appear to be blank or heavily damaged. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the wood and the aged quality of the papers.

And William's growing collection of those notes will be the focus of the mystery to be solved in the first season.

William - CHARACTER ARCS

In keeping with episodic stories, the recurring characters change gradually, if at all. By the end of Season One, William will realize that sometimes a solved mystery isn't really solved at all but rather has created an even deeper one.

Olive will realize how much she really likes William but also how difficult it's going to be to "repair" him, if that's even possible. So she will have to decide whether to stay on 'til the end or not.

Jimmy will realize that his bullying is not providing the results he wants and so will begin to drift toward the darker side and the person he will become as an adult.

Sir Roderick has a couple of possibilities. As an older gentleman, he could stay around in the series and be a sort of mentor to William (and potentially other characters). But he could also pass away at some point, thus creating an important moment in William's life -- people eventually die.

Jean is meant to gradually become William's "Watson" in his younger years, eventually setting up the Holmes/Watson relationship which pervades the original stories.

William - STRUCTURE & TONE

The structure of an audio drama for children 7-12 is pretty straightforward. Seven year olds are just beginning to grasp that time and place can change in multiple directions. And twelve year olds are often hard-core realists.

William is not meant to be a "parlor drama." So, much of the action will be in different locations with many of them outdoors. The main character is sufficiently independent that he roams freely and we are privy to his ever-expanding world as he goes.

Because the story is told from a child's point of view, there is no need for our young characters to continually "report back" to their parents.

Moments in *their* lives are being captured, not the grownups' lives.

Today there are many tropes when it comes to creating child characters. It would be unwise to recreate characters with the actual sensibilities and who speak in the actual timbre and form as individuals from the mid-19th Century.

Young audiences, in particular, would find that strange and potentially off putting. So my intent is to combine the necessary elements of a bygone era with the somewhat more accessible traits of today's kids.

That said, I feel it is important to have all the characters speak well. Any supposed "charm" in sloppy language usage sets a rather low bar.

Children are not mindless idiots and are often underestimated. *William* is meant to champion all the positive qualities.



George Mills
“William”

Nine-year-old George Mills lends his youthful vocal talents to our sleuthing protagonist, William. One of three boys, George lives with his family in a small village in Hampshire, UK. An avid reader, he is currently in year 4 at school and loves to write his own adventure stories. Although relatively new to voice acting, George is a natural, recently nominated for 'Best Children's Voiceover Performance' in the prestigious One Voice awards. George would like to thank his family for their support and Hank Isaac for the opportunity to voice such a fun character.



Zayd I.A.
“Olive”

Born and raised in the UK, 9-year-old Zayd is currently in Year 5 at school. In his free time, Zayd loves to channel his boundless energy and imagination into digital art and making stop-motion videos. When he's not drawing or filming, Zayd can often be found in the kitchen developing his own recipes. Zayd enjoys playing yoyos, mastering Rubik's cube, and tackling all sorts of puzzles. He's a natural at brain teasers, and is always eager to take on a new challenge.



Amrit Sandhu

"Sir Roderick"

The son of Punjabi Indian immigrants, Amrit grew up in West London going between school and working at his parents' shop. He served people from many different backgrounds who spoke in a lot of different accents, from Irish to Jamaican to South African and beyond. He also saw many BBC presenters come through the shop's doors to purchase the morning paper on their way to the studio, and dreamed of one day becoming a performer himself. Decades later, that dream is now a reality. Amrit lives in London with his wife and two sons. He works from his home studio and has been nominated for seven voiceover awards.



Scott Roush

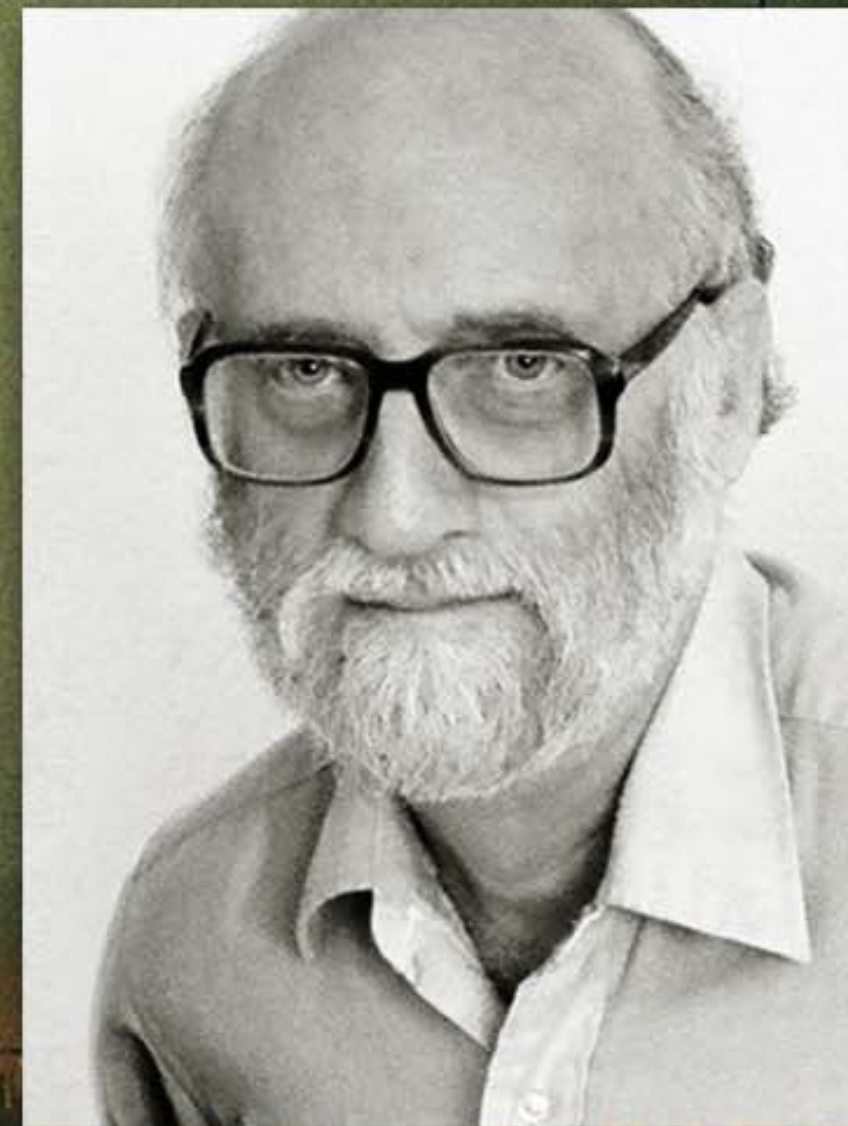
Composer

Scott has been composing music and drumming for over 20 years and currently lives and works in Nashville, TN. His original compositions have been featured in TV shows on PBS, NBC, CBS, ABC, FOX, ESPN, TNT, and used by companies like Uber, Google, TEDx, and more! He loves drums and drumming and is available for session work, live drumming, tours, composition, and lessons (both in person and via Zoom). In addition to playing drums in a group setting, he's also been a solo accompanist for modern dance classes for over 10 years. He has accompanied classes for Paul Taylor, Milwaukee Ballet, Danceworks, Hannah Kahn Dance, Kim Robards Dance, and many more companies.

Hank Isaac is a screenwriter and filmmaker who has enjoyed a varied career. The only child of a motion picture executive and a professional dancer, Hank experienced a fanciful childhood. He married his college sweetheart and they are somewhat of an anomaly – they're still married to each other after more than half a century.

Hank has worked as a middle school teacher, a college professor, a sailing school manager & instructor, a product designer, a radio station disc jockey, an exhibit designer, a research director, and a toy store owner. He is a former U.S. Naval Officer who served on active duty during the Vietnam conflict. Hank and his wife lived on a boat for eleven years and raised a genius daughter in a toy store.

Hank began writing feature films in 1994 and was fortunate to have been mentored by the late legendary Stewart Stern (*Rebel without a Cause; Rachel, Rachel; Man without a Country; Sybil*). He started directing in 2006 and since then, he and his work have been "Official Selections" in over one hundred international film festivals and awards competitions and have won more than fifty awards. Additionally, his screenplays and teleplays have been finalists in more than three dozen writing competitions.



Hank Isaac
Series Creator/Writer



WILLIAM - Episode One

Description of Service

Voice Actors	175.13
Sound FX (various)	20.00

SUBTOTAL 195.13

Additional (if broadcast)	280.00
Music Licensing (1)	80.00

TOTAL \$555.13 (U.S.)

NOTE(1): These are out-of-pocket costs and represent hired external talent. The "SUBTOTAL" is the *actual* cost to produce Episode One. The voice actors provide finished recordings, created in their own studios.

NOTE(2): Three actors recorded "William," three recorded "Olive," and one recorded "Sir Roderick." One actor each was chosen for the series. The cost is for the actors who were cast.



William...



the script 

Episode One

PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS

WILLIAM SHERLOCK HOLMES ("WILLIAM") - 8
The young impetuous and driven lad who will eventually grow into the master sleuth we cherish.

OLIVIA WINTHROP ("OLIVE") - 8
She would probably grow up to marry William if William were the marrying kind. For now, she works to keep our main character on the path... or knocks him off that path when appropriate.

SUPPORTING CHARACTERS (Episode One)

SIR RODERICK TENNYSON - 70s
A gentleman fisherman and occasional confidant.

SETTINGS (Episode One)

EXT. WOODS NEAR A STREAM
EXT. CITY
INT. WILLIAM'S HOME
INT. WILLIAM'S ATTIC DOMAIN

SPECIAL NOTE

Dialogue to be delivered with true British accents in a crisp and insistent tone.

WILLIAM

Episode One - "Olives & Other Green Things"

SCENE ONE: (INTRODUCTION)

(William, Olive)

WILLIAM: I have a list. A long list.

OLIVE: (in an urgent whisper) Introduce yourself first!

WILLIAM: A private list.

SOUND: HORSES & CARRIAGES ON PAVEMENT;
INDISTINCT CONVERSATIONS (CONTINUOUS).

WILLIAM: A long private list. A list of all the things I don't know. It's unnerving, actually.

SCENE TWO: EXT. WOODS NEAR A STREAM - DAY

(William, Sir Roderick, Olive)

SOUND: FOREST AMBIANCE, BIRDS, RUSHING STREAM
(CONTINUOUS).

SOUND: HORSE & CARRIAGE CROSSES NEARBY BRIDGE.

SOUND: FISHING REEL - CASTING THEN REELING IN.

SOUND: SHORT RAPID AND SPLOOSHY FOOTFALLS.

SIR RODERICK: (distant) Boy!

NO RESPONSE -- JUST THE SOUNDS OF THE FOREST AND THE STREAM.

SIR RODERICK: (distant) I say... Boy! BOY!

STILL NO RESPONSE.

SIR RODERICK: Young lad! Wait. Is that you, William?
You shall catch your death if you
proceed into the water such as you are!

WILLIAM: (distant) I have no choice! I must
retrieve it!

SIR RODERICK: (to himself) What the devil...?
(now to William) Young man! William!
You'll catch your death! What have you
done with your clothes?!

WILLIAM: Mummy says to keep them clean!

SOUND: MORE SPLOOSHY FOOTFALLS

SIR RODERICK: Yes, but *you will freeze to death if--!*

WILLIAM: It's the only way!

SOUND: SLOWER AND DEEPER SPLOOSHY FOOTFALLS.

WILLIAM: I don't suppose you could help me!

SIR RODERICK: Yes, well... I'm getting a nibble.
First one all day.

SOUND: SPLASHES; FISHING REEL REELING IN.

WILLIAM: Aren't I more important than a cautious
fish?

AN AWKWARD SILENCE, THEN...

WILLIAM: Well?

SIR RODERICK: Steady on. I'm formulating a response.

WILLIAM: (whispers to himself) Steady on, he
says. Form-u-something a response, he
says. Hmmpf. Oh, wait. There it is!

SOUND: SPLOOSHING & SPASHING.

WILLIAM: (to the world) F-F-FOUND IT!

SIR RODERICK: What have you got there?! It seems to
be some sort of old bottle!

WILLIAM: Wouldn't you like to know!

SIR RODERICK: Eh?

WILLIAM: It *is* some s-s-s-s-sort of old b-b-b-b-
bottle! (whispers to himself) With a n-
n-n-n-note in it.

WILLIAM IS CLEARLY FREEZING COLD.

SOUND: SLOW AND DEEP SPLOOSHY FOOTFALLS BECOME
RAPID & SHALLOW; FINALLY, BARE FEET ON
LEAVES & DIRT.

WILLIAM: (to himself) All right, where *did my--?*

OLIVE: Looking for these?

WILLIAM: Olive! What are you doing here? And
why are you holding m-m-m-my shirt? And
my p-p-p-pants? And m-m-m-my...
other... Th-th-th-things?

OLIVE: Why were you in that freezing cold water
without your clothes? You are
absolutely blue. All over.

WILLIAM: N-n-none of your b-business.

OLIVE: Well, then...

SOUND: SHORT FOOTFALLS RECEDE (CONTINUOUS).

WILLIAM: Hey! M-my clothes?!

SOUND: FOOTFALLS ABRUPTLY STOP.

OLIVE: My answer?

WILLIAM: All right, all right. B-but clothes f-first.

NO RESPONSE.

WILLIAM: Yes, well then. This.

SOUND: FINGERNAIL TAPPING ON GLASS.

OLIVE: That? You risked your health for, what, an old piece of junk?

WILLIAM: It's a bottle.

OLIVE: My my, we are so brilliant today, William Sherlock Holmes.

WILLIAM: (whispers to himself) I hate w-when she uses all m-my n-names. At least she didn't *choose to--*

OLIVE: Willian Sherlock Scott Holmes, if I'm not mistaken.

WILLIAM: Are you just going to let m-me stand here f-f-freezing with no clothes on?

OLIVE: I might.

WILLIAM: Olivia Winthrop!

SIR RODERICK: Hey, you two! What's going on over there?!

WILLIAM/OLIVE: Nothing, Sir Roderick! We're fine!

SIR RODERICK: Give the lad his clothes, Missy! Before he catches his death!

SOUND: FISHING REEL - CASTING THEN REELING IN.

SIR RODERICK: HA! Got one!

SOUND: TRANSITION STINGER.

SCENE THREE: EXT. CITY - DAY
(William, Olive)

SOUND: CITY SOUNDS; HORSES CLOPPING; CONVERSATIONS (CONTINUOUS).

SCENE FOUR: INT. WILLIAM'S HOME - DAY
(William, Olive)

SOUND: LARGE DOOR CLOSSES; YOUNG FEET CLIMB WOOD STEPS.

SCENE FIVE: INT. WILLIAM'S ATTIC DOMAIN - DAY
(William, Olive)

SOUND: SMALL WOOD DOOR OPENS; CLOSSES; YOUNG FOOTSTEPS EVERYWHERE; CITY IN B.G.

OLIVE: 'Tis been quite a while since I was up here in this... place.

WILLIAM: Will wonders never cease.

OLIVE: Beg your pardon? (pause) Hmmpf. Tell me again why your parents have banished you to the attic?

WILLIAM: As you see, this is my laboratory.

SOUND: CLINKING GLASS; OBJECTS MOVED.

WILLIAM: Don't touch those, please.

SOUND: MORE OBJECTS MOVED.

WILLIAM: No, not those either. Of course I have my special collections here as well.

OLIVE: Your... Oh my. All those bottles. There must be at least *dozens* of--

WILLIAM: One hundred and two. Well, one more now.

SOUND: CLINKING GLASS; RUSTLING PAPER.

OLIVE: Don't you even want to read that note?

WILLIAM: Perhaps later. But for now...

WILLIAM STRAINS TO REACH A HIGH SHELF (GRUNTS, PANTS, ETC.)

SOUND: BOTTLE PLACED ON SHELF; MULTIPLE GLASS CLINKS; FOOTSTEPS.

WILLIAM: There! Perfect!

OLIVE: I don't understand, William. What on earth are you going to do with all those bottles. And so many green ones.

WILLIAM: For now, I shall admire them.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS AROUND ROOM.

OLIVE: And *what will you do after--*

WILLIAM: And eventually, I shall investigate how it was I came to find each one in precisely the same spot in the stream.

OLIVE: Oh. (pause) But, why?

WILLIAM: Umm... Olive. Olivia.

OLIVE: Yes, William?

WILLIAM: Do you still have my socks?

SOUND: MUSIC OUT.

END:

