TOAST TO MARY SUTHERLAND Delivered to Cape Fear, NC By Rich Krisciunas © 03/21/23

Oscillating outside, her heart was broken. Holmes knew her plight before she'd even spoken. One boot with a toe cap, another one plain Both boots unbuttoned, Holmes noticed her pain.

With her mother and step-dad Mary Sutherland resided But her parents' plans and hers, eventually, collided. She was not too attractive and hopelessly single. So she went to a dance where her plan was to mingle.

The Gasfitter's Ball was the perfect place To meet eligible bachelors, face to face. With step-dad away, Mary had her chance. By the end of the night she'd found romance.

She was attracted to an unusual suitor a cashier with tinted glasses started to woo her. His attraction was evident right from the start The words that he spoke came straight from his heart.

He whispered sweet nothings each night in the park. She didn't notice his visits only came after dark. A near-sighted typist with eyes that failed her, He captured her heart with letters he'd mailed her.

Hosmer Angel was the name that he used He quickly asked her to marry, she couldn't refuse. She swore on a bible she'd always be true. The guest list would be small, only a few.

Off to the church with her Mom she did ride Wearing a white dress, soon she'd be a bride. But her joy quickly shattered as she stood all alone When her groom disappeared for reasons unknown.

When he didn't arrive, for his safety, she feared. How was it possible that he had just disappeared? So she visited Baker Street to avert her disaster To solve her dilemma she placed her hopes with the Master.

After convincing Windibank to come to 221 B Sherlock uncovered cruel deeds and his fake identity. The solution was simple, no need for an all-nighter. Holmes simply identified Windibank's office typewriter. A Sherlockian Toast (posted 2025-5-4)

Isn't it odd that Holmes chose not to reveal that her step-father was a no good, sleazy heel? Mary's the one who was hurt the most.

So let's raise our glasses and give her this toast.