

**PROTECTING LIZZIE**

*(The scene shifts to 221B Baker Street where MRS. HUDSON comforts a distressed LIZZIE.)*

LIZZIE. Thank you so much, Mrs. Hudson. You've been too kind to me.

MRS. HUDSON. Think nothing of it, dear. I may not approve of Miss Holmes' business, or whatever she calls it, but I'm not one to turn away a soul in need.

LIZZIE. They've been gone so long. Do you have any idea when they will be returning?

MRS. HUDSON. You would think she would tell me something like that, wouldn't you? But you'd be wrong.

LIZZIE. Oh.

MRS. HUDSON. Mrs. Chapman, far be it from me to put my nose in where it doesn't belong, but I really must say that in my day, a young lady would not dream of asking questions about her husband behind his back.

LIZZIE. Even if you knew him to be a criminal?

MRS. HUDSON. Especially if I knew him to be a criminal. Young people today have no sense of propriety. You want my advice, it is your duty to be of help to your husband, no matter what his profession may be.

LIZZIE. Thank you, Mrs. Hudson. You are entirely correct, I'm sure.