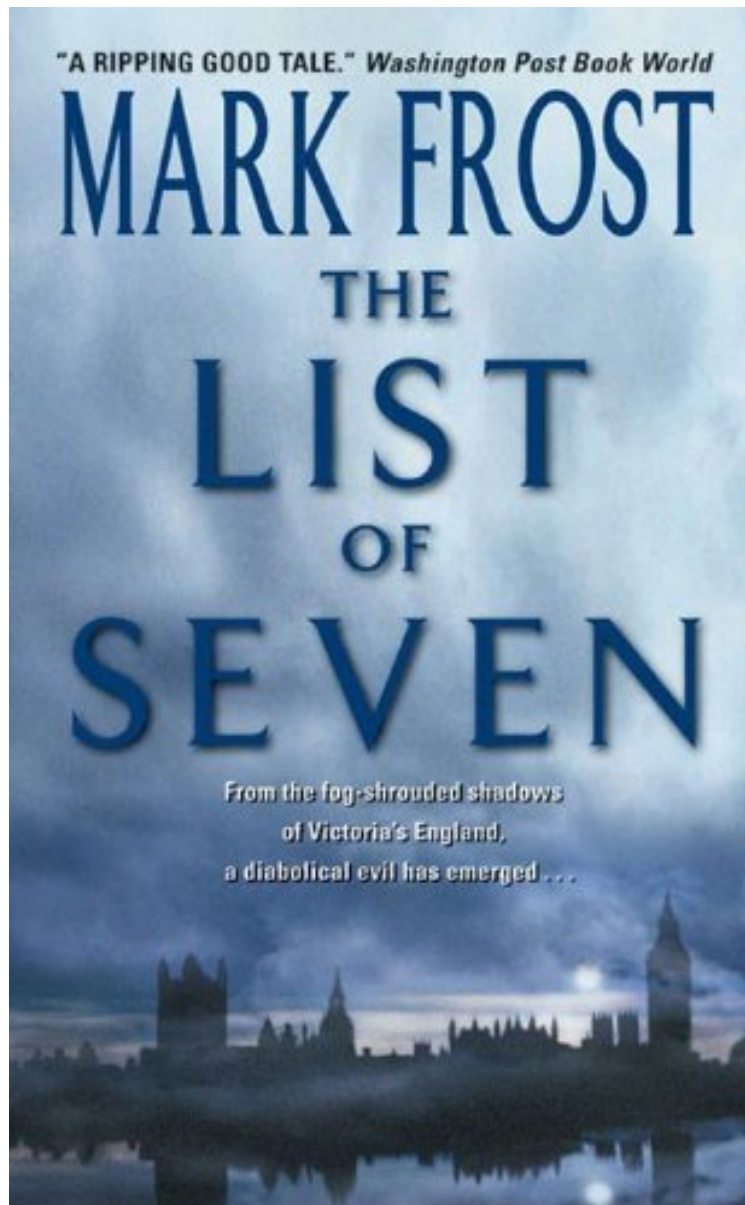


## The List Of 7

Von Mark Frost

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**Von Mark Frost : The List Of 7** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and

all praised The List Of 7:

**Kurzbeschreibung**Dark BrotherhoodAs the city of London slumbers, there are those in its midst who conspire to rule the world through the darkest and most nefarious means. These seven, seated in positions of extraordinary power and influence, marshal forces from the far side to aid them in their fiendish endeavor.**Force of One**In the aftermath of a bloody sance and a terrifying supernatural contact, a courageous young doctor finds himself drawn into a malevolent conspiracy beyond human comprehension.**All or Nothing**The future is not safe, as a thousand-year reign of pure evil is about to begin, unless a small group of stalwart champions can unravel the unspeakable mysteries behind a crime far more terrible than murder.**From Kirkus sHistory** has it that Arthur Conan Doyle based Sherlock Holmes on his med-school teacher Dr. Joseph Bell. Not so, imagines Frost (co-creator of Twin Peaks) in his exhilarating, exuberantly melodramatic first novel: Holmes's real template was one Jack Sparks, Queen Victoria's most secret agent, who enlisted Doyle as his Watson to combat a conspiracy aimed at nothing less than incarnating Satan in human form. Doyle's a young M.D. and writer when he gets an anonymous letter imploring him to save "an innocent's life" from "fraudulent" practitioners of the "spiritual arts"--a letter couched in the same Victorian language that Frost uses to tell his tale, and one appealing to the doctor's interest in psychic phenomena. It's this interest that has prompted Doyle to write about a "Dark Brotherhood" in a novel that's attracted the attention of the "7," a real-life cabal of the black arts. The letter, sent by the cabal, takes Doyle to a sance where a demon manifests and several are slain, and from which Doyle escapes with the help of a mysterious dynamo who calls himself Jack Sparks--though, for his deductive powers, violin playing, and cocaine addiction, he might just as well be called "Holmes." Sparks tells Doyle of the 7 and of their leader, Alexander Sparks, Jack's own brother and nemesis, the crime lord of London (i.e., Moriarity). The game is afoot--and wearing running shoes--as Sparks and Doyle race from one cliffhanger to the next, mixing it up with zombies, villains, giant leeches, and femmes fatales; exploring secret tunnels and a walled castle; crossing paths with Bram Stoker, Madame Blavatsky, Jack the Ripper, and Victoria Regina--even as The Dweller on the Threshold awaits his borning.... Unabashedly corny, and lifting ideas from a dozen sources, including Nicholas Meyer (whose new Holmes pastiche, *The Canary Trainer*, p. 821, it far outclasses)--but a jolly good adventure yarn for that. (Film rights to Universal) -- Copyright 1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.**From Library Journal**This first novel by the cocreator of Twin Peaks arrives amid much hype and expectation. After submitting a manuscript to a London publisher, young Arthur Conan Doyle becomes the target of an occult group that bears a coincidental likeness to the subject of his novel. To Doyle's aid comes Jack Sparks, a mysterious and resourceful figure who ultimately serves as Doyle's inspiration for Sherlock Holmes. With enough twists and last-minute escapes to make it thrillingly palatable, *The List of Seven* seems a sure bet to climb the best seller lists. In the spirit of hyperbole, the publisher is planning to seal an epilog into the back cover to keep nosy Parkers from spoiling the book's ending. As if this were not enough to keep patrons drooling, Universal Studios is planning to release a movie version in summer 1994. All popular collections should purchase. Literary Guild main selection; Mystery Guild, Doubleday, and Science Fiction book club alternates; previewed in *Prepub Alert*, LJ 5/15/93. --Mark Annichiarico, "Library Journal"Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.