

# THE BLUE BEETLE

10¢



64  
PAGES  
IN  
FULL  
COLOR



EXCITING  
ADVENTURES  
of

**THE BLUE BEETLE**  
FOE OF THE UNDERWORLD

Also  
**YARKO**  
THE  
GREAT  
Master  
of  
Magic



# BOYS! I'LL HELP YOU GET A DAISY FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY

—the Frontiersman



HERE'S HOW I HELPED BOB GET HIS DAISY —the Frontiersman

BOB WANTED A DAISY. HE SAW MY AD (LIKE THIS ONE) IN JANUARY —MAILED THE COUPON FOR HIS FREE BIRTHDAY REMINDER KIT EVEN THO' HIS BIRTHDAY WASN'T 'TIL MARCH 15.

ON MARCH 1, OR 2 WEEKS BEFORE BOB'S BIRTHDAY, HIS BIRTHDAY REMINDER KIT ARRIVED. BOB READ THE DIRECTIONS — TOOK A PENCIL AND DREW A RING AROUND THE DAISY HE WANTED ON EACH "REMINDER" — THEN THE FUN BEGAN!

BOB'S MOTHER FOUND A "BIRTHDAY REMINDER" UNDER THE MILK BOTTLE ONE MORNING. (COUSE BOB HAD PUT IT THERE)

EVERY TIME BOB'S DAD PICKED UP A MAGAZINE, A "REMINDER" FELL OUT OF IT.

BOB'S AUNT MARY, WHO LIVES WITH HIS FOLK, FOUND ONE TUCKED IN HER WORK BASKET ONE NIGHT.

BOB PUT A "REMINDER" IN AN ENVELOPE, MARKED IT PERSONAL — IMPORTANT — BUSY — AND MAILED IT TO HIS DAD AT HIS OFFICE! (THIS PROBABLY DID THE TRICK!)

AT LEAST TWICE A WEEK WHEN BOB'S DAD UNFOLDED HIS MORNING PAPER — A "REMINDER" FELL OUT...

BOB USED HIS BIRTHDAY REMINDERS FOR NEARLY 2 WEEKS "WORKING ON THE WHOLE FAMILY."

ON HIS BIRTHDAY, MARCH 15<sup>th</sup> "HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SON!" "GEE THANKS, DAD!"

FELLAS! THOSE BIRTHDAY REMINDERS GOT ME A DAISY CARBINE FOR MY BIRTHDAY. WHY DON'T YOU TRY THE SAME SCHEME — JUST SEND THE COUPON BELOW TO HELP YOU GET THE DAISY YOU WANT!

## Here's WONDERFUL NEWS

BOYS—we'll help you get a quality Daisy Air Rifle for your next birthday IF your birthday comes between now and JULY 15, 1940! Just do this... mail coupons below being sure to enclose 3¢ in stamps to help cover OUR postage-handling costs when we mail the FREE BIRTHDAY REMINDER KIT back to you—about 2 weeks BEFORE your birthday. HAY! Which beautiful, accurate, and thrilling Daisy do you want? Look over the Daisy pictures here... think of the thrilling year-round fun and target shooting ONLY a Daisy can give you... then get busy, send coupon and 3¢ in stamps... and here today in an envelope for your Reminder Kit!

### USE "BIRTHDAY REMINDERS" TO HELP GET A DAISY

Your Free Birthday Reminder Kit contains a whole series of printed "messages" on which you sign your own name—also pictures of Daisy Air Rifles, and other advertising material. Complete Directions are included so you can use "Reminders" to remind your family that you want a Daisy for your birthday. You'll have loads of fun using them. Put 'em under milk bottles in the kitchen, in the mail-box on Dad's easy chair! Mail one to Dad where he works! They'll help you "sell" the folks on getting you a Daisy! ACT NOW! Fill in coupon, place 3¢ in stamps inside an envelope WITH coupon, place a 3¢ stamp ON the envelope and mail today! (Remember—you won't hear from us again 'til you receive your Reminder Kit 2 weeks BEFORE your birthday—but send for it now!)

### —OR BUY YOUR DAISY TODAY!

If you have the money for can get it to buy your Daisy now—get it at your nearest hardware, sporting goods, or department store. If your Dealer hasn't your favorite Daisy in stock, or if you have no Daisy Dealer—send the money for it direct to us and we'll mail your Daisy to you postpaid!

**FREE!** BIRTHDAY REMINDER KIT **SEND COUPON NOW!**

DAISY MANUFACTURING COMPANY  
792 Union Street, Plymouth, Michigan, U.S.A.

Please send me in active about 2 weeks before my Birthday your special new Birthday "Reminders" to help me get a Daisy for my Birthday. I enclose 3¢ in stamps to help cover your cost in handling and mailing the "Reminders" to me.

Month of Birthday ..... Day of Month .....

Present Age .....

MY NAME .....

ST. & NO. .... MIAMI .....

CITY .....

(Please Print Plainly)  
PUT 3¢ IN STAMPS  
inside envelope with this Coupon before mailing!



BE A FRONTIERSMAN CARRY DAISY'S New LIGHTNING LOADER Carbine

Old Scouts and Frontiersmen carried the same style CARBINE. Daisy now offers you the a Frontiersman—buy this husky, sweet-shooting, 500-shot repeating CARBINE—the fastest-loading air rifle ever! Enjoy these special features: (1) Lightning-Loader Shot Magazine Invention lets you load a full tube of BULL'S EYE shot in just 8 seconds. (2) ADJUSTABLE Double-Notch Rear Sight for long and

short range work, target or "mag-shooting." (3) Pistol Grip Stock and Wooden CARBINE HAND HOLD, both in rich walnut finish. (4) Heavy Metal CARBINE STYLE STRAP holds "Magazine" Tube under main barrel. Carbine comes in handsome Yellow Carbon. Get your CARBINE now at your Dealers. Only \$2.50

- 500-Shot Repeater—Cock and shoot 500 times without reloading \$1.75
- Single Shot—Holds only one shot at a time \$1.25
- Break Action Single Shot—A genuine Daisy. Ideal for smaller boys \$1.00

USE DAISY BULLS EYE SHOT  
Buy Daisy Bulls Eye Shot for use in the new Lightning-Loader CARBINE and ALL Air Rifles. This uniform, quality, "chrome-plated" steel shot is specially made for accurate shooting. Insist on DAISY BULLS EYE At Your Dealer!



- 'SCOPE ALONE \$1
- Carbine with Mag. RIFLING \$3.50
- Telescope Sight \$3.50
- Double Barrel 100-Shot Repeater, "break-action" cocks both triggers \$5.00
- 22-Shot Pump Repeater, take-down model with forced-feed shot magazine \$4.50
- Buck Jones Special, A 40-shot hard-hitting, outdoor model \$3.50
- Best Action Special—Telescope-type Sight... \$2.25
- Targeteer Target Outfit, complete with targets, 500 shot, backing \$2.00

SHOOT THE COUPON and 3¢ in stamps FOR FREE BIRTHDAY REMINDER KIT!

## DAISY AIR RIFLES

DAISY MANUFACTURING COMPANY - 792 UNION ST., PLYMOUTH, MICH., U. S. A.

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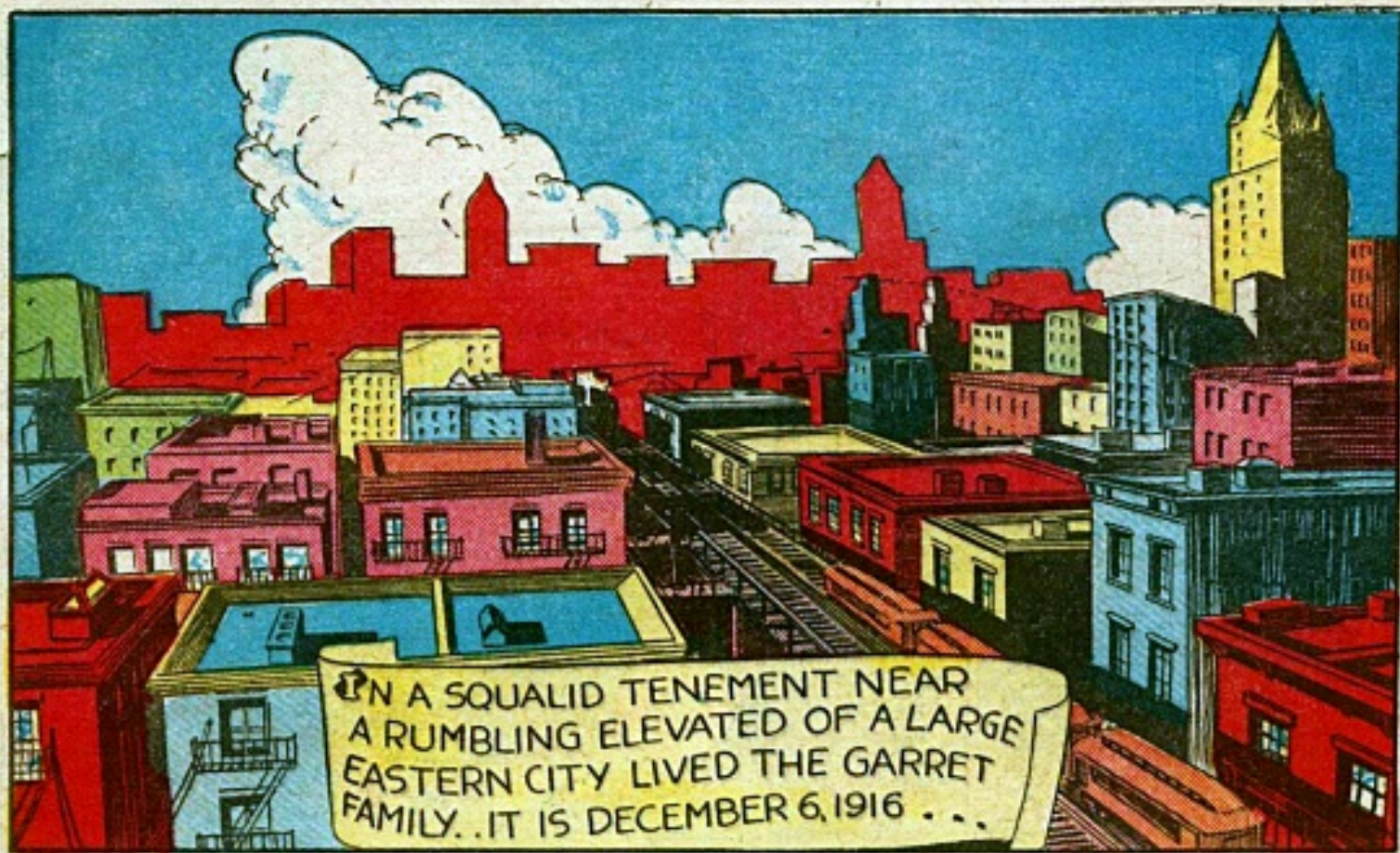
EXTRA

THE

# BLUE BEETLE

SWOOPING DOWN UPON THE UNDER-WORLD TO SMASH GANGLAND'S DENIZENS, COMES THIS DARING TWO-FISTED CHARACTER, THE BLUE BEETLE... SOUGHT BY THE POLICE, AND FEARED BY ALL CRIMINALS, THIS HARD-FIGHTING CRUSADER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE IS IN REALITY DAN GARRET, A ROOKIE POLICEMAN.....





INSIDE THE HOUSE, MICHAEL GARRET, PATROLMAN, NERVOUSLY PACES THE FLOOR . . .



SUDDENLY, A DOOR OPENS AND A SHORT, STOCKY DOCTOR STRIDES IN.

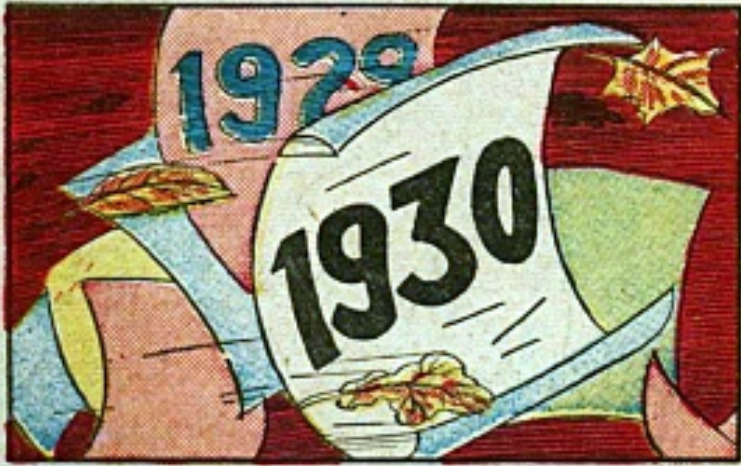


QUICKLY, THE YEARS FLY BY AND THE BABY NAMED DAN GROWS INTO A STURDY BOY. . THEN ONE DAY-





THE YEARS ROLL BY. . . THE DEATH OF DAN'S MOTHER MADE DAN MORE SELF DEPENDENT AND MORE SELF RELIANT THAN MOST BOYS OF HIS AGE.

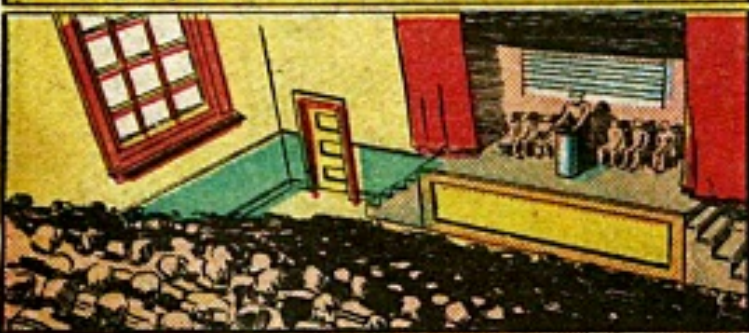


DEVOTED TO HIS DAD, THE STURDY YOUTH  
BUCKS THE ROUGH ELEMENT OF HIS NEIGH-  
BORHOOD; CHAMPIONING THE CAUSE OF  
THE WEAKER CHILDREN AND WORKING  
AT ODD JOBS TO HELP HIS FATHER. . .






WITH A GOAL TO WORK FOR, DAN STUDIED HARD AND SAVED THE MONEY HE EARNED. FINALLY, GRADUATION DAY ARRIVED.



AND SO, ARMED WITH THE SCHOLARSHIP AND AN ARDENT DESIRE TO SUCCEED, DAN GARRET GOES TO STATE UNIVERSITY.


GOODBYE, DAD, I'LL WRITE SOON!

A high-angle shot of a large blue ship's hull. A man in a red shirt is climbing a ladder on the left side. Another man in a white shirt is climbing a ladder on the right side. The background is a bright yellow sky.

HI, FRESHMAN! WELCOME TO STATE!

HELLO! MY NAME IS DAN GARRET.


NOT THE BANKER'S SON?

Three men are standing on a balcony with a metal railing. The man on the left is wearing a brown hat and a yellow and red plaid jacket. The man in the middle is wearing a light blue suit. The man on the right is wearing a brown suit. They are all looking towards each other.

NO, I'M AFRAID NOT. I'M HERE ON A SCHOLARSHIP.

ER-OH-

SCHOLARSHIP? ER-AH-EXCUSE ME, BUT WE HAVE TO SEE SOME FELLOWS!

A close-up of the three men from the previous panel. The man in the blue suit is on the left, looking towards the other two. The man in the brown suit is in the middle, looking towards the man in the plaid jacket. The man in the plaid jacket is on the right, looking towards the man in the blue suit.


SCHOLARSHIP-PHOOEY!



BEWILDERED BUT UNDAUNTED, DAN GOES TO A BOARDING HOUSE AND GETS A ROOM... THERE HE MEETS NICK COLLINS, WHO EXPLAINS WHY THE OTHERS ACTED SO STRANGELY...

-AND AS YOU'RE A SCHOLARSHIP MAN, THEY DON'T THINK YOU'LL BE FRATERNITY MATERIAL

OH, I SEE.

A man in a blue suit (Dan Garret) is sitting on a red chair in a room. A man in a white shirt and blue pants (Nick Collins) is sitting on a red chair across from him. The room has a wooden floor, a window with a yellow frame, and a wooden chest of drawers. A speech bubble from Dan says, "AND AS YOU'RE A SCHOLARSHIP MAN, THEY DON'T THINK YOU'LL BE FRATERNITY MATERIAL." A speech bubble from Nick says, "OH, I SEE."

THE NEXT FEW DAYS ARE BUSY ONES, AND DAN SOON FORGETS HIS HURT. FINALLY, ONE DAY, COMES THAT CALL TO ALL ASPIRING ATHLETES - "FIRST CALL FOR FOOTBALL PLAYERS."



-BUT WHEN THE SEASON OPENS, THE COACH CALLS OUT THE LINEUP, AND AT WING BACK IS DAN GARRET...



BOTH TEAMS FIGHT DESPERATELY, AND NEAR THE END OF THE FOURTH QUARTER, THE SCORE IS STATE-O--CORDELL PREP-O. IT'S STATE'S BALL ON PREP'S 30-



ON THE NEXT PLAY, DAN RECEIVES THE BALL AND SCORES ON A BEAUTIFUL REVERSE, WINNING THE GAME...



AND AT THE END OF AN UNDEFEATED SEASON

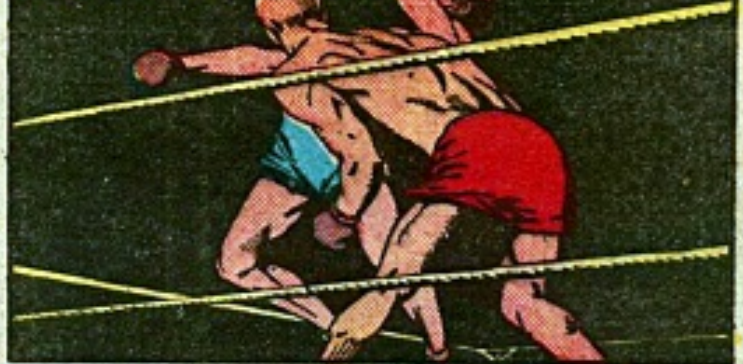




AFTER A SUMMER OF HARD WORK, DAN RETURNS TO SCHOOL.. A SOPHOMORE...



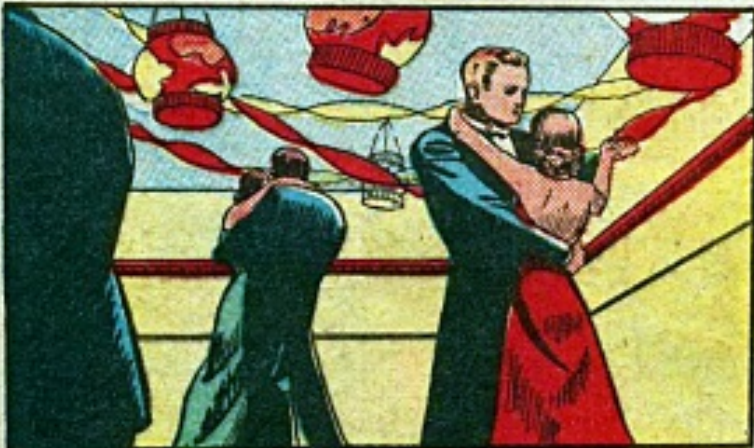
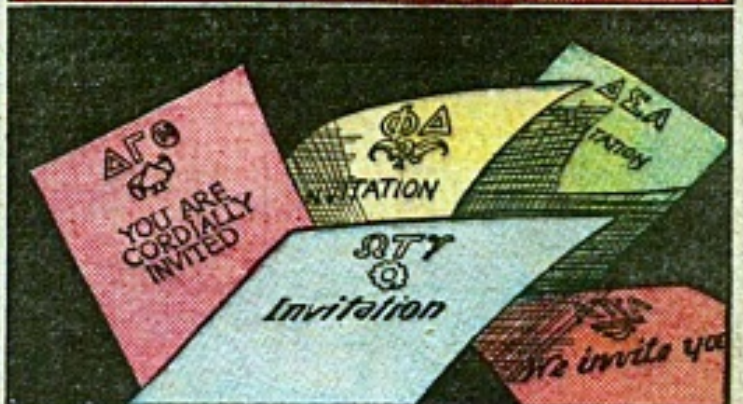
GOING OUT FOR BOXING, DAN SOON BECOMES CHAMPION..



AS A HOCKEY STAR, DAN ACHIEVES SUCCESS AND POPULARITY. .



AND SOON HIS COMPANY IS SOUGHT BY ALL.



HAPPY HOURS ROLL INTO DAYS AND WEEKS AND YEARS..ONE DAY IN HIS SENIOR YEAR, THERE IS A KNOCK AT HIS DOOR. . . .



TELEGRAM FOR ME? .....GOOD LORD!

DAN, WHAT IS IT?



IT'S ABOUT MY F-FATHER! I MUST GO TO HIM AT ONCE!

Teley  
YOUR FATHER WAS WOUNDED IN LINE OF DUTY. STOP COME IMMEDIATELY  
-MANNIGAN

A FEW HOURS LATER, DAN RUSHES TO HIS FATHER'S BEDSIDE...



MEANWHILE, AT THE HOME OF 'CHICK' ALONZO, A NOTORIOUS GANGSTER AND GAMBLER

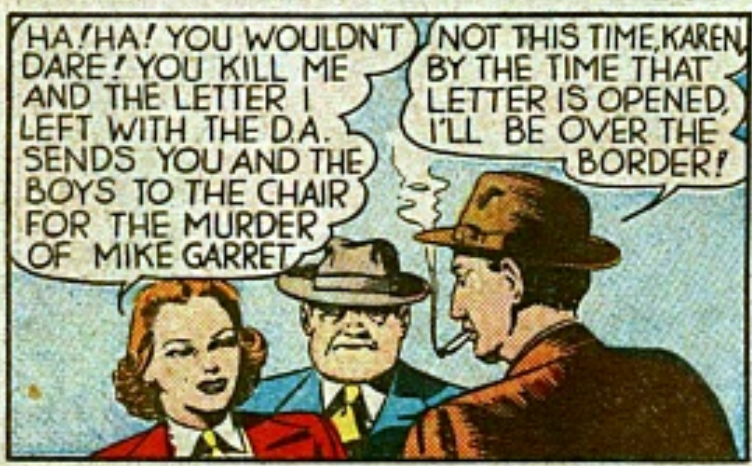


THE DAME'S HERE LIKE YOU ORDERED, BOSS.

WELL, 'CHICK'?



AH! KAREN DOBBS, THE NEWS' ACE REPORTER. I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS FOOLING AROUND, KAREN. EITHER YOU STOP BLACK-MAILING ME OR ELSE...



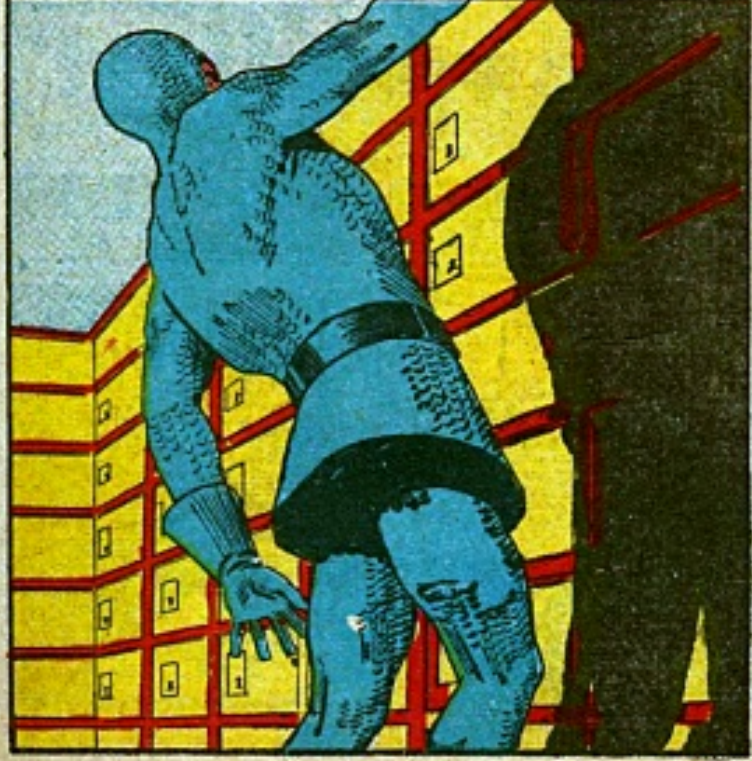
HA! HA! YOU WOULDN'T DARE! YOU KILL ME AND THE LETTER I LEFT WITH THE D.A. SENDS YOU AND THE BOYS TO THE CHAIR FOR THE MURDER OF MIKE GARRET.

NOT THIS TIME, KAREN. BY THE TIME THAT LETTER IS OPENED, I'LL BE OVER THE BORDER!



IT WAS JUST LUCK THAT YOU GOT PICTURES OF THE SHOOTING NOW. YOU'LL SUFFER FOR EVERY CENT YOU SQUEEZED OUTA ME.. I'VE GOT A FEW SWEET TORTURES IN MIND.

LATE THAT NIGHT, A DARK FIGURE IN A STRANGE COSTUME PICKS THE LOCK TO THE SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX IN POLICE HEADQUARTERS.



SILENTLY HE WITHDRAWS A LETTER AND READS IT.



'CHICK' ALONZO! SO HE MURDERED MY FATHER!

REPLACING THE LETTER, THE FIGURE WEARING A BLUE BEETLE INSIGNA DASHES OFF TO AVENGE HIS FATHER'S DEATH...



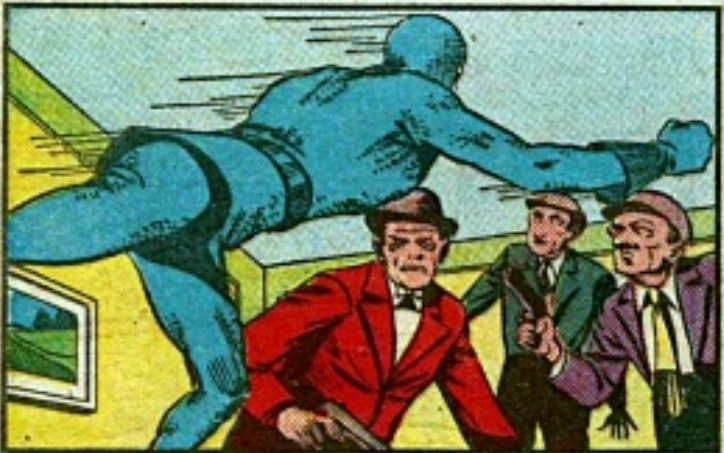
WHILE THE BLUE BEETLE RUSHES TO ALONZO'S HOUSE, THE GANGSTER PREPARES TO TORTURE THE FRIGHTENED GIRL, KAREN DOBBS.

YOU WOULDN'T DARE!

OH NO! TIE HER UP, BOYS-- SHE WON'T BE SO BEAUTIFUL WHEN I GET THROUGH CARVING HER!



TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF THAT GIRL!!

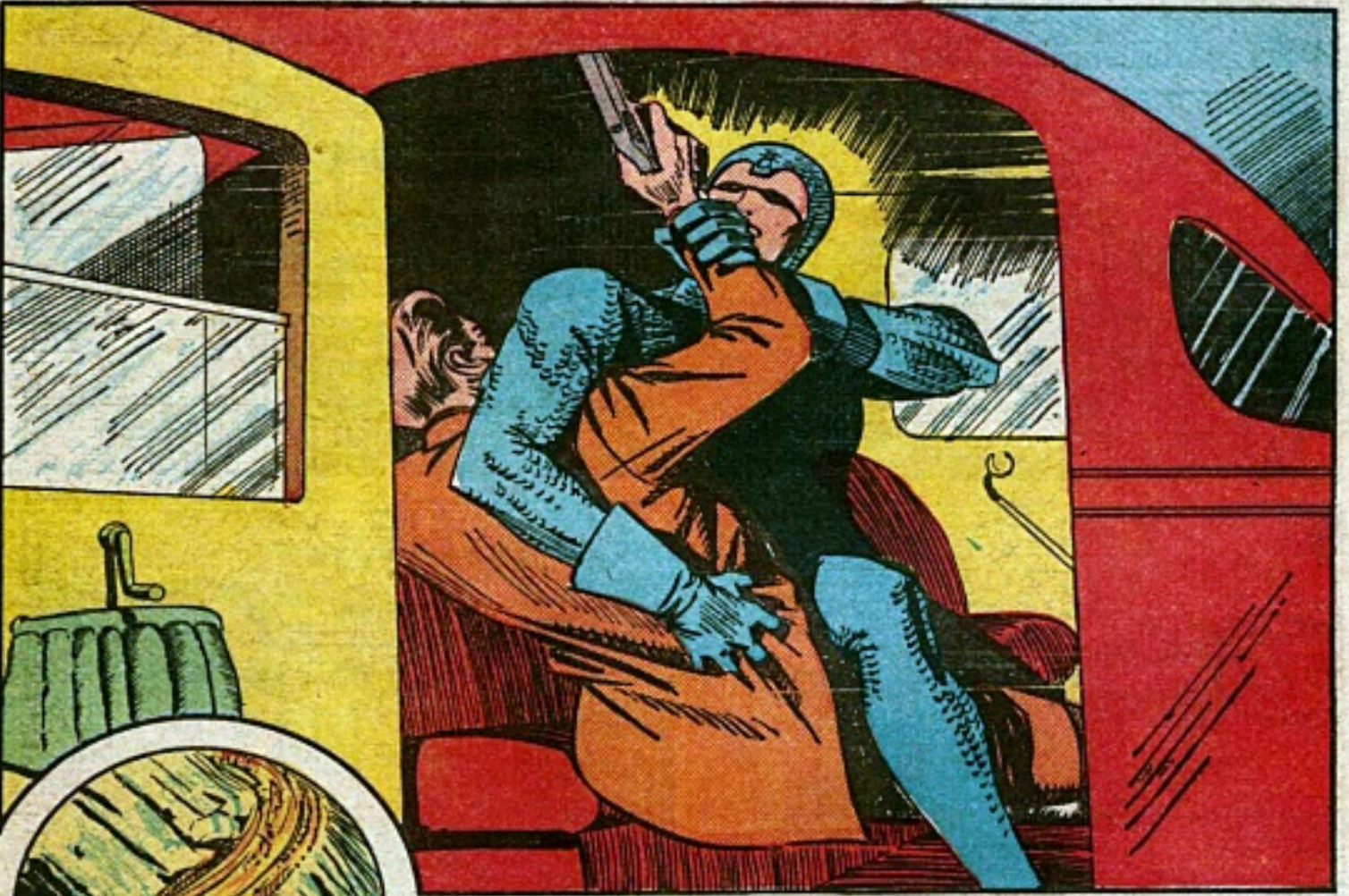




MEANWHILE, IN HIS POWERFUL TOURING CAR, ALONZO SPEEDS FOR THE BORDER...



SUDDENLY, A SMALL BEETLE ALIGHTS ON THE WINDSHIELD.



AN HOUR LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS

THIS IS THE ALONZO GANG, CHIEF. THE GIRL SAYS SHE CAN PROVE THEY KILLED MIKE GARRET! "CHICK" GOT AWAY.



SUDDENLY, THE LIGHTS GO OUT . . .

HEY! WHAT TH-- PUT ON THEM LIGHTS!

I GOT THE SWITCH!

AS THE LIGHTS GO ON . . .

SERGEANT! LOOK! IT'S "CHICK" ALONZO!

THERE'S A NOTE ATTACHED!



LISTEN TO THIS! "THIS IS MY FIRST BLOW AGAINST CRIME. I SHALL NOT REST UNTIL GANGDOM IS WIPED OUT." SIGNED "THE BLUE BEETLE"



SEVERAL WEEKS LATER . . .



WELL, DAN, THAT CLEARS UP THE MYSTERY OF YOUR FATHERS DEATH. I'D LIKE TO CATCH THIS BLUE BEETLE, AND SEE WHAT HE'S LIKE.

MAYBE YOU WILL, MIKE.



I KNOW I WILL! I'LL GET HIM IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO. TECHNICALLY, HE'S A LAW-BREAKER!

NO DOUBT.



# The BLUE BEETLE

By Charles Nicholas

★ DAILY STAR  
MR. VANDER, AN  
DAUGHTER AND  
JOHN BRANDE  
HIS SECRETAR  
KIDNAPPED!



WHILE DAN GARRET WAS PATROLLING HIS BEAT, A CAR, WITH THE MUZZLE OF A MACHINE GUN PROTRUDING FROM A WINDOW, SUDDENLY SWOOPED DOWN ON HIM. DAN DROPPED TO THE SIDE-WALK AND FIRED AT THE AUTOMOBILE.

A MAN IS THROWN FROM THE SPEEDING CAR....



DAN GARRET FEELS PAIN SHOOT UP HIS LEFT ARM. HEEDLESS OF HIS WOUND HE GOES TO THE FALLEN MAN.



I WONDER WHO FELL OUT OF THAT CAR?





**IN THE SERGEANT'S OFFICE . . . .**

MR. VANDER DIED AT 10 PM, DAN, BUT THERE IS STILL HIS DAUGHTER AND HIS SECRETARY, JOHN BRANDES, BEING HELD

AREN'T THERE ANY CLUES?

ONLY THE CAR THAT THEY DITCHED. WE HAVEN'T EXAMINED IT YET DAN, THAT ARM OF YOUR'S NEEDS REST. TAKE THE REST OF THE DAY OFF!

LATER, DAN GARRET, DRESSED IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES, LOOKS OVER THE GANGSTER'S CAR . . . .

HMM. THE NUMBER WAS FILED OFF AS USUAL.

HE PUTS A DROP OF A SPECIALLY PREPARED CHEMICAL ON THE FILED OFF SURFACE . . .

IN A FEW MINUTES THE NUMBERS WILL APPEAR.

AND LATER, AT HEADQUARTERS

THE CAR BELONGS TO MIKE RAVANI, A GARAGE OWNER.

THAT NIGHT DAN VISITS A DRUGGIST, AN OLD FRIEND OF HIS

WHY, HELLO, DAN.

HELLO, ABE, I'M GOING TO THE BACK ROOM.

A LIGHT FLICKERS FOR SEVERAL MINUTES, AND THEN DIES OUT. A FIGURE EMERGES, AND DRIVES AWAY IN A HIGH-POWERED CAR

IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY, ON THE TOP FLOOR OF A DIRTY GARAGE, THE BANKER'S DAUGHTER IS BEING TORTURED.

BE SENSIBLE NOW, GIRLIE. BETTER TELL US THE COMBINATION OR YOU'LL GET BURNED!

SUDDENLY ONE OF THE THUGS STOPS IN HIS TRACKS. HIS EYES WIDEN WITH TERROR. . .

A-A BLUE BEETLE!

LOOK!

THE BLUE BEETLE!

WHAT DO YOU WANT, BLUE BEETLE?!

IT WON'T BE NECESSARY TO TORTURE THAT GIRL ANY LONGER. I KNOW THE COMBINATION TO THE BANK VAULT, AND IF YOU GIVE ME 40% OF THE TAKE, I'LL TELL YOU.

HOW DO I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU?

YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE CHANCE.. WELL, DO YOU WANNA PLAY BALL?

THEN THE TELEPHONE RINGS, AND THE LEADER PICKS IT UP.

CLICK!

YEH, YEH. BUT WHO IS THIS?

ALL RIGHT, BLUE BEETLE, IT'S A DEAL. LET'S HAVE THE VAULT COMBINATION.

IT'S TWO LEFT, ONE RIGHT, THEN THREE LEFT AND FOUR COMPLETE TURNS.

THAT CHECKS UP WITH THE INFORMATION I JUST RECEIVED.. BUT YOU'RE COMING WITH US, JUST IN CASE IT'S DOUBLE-CROSS!

TRY AND LOSE ME!

LEFT ALONE FOR A MOMENT, THE BLUE BEETLE TAKES OUT A SMALL INSTRUMENT WHICH HE INVENTED.....

HELLO? POLICE HEADQUARTERS??

THE BLUE BEETLE WIRELESS PHONE

AT THE POLICE STATION.....

WHAT!?! THE BLUE BEETLE! AT THE NATIONAL BANK AT 12 TONIGHT. BUT, HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!

MEANWHILE, THE GANGSTERS ARRIVE AT THE BANK...

OKAY BOYS, YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS!

THE GANGSTERS ENTER THE BANK... THE YAWNING MUZZLES OF THEIR MACHINE GUNS HUNGRILY SWEEPING THE INTERIOR.....

RAISE 'EM HIGH!

WE CUT THE ALARM SYSTEM, BOSS

IN VAIN THE LEADER TWIRLS THE DIALS.

THE BLUE BEETLE DOUBLE-CROSSED US. GRAB HIM!

THE BLUE BEETLE ACTS QUICKLY



AS THE GANGSTERS SURROUND HIM, THE BLUE BEETLE HURLS A CAPSULE...



AND THEN MAKES FOR HIS POWERFUL CAR.....



NEXT MORNING DAN IS BACK IN UNIFORM PATROLLING HIS BEAT...



The

Charles  
Nicholas

# BLUE BEETLE

ONAL  
BANK



WITH GUARDS STANDING BY, AN ARMORED TRUCK IS BEING LOADED WITH \$80,000. THE PAYROLLS OF SEVERAL HUNDRED POOR, HARD WORKING MEN, WHO DEPEND ENTIRELY ON THEIR WEEKS PAY TO KEEP THEIR FAMILIES FROM STARVING... SUDDENLY, THE QUIET SCENE IS CHANGED INTO A DEAFENING CONFUSION.....

DAN GARRET, A YOUNG POLICEMAN, DONS THE CLOTHES OF THE BLUE BEETLE, TO RID THE CITY OF THE WORST CRIMINALS IT HAS EVER SEEN...



QUICKLY AND EXPERTLY, THE MONEY IS TRANSFERRED TO THE GANGSTERS' CAR.....

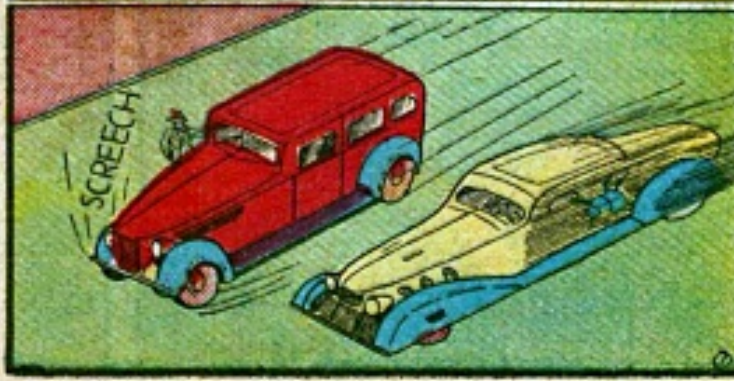
THE THUGS' AUTO PULLS AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF MURDER. A MOMENT LATER, A HIGH-POWERED CAR LEAVES ITS HIDING PLACE AND FOLLOWS.....



SUDDENLY, THE JUBILANT FACES OF THE ROBBERS ARE FILLED WITH TERROR, WHEN THEY SEE SOMETHING ON THE WINDSHIELD.....



THE BLUE BEETLE'S CAR FORCES THE OTHER CAR TO STOP, AND THE GANGSTERS JUMP OUT...



THE BLUE BEETLE GOES INTO ACTION.....



ONE GANGSTER MANAGES TO GRAB THE POWERFUL AND ELLUSIVE FOE OF THE UNDERWORLD.....



THE BLUE BEETLE EVADES THE TERRIFIC BLOW....

THE LEADER OF THE THUGS KNOCKS HIM UNCONSCIOUS WITH THE BUTT OF HIS GUN.



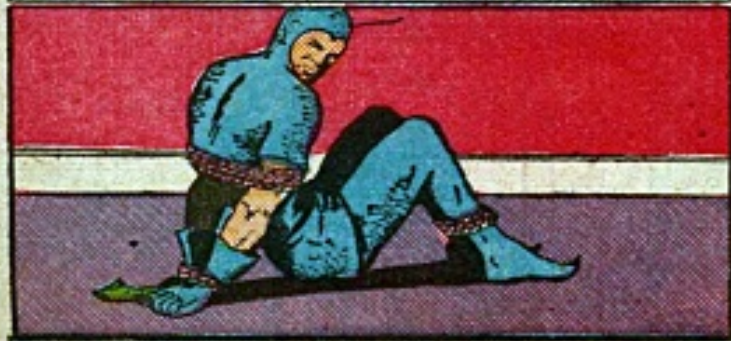
THROW HIM INTO THE CAR AND LET'S GO!



IN THEIR HIDEOUT, THE GANGSTERS ARE COUNTING THE MONEY WHICH THEY HAD STOLEN.....



AS THEY LEAVE, A BILL FLUTTERS TO THE FLOOR, UNNOTICED BY THE THUGS...THE BLUE BEETLE STRUGGLES TO IT, AND GRASPS IT.....



WITH THE MONEY, HE HOBBOLES TO A NEAR-BY WINDOW.



HE SLIPS THE BILL UNDER THE SLIGHTLY OPENED WINDOW....



BELOW, A NEWSPAPER BOY NOTICES IT....



AND TAKES IT TO A POLICEMAN.....



BY GOLLY! IT'S ONE OF THE MARKED BILLS FROM THAT BANK ROBBERY THIS MORNING! FAITH, I'D BETTER CALL HEADQUARTERS AND TELL THEM TO SEARCH THIS BUILDING!



AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS.....



SOON, POLICE CARS ROAR THROUGH THE STREETS TOWARD THE GANGSTERS' HIDEOUT.....



MEANWHILE, THE HEAD OF THE BANK THIEVES DECIDES TO DO AWAY WITH THE BLUE BEETLE..



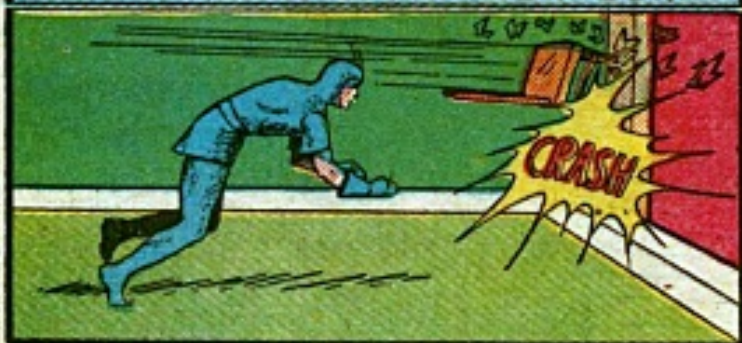
SUDDENLY, THE THUGS HEAR POLICE SIRENS... PANIC-STRICKEN, THEY RUN OUT THE DOOR....



THE LEADER LEAPS TO A CLOSET, GRASPING A RING ATTACHED TO THE FLOOR OF THE CLOSET, HE LIFTS A TRAPDOOR.....



THE BLUE BEETLE CUTS HIS BONDS WITH A KNIFE WHICH THE GANGSTER HAD DROPPED. PICKING UP A CHAIR, HE HURLS IT AT THE WINDOW...



IN THE BASEMENT, THE LEADER OF THE BANK THIEVES DRIVES OUT A SECRET DOOR.



AS THE GLOATING THUG DRIVES OUT, THE BLUE BEETLE STANDS POISED ON THE WINDOW SILL OF THE THIRD STORY.



SOME TIME LATER, MANNIGIN COMES INTO THE POLICE OFFICE DRAGGING THE UNCONSCIOUS LEADER OF THE GANGSTERS...



IN THE HOME OF TIM, THE NEWSPAPER BOY WHOSE ALERTNESS HELPED ROUND UP THE GANG, AND SAVE THE BLUE BEETLE...



NEXT MORNING, DAN IS ON HIS BEAT.....



DAN GARRET WILL AGAIN BE WITH YOU IN THE NEXT ISSUE TO PLAY THE STIRRING ROLE OF THE **BLUE BEETLE**

# THE BLUE BEETLE

**CRASH**

DAN GARRET, AN ORDINARY POLICEMAN BY DAY, ENTERS THE ROLE OF THE BLUE BEETLE TO FIGHT THE SPREADING LOAN SHARK RACKET.



IN ONE OF THE PROMINENT LOAN COMPANIES A SHABBILY DRESSED MAN TELLS THE AGENTS THAT HE CANNOT PAY THE AMOUNT OF INTEREST THEY ASK OF HIM. THE LEADER, ENRAGED, SEIZES THE FRAIL MAN AND THROWS HIM BODILY AGAINST THE WALL.

By  
*Charles Nicholas*



BUT THAT'S NOT FAIR! I BORROWED ONLY FIFTY DOLLARS AND NOW YOU SAY I OWE YOU A HUNDRED DOLLARS. YOU DIDN'T TELL ME THAT THE INTEREST WOULD AMOUNT TO SO MUCH! I CAN'T PAY!

I'M GONNA GIVE YA SOMETHIN' THAT'LL CHANGE YER MIND!



HE'S UNCONSCIOUS, BOSS! SHALL WE DUMP HIM INTO THE RIVER?

YEH! IT'LL LOOK LIKE A SUICIDE.

AND WHEN YOU FINISH, I WANT YOU TO CALL ON MR BARNES. HE'S OVER-DUE TOO!



LATER TWO THUGS APPROACH MR BARNES.

READY TO PAY UP, BARNES?

ER-I-I'M SORRY BUT I CANT PAY YOU NOW, GENTLEMEN.

OH YEAH? WELL WE'LL FIX THAT!



LOCK!



SEEING THAT THE POLICE CANNOT GET ANY DAMAGING EVIDENCE AGAINST THE RACKETEERS, GARRET VISITS THE LOAN OFFICE, AS JOHN BLAKE.



AH! YOU UNDERSTAND ALL THE TERMS, MR. BLAKE? GOOD THEN SIGN THIS PAPER AND YOU GET YOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS

GLADLY!

TWO WEEKS LATER, SEVERAL BURLY MEN ACCOST DAN, AND QUESTION HIS FAILURE TO PAY THE INTEREST ON HIS LOAN.



BUT I HAVEN'T THE MONEY, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT I'D HAVE TO PAY TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS

THERE WERE TWO OTHER GUYS WHO COULDN'T PAY, AND NOW THEY'RE PUSHIN' UP DAISIES!

AS THE GANGSTERS ARE ABOUT TO ATTACK DAN, HE SWINGS INTO ACTION.



SOCK!

DAN FIGHTS LIKE A WILD CAT, AND THE GANGSTERS SOON LEARN THAT THEY PICKED ON THE WRONG CLIENT.



WHAM!



OWWW HELP! HELP! STOP!

DAN GARRET LEAVES HIS ATTACKERS SPRAWLED ON THE STREETS, UNCONSCIOUS OR BADLY BEATEN....



LOOK! ON YOUR COAT! THE SIGN OF THE BLUE BEETLE!

THE GANGSTERS RETURN TO THEIR ANGRY CHIEF, AND EXPLAIN THEIR UNFORTUNATE MEETING WITH THE BLUE BEETLE...



WE'RE QUITTING!! THE BLUE BEETLE'S ON OUR TRAIL! HE'S TOO MUCH FER US!

OH, NO YOU'RE NOT YOU'RE STAYING RIGHT HERE!



THE GANGSTER IS TERRIFIED WHEN HE SEES SOMETHING RUN ALONG THE WINDOW...

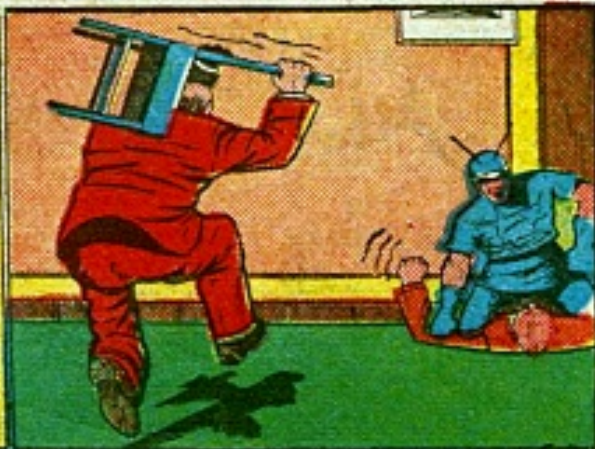
SUDDENLY, THERE IS A TERRIFIC CRASH, AS A FIGURE CLAD IN BLUE COMES HURTLING THROUGH THE WINDOW.....



THE CROOKS RECOVERING THEIR COURAGE, TURN ON THE BLUE BEETLE AND RUSH HIM LIKE MAD BEASTS...



ONE OF THEM PICKS UP A CHAIR, AND SPRINGS TOWARDS THE BLUE BEETLE!



THRUSTING OUT HIS POWERFUL LEGS, THE GREAT FOE OF THE UNDERWORLD CATCHES THE ON-RUSHING THUG IN THE STOMACH, AND HURLS HIM THROUGH THE AIR.....



THE MOB-LEADER, SEEING THAT HE IS THE ONLY ONE LEFT DASHES FRANTICALLY TOWARDS THE DOOR TO ESCAPE THE MENACING BLUE BEETLE....



DISPOSING OF HIS LAST ANTAGONIST, THE BLUE BEETLE TURNS ON THE FRIGHTENED GANG LEADER, AND WITH A FLYING TACKLE, BRINGS HIM DOWN....



MEANWHILE, THE COMMISSIONER CALLS THE CHIEF OF POLICE INTO HIS OFFICE....

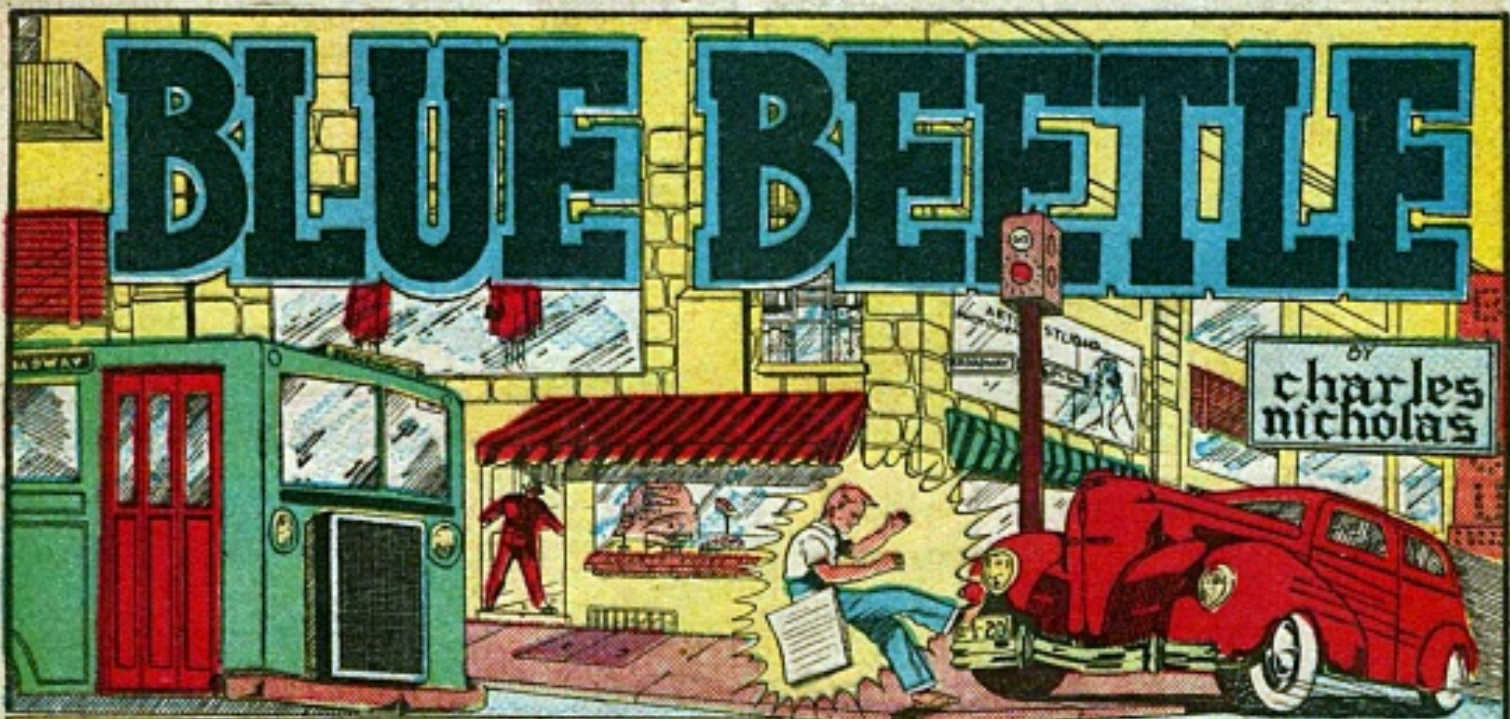


AS THE DESPONDENT POLICE CHIEF OPENS THE DOOR, HE IS STARTLED TO SEE A GROUP OF THUGS ROPED TIGHTLY WITH A NOTE PINNED ON TO THE FOREMOST ONE



# BLUE BEETLE

BY  
**charles  
nicholas**



THE GREEN LIGHT FLASHES. A NEWSPAPER BOY STARTS TO CROSS THE STREET. A POWERFUL CAR SUDDENLY LURCHES ON TO THE CURB AND DESCENDS ON THE TERRIFIED YOUTH. THE CAR SENDS THE BOY SPRAWLING ON THE PAVEMENT. AS QUICKLY AS THE AUTO APPEARS, IT DISAPPEARS INTO THE HEAVY TRAFFIC.....

SCRIPT BY  
**PROTECTION  
INSURANCE**  
FOR  
**NEWSBOYS**  
STARRING

DAN GARRET GATHERS THE BOY IN HIS ARMS AND RUSHES HIM TO A HOSPITAL... LATER, AS THE YOUTH IS CONVALESCING THE YOUNG POLICEMAN VISITS HIM.



GEE, DAN, I'M GLAD YOU CAME.. I'VE GOT SOMETHIN' TO TELL YOU

OKAY, YOUNG FELLER, LET'S HEAR IT.



SEVERAL DAYS AGO, TWO MEN CAME TO ME WHILE I WAS SELLIN' NEWSPAPERS ON MY REGULAR CORNER. ONE SAID THAT I SHOULD GIVE THEM HALF MY SALARY EACH WEEK OR SOMETHIN' MIGHT HAPPEN TO ME.. I REFUSED!



I THINK THE SAME MEN DROVE THE CAR THAT HIT ME!

AND YOU SAY THAT SOME FRIENDS OF YOURS HAVE BEEN THREATENED ALSO.



MEANWHILE, IN A HIGHLY MODERNIZED OFFICE, A HEAVY SET MAN GLOATS OVER THE EVENING PAPER.

YOU GUYS OUGHTA BE MORE CAREFUL WITH YER DRIVING, YOU NEARLY KILLED A KID!

ON OUR NEXT JOB WE WILL! THOSE KIDS ARE PRETTY SMART!



THAT EVENING, AS A NEWSBOY MAKES HIS WAY THROUGH A DARK ALLEY...

HELLO, LITTLE BOY... YOU REMEMBER US?

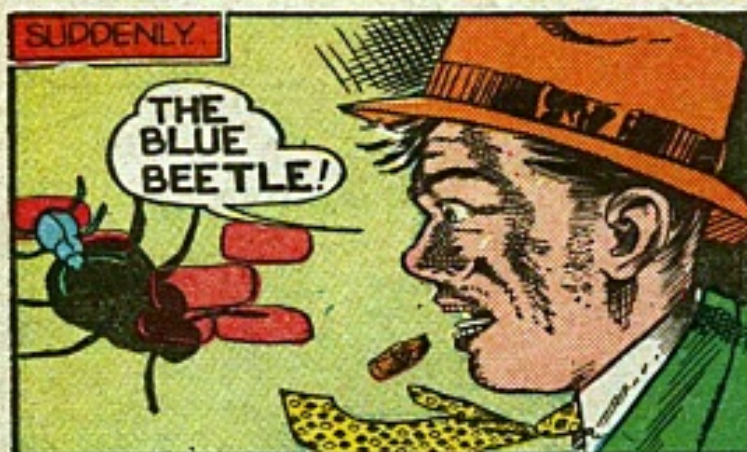
WE CAME TO COLLECT SOME DOUGH



I REMEMBER YOU ALL RIGHT/ YOU'RE A TOUGH KID, EH?

A TOUGH KID, EH?

I'LL GIVE HIM SOME CHLOROFORM!



SUDDENLY

THE BLUE BEETLE!



HELLO, RATS! CAN I GET IN ON THIS LITTLE BUSINESS DEAL OF YOURS?

Y-YEH S-SURE LET'S GET OUR HEADS TOGETHER ON THIS! WE CAN MAKE A LOTTA DOUGH!



THAT'S A VERY GOOD IDEA!

BOP!



ANYTHING TO HELP OUT THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT.

KEEP YOUR CITY CLEAN  
DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION  
GARBAGE



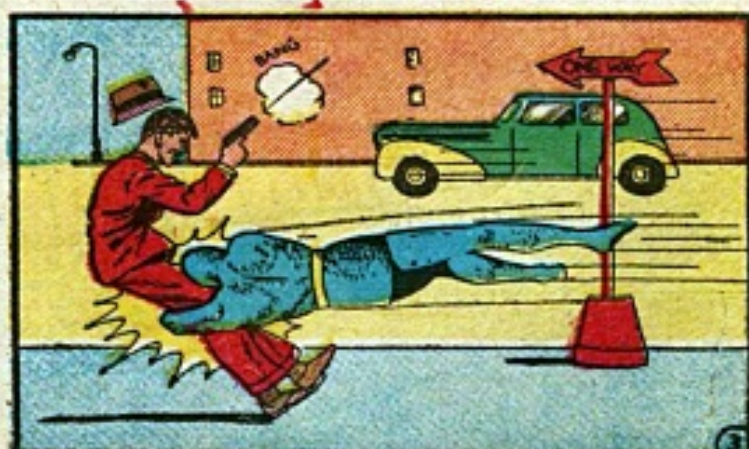
HERE, YOUNG MAN, IS A WHISTLE FOR YOU AND I WANT YOU TO GIVE ONE TO EACH OF THE OTHER BOYS WHO WERE THREATENED... WHEN YOU'RE IN ANY DANGER, BLOW IT!

YOU'RE IN ANY DANGER, BLOW IT!

GEE! THANKS!



QUICKLY THE BOY PULLS OUT HIS BLUE BEETLE WHISTLE AND MAKES A WEIRD SOUND...



PICKING UP THE GANGSTER WHO HAD TRIED TO KILL HIM, THE BLUE BEETLE HURLS HIM AT AN ONRUSHING THUG..



THE BATTERED THUGS RETURN TO BLACKART FOR THEIR PAY ENVELOPES, WHICH THE BLUE BEETLE HAD EMPTIED..



POOR OL' MANNIGAN!  
BUT BE CAREFUL DAN, FOR IN YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE YOU WILL GET QUITE A SURPRISE

# BLUE BEETLE

By Charles Nicholas

**A TRAP FOR  
The  
BLUE BEETLE**

I'M GONNA GET THE BLUE BEETLE!



WHEN THE BLUE BEETLE SEES THE AD IN THIS PAPER ASKIN' FOR HIS AID IN A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH, HE'LL WALK RIGHT INTO OUR HANDS!



MEANWHILE, IN THE BACK ROOM OF A DRUGSTORE, DAN GARRET, AN ORDINARY POLICEMAN, SCANS THE EVENING PAPER...

LOOKS LIKE THE BLUE BEETLE HAS ANOTHER JOB TONIGHT. I THINK YOU OUGHT TO GO DISGUISED, DAN, IT'S LESS DANGEROUS



SOON, DR. FRANZ'S NIMBLE FINGERS ARE ALTERING DAN'S YOUTHFUL APPEARANCE...

SAY, I'M BEGINNING TO LOOK OLDER ALREADY.



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

THAT'S A SWELL JOB YOU DID, DR. FRANZ, I CAN'T RECOGNIZE MYSELF!







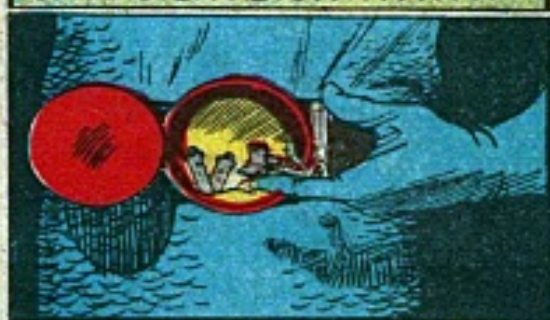
SOMETIME LATER, THE BLUE BEETLE FINDS HIMSELF IN A STRONG CELL.....



IT'S LUCKY I'M PREPARED FOR THINGS LIKE THIS!



THE BLUE BEETLE OPENS A SECRET COMPARTMENT IN HIS BELT, AND REMOVES A BUNCH OF MASTER KEYS.....



MEANWHILE, THE DESPERADOS STOP AT A LONELY GASOLINE STATION.



AS THE GANGSTERS RIDE AWAY...



THE GANGSTERS FILE INTO THEIR HIDEOUT, AND THE LEADER SPEAKS.



SUDDENLY THE HEAD THUG LETS OUT A FRIGHTFUL SCREAM





BUT THE BLUE BEETLE CLIMBS A FIRE ESCAPE, AND AWAITS THE ONCOMING THUGS.



SUDDENLY, A LADDER FALLS OVER THE HEADS OF THE FOUR GANGSTERS...



MANNIGAN REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS, AND FINDS A KEY AT HIS FEET..



SOON A PATROL WAGON ARRIVES.



# THE BLUE BEETLE

in  
"DEATH RIDES ON HORSEBACK"

The hand of a killer hovered over a frightened city and policemen strode their beats in the shadow of death. Until the Blue Beetle took a horseback ride in Central Park!

Officer Bannon's grey eyes narrowed as he raised his hands and gazed into the gaping muzzle of a .45.

"So, you're the killer on horseback, eh?" he said mockingly. "Well, it's a pity. . . ."

The bark of the automatic stopped whatever he had attempted to say. The burly policeman slumped to the ground clutching his stomach. A moment later hoofbeats were heard disappearing into the fog that blanketed Central Park.

A week later another policeman was found murdered on his beat. Two days later, another. Then, with diabolical precision, every dawn brought the news of a new death. Always a policeman . . . always the mysterious hoofbeats.

The 14th Precinct police station was filled with stern-faced, blue-coated officers. A husky voice rose above the clamor and the noise of many voices subsided into respectful silence. All heads were turned in the direction of Sergeant Maddon.

"Boys," he began, "Thirty policemen have been murdered within so many days. A killer, clever and expert, is loose somewhere in this city." Maddon's anger was rising with each word. He strove to remain calm, took a deep breath and continued. "Unless this murderer is apprehended within the next twenty-four hours, the entire police system will collapse and chaos will fill the city. If in twenty-four hours, the killer is not captured, New York City will be under martial law!"

Fiercely determined to end this

threat to their force and to avenge their murdered comrades, the officers went grimly back to their posts, after listening to repeated emergency orders.

That night, the city was alive with watchful men. Extra-duty men were put on all beats and blue-coated figures were seen



everywhere, marching in pairs, fingers itching and ready to pull the trigger for that one fatal shot.

Midnight. One o'clock. Two. Three. The city was very quiet now. The nerves of the police force grew tenser. Heavy jaws set tightly. The prowls nosed along the empty streets like suspicious, nervous cats.

Then . . . a yellow jet of flame through the shadows. A shrill scream. An agonized groan. Another uniformed figure falling before the sound of receding hoofbeats!

At once the extra-duty man summoned help. Two police cars whizzed off in the direction of the Park just as a muffled form on horseback galloped toward the entrance. The sharp report of gunfire echoed from the still, grim walls of surrounding buildings, but the horseman had leapt

the park wall and was disappearing through the ghost-like trees.

Suddenly before the speeding patrol cars charged a second horse and rider! The moon's light picked out a bright blue gleam across the shoulders of this mysterious horseman.

"The Blue Beetle!" shouted Sergeant Maddon, who was seated next to the driver of the first car. "So he's in this too. Now we've got two horsemen to catch."

"I don't like this mystery stuff, Sarge," the driver grumbled. "I just hope that first guy isn't headless or somethin'. Where the devil did they go?"

Both horses had disappeared and only the faint pounding of their hoofbeats could be heard in the distance.

But while the baffled police raced aimlessly through the park, the Blue Beetle crashed headlong through the trees, in hot pursuit of the killer. The two riders rounded the bend of the reservoir and for a moment their horses' hoofs clicked a sharp staccato on the asphalt bridge as they crossed. But again the speeding hoofs were dulled as they headed across the open expanse of the Great Lawn.

The old watch tower, now used only as a weather observatory, looked calmly down from atop the steep cliff, on the two racing figures as the distance between them rapidly decreased.

Skirting the lake at the foot of the cliff, the Blue Beetle's horse spurted forward with a sudden burst of energy, but at that instance the first rider turned suddenly and the barrel of his .45 gleamed wickedly in the moonlight. The Beetle's horse buckled forward, mortally wounded.

But the Blue Beetle flew over the falling horse's head and landed on the back of the killer's steed!

Grasping the killer's arm and pinioning them behind his back the Blue Beetle took the reins and tried to stop the horse that was charging straight for the rocky face of the cliff. But the animal would not slow down. The Beetle jerked the reins almost tearing the bit from the horse's mouth. The rocks loomed above, threateningly.

Straight into the rugged wall raced the horse and his two riders! The Blue Beetle turned in time to see the stars blacked out by a section of rock that slipped quickly back into place as they passed through.

"Photo-electric eye, eh? Very ingenious!" At that moment the horse came to a dead stop, jolting the Blue Beetle from his precarious perch to the floor.

"Yes, indeed. Very ingenious my friend. And very smart of you to fall so neatly into my trap." The Beetle looked up into the muzzle of the gun that had murdered so many police. The man on the horse sneered down at him.

"You see, I'm not afraid of those well meaning boy-scouts in brass buttons, but you, my friend, have always been somewhat of a problem to me. I'll have to admit that you're a lot slicker than those policemen. Almost my equal. I couldn't very well afford to have you around after I had demoralized the force to the extent that I planned. When I am ready to take over this city in my own way, I can have no extra worries on my mind. That's why I invited you here tonight."

"Thanks. The pleasure is all mine, I assure you."

The killer's eyes narrowed and his ugly face grew hard with fierce anger. He reached up and pressed his hand against the wall of the cave into which they had entered.

"Further conversation is entirely unnecessary. When they dig you up, that shiny, blue outfit you're wearing won't fit your bones as snugly as it does that thick hide of yours."

At that instant, the floor slipped from under the Blue Beetle!

Down into a dank darkness he fell, landing like a cat on all fours. "Great Caesar! I've got to get out of here!" He heard the satisfied laugh of the murderous horseman as the floor closed over his head.

The Blue Beetle quickly took stock of his surroundings.

"What the ——? The walls of this place are curved! It's an old water main left from the reservoir that used to be here before they filled it up."

He hurried along the big pipe, feeling his way along its rusty walls. It was pitch black and chill, smelling of damp earth. A rat scurried between his legs. At last he came to the end. A dead stop. There was no escape!

Suddenly his frantic hands grasped a handle. He pulled and twisted and jerked with all his mighty strength. Metal scraped against metal. Something tore loose, and a great torrent of water swept him back through the pipe.

"The other reservoir! This main must lead into the one that is still in use."

Swimming against the rush of the water, the Blue Beetle managed to get through into the bottom of the reservoir. In the dark, icy water, he found the gate he had opened and pulled it back into place to prevent the water from flooding away into the old main. In another moment he was

on the surface and heading for the bank. He scaled the wire fence and ran with the speed of an arrow to the road.

When Sergeant Maddon rounded the bend on the road for the fifth time, still in vain pursuit of the killer, he saw a policeman hail him and stopped.

"Dan Garret! What the deuce?"

Five minutes later the old watch tower witnessed a strange sight. A green and white police car cut across the Great Lawn and headed straight toward the bleak face of the cliff. On the running board, an ordinary policeman named Dan Garret pointed the way.

Straight through the rocks raced the car and came to a stop inside the huge cave. Garret leapt from the car and sprang upon the surprised killer. One clip of his fist sent the man sprawling, unconscious to the floor.

Maddon bent over the man. "What a tough baby! He's got a jaw like iron. Garret you must be supernatural to have kayoed him so easily."

"Oh, it was nothing Sergeant," Garret said modestly.

"There's only one other guy who could have done it. The Blue Beetle."

Dan Garret nodded and grinned. "Yeah, he's the next guy we've got to get, and I'd like to take care of him myself."



# YARKO

## THE GREAT

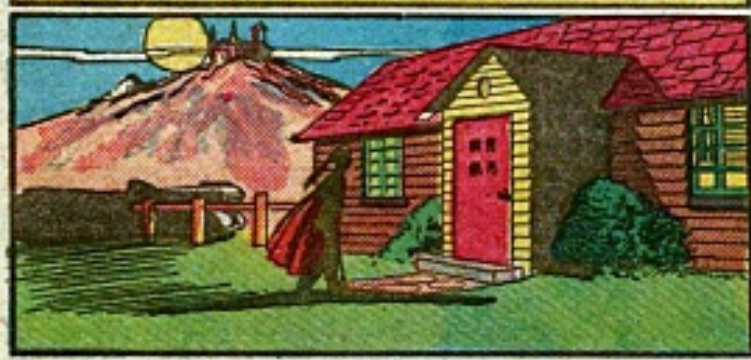


### MASTER OF MAGIC



BURIED IN THE RUGGED MOUNTAINS OF THE ALLEGHENIES, STANDS AN ANCIENT WEATHER-BEATEN MANSION, KNOWN TO THE SUPERSTITIOUS MOUNTAINEERS AS THE OLD HEX HOUSE... ALONE IT STANDS ON A DESOLATE MOUNTAIN TOP SHROUDED IN A CLOAK OF WEIRD MYSTERY... SIX MONTHS AGO, ON THE NIGHT OF THE FULL MOON, THE GOOD PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE FIRST NOTICED THE FLICKERING LIGHTS IN THE OLD HEX HOUSE... SINCE THEN, MANY STRANGE THINGS HAVE OCCURRED THERE...

ON A WIND-SWEPT NIGHT, NOT LONG AFTER THE STRANGE DEATH OF MARTIN ROSS, A SLEEK BLACK CAR PULLS UP IN FRONT OF THE TATE HOME IN HEXVILLE.



GOOD EVENING, CAROLE-- I CAME AS SOON AS I RECEIVED YOUR CABLE

YARKO! OH, IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU--



TELL ME, CAROLE, WHY WAS YOUR MESSAGE SO URGENT?

IT-IT'S MY FATHER-- HE'S BEEN ACTING STRANGELY-- TWO NIGHTS AGO I-I FOUND BLOOD STAINS ON HIS SHIRT-- YOU WERE THE ONLY I COULD CONFIDE IN.



SO--YOU CALLED THAT MEDDLE-SOME CHARLATAN YARKO, EH? I TOLD YOU NEVER TO SEE HIM AGAIN!

FATHER!



NOW, I SUPPOSE YOU'LL TELL THE POLICE -- I'VE THE POWER OF TEN MEN -- I'LL KILL YOU!

FATHER! PLEASE DON'T!



BUT MR. TATE -- I'M MERELY HERE TO AID YOU AND CAROLE

BAH! -- YOU FAKER! YOU ARE ONLY INTERESTED IN MY DAUGHTER!



YARKO'S EYES BLAZE.... HE GESTURES, AND THE IRATE FATHER SUDDENLY BECOMES RIGID



NOW, OLIVER TATE -- BY THE POWERS I POSSESS, I COMMAND YOU TO EXPLAIN HOW THOSE BLOOD STAINS GOT ON YOUR SHIRT -- SPEAK! I COMMAND YOU!



I-I CAN'T -- SHADDIBA STOPS ME, HIS IS A GREATER FORCE -- HE CONTROLS ME -- HE FORBIDS ME TO SPEAK, YARKO!



SHADDIBA? WHO IS HE?

A VILLAIN! A SORCERER WHO TWISTS MEN'S SOULS!



I'M CONVINCED THAT SHADDIBA IS USING YOUR FATHER TO FURTHER HIS OWN GREEDY ENDS!

REALLY?



SHADDIBA! SO THAT IS WHY I COULD NOT CONTROL MR. TATE'S MIND?

IT IS A LONG TIME SINCE WE HAVE MET, YARKO

HE VISITS MY FATHER EVERY EVENING, YARKO --



YES, I RECALL -- IT WAS IN HINDUSTAN -- A LITTLE INCIDENT ABOUT THE STRANGE MURDER OF THE SULTAN KHANI -- WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NOW?



A GAME IN WHICH I AM MASTER--DO YOU SEE, MR. TATE? OBSERVE HOW HE STARES-- I HAVE TAKEN HIS WILL AND MADE IT MINE! HE DOES MY BIDDING AS THOUGH HE WERE ME!



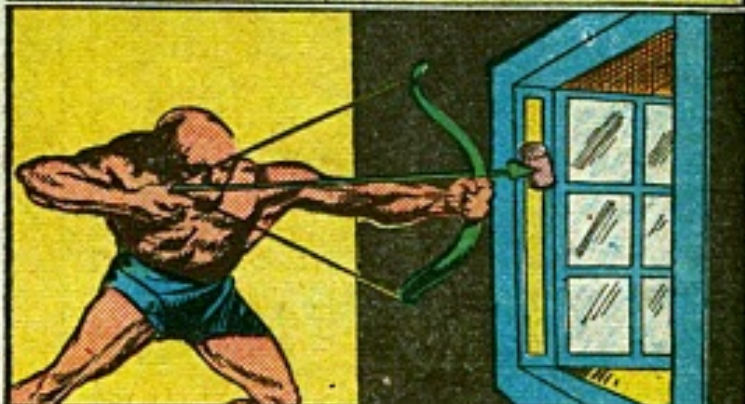
HE KILLED MARTIN ROSS, AND BROUGHT THE OLD CODGER'S MONEY TO ME-- HEH HEH! I WILL SOON BE AS RICH AS A KING!

YOU'LL NEVER STOP UNTIL YOU ARE DESTROYED, SHADDIBA!

OUTSIDE, A GROTESQUE, HUNCH-BACKED DWARF WATCHES INTENTLY AT THE WINDOW... SHADDIBA SIGNALS, HE DRAWS BACK . . . . .



DRAWS AN ARROW BLUNTED BY WOOD . . . . .



AN INSTANT LATER, YARKO IS STRUCK FROM BEHIND.



HEH HEH! MY DEAR YARKO, I'M TOO CLEVER FOR YOU!

YARKO DROPS TO THE FLOOR UNCONSCIOUS . . . . .



SLOWLY SHADDIBA TURNS TO CAROLE AND SMILES EVILLY..



WHY DO YOU CRINGE, MY DEAR?



I'M YOUR FRIEND, I WOULD NOT HARM ONE SO BEAUTIFUL AS YOU,---

STOP--STOP! DONT STARE AT ME LIKE THAT!

GAZE INTO MY EYES, MY BEAUTIFUL ONE!-- SLEEP--YOUR EYES ARE TIRED-- SLEEP--SLEEP!

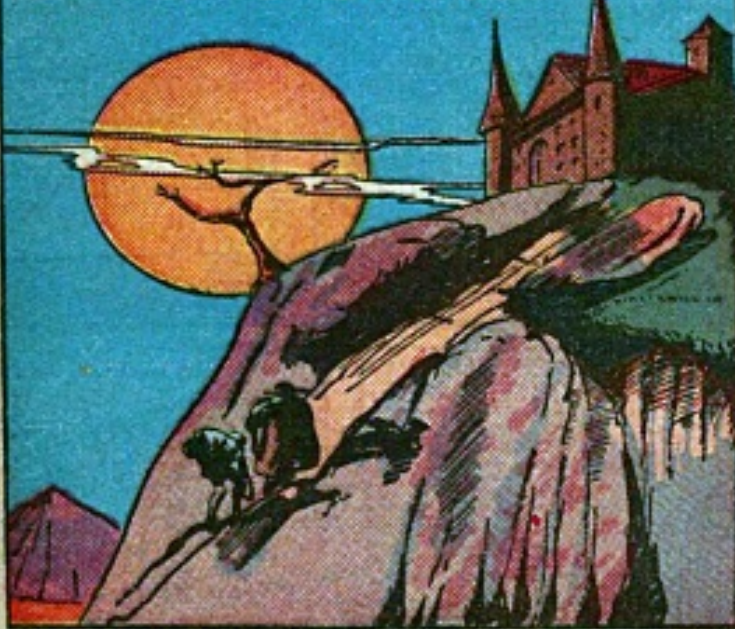


DOGA, GET HER FATHER-- WE MUST GET OUT QUICKLY!





THUS, SHADDIBA AND HIS GROTESQUE ASSISTANT START UP THE MOUNTAIN TO THE OLD HEX HOUSE. SHADDIBA CARRIES THE LIMP FORM OF CAROLE, WHILE DOGA STRUGGLES BEHIND, BURDENED WITH THE HEAVY WEIGHT OF HER FATHER...



BACK IN THE HOUSE, YARKO REVIVES, AND GETS TO HIS FEET PAINFULLY.....



IT SERVES ME RIGHT, I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN SHADDIBA'S TRICKS BY NOW--- HE IS TAKING THEM UP THE MOUNTAIN--I MUST SAVE THEM!



YARKO'S FACE GROWS TENSE... HIS EYES FADE INTO THEIR LIMPID DEPTHS-- A PURPLE HAZE SURROUNDS HIM AS HE CALLS FORTH HIS STRANGE, MYSTIC POWERS.



A MOMENT LATER, A SWALLOW WINGS PAST SHADDIBA ON THE MOUNTAINSIDE.....



DOWN THROUGH A CHIMNEY IT PLUMMETS INTO THE DANK MUSTY CELLARS.....



WHO ARE YOU? HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

I AM YARKO, I'VE COME TO HELP



WHILE I UNTIE YOU, TELL ME-- WHO ARE YOU AND WHY ARE YOU HERE?

WE ARE PRISONERS OF SHADDIBA-- BODY AND SOUL-- HE HYPNOTIZES US AND SENDS US OUT TO CARRY OUT HIS DIABOLICAL SCHEMES-- WE ARE HIS SLAVES AS LONG AS HE LIVES!



YARKO DISAPPEARS AND IN HIS PLACE STANDS A TATTERED PRISONER...



THE GUARD ARRIVES SPEAK, DOG, WHERE ARE THE OTHERS? SPEAK!



VERY WELL, I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE MASTER. HE'LL LOOSEN YOUR TONGUE!



THE PRISONER IS FLUNG BEFORE SHADDIBA...



SUDDENLY, BEFORE THEIR STARTLED EYES, THE GRIM FIGURE OF THE POOR SLAVE GROWS TINY AND FINALLY VANISHES. YARKO STANDS SMILING IN HIS PLACE



BUT-- YARKO GESTURES QUICKLY.. A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT FOLLOWS.



AGAIN YARKO GESTURES.



HE LIFTS THE HUGE MAN HIGH INTO THE AIR AND PLUNGES HIM TO EARTH WITH A TERRIFIC CRASH...



SHADDIBA! I DEMAND YOU RELEASE CAROLE AND HER FATHER!



DEMAND? HA HA-HA! WHAT CAN YOU DO AGAINST MY POWERS?



YOU ARE AN INTRUDER IN OUR SACRED ARTS! AN AMERICAN--AN OCCIDENTAL WHO DARES EXPLORE THE MAGIC OF THE EAST-- I WILL DESTROY YOU, FOR MY GREAT POWER COMES FROM LUCIFER!



THE TWO STARE FIXEDLY AT EACH OTHER... SOON, TWO SHADY FORMS RISE ABOVE THEM.....



I'M READY FOR YOU, SHADDIBA!

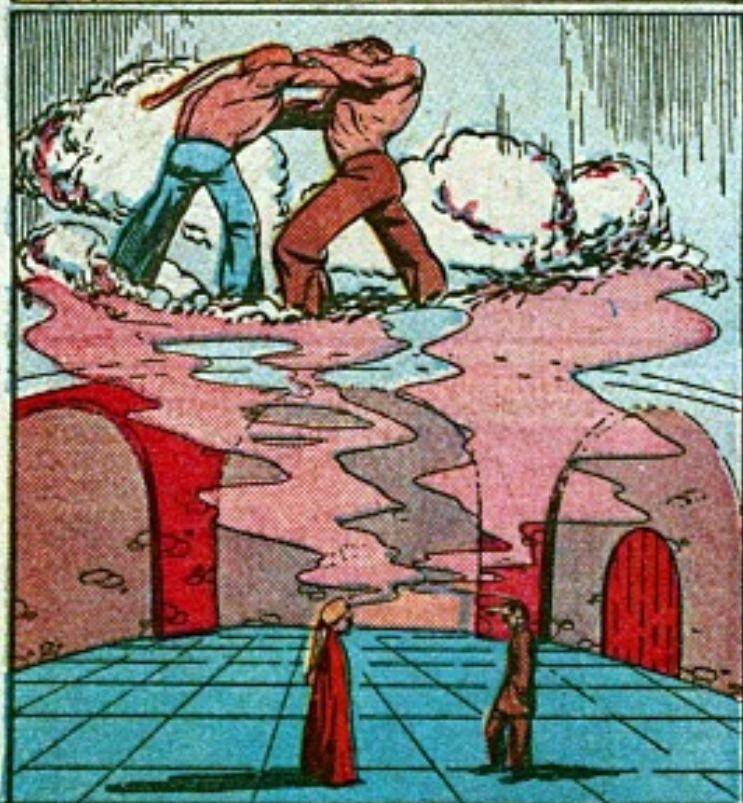
I AM THE STRONGER-- I WILL CRUSH YOU TO ATOMS!

HIGH IN THE VAULTED CHAMBERS, THE UPPER HALF OF THE VAGUE FIGURES SOLIDIFY.....

INSTANTLY, THE MEN LOCK IN MORTAL COMBAT.....



DESPERATELY..UNSEEN BY MORTAL EYES,  
THEY STRUGGLE...THE TWO MOST POWER-  
FUL MAGICIANS IN THE WORLD....



HIGH IN SPACE THEY FIGHT,PITTING EVERY  
WEAPON AT THEIR COMMAND. THUNDERBOLTS  
CRASHING ALL AROUND THEM.....



DOWN,  
DOWN-  
HURLING  
DOWN  
BOTTOMLESS  
CHASMS!

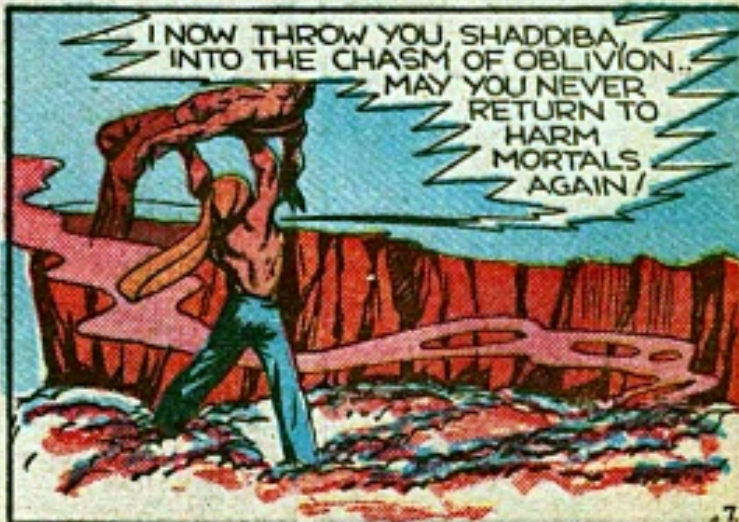
NOW, I'VE GOT  
YOU--HEH, HEH!  
BEG FOR MERCY!  
I SAY--BEG!



BUT, YARKO, IS NOT YET DEFEATED.....HE  
RALLYS HIS STRENGTH...



I NOW THROW YOU, SHADDIBA  
INTO THE CHASM OF OBLIVION..  
MAY YOU NEVER  
RETURN TO  
HARM  
MORTALS  
AGAIN!



DOWN DARK WEIRD CORRIDORS THEY STUMBLE, GUIDED BY YARKO, WHOSE EYES PIERCE THE INKY BLACKNESS....



AT LAST, THEY ARRIVE AT THE EDGE OF A DEEP MOAT... 200 FEET BELOW LIES A FETID STREAM OF CROCODILES....



WE MUST GET ACROSS THIS GAP!

CROCODILES! UGH--

YARKO GESTURES. A ROPE SUDDENLY APPEARS STRETCHING FROM WINDOW TO WINDOW... WITH THE SKILL OF AN ACROBAT HE CROSSES..



ONCE ON THE OUTER SIDE, HE BECKONS TO CAROLE ON THE OTHER SIDE.



COME, CAROLE- MR. TATE-WALK- YOU WON'T FALL- JUST STARE AT THE JEWEL ON MY TURBAN

UNDER YARKO'S HYPNOSIS, THEY WALK SAFELY ACROSS..



A FEW MINUTES LATER, THEY ARE HURRYING DOWN THE MOUNTAIN SIDES. BUT DEEP IN THE DUNGEONS IS SHADDIBA.



HEH HEH! I'LL DESTROY MY CASTLE-- NO ONE WILL EVER LEARN MY SECRETS--HEH HEH HEH!

A MIGHTY ROAR SUDDENLY RENTS THE AIR AS SHADDIBA'S MOUNTAIN TOP CASTLE BLOWN TO SMITHEREENS BY THE KEG OF T.N.T.



A FEW NIGHTS LATER IN CAROLE TATE'S HOME...



WHY ARE YOU LEAVING US, YARKO? WHERE ARE YOU GOING? TO INDIA, EGYPT, TURKESTAN-- WHO KNOWS-- I AM THE SERVANT OF JUSTICE. I'LL BE WHEREVER PEOPLE NEED HELP.

# YARKO

The GREAT

MASTER OF MAGIC

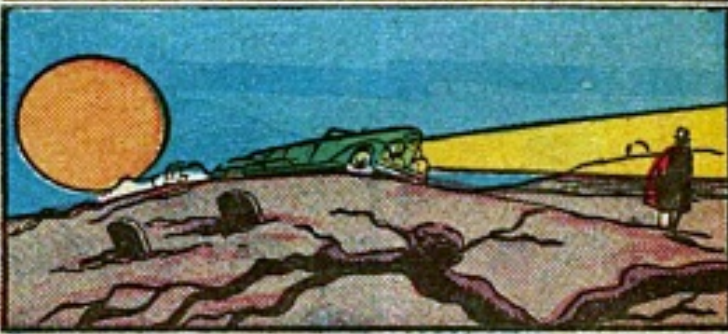


YARKO, A YOUNG AMERICAN, INITIATED INTO THE MAGIC OF THE EAST, PITS HIS MYSTIC POWERS AGAINST THE FORCES OF CRIME AND EVIL... ALL QUAIL BEFORE HIM, THE MIGHTIEST MAGICIAN OF ALL TIME...

THE OUTSKIRTS OF LONDON, MIDNIGHT, A STEEP CROOKED, CEMETERY ROAD BANKED ON EITHER SIDE BY WHITE TOMBSTONES...



THROUGH THE DARKNESS, SPEEDING OVER THE TREACHEROUS ROAD, ROARS A CAR... AS IT TURNS, A DARK FIGURE STEPS FROM THE SHADOWS INTO THE GLARE OF ITS HEADLIGHTS...



HE GESTURES AT THE CAR



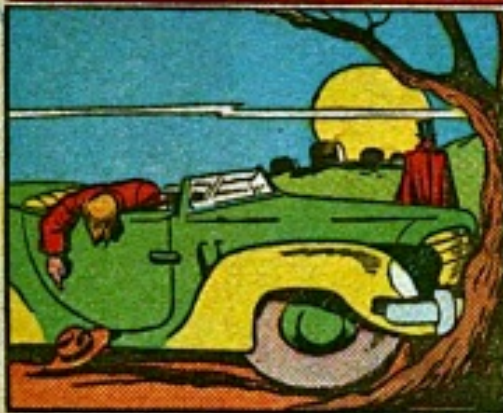
THE DRIVER SLUMPS OVER



THE CAR CAREENS AND SMASHES INTO A TREE...



THE MAN APPROACHES THE WRECK



HMM--WHAT A PITY--HE WAS A YOUNG MAN TOO..TSK TSK. AH, THIS CAR CAN STILL BE USED.

A SHORT TIME LATER, THE CAR PULLS UP BEFORE A POLICEMAN-(CALLED A "BOBBY" IN LONDON)



OH, I SAY, BOBBY, WOULD YOU TAKE CARE OF MY FRIEND, HE'S-ER-ILL



OH BY THE WAY, HERE'S MY CARD IN CASE YOU SHOULD WANT ME.



AYE, THANK YOU, GOV'NOR--I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM.



THE DARK MAN TURNS, AND DISAPPEARS INTO THE FOG.....



WHY, THIS MAN HAIN'T SICK..ES DEAD--GOR BLIMY, THE BLOKE'S DEAD. I'VE GOTTA TAKE HIM TO HEADQUARTERS RIGHT AWAY!

AT SCOTLAND YARD, THE OFFICER REPORTS THE DEATH TO HIS SUPERIOR, INSPECTOR DRAKE.



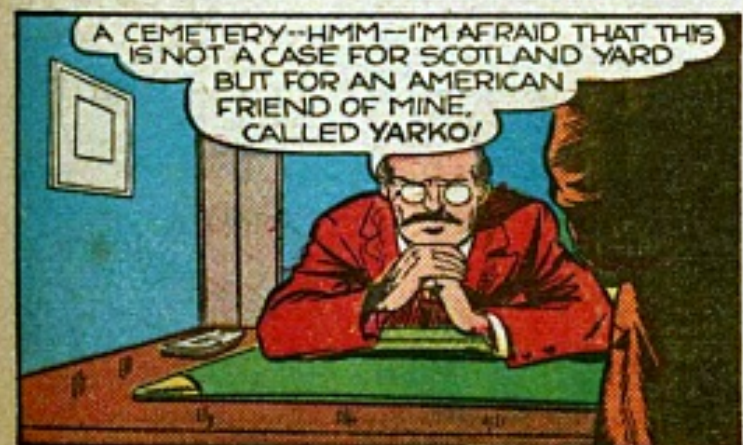
THE MAN DIED OF A HEART ATTACK--BUT WHO WAS THE MAN WITH THE GLASSES?



WELL, MULVANEY, HAVE YOU FOUND THAT ADDRESS THAT WAS PRINTED ON THE CARD?



CHIEF, THERE'S NOTHING BUT A CEMETERY AT THAT ADDRESS!



A CEMETERY--HMM--I'M AFRAID THAT THIS IS NOT A CASE FOR SCOTLAND YARD BUT FOR AN AMERICAN FRIEND OF MINE, CALLED YARKO!

IN YARKO'S LONDON APARTMENT, THE PHONE RINGS AND INSPECTOR DRAKE'S CRISP VOICE RELATES THE FACTS OF THE CASE TO THE GREAT MAGICIAN.



IS THAT ALL THE INFORMATION YOU HAVE, DRAKE? VERY WELL, I'LL LOOK INTO IT--

IN ANOTHER PART OF LIMEHOUSE, A SHAGGY STRAY DOG TROTS FORLORNLNY THROUGH THE EERIE STREETS...HERE AND THERE IT PAUSES....



AT LAST IT COMES UPON TWO THUGS WHO SEEM TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SOMEONE...



WE'VE BEEN WAITIN' 'ERE TWO HOURS NOW

TAKE IT EASY-YARKO IS TOO SMART TO WALK INTO OUR TRAP



THE DOG LOOKS UP AND SPEAKS



LOOKING FOR ME?

THE DOG FADES, AND THE FIGURE OF YARKO RISES...THE THUGS DRAW PISTOLS AND FIRE



UNFORTUNATELY, YOU WERE FIRING AT A PHANTOM...BUT TO AVOID ANY BLOODSHED, I'LL RELIEVE YOU OF THOSE GUNS



YARKO GESTURES, AND THE PISTOLS MELT IN THEIR HANDS

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR EVIL EXISTENCE, THE TWO MEN KNOW FEAR, TERROR STRICKEN, THEY RUN TO THEIR HIDEOUT, FOLLOWED BY YARKO.....



WELL, WHERE IS HE, FOOL?! WHAT ARE YOU CHATTERING ABOUT?

H-ER--



YARKO!

IT APPEARS, GENTLEMEN, THAT YOU WERE WAITING FOR ME!

NICE OF YOU TO COME, YARKO.







THEN THE OTHER MAN THROWS ASIDE HIS CLOAK AND REVEALS HIMSELF TOO...



THE THUG LUNGES FORWARD.... YARKO SIDE- STEPS NIMBLY AND GESTURES...



THE ROOM IS SUDDENLY FILLED WITH A DOZEN YARKO'S. THE THUG LASHES OUT WITH HIS KNIFE.

USE YOUR KNIFE, BEPPPO!



A WALL OF FORCE SURROUNDS YARKO... THE BLADE SNAPS...



THE SECOND THUG SNEAKS BEHIND YARKO UN-  
NOTICED....



COVER HIS EYES.  
THAT IS WHERE HIS  
MAGIC POWER LIES.



QUICKLY THE BLIND FOLDED YARKO IS  
BOUND AND TIED TO A WALL... A FIRE IS  
STARTED UNDER HIS FEET.....

WHY DON'T YOU WRITE,  
YARKO? MORE WOOD,  
MEN. MAKE THE  
BLAZE  
HOTTER!



BUT YARKO IS NOT YET  
DEFEATED. WITH A MIGHTY  
EFFORT, HE MANAGES BY  
THE MOVEMENT OF HIS  
FACE MUSCLES TO REMOVE  
THE BANDAGE FROM HIS  
EYES.



HIS POWER REGAINED, YARKO'S EYES FLASH  
AND WATER SPOUTS FROM THE WALLS AND  
QUENCHES THE BLAZE INTO A HISS OF STEAM.



ONCE AGAIN YARKO'S EYES GLITTER, THE  
FIGURE OF THE DEVIL GROWS SMALL AND DIM.

RETURN TO  
OBLIVION!  
I, YARKO  
COMMAND  
YOU!



FREE ONCE MORE, YARKO GESTURES... IN A  
CRASH OF LIGHTNING, THE EVIL ONE DISAPPEARS....

MEANWHILE, THE FRIGHTENED THUGS RUN MADLY OFF AND LEAP INTO THE SWIRLING RIVER.....



LIKE MADMEN, THEY FLOUNDER DOWN RIVER.....



INSIDE, YARKO HAS STILL TO DEAL WITH ANOTHER ENEMY...



YARKO LEAPS IN PURSUIT OF THE ROGUES.....



YARKO LEAPS OFF THE DOCK.....



BUT INSTEAD OF SINKING BELOW THE SURFACE...



YARKO GESTURES AND THE MEN RISE STIFFLY OUT OF THE RIVER.....



AT SCOTLAND YARD EVEN THE HARDENED VETERANS CANNOT CONCEAL THEIR IMPATIENCE...



# YARRO

## The Great

MASTER  
of MAGIC

THE WAYS OF THE UNDERWORLD ARE VARIED AND ITS TENTACLES ARE EMBEDDED DEEP IN THE HEART OF OUR SOCIETY...

OUR SCENE OPENS IN THE BUSY NEW YORK HARBOR, CROSSROADS OF THE WORLD... MID CLOUDS OF SMOKE FROM A MYRIAD OF CHUGGING TUGS THE SUPER LINER TANORA GLIDES HOME...



YOUR LUGGAGE HAS BEEN CHECKED FOR SMUGGLED ARTICLES -- YOU MAY LEAVE NOW, MRS. LAWTON

THANK YOU, INSPECTOR DEAH -- YOU CUSTOMS MEN ARE SO VERY THOROUGH --



MRS. LAWTON HEADS FOR A WAITING LIMOUSINE.

HOME, JAMES --



ROCO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I CAME TO GREET YOU --





MEANWHILE, DOWNSTAIRS IN THE STUDY, YARKO AND THE JUDGE ARE STARTLED.



PUT UP YOUR HANDS-- WHICH OF YOU IS JUDGE LAWTON?

I AM--

I'M DETECTIVE MARTIN OF POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS-- I'VE BEEN TRAILING YOUR WIFE FOR MONTHS-- I'VE ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO CONVICT HER--



OUTSIDE A CAR PULLS UP AND ROCCO HURRIES TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE LAWTON HOME...



I SAW HER COME IN-- I'M SORRY BUT I'VE GOT TO ARREST HER.

I-I KNEW IT-- I KNEW IT WOULD COME SOME DAY-- BUT I COULDN'T STOP HER-- THIS WILL RUIN ME.



WHEN THE BUTLER APPEARS, HE JAMS A PISTOL IN HIS STOMACH AND GIVES A CURT ORDER.



BACK UP FLUNKY!-- AND KEEP YOUR TRAP SHUT-- WHERE'S MRS. LAWTON'S ROOM?

HEY-- WAIT A MINUTE-- A "DICK"! WE'LL GIVE 'EM A LITTLE DOSE OF LEAD!



YARKO LEAPS FORWARD AND SNATCHES THE GIRL OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE.



THANKS FOR SAVING ME-- YOU'RE HURT!

IT'S NOTHING, JUST A NICK-- LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A HAND IN THIS CASE--



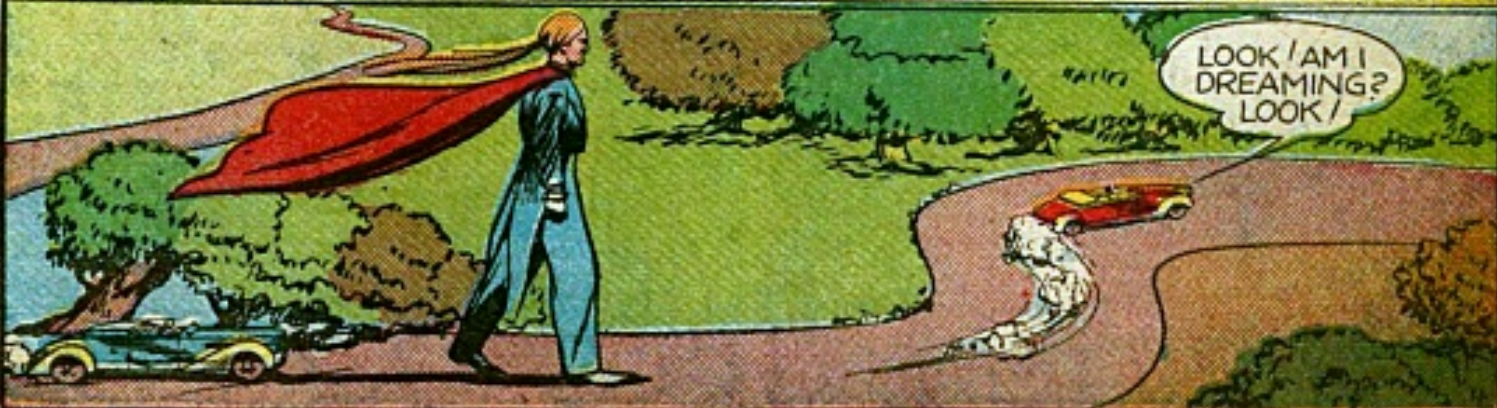
UPSTAIRS IN MRS. LAWTON'S ROOM...



A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE DETECTIVE AND YARKO ARE SPEEDING AFTER THEM...



SUDDENLY YARKO RISES FROM HIS CAR, AND GROWS 'TILL HE TOWERS OVER THE TREES...





YARKO SNATCHES UP THE SPEEDING CAR...



IN A FLASH OF LIGHT, YARKO RETURNS TO HIS NORMAL STATURE



BACK IN JUDGE LAWTON'S HOME, THE OLD JURIST SITS BROODING.....



IN A SPEEDING CAR MILES AWAY, YARKO TRIES DESPERATELY TO CONCENTRATE....



AT LAST, IN A PURPLE MIST, YARKO APPEARS..



AND BACK IN THE CAR YARKO RELAXES...



AH H--HE'S SAVED NOW, WE MUST WORK FAST!

YOU CERTAINLY HAVE A QUEER WAY OF CATCHING CROOKS, YARKO

ON FIFTH AVENUE, IN THE FASHIONABLE FIFTIES, IS THE HOUSE OF COE, WORLD FAMOUS JEWELERS, PATRONIZED BY THE CREAM OF SOCIETY....



IN THE PRIVATE OFFICE OF ANDRE' COE-ROCCO AND MRS. LAWTON ENTER HURRIEDLY...



HER HUSBAND IS WISE TO US, BOSS

AND YARKO IS FOLLOWING US--



WHY YOU!-- YOU'VE SQUEALED-- WELL, WAIT'LL THE PAPERS FIND OUT THAT A SUPREME COURT JUDGE'S WIFE IS A SMUGGLER!



--AND AS FOR YARKO-- I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM IN MY OWN WAY--



NOW, MISS MARTIN-- DON'T FAIL TO FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY--

O.K. BUT IT'S CERTAINLY A FANCY WAY TO CATCH A CROOK--

IN COE'S OFFICE SILENCE REIGNS...



AS SOON AS HE COMES IN, I'LL GIVE IT TO HIM

COE-- YOU-YOU BEAST!



YARKO ENTERS HIS BACK IS TURNED, COE FIRES POINT BLANK.



YARKO APPARENTLY SINKS TO THE FLOOR.... THE KILLERS, HOWEVER, DO NOT SEE AN IN-VISIBLE FIGURE RISE AND WALK BEHIND THEM.



Y-YA KILLED HIM, BOSS!

NOW WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO GET RID OF HIM!

YOU FIEND! I'M GOING TO CALL THE POLICE!



THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY. PUT UP YOUR HANDS -- DROP THAT GUN, COE!



I'VE CAUGHT YOU RED-HANDED THIS TIME, COE... MRS. LAWTON, GO HOME TO YOUR HUSBAND.



NO--I'M GOING TO THE POLICE---MY CONSCIENCE HAS BOTHERED ME TOO LONG. I'VE SINNED AGAINST SOCIETY, AND I'M QUITE READY TO SHOULDERS THE BLAME AND PAY THE PENALTY, WHATEVER IT WILL BE!



I'M SURE MRS. LAWTON, THE JURY WILL UNDERSTAND HOW YOU WERE DUPED.





# YARKO

## THE GREAT

### MASTER MAGICIAN

by  
**ANTHONY BROOKS**



OUT OF THE NIGHT COMES YARKO, TO PIT HIS MAGIC AGAINST A SORCERER OF THE ANCIENT ART OF VOODOOISM...

IT IS DUSK, THE SILENCE OF THE MOORS JUST OUTSIDE LONDON IS UNBROKEN... SUDDENLY, FROM AN ANCIENT CASTLE, SURROUNDED BY TREES, DARTS A FIGURE AND RUNS TOWARD THE ROAD... A CAR ROARS UPON HIM...



HE WHIRLS AND DROPS TO THE GROUND AS THE CAR SCREECHES TO A HALT...



THE DRIVER HASTENS FROM HIS CAR.. IT IS YARKO.



LUCKY I STOPPED IN TIME.. I MIGHT HAVE KILLED HIM!

THE MAN'S BEEN MURDERED!



AS YARKO BENDS TO EXAMINE THE WEIRD  
FIGURE MORE CLOSELY, A TALL FIGURE  
STEPS FROM THE SHADOWS.

ER-AHEM-- WAS  
THERE AN ACCIDENT?  
TSK- POOR  
FELLOW!

THERE WAS NO  
ACCIDENT! THIS  
MAN WAS  
SHOT IN  
THE  
BACK!

INDEED? THAT'S ODD-- I HEARD NO SHOTS.  
HOWEVER, MY SERVANT HERE WILL  
TAKE CARE OF  
HIM WHILE WE  
INVESTIGATE.

AND NOW BEFORE WE NOTIFY  
THE POLICE, WON'T YOU  
COME INSIDE AND JOIN  
ME AT DINNER?

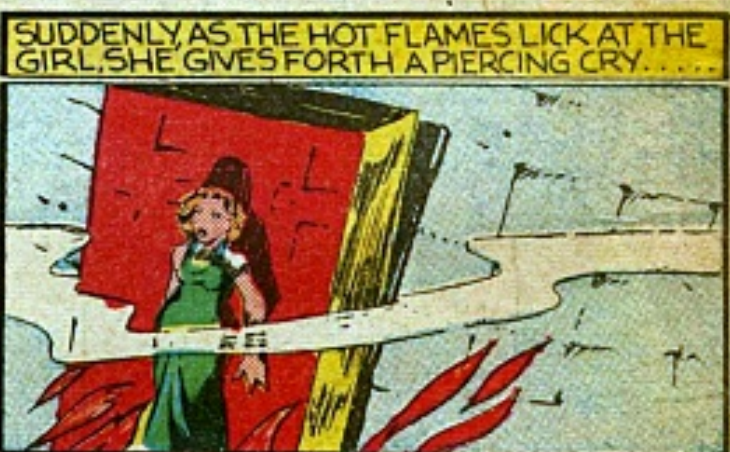
THANK YOU  
I WOULD LIKE  
TO-- VERY  
MUCH!

I SUPPOSE YOU ARE  
WONDERING WHO I AM--  
THEREFORE, PERMIT ME  
TO INTRODUCE MYSELF.  
I AM, VLADIM, A GENIUS!



DESCENDING WINDING PASSAGeways, THEY FINALLY REACH THE LOWEST DEPTHS OF THE CASTLE... THE DUNGEONS.....







IN DESPERATION VLADIM HURLS HIS GUN AT YARKO. IN A BLAZING FLASH THE MAGICIAN SHRINKS AS THE GUN FLIES HARMLESSLY OVER HIS HEAD.



FIRST I'M GOING TO DESTROY THIS HOUSE OF EVIL, VLADIM, THEN I'M COMING AFTER YOU!



INSANE WITH FEAR, VLADIM RELEASES ONE OF HIS BEAST-MEN.....



SLOWLY, THE GIANT WALKS TOWARD YARKO. THE MASTER MAGICIAN WALKS FORWARD FEARLESSLY....



CALMLY, YARKO TALKS IN LOW, PERSUASIVE TONES, TRYING TO SUBDUE THE BEAST-MAN.



AT LAST, YARKO'S WORDS PENETRATE. SLOWLY, THE BEAST'S HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS RETURNS... YARKO'S KEEN EYES BURN INTO HIS...



VLADIM TURNS, WHEN SUDDENLY, HIS EYES WIDEN IN STARK FEAR . . . . .



WITH A SCREECH OF TERROR, VLADIM FLEES, RUNNING WILDLY THROUGH THE DIMLY LIGHTED HALLS... YARKO STALKS HIM RELENTLESSLY . . . . .



SUDDENLY, THE MADMAN WHIRLS AND TWISTS GROTESQUELY . . . . .



HE TRIPS ON A KNIFE HE HAD DROPPED, AND FALLS OVER A HIGH LEDGE . . . . .



VLADIM RECEIVES THE VERY FATE HE HAD METED OUT TO OTHERS . . . . .

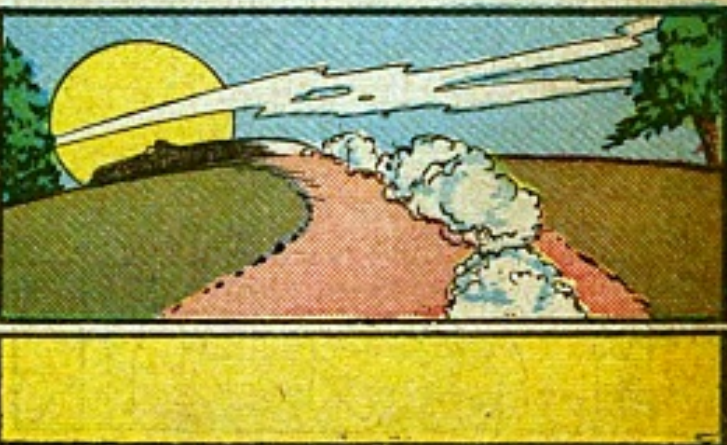


ON THE ROAD, YARKO APPROACHES HIS CAR, WHERE THE GIRL HE HAD RESCUED, AWAITS HIM . . . . .



LOOK! THE CASTLE--ITS CRUMBLING!

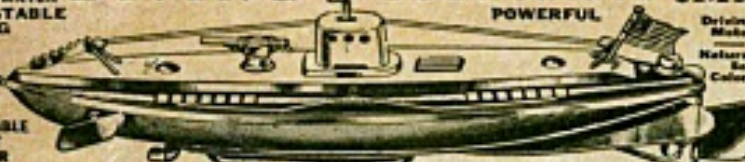
IN A FEW HOURS THAT HOUSE OF HORRORS WILL BE NOTHING BUT RUINS! COME LET US RETURN TO LONDON!



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