

GOLD
KEY

BORIS KARLOFF

15c



BORIS KARLOFF

TALES OF MYSTERY

10053-108
AUGUST



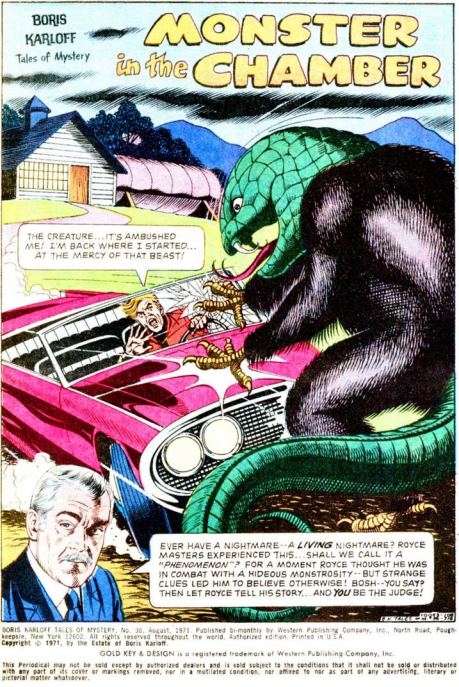
WARNING: THEY ARE ALREADY HERE!

© 1971, by THE ESTATE OF BORIS KARLOFF


**BORIS
KARLOFF**

Tales of Mystery

MONSTER in the CHAMBER



THE CREATURE...IT'S AMBUSHED
ME! I'M BACK WHERE I STARTED...
AT THE MERCY OF THAT BEAST!



EVER HAVE A NIGHTMARE--A *LIVING* NIGHTMARE? ROYCE
MASTERS EXPERIENCED THIS... SHALL WE CALL IT A
"*PHENOMENON*"? FOR A MOMENT ROYCE THOUGHT HE WAS
IN COMBAT WITH A HIDEOUS MONSTROSITY-- BUT STRANGE
CLUES LED HIM TO BELIEVE OTHERWISE! BOSH--YOU SAY?
THEN LET ROYCE TELL HIS STORY... AND *YOU* BE THE JUDGE!

BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY, No. 36, August, 1971. Published bi-monthly by Western Publishing Company, Inc., North Road, Poughkeepsie, New York 12602. All rights reserved throughout the world. Authorized edition. Printed in U.S.A.
Copyright © 1971, by the Estate of Boris Karloff.

GOLD KEY & DESIGN is a registered trademark of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

This Periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever.

THE PHONE RANG! PROFESSOR GRABO'S VOICE CRACKLED, SHAKING THE GROGGINESS OF SLEEP FROM MY HEAD...

I'VE DONE IT, ROYCE-- ACHIEVED THE IMPOSSIBLE! YOU MUST COME TO MY LAB AT *ONCE* TO OBSERVE AN INCREDIBLE EXPERIMENT!

BUT IT'S AFTER MIDNIGHT, PROFESSOR!

CAN'T THIS EXPERIMENT WAIT? I NEED MY FORTY WINKS OF SLEEP...

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT, ANYWAY?

YOU'LL SEE, MY BOY!... HURRY!

ON ROUTE TO THE MOUNTAIN LAB...

IT ISN'T LIKE THE OLD GENTLEMAN TO DISTURB A MAN'S SLEEP ON A WHIM!

HE'S HIT ON SOMETHING *BIG*! BUT WHAT?

THEN A THOUGHT FLASHED INTO MY MIND--SOMETHING THAT PUZZLED ME THE LAST TIME I WAS IN HIS LAB...

THIS COMPLICATED FORMULA ON THE BLACKBOARD--IT'S ALL GIBBERISH TO ME, SIR! DOES IT HAVE *ANYTHING* TO DO WITH YOUR ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS?

I'M NOT QUITE SURE...

YOU SEE, THAT EQUATION HAUNTS ME IN MY SLEEP--APPEARING AGAIN AND AGAIN IN MY DREAMS TO TAUNT ME, ROYCE...

...BUT ONE DAY I SHALL DECIPHER IT AND SOLVE THE MYSTERY!

THE GAZELLE I'M ANESTHETIZING IN THE GAS CHAMBER SHOULD BE UNCONSCIOUS BY NOW! GIVE ME A HAND WITH HIM, ROYCE...

SURE! AND IF AND WHEN YOU DECIPHER THAT FORMULA, LET ME KNOW! I'M AS CURIOUS AS A CAT!

THAT MUST BE IT!
THE PROFESSOR'S
CRACKED THE FOR-
MULA AND HE'S
GOING TO RUN AN
EXPERIMENT.
WHAT'S THAT?

CRASH!

ARRROOOOO

SOUNDS LIKE
BIG TROUBLE
AT THE LAB!

ANIMAL CORPSES
STREWN ABOUT!...
WHAT COULD HAVE
WRECKED SUCH
HAVOC?

FILLED WITH ANXIETY, I SPED TO THE LAB WHERE MY EYES FELL ON A FRIGHTENING SIGHT...

GOOD GRIEF!... THE PLACE IS IN SHAMBLES...

ANIMAL CORPSES STREWN ABOUT!... WHAT COULD HAVE WRECKED SUCH HAVOC?

TH-THE PROFESSOR! WHERE IS HE? PROFESSOR!

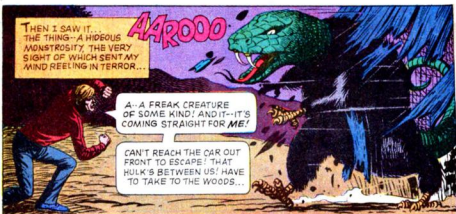
SKREAK! SKREAK!
CRACK!

AT THAT MOMENT, AN AWESOME
SOUND REACHED MY EARS...

SKREAK! SKREAK!
CRACK!

IT'S COMING FROM
THE CHICKEN COOP!
SOMETHING'S THROW-
ING THOSE BIRDS IN-
TO A PANIC!

SPREEEE
CLANK!
CLANK!





WHAT HAPPENED NEXT I CANNOT SAY!
BUT WHEN I OPENED MY EYELIDS AND
MY VISION CLEARED...



I'M STILL ALIVE, I THINK!
BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO
THAT BRUTE?

NO MATTER...I'M STILL BREATHING!
NOW I'VE GOT TO GET TO MY CAR
BACK AT THE LAB...



I DON'T KNOW *WHERE* THAT
CREATURE STALKED OFF TO--
BUT I STAND A BETTER
CHANCE DRIVING FOR HELP
...THAN TRYING IT ON FOOT!

MY HEART BEAT LIKE A TRIPHAMMER
AS I SLINKED THROUGH THE WOODS--
WARY OF THE MONSTER! FINALLY...



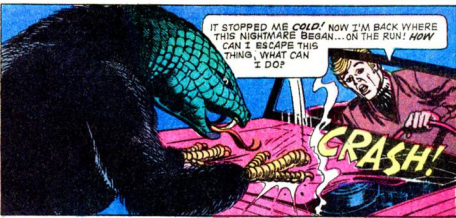
MADE IT! THE BEAST
WILL BE LIVING ON
BORROWED TIME ONCE
I REACH THE POLICE
STATION!

BUT I NEVER
GOT THERE...

THE CREATURE...
AMBUSHING ME!



IT STOPPED ME *COLD!* NOW I'M BACK WHERE
THIS NIGHTMARE BEGAN....ON THE RUN! *HOW*
CAN I ESCAPE THIS
THING, WHAT CAN
I DO?



CRASH!

IN MY HYSTERIA, MY EYES FELL ON A SOLUTION--THE ONLY ONE I HAD...



THE GAS CHAMBER... WHERE THE PROFESSOR ANESTHETIZES HIS ANIMALS FOR STUDY...

THE MONSTER'S HOT ON MY HEELS... IT'S A CINCHE HE'D FOLLOW ME IN THERE!



THIS WAY, FREAK--JUST KEEP STALKING ME!



IT'S COMING IN THE REAR EXIT... SO FAR, SO GOOD--BUT MY WORRIES AREN'T OVER YET!



I'VE GOT HIM HALF BOTTLED UP... NOW FOR THE OTHER END OF THE CHAMBER!



I BOLTED OUT OF THE LAB TO THE REAR EXIT I HAD PREVIOUSLY ENTERED! AND ONCE THERE...

SLAM!

I'VE GOT THE THING JUST WHERE I WANT HIM!



I LOCKED THE REAR EXIT AND BOLTED TO THE GAS CHAMBER CONTROL BOX IN THE LAB...

AND NOW, YOU MONSTROUS FIEND, I'M GOING TO PUT YOU TO SLEEP... *FOREVER!*



BUT AS I LOOKED THROUGH THE VIEW-PLATE, I GOT THE SHOCK OF MY LIFE...

THE CREATURE... IT'S SCRAWLING SOMETHING ON THE WALL OF THE CHAMBER! GOOD GRIEF!

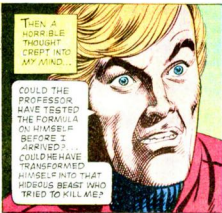


HISSESSSSSS



IT'S THE MYSTERIOUS FORMULA PROFESSOR GRABO HAD VISIONS OF IN HIS DREAMS...

BUT... HOW COULD A FREAK BEAST SUCH AS THAT HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF IT?...



THEN A HORRIBLE THOUGHT CREPT INTO MY MIND...

COULD THE PROFESSOR HAVE TESTED THE FORMULA ON HIMSELF BEFORE I ARRIVED?... COULD HE HAVE TRANSFORMED HIMSELF INTO THAT HIDEOUS BEAST WHO TRIED TO KILL ME?



THAT IS A QUESTION TO WHICH THERE IS NO ANSWER! BUT UNTIL THE BODY OF MY GOOD FRIEND PROFESSOR GRABO IS FOUND...

... I SHALL ALWAYS HAVE MY DOUBTS!

THE END

DO YOU NEED EXTRA MONEY?



NEW!
CRYSTAL FANTASY
CHRISTMAS ASSORTMENT
70 really deluxe cards.
Exclusively different.



NEW! DELUXE
CHRISTMAS
GIFT WRAPPING
ASSORTMENT
15 gay, colorful large
sheets. Terrific.

FREE
96-PAGE
FULL-COLOR
CATALOG
OF NEW
AND GIFT IDEAS

FILL IN
COUPON-
ENVELOPE
FOLD OVER
FIRMLY
SEAL (PASTE
OR TAPE)
AND MAIL
TODAY

It costs you nothing to try

\$100.00 IS YOURS

for selling only 100 boxes of our new Crystal Fantasy Christmas Card box assortment. You make \$1.00 for selling 1 box, \$2.00 for 2 boxes, \$10.00 for 10 boxes, etc. You can make a few dollars or hundreds of dollars. All you do is call on neighbors, friends and relatives anywhere in your spare time. Everyone needs and buys Christmas Cards.

Cut out entire Business Reply Coupon below—mail it today—and we will send you immediately leading boxes on approval—FREE Catalog of money-making Greeting Cards and Gifts—plus FREE album of personalized Christmas Cards. No experience necessary.

IT COSTS YOU NOTHING TO TRY

Last year same folks made only \$25 to \$50 while others made \$150—\$250—\$500 and more selling our entire line of greeting cards. Many church groups, organizations, schools, lodges, etc. do this year after year. Everybody buys Christmas cards.



CUT OUT
ENTIRE
BUSINESS
REPLY
ENVELOPE
BELOW
No Stamp
Necessary

FREE
ALBUM
Personalized
CHRISTMAS
CARDS



NEW!
PASTEL PETS
ALL OCCASION
ASSORTMENT
10 heart warming
giant, size cards on
unusual appeal.
See ad below

NEW!
CORRESPONDENCE
CIRCLES

STATIONERY
24 large sheets, each
almost 9" in diameter.
Bright colors, pink
envelopes. Latest design.



CUT OUT ENTIRE BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE BELOW. FILL IN COUPON-ENVELOPE, FOLD OVER FIRMLY, SEAL (PASTE OR TAPE) AND MAIL TODAY. No Stamp Necessary. Cut Along Dotted Line

THIS ENTIRE FOLD-OVER COUPON FORMS A NO-POSTAGE-REQUIRED BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE
BEVIS
CHEERFUL CARD COMPANY, Dept. Z-1
White Plains, New York 10606

YES RUSH MY CHRISTMAS CARD SAMPLE KIT

I want to make extra money. Please rush me immediately your Crystal Fantasy Christmas card box assortment and other leading boxes on approval for 30 day free trial plus FREE album of personalized Christmas cards. FREE 96-page Full Color Catalog of money-making Gifts and Cards and everything I need to start making money the day my sales kit arrives. As a Cheerful Dealer I will also be privileged to receive additional FREE money-making literature, catalogs, special offers and seasonal samples on approval as they become available.

Fill in your name and address below — No stamp necessary

Name _____ Apt. No. _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
If writing for an organization, give its name here _____

DO NOT CUT HERE → JUST FOLD OVER, SEAL AND MAIL THIS ENVELOPE—NO STAMP NECESSARY

No
Postage Stamp
Necessary
If Mailed in the
United States

Postage
Will be Paid
by
Addressee

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

First Class Permit No. 588, White Plains, New York

CHEERFUL CARD COMPANY

20 Bank Street
White Plains, New York 10606

Dept. Z-1