

GOLD
KEY

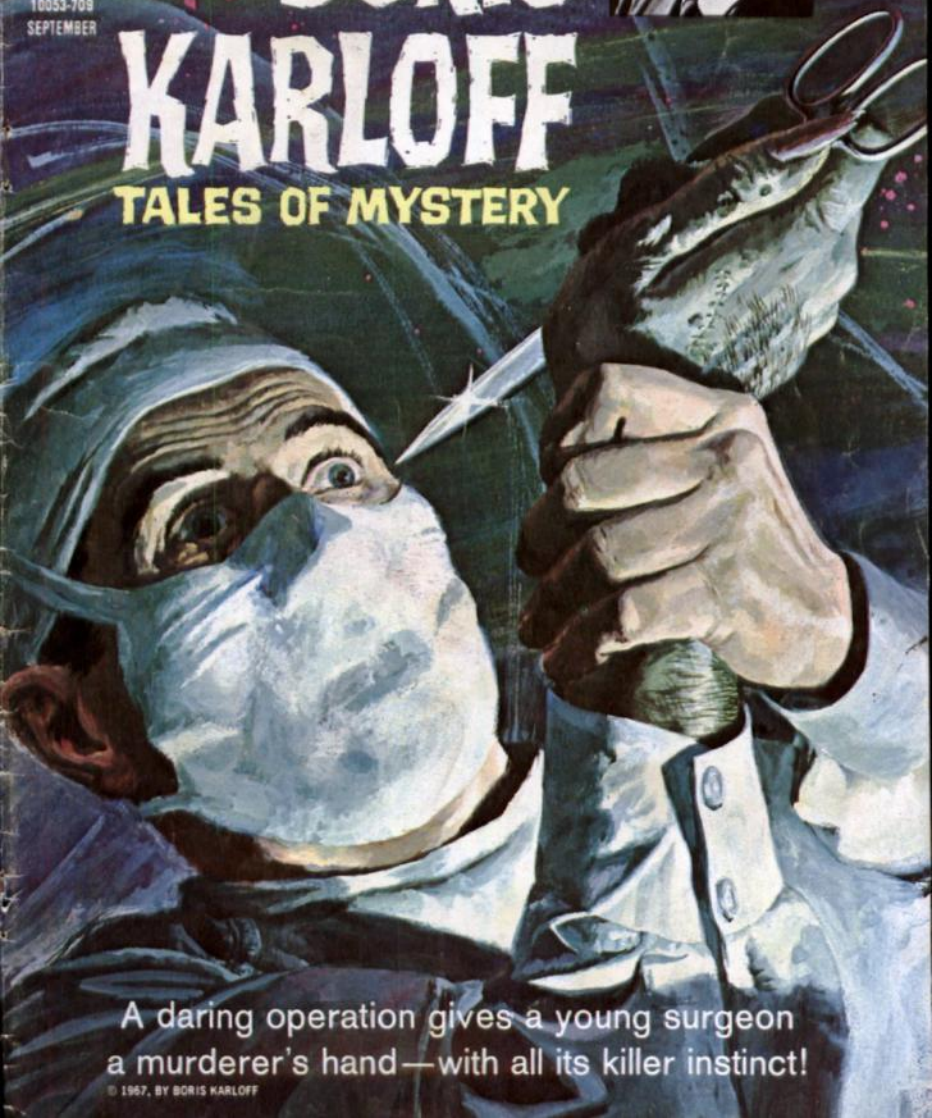
BORIS KARLOFF

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SEPTEMBER

BORIS KARLOFF

TALES OF MYSTERY



A daring operation gives a young surgeon
a murderer's hand—with all its killer instinct!

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BORIS KARLOFF

Tales of Mystery

The STRANGLER'S HAND



MY FRIENDS, A STRANGLER IS LOOSE IN THIS CITY, PERHAPS IN THIS VERY HOSPITAL! HERE IN A PLACE MEANT TO SAVE LIVES, FIVE LIVES HAVE BEEN TAKEN!

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

FIVE GHASTLY MURDERS IN FIVE WEEKS!

AND THIS IS THE END OF THE SIXTH WEEK, DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE STRANGLER WILL STRIKE **TODAY**?

THE ENTIRE HOSPITAL IS GRIPPED BY FEAR. PATIENTS HAVE TRANSFERRED. NURSES HAVE RESIGNED. TWO ARMED POLICEMEN GUARD EVERY FLOOR.

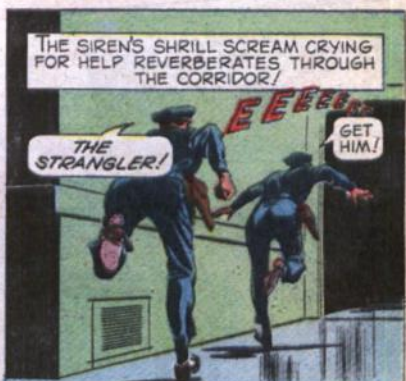
EVERYONE ON THE STAFF GETS ONE OF THESE **SIRENS**. IF YOU SEE A SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER, LET IT BLAST!

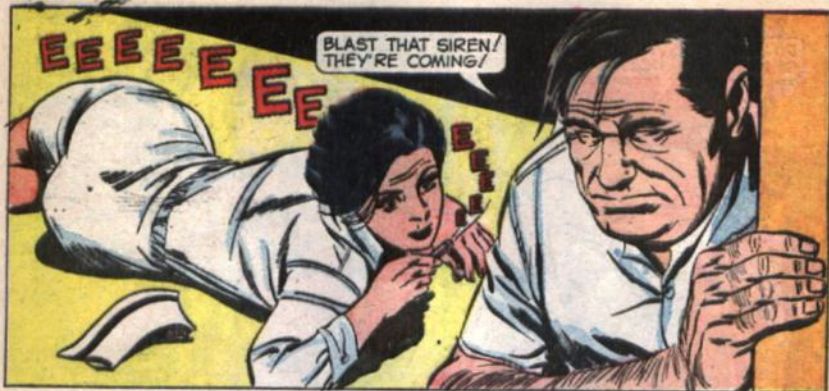
THANK YOU OFFICER!

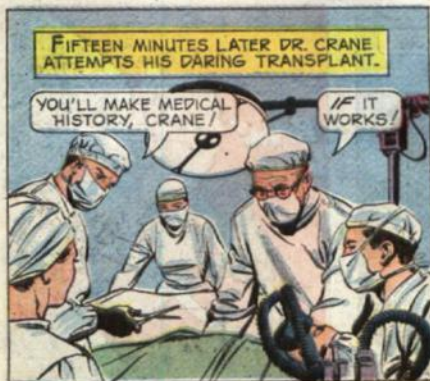
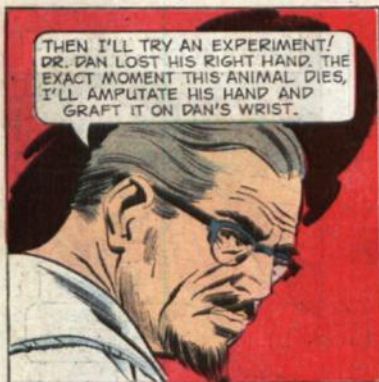
EVERYWHERE IN THE TENSE BUILDING NO ONE CAN TALK OF ANYTHING BUT THE STRANGLER...

I HAVE TO GO TO THE SUPPLY ROOM, JED, AND I'M **SCARED**! IT'S SO FAR FROM EVERYTHING!

I GET THE HINT SUSIE! I'LL GO WITH YOU!









THE DAY THE BANDAGES ARE CUT AWAY, DR. DAN'S GIRL IS THERE TO HELP HIM CELEBRATE.

OH, DARLING I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU!

HURRY UP, DR. CRANE! I'M ANXIOUS TO LIGHT A MATCH OR SOME-THING TO TRY IT OUT!

SNIP SNIP



DANNY OH, NO!

WH-WHAT HAVE YOU *DONE* TO ME? IT'S A MONSTROSITY!



OH, DANNY, DANNY! I CAN'T LOOK AT IT!

NOW, NOW, CALM DOWN, MARY! DAN WILL WEAR A GLOVE, THAT'S ALL! NO ONE WILL EVER SEE WHAT IT COVERS!



KEEP IN MIND, MY FRIENDS, THAT NO ONE HAS TOLD DR. DAN OF JED'S EVIL CURSE! AND NOW OBSERVE WHAT HAPPENS THE FIRST TIME HE DRIVES A CAR.

WHAT THE --CAN'T CONTROL IT!



LOOK OUT!

DEVIL!

US MAIL







JED'S EXACT WORDS, DANNY: "I'LL CURSE HIM FROM THE GRAVE! IT'LL BE MY HAND ON THAT DOC-- IT'LL DO WHAT *I* DO!"

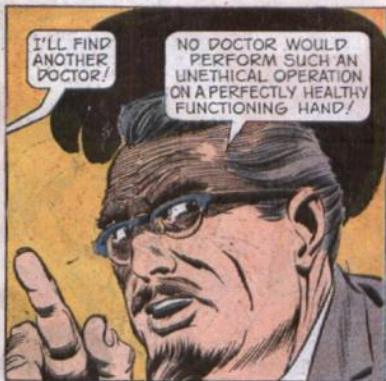
THEN IT'S TRUE! JED'S *ALIVE* IN THIS HAND! I'M FINISHED, HANK! I'LL NEVER OPERATE AGAIN!



RESOLUTELY, DAN COMES TO A DECISION--THE *ONLY* DECISION...

I CAN'T LIVE WITH THIS *BUTCHER*! SAVE ME, DR. CRANE AMPUTATE IT NOW, *TODAY*!

DAN, THIS IS ALL IN YOUR IMAGINATION. IF IT ISN'T, IF YOU REALLY BELIEVE IN A CURSE, YOU BELONG IN AN ASYLUM!



I'LL FIND ANOTHER DOCTOR!

NO DOCTOR WOULD PERFORM SUCH AN UNETHICAL OPERATION ON A PERFECTLY HEALTHY FUNCTIONING HAND!



LISTEN, DAN. THE SUPERNATURAL'S GOT YOU! BEAT IT AT IT'S OWN GAME! I KNOW A FORTUNE-TELLER--THEY SAY SHE CAN BREAK SPELLS!

FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE! I'LL TRY *ANYTHING*! WHERE IS SHE?



DRIVEN BY FEAR AND DESPERATION... THE LAWS OF SCIENCE FORGOTTEN...

MADAM TARO, THERE'S A CURSE ON ME, IT'S--

DO NOT SPEAK EET-- I WEEEL SEE EEN MY CRYSTAL BALL!

ZUT! I SEE THE CURSE! HAND OF AN ASSASSIN -- HAND OF A KILLER!



AND THE KILLER'S HAND MOVES TO KILL...

LOOK OUT! I CAN'T CONTROL IT!



MADAM TARO'S SUPERNATURAL POWER IS GREATER THAN THAT OF THE HAND!

FREEZE!

HYPNOTIZED...! I CAN'T MOVE IT!



YOUNG MAN, TO BREAK THEES WICKED SPELL, LEAVE THEES COUNTRY! PUT WATER OF THE SEA BETWEEN YOU AND THE SOIL WHERE YOU WERE CURSED! GO!!



FOUR DAYS AT SEA, AND THE HAND SEEMS TAMED, BEREFT OF ITS EVIL...

I WONDER WHY I KEEP THIS SIREN? MAYBE TO MAKE MYSELF BELIEVE ALL OF THAT MADNESS REALLY HAPPENED! SOMEHOW IT SEEMS ONLY A BAD DREAM NOW!











BORIS KARLOFF PIN-UP

