

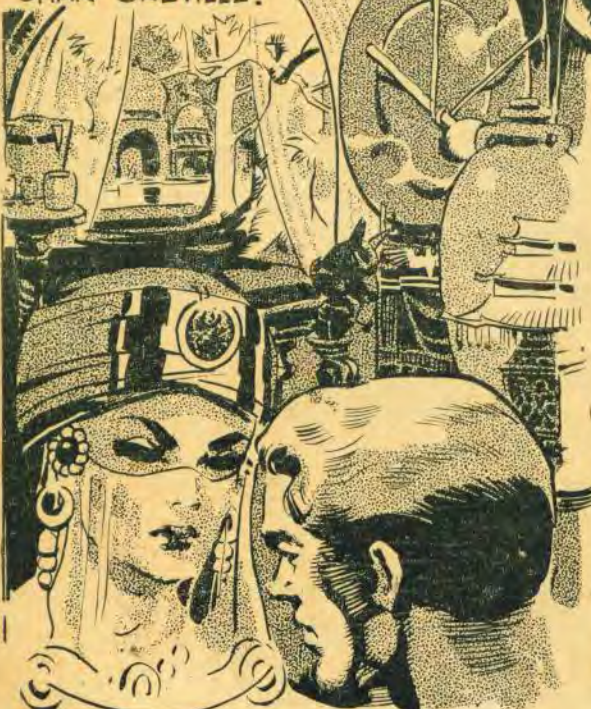
THRILL! AS SIR DENIS NAYLAND SMITH FOILS FU MANCHU'S PLOT TO STEAL THE MASK OF "EL MOKANNA" AND SACRED SWORD THAT WOULD UNITE A FANATIC HORDE IN REVOLT!

FOLLOW DR. FU MANCHU IN HIS NEFARIOUS SCHEME TO TRADE LOVELY RIMA BARTON FOR THE SACRED RELICS!



MEET ENCHANTING FAH LO SEE, FU MANCHU'S DAUGHTER, WHOSE KISS ENSLAVES RIMA'S FIANCE, SHAN GREVILLE!

SEE DENIS NAYLAND SMITH'S ATTEMPT TO TAKE THE GOLDEN MASK TO ENGLAND, AND FU MANCHU'S TRY AT PRESENT-DAY PIRACY!



RULER OF THE GIGANTIC SECRET ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS THE SI-FAAN, GENIUS OF EVIL, AND SUPER-HUMAN ENEMY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION, THE INSIDIOUS DR. FU MANCHU ONCE AGAIN PITS HIS MASTER-MIND AGAINST SIR DENIS NAYLAND SMITH IN HIS NEVER-ENDING STRUGGLE TO RULE THE WORLD. ONLY HE DARED DEFEAT THE DOCTOR AND EXPOSE WHAT LAY BEHIND THE DREAD MASK OF...

DR. FU MANCHU

PART 1



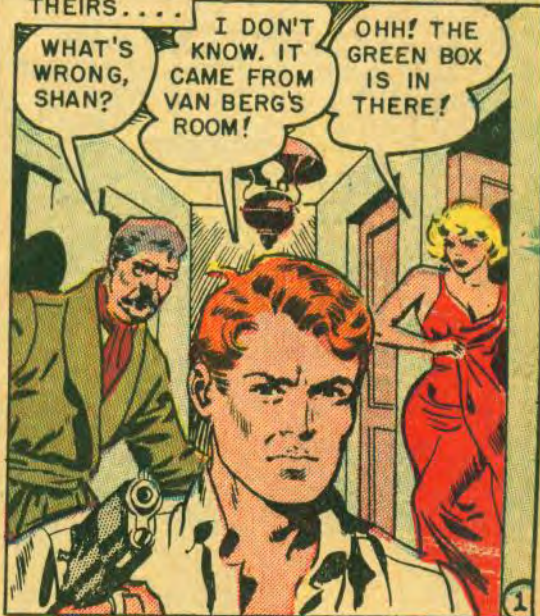
IT ALL BEGAN THAT TERRIBLE NIGHT IN ISPAHAN WHEN VAN BERG MET HIS DEATH. OUR PARTY, CONSISTING OF OUR CHIEF, SIR LIONEL BARTON, THE FAMOUS ORIENTALIST, HIS DAUGHTER RIMA, VAN BERG AND MYSELF, SHAN GREVILLE, WHO WAS SIR LIONEL'S ASSISTANT, HAD COME TO PERSIA WITH THE RELICS OF EL MOKANNA. FROM THAT MOMENT NONE OF US WERE SAFE...



I WAS AWAKENED BY AN AWFUL SCREAM! GUN IN HAND, I DASHED OUT OF MY ROOM AS RIMA AND SIR LIONEL CAME OUT OF THEIRS. . . .

WHAT'S WRONG, SHAN?
I DON'T KNOW. IT CAME FROM VAN BERG'S ROOM!

OHH! THE GREEN BOX IS IN THERE!



INSIDE VAN BERG'S ROOM A HORRIBLE SIGHT MET OUR EYES...

POOR VAN BERG. HIS DEATH IS ON MY CONSCIENCE!

OHH, DAD!

SIR LIONEL, YOU'D BETTER TAKE RIMA OUT OF HERE. IT'S AWFUL! I'LL CALL THE POLICE.



THE FOLLOWING DAY, WHEN THE BODY HAD BEEN REMOVED, THE PERSIAN POLICE CALLED A CONFERENCE. WITH THEM WAS OUR OLD FRIEND, SIR DENIS NAYLAND SMITH...

NAYLAND SMITH! WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

YOU, SIR LIONEL. YOU'VE STIRRED UP MORE TROUBLE THAN YOU KNOW. SUPPOSING YOU TELL US THE WHOLE STORY FROM THE BEGINNING.



RIGHT, AND WITH THEM WENT HIS NEW CREED WHICH HE ENGRAVED ON PLATES OF GOLD. SO GREAT WAS EL MOKANNA'S FOLLOWING THAT HE NEARLY CONQUERED THE MOHAMMEDAN WORLD.

THERE'S NOT MUCH TO TELL. WE GOT A LEAD ON THE TOMB OF EL MOKANNA, THE HIDDEN ONE. HE WAS A MOHAMMEDAN WHO SET HIMSELF UP AS AN INCARNATION OF GOD IN 770 A.D.

I'VE READ ABOUT HIM. HE WAS SO HIDEOUS THAT HE WORE A MASK OF GOLD AND CARRIED A WEAPON HE CALLED THE SWORD OF GOD.



WE FOUND THE MASK, PLATES AND SWORD IN HIS TOMB. THAT IS WHAT IS IN THAT GREEN BOX.

I KNOW, AND BECAUSE OF THAT AN OUTCRY HAS SWEEPED THROUGH THE EAST THAT MOKANNA HAS ARISEN. THEY WOULD FORM A FANATICAL ARMY TO DRIVE THE INFIDEL OUT.

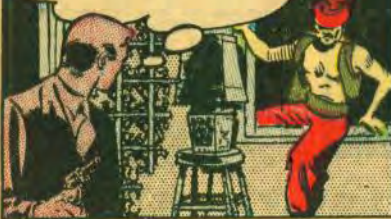
THIS MOVEMENT WOULD ENDANGER THE GOVERNMENTS OF ANY EASTERN POWER. BEHIND IT IS A MONSTROUS LEADER. NONE OTHER THAN DOCTOR FU MANGHU!

YES. AND MARK MY WORDS, THERE WILL BE ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO GET THE CONTENTS OF THAT BOX, BUT THIS TIME WE WILL BE PREPARED.



UNDER SMITH'S INSTRUCTIONS WE LET IT BE KNOWN THAT WE WERE LEAVING IN THE MORNING, AND THEN SAT DOWN TO WAIT DEVELOPMENTS... THAT NIGHT... I'VE BEEN HERE

THREE HOURS ALREADY. MAYBE THEY WON'T COME AFTER... SOMEONE'S AT THE WINDOW! A DWARF!

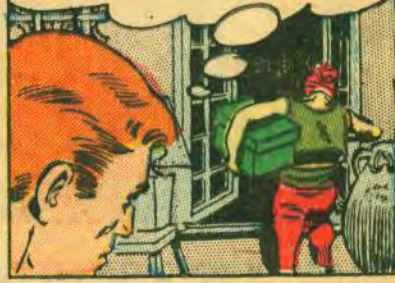


HE'S THE ONE WHO KILLED VAN BERG! NOW HE'LL GO FOR THE BOX!



GRABBING THE BOX THE DWARF CARRIED IT OUT THE WINDOW! EVERYTHING WAS GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN...

GOOD THING HE DIDN'T REALIZE THE BED CONTAINED A DUMMY, I'D BETTER GET TO THE WINDOW IN CASE SMITH NEEDS HELP!



AT THE WINDOW A WEIRD SIGHT MET MY GAZE...

GOOD LORD! IT ISN'T HUMAN! IT... IT'S FLYING!



THEN FROM ACROSS THE STREET CAME A SHOT FIRED BY A BLACK-ROBED FIGURE AND THE DWARF PLUNGED TO THE STREET...



IT'S SMITH. HE GOT HIM!

A MOMENT LATER, SMITH JOINED US...

I DASHED ONTO THE STREET FOLLOWED BY SIR LIONEL...

THERE HE IS!... SIR LIONEL! THE BOX! IT'S EMPTY!

I KNOW. IT ALWAYS HAS BEEN. THAT'S WHY I FELT SO BAD ABOUT VAN BERG. HE DIED FOR NOTHING.



IT WAS INCREDIBLE. HE SEEMED TO FLY THROUGH THE AIR.

IT WAS BY THOSE HOOKS. THEY RAN A LINE TO OUR BUILDING FROM THE MOSQUE. I GOT TWO OTHERS!



AT LEAST VAN BERG'S DEATH HAS BEEN AVENGED...

THEY USED THE MOSQUE AS THEIR HEADQUARTERS. THEY'VE FAILED TWICE NOW, BUT THE THIRD....

WHAT ARE YOU SUGGESTING, SMITH, THAT I GIVE UP THE RELICS TO FU MANCHU?

NO. I'M SUGGESTING THAT YOU AND YOUR PARTY LEAVE ISPAHAN IMMEDIATELY WITH ME. I WON'T VOUCH FOR YOUR LIVES OTHERWISE.

HERE COME THE POLICE!

TAKING NAYLAND SMITH'S ADVICE, WE LEFT AS SOON AS OUR BUSINESS WITH THE POLICE WAS OVER. THE NEXT AFTERNOON WE LANDED AT CAIRO AIRPORT WHERE WE WERE GREETED BY OUR OLD FRIEND, DR. PETRIE...



A FEW MOMENTS LATER PETRIE WAS DRIVING THROUGH THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE EGYPTIAN CITY.

THIS LAST JOB OF YOURS, SIR LIONEL, HAS CERTAINLY STIRRED UP SOMETHING. THE WHOLE MOSLEM POPULATION HAS BEEN AROUSED BY AN OUTBURST OF FANATICISM OVER EL MOKANNA.

THIS IS SERIOUS.



SUDDENLY, AS WE TURNED INTO THE NATIVE QUARTER, IT HAPPENED...

THE CENTER OF THE WHOLE TROUBLE IS RIGHT HERE IN THIS CAR. IN THE SUITCASE UNDER SIR LIONEL'S FEET. HE... LOOK OUT, PETRIE!



OH, WE'VE HIT HIM!

WE'RE IN FOR IT NOW!



AS A CROWD GATHERED, WE CARRIED THE STILL FORM OF THE OLD MAN INTO A NEARBY CAFE.

PUT THE POOR DEVIL DOWN ON A BENCH SO THAT I CAN EXAMINE HIM.

SHAN, TALK TO THE CROWD. KEEP THEM OUT OF HERE!





IS THE MAN DEAD, PETRIE?

YES! HE'S BEEN DEAD OVER THREE HOURS. THERE'S SOMETHING AWFULLY PECULIAR GOING ON HERE!



IT'S ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO GET THE RELICS! WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT TO SIR LIONEL! FOLLOW ME!

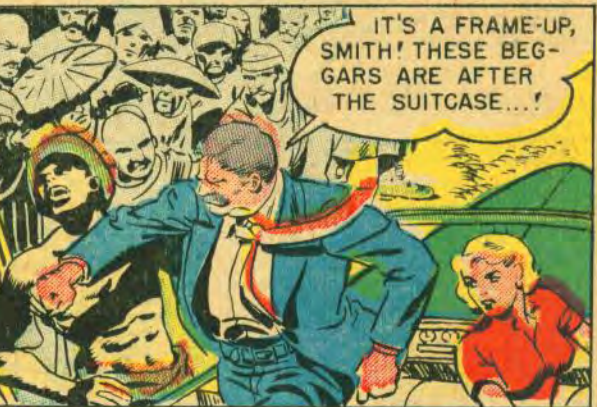
RIGHT BEHIND YOU, SMITH!

THE FOREIGN DEVILS LEAVE. THEY KILL US AND THEN LEAVE!



SOMEHOW WE MANAGED TO REACH THE CAR. WE ARRIVED JUST IN TIME TO SEE SIR LIONEL SPRING INTO ACTION...

COMING, BARTON!



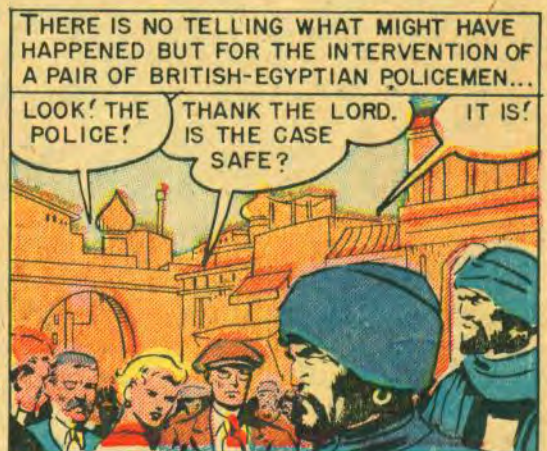
IT'S A FRAME-UP, SMITH! THESE BEGGARS ARE AFTER THE SUITCASE...!



THE BLIGHTERS! LET'S GIVE IT TO THEM!

DESTROY THE FOREIGN DEVILS!

GET BEHIND ME, RIMA! THESE BIRDS WILL STOP AT NOTHING!



THERE IS NO TELLING WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED BUT FOR THE INTERVENTION OF A PAIR OF BRITISH-EGYPTIAN POLICEMEN...

LOOK! THE POLICE!

THANK THE LORD. IS THE CASE SAFE?

IT IS!



YOUR CAR, SIR? WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?

THAT REMAINS TO BE INVESTIGATED. MY NAME IS NAYLAND SMITH. HAVE YOU BEEN ADVISED?



YES SIR. TWO DAYS AGO... CARRY ON, SIR. WE'LL DEAL WITH ALL THIS.

THANK YOU, COME ON, EVERYONE. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.

SAFE IN OUR ROOMS AT SHEPHEARD'S HOTEL WE DISCUSSED THE EXCITING EVENTS OF THE LAST FEW DAYS...

IT'S PREPOSTEROUS! I AM NOT PREPARED TO BELIEVE THAT ANYONE COULD HAVE A STOCK OF DEAD MEN WAITING ON THE ROAD FROM HELIOPOLIS.

NEITHER AM I. IT'S THE MOST EXTRA-ORDINARY TRICK I HAVE EVER MET WITH, EVEN IN MY DEALINGS WITH DR. FU MANGHU!



TRUE, ONLY HE COULD DEVISE SUCH A THING, BUT ONLY YOU AND I, SMITH, COULD GO ONE BETTER. THE RELIGS WEREN'T WITH ME AT ALL!

SIR LIONEL, THAT'S NOT FUNNY! YOU EXPOSED EVERYONE IN THIS GROUP TO WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN DEATH. I HAVE A SUGGESTION TO MAKE!



YES! THERE'S A BOAT LEAVING PORT SAID TOMORROW FOR SOUTHAMPTON. I SUGGEST THAT RIMA SECURES A BERTH.

WHY SHOULD I BE SENT HOME, SIR DENIS? FOR MONTHS I'VE BEEN LIVING IN REMOTE CAMPS HERE AND IN PERSIA, AND YOU SEE--I'M STILL ALIVE.



I KNOW, BUT AS LONG AS YOUR FATHER INSISTS ON PUTTING YOU INTO DANGER, THERE'S NO CERTAINTY THAT YOU WILL STAY THAT WAY.

COME ON, SHAN. LET'S GO DOWNSTAIRS. THERE'S DANCING IN THE GARDENS. LET THESE TWO FIGHT IT OUT.

SIR!



IN THE GARDENS BELOW WE STOOD WATCHING THE DANCERS WHEN HUMPHREYS, OUR PILOT, JOINED US...

HELLO, YOU TWO. DON'T TELL ME YOUR SITTING MUSIC LIKE THIS OUT? HOW ABOUT A DANCE WITH ME, MISS BARTON?

DO YOU MIND, SHAN?

NOT AT ALL. I'LL TAKE A TURN AROUND THE GARDEN.



AS I TURNED DOWN ONE OF THE PATHS I SAW SOMETHING THAT BROUGHT ME UP IN ABRUPT SURPRISE...

IT CAN'T BE! I MUST BE DREAMING! THAT'S FAH LO SUEE, FU MANGHU'S DAUGHTER! I'VE GOT TO FOLLOW HER!





WHAT CAN SHE BE DOING HERE?
WHAT CAN SHE WANT?



I REACHED THE STREET IN TIME TO SEE HER RIDE OFF IN A LONG, LOW TWO SEATER.

GABBY, FOLLOW THAT CAR! DOUBLE FARE IF YOU KEEP IT IN SIGHT!



SOMEHOW WE KEPT HER IN SIGHT AS WE THREADED THROUGH NARROW, DESERTED STREETS. SHE FINALLY STOPPED DEEP IN THE NATIVE QUARTER.

PULL UP! SHE'S STOPPED! WHERE ARE WE ANYWAY?
THIS STREET LEADS TO THE MOSQUE OF MUAYYAD-BAB EZ ZUWELA.

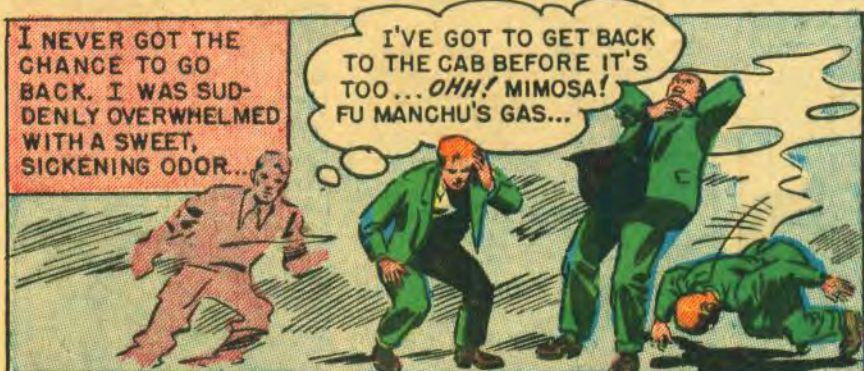


STAY HERE! DON'T MOVE UNTIL I GET BACK! WHAT-EVER HAPPENS, STAY!



DASHING AFTER HER, I BEGAN TO GROPE MY WAY DOWN A DARK, UNEVENLY PAVED PASSAGE...

I'M A FOOL FOR DOING THIS. IT'S A TRAP AND YET I FOLLOW HER BLINDLY. I'D BETTER GO BACK FOR HELP.



I NEVER GOT THE CHANCE TO GO BACK. I WAS SUD-DENLY OVERWHELMED WITH A SWEET, SICKENING ODOR...

I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE CAB BEFORE IT'S TOO... OHH! MIMOSA! FU MANCHU'S GAS...



DO NOT HARM HIM. TAKE HIM TO MY FATHER. HURRY!

AS YOU COMMAND, MISTRESS.

THAT WAS ALL I REMEMBERED AS I SANK INTO DARK DEPTHS AND MY HEAD SWAM DIZZILY.



PART 2

WHEN CONSCIOUSNESS RETURNED I FOUND MYSELF IN A STRANGE ROOM THAT WAS PART LABORATORY. ENTERING THE DOOR WAS NONE OTHER THAN--DOCTOR FU MANGHU...

MR. GREVILLE, I TRUST THAT ANY SLIGHT HEAD-ACHE WHICH YOU MAY HAVE EXPERIENCED ON AWAKENING HAS NOW DISAPPEARED. YOU SUCCUMBED TONIGHT TO A NEW DRUG OF MY OWN DISCOVERY.



IT WOULD BE USELESS TO CONTEMPLATE INJURY TO ME. IN THIS LABORATORY I HAVE THINGS THAT WOULD STOP YOU INSTANTLY.

WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?



ALL IN GOOD TIME. I HAVE PROMISED MY DAUGHTER, WHOM YOU KNOW AS FAH LO SUEE, THAT NO HARM WILL COME TO YOU. FOR SOME REASON YOU HAVE PLEASSED HER. SHE HELPED TRAP YOU ONLY ON THE STRENGTH OF THAT PROMISE.



I REPEAT. WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?

THROUGH YOU I EXPECT TO GET THE BARGAINING POWER I NEED TO OBTAIN THE RELICS OF EL MOKANNA.



THE SOUND OF THE GONG HAD SCARCELY DIED BEFORE I FOUND MYSELF IN THE IRON GRIP OF TWO DWARFED ORIENTALS OF THE KIND WE HAD MET BEFORE...

YES.

MANY PARDONS, BUT THIS DOCUMENT IS PRECIOUS AND I FEARED YOU MIGHT ATTEMPT TO DESTROY IT. CAN YOU READ FROM WHERE YOU STAND?



WHAT I READ SHOCKED ME TO THE CORE! IT WAS A NOTE TO RIMA IN MY OWN HANDWRITING TELLING HER TO MEET ME ALONE!...

THIS IS AN AMAZING FORGERY, BUT SHE WILL NEVER BE FOOL ENOUGH TO COME!

FORGERY! MY DEAR MR. GREVILLE, YOU WROTE THAT YOURSELF WHILE DRUGGED. MY NEW ANESTHETIC HAS PROPERTIES APPROACHING PERFECTION.



SHE'LL KNOW IT'S A TRAP THE MOMENT SHE SEES I AM NOT THERE. YOU WON'T GET HER.

BUT YOU WILL BE THERE AND YOU'LL CO-OPERATE. BRING HIM TO ME.



A MOMENT LATER I FELT THE SHARP PRICK OF A NEEDLE AND A WARM EXHILARATION SWEEP OVER ME...

THIS PREPARATION LEAVES NO MEMORY BEHIND IT, AND THE PATIENT REMAINS UNDER MY CONTROL THROUGH ITS WHOLE PHASE.

I UNDERSTAND...

AS THE DOCTOR'S SERVANTS RELEASED ME I REALIZED THAT IT WAS A PLEASURE TO SERVE HIM. HOW COULD I HAVE EVER WANTED TO DESTROY A MAN LIKE THIS?...

NOW YOU WILL BE DRIVEN BACK TO THE HOTEL, MR. GREVILLE, WHERE THE NOTE WILL BE GIVEN TO MISS BARTON. YOU WILL WAIT FOR HER AT THE CAR.

OF COURSE! I AM GLAD TO BE OF HELP. TRUST ME, SHE WILL BE HERE.

THIRTY MINUTES LATER FOUND ME OUTSIDE THE SHEPHEARD HOTEL AS RIMA, NOTE IN HAND, HURRIED TOWARD ME...

SHAN! SHAN! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? YOU HAVE TERRIFIED US ALL!

QUICK! GET IN. IT'S IMPORTANT THAT NOBODY SHALL SEE US.

SHE GOT IN AND WE MOVED OFF...

SHAN DEAR, WHATEVER DO YOU MEAN? SIR DENIS IS FRANTIC. HE'S NOTIFIED THE POLICE. WHOSE CAR IS THIS?

IT'S HIS CAR. WE ARE GOING TO HIM.

HIM! YOU'RE MAD! LET ME OUT OF THIS CAR! LET ME OUT!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, DARLING...

I DO, SHAN! I DO. MAKE HIM STOP! ...HELP!

RIMA, DARLING, PLEASE. YOU WILL SPOIL EVERYTHING.

IN AND OUT OF THE DESERTED WINDING STREETS OUTSIDE CAIRO WE TURNED AND TWISTED UNTIL AT LAST WE REACHED OUR DESTINATION...

DON'T BE AFRAID, RIMA. DOCTOR FU MANCHU IS A GREAT MAN AND WE ARE PRIVILEGED TO HELP HIM.

OH, SHAN! SHAN! WHAT HAS HE DONE TO YOU?

I HAVE RELATED WHAT REALLY HAPPENED THAT NIGHT IN CAIRO IN THE PROPER ORDER OF THOSE EVENTS--BUT IN THEIR ORDER AS I KNEW IT LATER. ACTUALLY I HAD NO IDEA OF WHAT OCCURRED UNTIL A LONG TIME AFTER. FU MANCHU'S INSIDIOUS DRUG HAD SHAKEN MY VERY REASON...

AFTER DELIVERING RIMA TO THE HOUSE I KNEW NO MORE UNTIL...

SHAN, DEAR, YOU MUST WAKE UP! TRULY, YOU MUST. I'M SORRY.

WH... WHAT HAPPENED?



IT WAS SO LOVELY SITTING HERE AND WATCHING THE RIVER, BUT I AM POSITIVELY SHIVERING. I'M GOING TO DRIVE YOU BACK NOW.

WHERE HAVE I BEEN? HOW CAN I EXPLAIN TO RIMA, LEAVING HER TO... TO SIT BY THE NILE MAKING LOVE TO FU MANCHU'S DAUGHTER. IF I COULD ONLY REMEMBER!



SOON WE WERE BACK AT THE HOTEL...

GOODNIGHT, DEAR! REMEMBER ME TILL WE MEET AGAIN.

REMEMBER. I MUST REMEMBER.



THERE WAS ANOTHER BLANK AND MY RIDE WITH FAH LO SUEE FADED AWAY, NOT TO BE RECALLED UNTIL LONG AFTER... I FOUND MYSELF IN THE HOTEL LOBBY...

MR. GREVILLE! I WAS NEVER MORE PLEASSED TO SEE A MAN IN MY LIFE.

WHERE IS SIR DENIS AND MISS BARTON?



YOU LOOK THOROUGHLY BEAT. BETTER SIT DOWN. I'M HEWLETT FROM HEADQUARTERS. I'VE BEEN WAITING HERE FOR YOU FOR THREE HOURS.

BUT THE OTHERS. WHERE ARE THEY?



SIR DENIS, DR. PETRIE AND SIR LIONEL ARE WITH THE SEARCH PARTY. IT'S HARD TO HAVE TO TELL YOU, BUT IT'S FOR MISS BARTON WE ARE SEARCHING.

WHAT! MISS BARTON! WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



ALL WE KNOW IS THAT AN EGYPTIAN CHAUF- FEUR BROUGHT A NOTE TO ONE OF THE SERVANTS HERE AND HE GAVE IT TO MISS BARTON. SHE HASN'T BEEN SEEN OR HEARD OF SINCE.

THIS IS TERRIBLE. I MUST FIND SIR DENIS RIGHT AWAY.

THE NEXT MORNING... AND STILL NO WORD OF RIMA'S WHEREABOUTS. BUCK UP, OLD CHAP, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL! TAKE MY WORD FOR IT... WE'LL HAVE NEWS OF HER SHORTLY.

YOU'RE SAYING THAT TO EASE MY MIND.

NO! I BELIEVE RIMA HAS BEEN TAKEN BY DR. FU MANGHU, TO FORCE SIR LIONEL TO GIVE UP THE RELICS.

OH, IF ONLY I COULD RE- MEMBER WHAT HAP- PENED AFTER I LEFT TO FOL- LOW FAH LO SUEE. BUT I'M AN ABSO- LUTE BLANK!

LET'S CHECK THE CONTENTS OF YOUR POCKETS... WE MAY GET A CLUE.

ALL RIGHT. ...SAY, WHAT'S THIS? I DIDN'T HAVE THAT BEFORE.

THE ENVELOPE CONTAINED A SMALL WHITE PELLETT AND A NOTE WRITTEN IN THE UNMISTAKEABLE HAND OF FAH LO SUEE...

WELL IT'S A NOTE FROM FAH LO SUEE AND THIS PILL.

WHAT DOES IT SAY, MAN? READ IT!

IT SAID...

I do not want you to suffer because of what I have been compelled to do. You love Rima. If she does not come back... trust me. I am not jealous. Take the enclosed tablet as soon as possible. It is necessary. believe me. Burn this letter.

IT ISN'T SIGNED, BUT I KNOW HOW YOU MUST FEEL, BUT KEEP IT. IT MAY HAVE ITS USES LATER... VERY REMARK- ABLE... VERY REMARKABLE, INDEED!

I KNOW HOW YOU MUST FEEL, BUT KEEP IT. IT MAY HAVE ITS USES LATER... VERY REMARK- ABLE... VERY REMARKABLE, INDEED!

TOO EXHAUSTED TO DO ANYTHING FURTHER, I TRIED TO GET AN HOUR'S SLEEP. IT SEEMED AS IF I HAD JUST DOZED OFF WHEN SMITH SHOOK ME AWAKE...

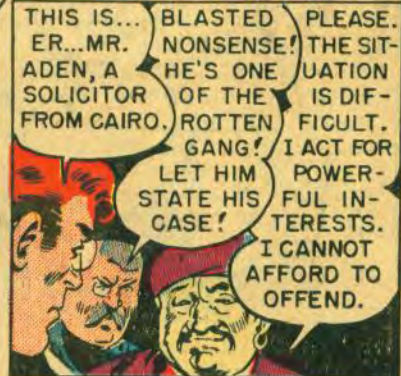
COME ON, THE MESSENGER IS IN BARTON'S ROOM. HE'S WAITING TO TALK WITH US.

WHAT! AN AGENT OF FU MANGHU, HERE! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

A MOMENT LATER WE WERE FACE TO FACE WITH THE MAN WHO HAD COME TO NEGOTIATE WITH SIR LIONEL....

WAKE UP, OLD CHAP, THERE'S GOOD NEWS! WE'VE HAD WORD OF RIMA. SHE'S BEING HELD FOR RANSOM.

AT LEAST SHE'S ALIVE AND ALL RIGHT. THANK GOODNESS!



THIS IS... ER...MR. ADEN, A SOLICITOR FROM CAIRO.

BLASTED NONSENSE! HE'S ONE OF THE ROTTEN GANG! LET HIM STATE HIS CASE!

PLEASE. THE SITUATION IS DIFFICULT. I ACT FOR POWERFUL INTERESTS. I CANNOT AFFORD TO OFFEND.

THE WAY I UNDERSTAND IT, MISS BARTON WILL BE RETURNED IF SIR LIONEL GIVES UP CERTAIN PROPERTY.

THAT IS CORRECT. IF THE PROPERTY MENTIONED IS BROUGHT TO A SPECIFIED PLACE, MISS BARTON WILL BE THERE!



THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS BLACKMAIL! I OUGHT TO...

STOP! WE ARE UP AGAINST A STONE WALL. I SUGGEST WE COMPLY WITH MR. ADEN'S REQUEST.

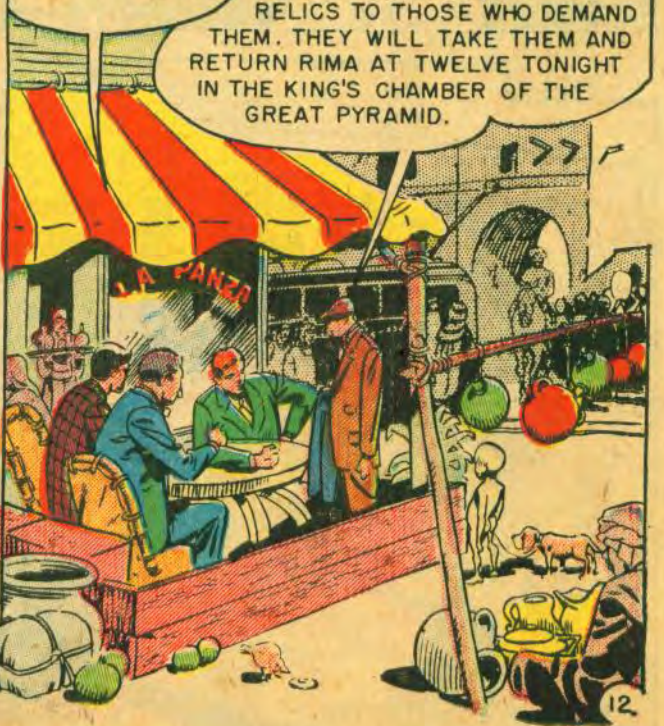
YOU ARE BEING SENSIBLE, MR. SMITH. BEFORE I LEAVE I MUST SEE THE ITEMS UNDER DISCUSSION AND NOTIFY MY CLIENT ALL IS CORRECT.



THERE WAS NOTHING MORE WE COULD DO UNTIL WORD CAME FROM MR. ADEN. THINGS WERE AT A STANDSTILL UNTIL LATE THAT AFTERNOON...

SMITH! HAVE YOU ANY NEWS?

YES. I HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO TURN OVER THE RELICS TO THOSE WHO DEMAND THEM. THEY WILL TAKE THEM AND RETURN RIMA AT TWELVE TONIGHT IN THE KING'S CHAMBER OF THE GREAT PYRAMID.



IF I HAD ANY SENSE I'D BREAK THIS CROOK'S OILY NECK!

BARTON, I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU. YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I THAT NOTHING ELSE COUNTS WHILE RIMA IS IN THE HANDS OF--MR. ADEN'S CLIENT.



WHAT! THIS IS STARK, RAVING LUNACY.

I DON'T FOLLOW, SMITH. IT'S UTTERLY FANTASTIC. WHY?

I'LL EXPLAIN. FU MANCHU'S AGENT WAS AUTHORIZED TO PROPOSE A MEETING PLACE NOT LESS THAN HALF A MILE FROM ANY DWELLING.



ALSO THERE WAS NOT TO BE MORE THAN TWO OF US AND NO MORE THAN TWO PEOPLE WITH RIMA. I ALSO MADE A FURTHER CONDITION. AFTER THE EXCHANGE THERE WILL BE A *TEN MINUTE TRUCE*.



I STILL DON'T GET IT!

DON'T YOU SEE. IF FU MANCHU PLANS AN AMBUSH THIS WILL GIVE US A CHANCE. IN SPITE OF HIS EVILNESS THE DOCTOR HAS NEVER BROKEN HIS WORD.

WELL?



THERE IS NO CLAUSE IN THE AGREEMENT PROHIBITING OUR BEING COVERED BY AS MANY PERSONS AS WE WISH. THE POLICE WILL SURROUND THE PYRAMID!

THERE IS ONLY ONE ENTRANCE TO IT. EVEN IF THEY GET BY THE POLICE THEY CAN'T GET OUT WITHOUT BEING CAUGHT. WE'LL GET RIMA AND KEEP THE RELICS.



THERE'S ONLY ONE CATCH. FU MANCHU WILL NEVER GO FOR A DEAL LIKE THAT. HE'LL VETO THE WHOLE THING.

ON THE CONTRARY, HE ACCEPTED. I HEARD BY PHONE JUST BEFORE I CAME HERE. WE'LL ALL BE AT THE PYRAMID TONIGHT.



TEN MINUTES OF TWELVE FOUND US CLOSE BY THE GREAT PYRAMID. SMITH QUESTIONED ONE OF THE DISGUISED SECRET SERVICE MEN THAT SURROUNDED IT...

ONLY THING ODD I'VE NOTICED, SIR, IS THAT THERE SEEMS TO BE A GATHERING OF DERVISHES IN THE VILLAGE.

QUEER BUSINESS, DERVISHES AT GIZEN. DON'T LIKE IT.



WELL, WE CAN'T WORRY ABOUT IT NOW. IT'S TIME TO GO. COME ON, GREVILLE.

READY.

GOOD LUCK TO BOTH OF YOU.



AS WE NEARED THE HUGE PILE ANOTHER MAN SLIPPED FROM THE SHADOWS...

HEWLETT! WE'VE GOT WHAT NEWS? SIXTY MEN AROUND THE PLACE. NOT A SOUL HAS ENTERED SINCE THE GUIDES LEFT. ANYONE WHO'D GONE IN WOULD HAVE TO BE INVISIBLE.

HE'S BACKED OUT! SIR LIONEL WAS RIGHT! HE'S SPOTTED THE GORDON AND CALLED HIS MEN OFF.

WAIT AND SEE! COME ON, GREVILLE, WE'RE GOING INTO THE PYRAMID.

AT ONE MINUTE TO TWELVE WE STOOD AT THE BLACK ENTRANCE THAT LED TO THE INSIDE OF THE ANCIENT PILE...

HOW COULD ANYBODY BE IN HERE, SIR DENIS? THE POLICE HAVE SEEN NO ONE ENTER. DOCTOR FU HAS FAILED US.

I WOULD BELIEVE THAT IF I HAD NOT SPOKEN TO HIM ON THE PHONE TODAY, HE WILL BE HERE.

FROM NOW ON, YOU TAKE OVER, GREVILLE. YOU KNOW THESE PASSAGES LIKE A BOOK.

ALL RIGHT, BUT I HAVE A FEELING WE WON'T SEE RIMA AGAIN.

PROCEEDING DOWN THE DARK PASSAGE WE FINALLY REACHED THE GREAT HALL, THE MIGHTY CORRIDOR THAT LED TO THE KING'S CHAMBER. AS WE ENTERED...

DID YOU HEAR THAT? FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, WHAT WAS IT?

A SIGNAL TO ADVISE *SOMEONE* WE ARE HERE. THE LORD KNOWS HOW THEY GOT IN, BUT I WAS RIGHT. WE ARE NOT ALONE!

AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE INEXPLICABLE KING'S CHAMBER, WE PAUSED...

WE ARE WALKING INTO A TRAP, SIR DENIS. IF THEY CAN GET IN WITHOUT BEING SEEN, THEY CAN GET OUT.

I KNOW, BUT I AM RELYING ON FU MANCHU'S WORD. IN ALL THE YEARS I HAVE FOUGHT HIM, HE HAS NEVER BROKEN CAN GET IT...LET'S GO IN.

BOING

WE ENTERED AS A STRANGE THING HAPPENED. A BRILLIANT LIGHT FLASHED ON TO REVEAL A MAN SEATED AT A TABLE... IT WAS DR. FU MANCHU!

WE MEET AGAIN, SIR DENNIS-- A MEETING YOU DID NOT ANTICIPATE. YET YOU MIGHT HAVE DONE SO.

I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN!

PART 3

FOR A MOMENT NAYLAND SMITH AND THE INSIDIOUS DOCTOR STARED AT EACH OTHER COLDLY... THEN...



WHERE IS RIMA?

SHE IS HERE. I SAID SHE WOULD BE HERE.

SHAN!



RIMA! DARLING! HAVE YOU BEEN LYING THERE, HIDING?

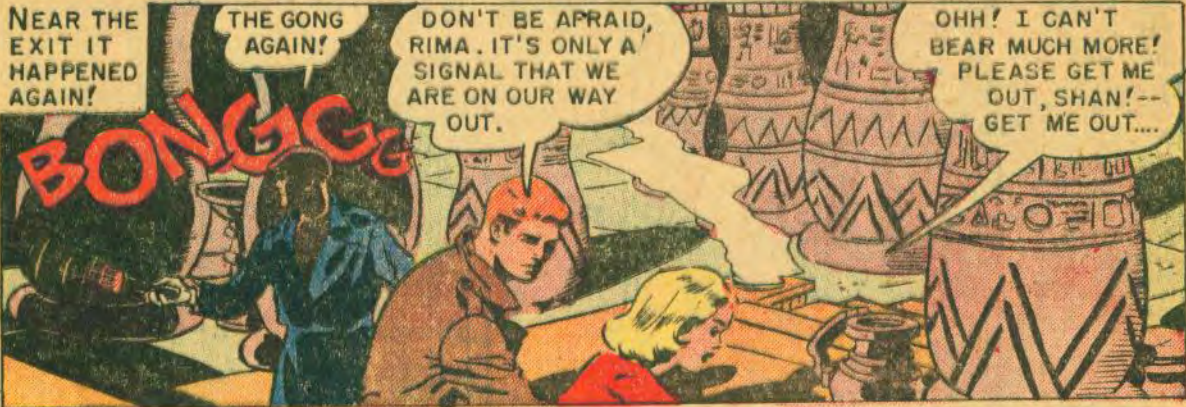
YES! I PROMISED. IT WAS MY PART OF THE BARGAIN.

I HAVE PERFORMED WHAT I PROMISED, SIR DENIS. IT IS NOW YOUR TURN...



WITHOUT A WORD, SMITH PLACED THE RELICS ON THE TABLE BEFORE FU MANCHU AND WE LEFT...

HURRY! REMEMBER-- TEN MINUTES!



NEAR THE EXIT IT HAPPENED AGAIN!

THE GONG AGAIN!

DON'T BE AFRAID, RIMA. IT'S ONLY A SIGNAL THAT WE ARE ON OUR WAY OUT.

OH! I CAN'T BEAR MUCH MORE! PLEASE GET ME OUT, SHAN!-- GET ME OUT...



A MOMENT LATER...

GREVILLE, IS SHE ALL RIGHT?

YES, EVERYTHING IS FINE.

WE LEFT FU MANCHU ALONE IN THE KING'S CHAMBER.

THEN HE IS TRAPPED! THE ONLY EXITS FROM THE PYRAMID ARE THOROUGHLY GUARDED.

PETRIE AND I RUSHED RIMA BACK TO THE HOTEL AND THEN RETURNED TO THE PYRAMID TO FIND CONSTERNATION PREVAILING...

HOW COULD HE HAVE SLIPPED OUT? IT'S SOME BLASTED TRICK!

SMITH, IT'S ALL BUT IN-CREDIBLE, BUT FU MANCHU HAS MANAGED TO GET OUT AS MYSTERIOUSLY AS HE GOT IN!

WELL, NOTHING MORE TO DO TONIGHT. I'LL LEAVE A DETAIL ON GUARD AND...

NO, SIR DENIS, IT ISN'T SAFE. YOU REMEMBER THE DERVISHES YOUR AGENT TOLD US ABOUT. THEY ARE COMING. PETRIE AND I SAW THEM!

IT'S A RESCUE! THEY MEAN TO RUSH THE ENTRANCE! FU MANCHU IS HIDING INSIDE!



WE'LL SOON FIND OUT. HERE THEY COME!

THERE MUST BE FIFTY OF THEM. WHAT WILL WE DO?

NOTHING. WE HAVE SIXTY MEN STILL ON DUTY. WE CAN HANDLE THEM IF NECESSARY.



AT THAT MOMENT IT HAPPENED. A TALL MAJESTIC FIGURE WEARING THE RELICS OF THE ANCIENT PROPHET APPEARED HIGH ON THE SLOPE OF THE PYRAMID. IT WAS LIT BRILLIANTLY.



GOOD LORD! WHAT'S THAT?

NO WONDER HE WANTED THE RELICS SO BADLY AND SO QUICKLY. THIS MEETING WAS PLANNED FOR TONIGHT!

THEN, AS SUDDENLY AS IT APPEARED, THE APPARITION VANISHED...

IT'S GONE!

THIS IS BAD! THIS SPARK IS GOING TO LIGHT A BONFIRE! WORD OF THIS WILL SPREAD LIKE LIGHTNING AND THERE WILL BE A FULLFLEDGED REVOLT!



FU MANCHU TRICKED US, SMITH! BUT, BY THE LORD HARRY, I'VE TRICKED HIM!



NOT ANOTHER WORD WOULD HE SAY. THE FOLLOWING DAY, RIMA WAS ABLE TO TELL US HER STORY...

NOW DON'T EXCITE YOURSELF, RIMA. YOU'VE HAD A BAD TIME.

IT'S ALL RIGHT, DOCTOR PETRIE. IT ALL BEGAN WHEN I GOT THAT NOTE FROM SHAN...



NOTE! IT WAS A FORGERY!

DON'T INTERRUPT, GREVILLE. THESE ARE THE FACTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY RELATE TO A PERIOD OF WHICH YOU REMEMBER NOTHING.



IT WAS TRUE. THE GREATER PART OF THE NIGHT WAS A TOTAL BLANK TO ME...

I MET YOU AT THE GAR AND YOU SIMPLY DRAGGED ME IN. I THOUGHT YOU WERE MAD. WE DROVE TO A HOUSE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF CAIRO WHERE I WAS MET BY A TALL MAN DRESSED IN BLACK.



"IT WAS DOCTOR FU MANGHU! YOU, SHAN, FELL BACK ON THE CAR SEAT AS THOUGH YOU WERE -- DEAD! THEN I FAINTED."

TAKE HER QUICKLY, AND BRING HER INSIDE.

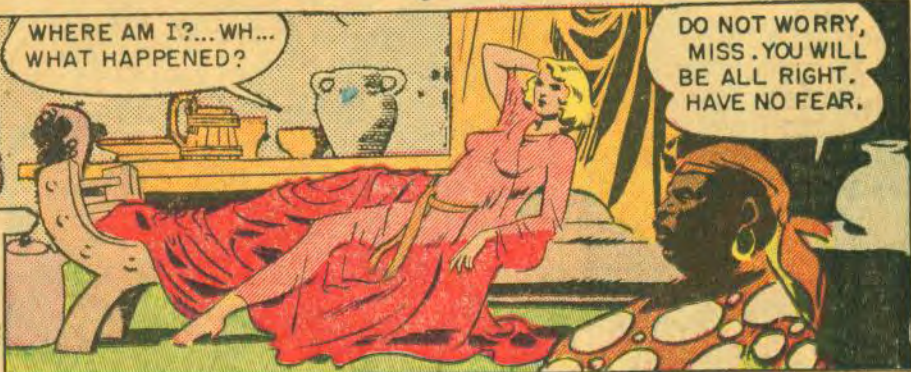
YES, MASTER.



WHERE AM I?... WH... WHAT HAPPENED?

DO NOT WORRY, MISS. YOU WILL BE ALL RIGHT. HAVE NO FEAR.

"WHEN I CAME TO I FOUND MYSELF IN A MAGNIFICENT ROOM WATCHED OVER BY A GIANT NEGRESS..."



"FOR THREE DAYS NO ONE CAME NEAR US AND THEN THAT EVENING THE DOOR WAS UNLOCKED AND FU MANGHU ENTERED..."

KEEP AWAY FROM ME! KEEP AWAY!

PLEASE, MISS BARTON. I AM AFRAID YOUR NERVES HAVE GOTTEN THE BETTER OF YOU. DRINK THIS AND YOU WILL BE ALL RIGHT.



YOU SEE, MISS BARTON, YOU FEEL BETTER ALREADY. NOW LISTEN TO ME...



"I REMEMBER NOTHING MORE TILL I FOUND MYSELF AT HIS SIDE IN THE KING'S CHAMBER INSIDE THE GREAT PYRAMID..."

REMEMBER, SHAN GREVILLE'S LIFE DEPENDS ON YOUR FOLLOWING MY ORDERS. NOW, TO YOUR PLACE. YOU WILL RISE WHEN I CLAP MY HANDS. GO!



AND THAT IS ALL I CAN TELL YOU.

SOME OF WHAT YOU HAVE SAID SEEMS TO STRIKE A CHORD IN MY MEMORY, BUT I CAN'T HOLD ON TO IT. I CAN'T!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, SHAN. ONE DAY IT WILL ALL COME BACK TO YOU.

DURING THE NEXT WEEK NAYLAND SMITH PAID AN URGENT VISIT TO DAMASCUS. IT WAS ON A SUNDAY NIGHT THAT PETRIE BURST IN WITH A MESSAGE...

WHAT'S UP, PETRIE? YOU LOOK RATHER DISTURBED.

I AM! SMITH SENT THIS TELEGRAM. DOCTOR FU MANCHU HAS BEEN IN DAMASCUS AND IS RETURNING TO CAIRO. HIS MISSION, BARTON, IS TO SEE YOU!

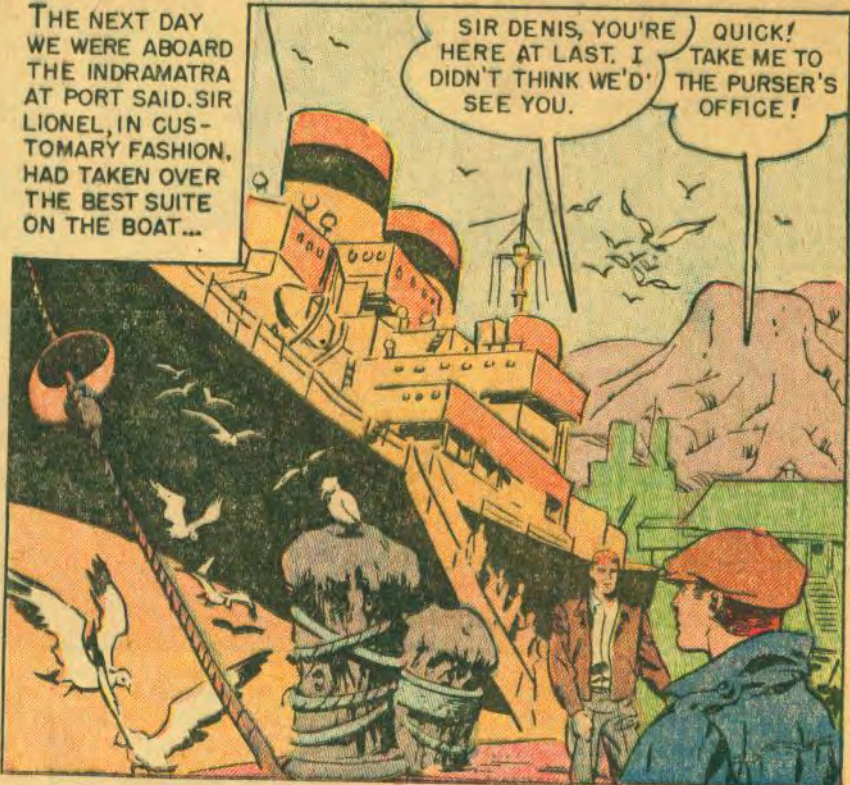
SMITH SAYS THERE'S A DUTCH STEAMER LEAVING PORT SAID TOMORROW FOR SOUTHAMPTON AND THAT YOU MUST ALL LEAVE ON HER. HE WILL MEET YOU AT THE SHIP.

THE NEXT DAY WE WERE ABOARD THE INDRAMATRA AT PORT SAID. SIR LIONEL, IN CUSTOMARY FASHION, HAD TAKEN OVER THE BEST SUITE ON THE BOAT...

SIR DENIS, YOU'RE HERE AT LAST. I DIDN'T THINK WE'D SEE YOU.

QUICK! TAKE ME TO THE PURSER'S OFFICE!

ALL RIGHT. I'LL GO.
IT MUST BE SERIOUS.



IN THE PURSER'S OFFICE A FUSS WAS GOING ON. THE MAN SIR LIONEL HAD USURPED WAS IN A RAGE...

IT'S AN OUTRAGE! THIS TRAVELING MOUNT-BANK HAS LITERALLY THROWN ME OUT OF THE CABIN I RESERVED IN CAIRO...

YOU WILL PARDON ME, BUT I HAVE A MATTER OF THE GREATEST URGENCY TO TAKE UP WITH THE PURSER.

AS A BRITISH MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT TRAVELING OFFICIALLY I AM AFFORDED CERTAIN FACILITIES AND I WISH TO STATE...

MR. KENNINGTON... WELL, SIR, SINCE YOU ARE A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, YOU WILL DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO ASSIST ME. IT IS A MATTER OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE THAT I HAVE TWO MINUTES WITH THE PURSER!

MAY I ASK YOU, MR. KENNINGTON, TO ALLOW ME TO TALK TO THIS GENTLEMAN. HIS BUSINESS SEEMS IMPORTANT.

IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT! BY HEAVENS, SIR, ROTTERDAM SHALL HEAR OF THIS!



A MOMENT LATER, SMITH AND THE PURSER WERE LOOKING OVER THE PASSENGER LIST. WHILE OUTSIDE...

SIR LIONEL BARTON IS THE PERSON'S NAME. WHO THE DEVIL, MAY I ASK, IS SIR LIONEL BARTON?

I AM SIR LIONEL BARTON. DOES ANYBODY WANT ME?



THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT OUR CABINS... BUT... IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT.

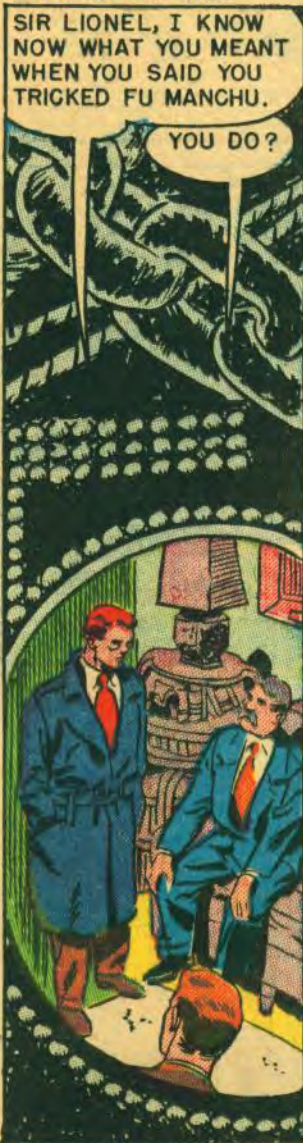
IT JOLLY WELL BETTER BE! GOOD DAY, SIR!



A FEW MINUTES LATER SMITH WAS THROUGH AND WE HELD A CONFERENCE IN SIR LIONEL'S CABIN...

SIR LIONEL, I KNOW NOW WHAT YOU MEANT WHEN YOU SAID YOU TRICKED FU MANCHU.

YOU DO?



YES. THE RELIGS YOU GAVE DR. FU MANCHU WERE REPLICAS YOU HAD MADE IN ISPAHAN. YOU STILL POSSESS THE REAL ONES!

SO, WHAT OF IT? I MADE NO BARGAIN TO DELIVER THE REAL THING. BESIDES, WHAT FU MANCHU DID WAS PLAIN BLACK-MAIL!

ALL RIGHT, LET IT GO. BUT DR. FU MEANS TO GET THE REAL ONES!

WELL, HE WON'T. THE SHIP SAILS IN FIFTEEN MINUTES!



SMITH, SURE THE BOAT WAS SAFE, LEFT, AND THE BOAT SAILED. SOON AFTER...

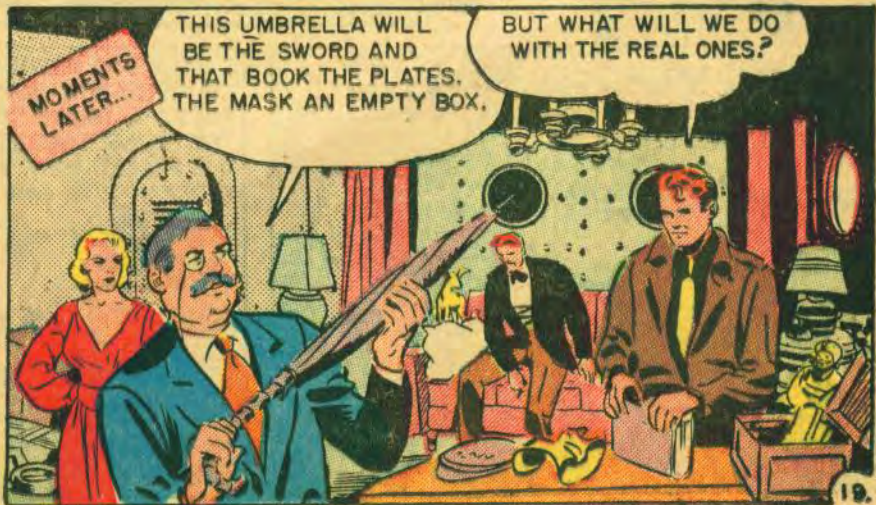
THE BEST PLACE TO HIDE ANYTHING IS WHERE ALL CAN SEE IT... AND THAT'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO, GREVILLE.



MOMENTS LATER...

THIS UMBRELLA WILL BE THE SWORD AND THAT BOOK THE PLATES. THE MASK AN EMPTY BOX.

BUT WHAT WILL WE DO WITH THE REAL ONES?



PUT THE PLATES IN YOUR OVERCOAT POCKET. THE SWORD I'LL PUT IN YOUR GOLF BAG AND THE MASK IN MY CIGAR BOX. THE FAKES WE'LL GIVE TO THE PURSER TO LOCK UP.

I HOPE YOU'RE NOT MAKING A MISTAKE, SIR LIONEL.



A FEW MINUTES LATER WE WERE IN THE PURSER'S OFFICE WITH OUR FAKE PACKAGES. MR. KENNINGTON WAS STILL COMPLAINING...

I DEMAND SATISFACTION... ER...

THESE PACKAGES LOCKED UP. THEY ARE EXTREMELY VALUABLE.

VERY WELL, SIR LIONEL. I'LL PUT THEM IN IMMEDIATELY... EXCUSE ME, MR. KENNINGTON.



NOTHING FURTHER OCCURRED UNTIL TWO A. M. WHEN I GOT AN URGENT WIRE FROM SMITH...

SOMETHING WILL BE ATTEMPTED TONIGHT. KEEP SHARP LOOKOUT. NO M.P. NAMED KENNINGTON IN PARLIAMENT. ADVISE CAPTAIN AT ONCE. SMITH.

I WAS ON MY WAY TO SEE THE CAPTAIN WHEN SUDDENLY THE BOAT'S ENGINES STOPPED. OVERHEAD A PLANE APPEARED...

THAT'S FUNNY THE ENGINES HAVE STOPPED. AND THAT PLANE—IT'S CIRCLING OVERHEAD.



SWIFTLY THE PLANE LANDED AND AS I WATCHED I HEARD A SPLASH ON THE SIDE OF THE SHIP...

WHAT'S GOING ON? SOMETHING WRONG?

I DON'T KNOW. A PLANE LANDED ON THE WATER AND SOMEONE HAS GONE OVERBOARD!



LOOK! IT'S A MAN SWIMMING TO THE PLANE!

HE'S TOWING WHAT LOOKS LIKE A BIG RUBBER BALL BEHIND HIM. VERY ODD!

SIR LIONEL!

I HAVE BAD NEWS FOR YOU! I'M AFRAID YOU HAVE SUFFERED A HEAVY LOSS. THE OBJECTS YOU GAVE THE PURSER HAVE BEEN STOLEN FROM HIS SAFE.

AND THE MAN THAT GOT THEM IS ESCAPING TO THAT PLANE THIS VERY MINUTE!



PART 4

IT WAS THAT KENNINGTON. I KNEW HE WAS A FRAUD.

WELL, IF THE PACKAGES ARE GONE, THEY'RE GONE. NO USE CRYING ABOUT IT.

IN ALL MY YEARS AT SEA I'VE NEVER HAD ANYTHING LIKE THIS. IT...IT'S A NEW KIND OF PIRACY!

HE MUST HAVE HAD THE STUFF IN THAT RUBBER BALL AND FLOATED IT TO THE PLANE.

PROBABLY, NO USE WORRYING NOW. LET'S GET SOME REST.

THERE WAS LITTLE THEY COULD DO TO STOP THE CULPRIT AND, IF THE TRUTH BE KNOWN, LITTLE WE WANTED THEM TO DO. AS SOON AS WE COULD, WE WENT TO THE PURSER'S OFFICE.....

A WEEK LATER WE WERE IN LONDON AND SAFE IN SIR LIONEL'S HOUSE IN BRUTON STREET...

LOOK AT THEM! BEAUTIES! WHEN THE EXPERTS COME TOMORROW I'LL OPEN THEIR EYES! THE APPOINTMENT IS FOR ELEVEN, SHAN.

I KNOW. I'VE MADE ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS.

WHEN WE WERE ALONE IN SIR LIONEL'S CABIN....

THEY FELL FOR IT! WE'VE BEATEN THEM GREVILLE, WE'VE BEATEN THEM!

I'LL BELIEVE THAT WHEN THEY ARE IN THE MUSEUM IN LONDON!



I'M GLAD IT'S ALL OVER. NOW SHAN AND I CAN BE MARRIED AS WE PLANNED.

I'VE GOT THAT ALL ARRANGED TOO! IT'LL BE THE BIGGEST WEDDING LONDON HAS SEEN IN YEARS!

I'VE EVEN BETTER NEWS. I HAD A TELEGRAM FROM SMITH. THE MOKANNA MOVEMENT HAS DIED AS SUDDENLY AS IT BEGAN. WE'VE BEATEN THEM ALL RIGHT.

MAYBE WE HAVE THIS TIME.

FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS I LIVED IN A WHIRL AS PREPARATIONS FOR THE WEDDING AND THE EXHIBITION WENT ON... THEN ONE NIGHT AS I RETURNED HOME LATE IT HAPPENED...

I'D BETTER GET TO BED. THE EXPERTS WILL BE HERE IN THE MORNING AND I'VE GOT TO BE ON MY TOES... WHAT'S THAT?...



SOUNDS LIKE RIMA!
IT'S COMING FROM
OVER HERE FROM THAT
SUNKEN COURT...
WHO'S THERE?



AS I CLIMBED
OVER THE LOW
FENCE, A PARA-
LYZING GRIP
SEIZED MY
LEGS AND MY
ARMS WERE
HELD IN A
GRIP OF IRON.
A PAD WAS
PRESSED OVER
MY MOUTH AND
NOSE. FROM
FAR OFF CAME
A VOICE...



YOU HAVE
NOTHING TO
FEAR, SHAN.
NO HARM SHALL
COME TO YOU.
IT WAS THE
ONLY WAY.



WH...WHAT HAPPENED?
WHAT THE DEVIL!
HOW DID I GET HERE?

THERE WAS
A SUDDEN
LAPSE OF
TIME AND
SUDDENLY
I WAS FREE...

IT COULDN'T HAVE
BEEN FOOTPADS. I'VE
GOT EVERYTHING. WHAT
HAPPENED? WHAT DID
THEY WANT?



HEY! WHAT'S
YOUR GAME,
EH?

HUH! OH, CONSTABLE...
I...I ER LIVE NEXT DOOR.
I THOUGHT I HEARD A
SCUFFLE IN THE HOUSE
AND WENT TO INVESTI-
GATE.



WHAT SORT OF
A SCUFFLE?

I DON'T KNOW
EXACTLY... ER...
NOISES OF
SOME SORT.



OH, I RECOGNIZE YOU,
NOW. YOU'RE MR. GREVILLE.
YOU GO ALONG HOME. I'LL
TAKE A LOOK AROUND
IN THERE.

THANKS,
OFFICER.
GOOD
NIGHT.



AT THE HOUSE I MADE MY WAY TO THE ROOM WHERE THE RELIGS WERE AND SAT DOWN BEFORE THEM. SUDDENLY I WAS VERY SLEEPY...

WHAT COULD IT HAVE BEEN? IS MY BRAIN SLIGHTLY OUT OF GEAR? I-- I'LL THINK... ABOUT IT LATER...



THEN I SEEMED TO RELIVE EVERY MOMENT OF THAT NIGHT THAT RIMA HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED AND I KNEW WHAT HAD OCCURED...



FROM THAT MOMENT ON I SEEMED TO GO BACKWARDS IN TIME AND THE MEMORY OF WHAT HAPPENED IN CAIRO SEEMED TO COME ALIVE AGAIN...

SHE...TRICKED ME... IT'S DOCTOR FU MANGHU...



THEN I WAS IN THE MUSEUM ROOM AT BRUTON STREET AGAIN HELD BY FAH LO SUEE...

OH, SHAN, SHAN. I HAVE GIVEN YOU BACK THE MEMORY OF FORGOTTEN HOURS. THIS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU, BUT YOU WILL HATE ME AGAIN.

I COULD NEVER HATE YOU,



I HAVE TRICKED YOU MANY TIMES, FOR, ALTHOUGH I LOVE YOU, SHAN, YOU ARE NOT REALLY CLEVER.

CLEVERER MEN THAN I WOULD GIVE ALL FOR YOUR KISSES.



NOW I AM GOING, DEAR. THIS TIME FOR GOOD. GOODBYE, MY LOVE.

NO...NO...STAY WITH ME:



THE NEXT THING I KNEW, I FOUND MYSELF IN BED! HAD I BEEN DREAMING....?

NINE O'CLOCK, SIR. ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR TEA?

ER..WHAT... BETTS!...YES, PLEASE DO.

LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER I WAS WELCOMING THE GROUP OF EXPERTS WHO HAD COME TO EXAMINE THE RELIGS...

I AM SORRY SIR LIONEL COULD NOT BE HERE!

MR. GREVILLE, COULD WE SEE THE PIECES NOW!

A MOMENT LATER, THEY WERE AVIDLY EXAMINING THE GOLDEN RELIGS....

EXTRAORDINARY! REMARKABLE PIECES.

DR. GALTON! LOOK AT THIS!

IS SOMETHING WRONG?

MR. GREVILLE WERE YOU PRESENT WHEN THESE PIECES WERE REMOVED FROM THE TOMB?

WHY CERTAINLY. WHAT'S UP?

THESE PIECES ARE NOT GENUINE. THEY ARE BUT RECENTLY MADE!

WHAT! LET ME SEE THAT!

I HOPE FOR YOUR REPUTATION'S SAKE THAT THIS IS NOT A HOAX!

PLEASE, DR. STENTER! MR. GREVILLE'S REPUTATION IS BEYOND REPROACH.

THESE ARE DUPLICATES WE HAD PREPARED IN ISPAHAN. PLEASE REMAIN SILENT UNTIL THIS MYSTERY IS CLEARED UP.

OF COURSE. YOUR WISHES WILL BE RESPECTED. I AM SORRY.

I BELIEVE THESE PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AT THE TOMB OF THE REAL RELIGS WILL PROVE OUR GOOD FAITH.

I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT YOU OR SIR LIONEL COULD EVEN THINK OF TRYING SUCH A HOAX.

THE PHOTOGRAPHS CONVINCED THEM AND THEY LEFT. I WAS STUNNED. AT LAST I KNEW WHAT FAH LO SUEE HAD MEANT WHEN SHE SAID "YOU WILL LIVE TO HATE ME." AS I STOOD STARING AT THE FALSE RELICS BETTS ANNOUNCED NAYLAND SMITH AND DR. PETRIE...

A MORE WELCOME SIGHT I COULDN'T HAVE IMAGINED...



SIR DENIS! DR. PETRIE! THE REAL PLATES ARE GONE! FU MANCHU HAS GOTTEN THEM THROUGH ME!

WHAT!

I TOLD THEM ALL THAT I REMEMBERED AND TOGETHER WE PUT TWO AND TWO TOGETHER...

FAH LO SUEE BROUGHT BACK YOUR MEMORY, BUT BEFORE SHE DID SHE MADE YOU CHANGE THE RELICS. THANK GOODNESS IT IS TOO LATE TO DO DAMAGE WITH THEM.

YOU'RE LUCKY, GREVILLE. HER LOVE FOR YOU MADE HER CLEAR YOUR BRAIN. YOU'RE FREE OF FU MANCHU'S INFLUENCE FOR GOOD.

WE BROKE THE NEWS TO SIR LIONEL WHO TOOK IT BETTER THAN WE HAD EXPECTED. NO MORE WAS HEARD FROM FU MANCHU UNTIL MY WEDDING TO RIMA...

YOU HAD A VISITOR, MR. GREVILLE. A TALL, VERY DISTINGUISHED MAN; CHINESE, I BELIEVE. HE LEFT A BOX FOR YOU. IT'S UPSTAIRS, SIR.

WITH ONE ACCORD WE HURRIED UP TO THE MUSEUM ROOM. ON A TABLE WAS AN ODDLY CARVED TEAK BOX...

DO YOU THINK IT'S A TRICK, SIR DENIS? SHOULD I OPEN IT?

YES. DOCTOR FU MANCHU HAS NOTHING TO GAIN NOW. HE ISN'T THE KIND TO STOOP TO REVENGE.



SHAN! LOOK AT THAT! IT'S A WEDDING PRESENT!

INCREDIBLE! READ THE NOTE, SHAN!

HE SENDS US HIS BEST WISHES AND SAYS HE BEARS US NO ILL WILL! THE NECKLACE AND GASKET ARE FOR RIMA AND THE RING FOR ME.

HE'S DECLARED A TRUCE!

NO. FU MANCHU NEVER DECLARES A TRUCE. HE HAS MERELY BOWED TO SOMEONE HE RESPECTS.



THE END