

CAT'S DEATH



IN THE MADDENING HEAT OF THE LOST AFRICAN JUNGLES, PHANTOM AGENTS OF UNKNOWN POWERS RULE SUPREME! --- AND WHEN CIVILIZED MAN ENTERS THE FORBIDDEN REGIONS... MONSTROUS FIENDS BEGIN A *BLOOD-LUST WAR OF DEATH AND HORROR!*...

GRANT PATTON HAD HEARD OF A FABULOUS TREASURE --- HIDDEN IN AFRICA'S UN-FATHOMABLE JUNGLES! --- BUT HE COULD FIND NO ONE WHO DARED TO AID HIM IN HIS SEARCH ---

THAT'S ODD-- I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS A NATIVE VILLAGE HERE!-- I NEVER HEARD MENTION OF IT!...

EVERYTHING'S SO QUIET! I GOT A FEELIN'---! SOMETHING TELLS ME TO GET OUT OF HERE! IT'S TOO QUIET!--- THERE'S DANGER HERE!---



SUDDENLY--OUT OF THE MATTED JUNGLE UNDERGROWTH, STRONG BLACK ARMS REACH OUT AND...



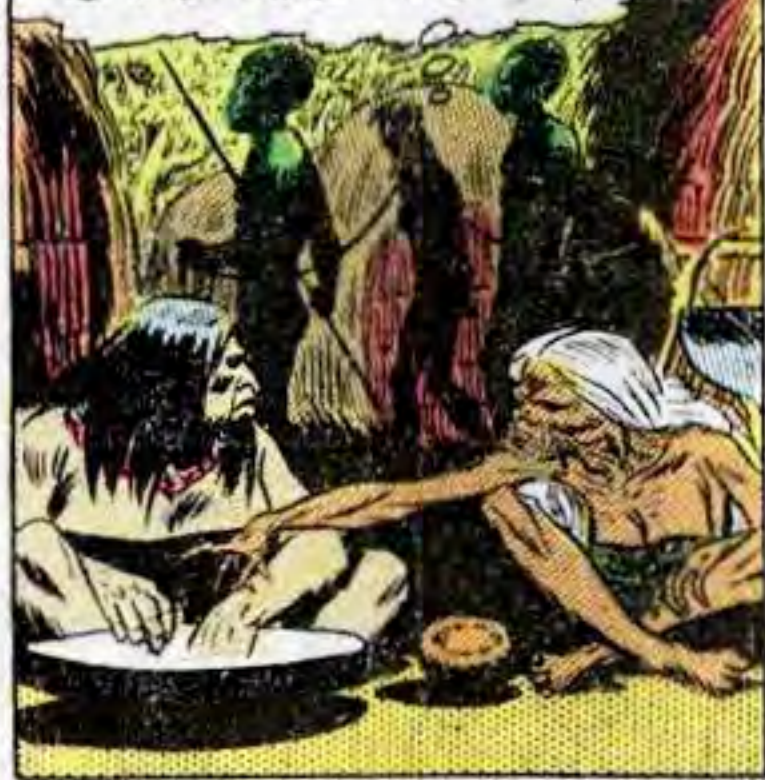
WHA-2 HEADHUNTERS! --- WAIT!- I COME IN PEACE!... UGH! CAN'T FIGHT 'EM... THEY'RE STRONG AS DEVILS...

THEY'RE...THEY'RE LEADING ME TO THE VILLAGE! - HERE IT COMES, PATTON--- HERE IT COMES!



SILENTLY, THE GIANT BLACKS LEAD HIM THROUGH THE VILLAGE... PAST HOSTILE, STARING EYES...

WHERE WILL THEY TAKE ME NOW? I NEVER FIGURED TO DIE LIKE THIS---



UMBA! ULLAKA WALU!-- TUMM!

HOLY--! THIS MUST BE WHERE THEIR MEDICINE-MAN LIVES! THEY SEEM AFRAID TO ENTER--!

THEY'RE CALLING WHOEVER'S INSIDE BY HITTING THAT DRUM!... SOMETHING IS MOVING INSIDE! SOMEONE'S COMING!



BOOMBOOMBOMB!



WHO CALLS ME? WHO CALLS PAN-THAZ?



AWALLA CHUMBA! TAHARU CHUMBA!

INTRUDERS ARE NOT WELCOME HERE, MY FRIEND! YOUR -ER- PRESUMPTIVENESS WILL PROVE FATAL TO YOU!--

AM I HEARING THINGS? YOU SPEAK ENGLISH!--

YOU HAVE AN EXTREMELY INTERESTING HEAD! VERY SOON, IT WILL ADORN MY HUT!-- MOLUNGA SHAWABI! KEENARA!

WAIT! WAIT! I MUST TALK TO YOU!-- I HAVE INFORMATION THAT WILL INTEREST YOU! I MUST SPEAK WITH YOU!--



HMMM!... A FEW MOMENTS WILL MAKE VERY LITTLE DIFFERENCE!-- WE WILL SPEAK INSIDE!



PATTON ENTERS THE ABODE OF BLACK MAGIC! THE TREASURE HUNTER CANNOT SHAKE THE BLOOD-FREEZING SENSATION THAT HE SPEAKS TO SOMETHING INHUMAN!

... AND THAT'S MY STORY, PAN-THA! AN UNBELIEVABLE TREASURE LIES IN THE MOUNTAINS OF THE MOON... THERE FOR THE TAKING! LET ME LIVE, AND I'LL LEAD YOU TO IT!... WE'LL DIVIDE THE TREASURE BETWEEN US!

NO NATIVE WILL GO NEAR THE DREADED MOUNTAINS!-- BUT--MY MEN WILL DO AS I TELL THEM! TONIGHT, AFTER THE DANCE OF THE FIRE-GOD, PATTON...



THAT NIGHT, PULSATING DRUMS DROWN OUT THE CRY OF THE JUNGLE CAT... CALLOUSED FEET STAMP RHYTHMIC TATTOOS --- THE DANCE OF THE FIRE GOD...



PAN-THA'S LIFTED ARM BRINGS DEATH-LIKE SILENCE! HE SPEAKS...

HEAR ME!-- I HAVE WAITED 'TIL TONIGHT, 'TIL THE FIRE DANCE'S END, TO SPEAK TO YOU!-- SOME OF YOU WILL GO WITH THE WHITE-ONE AND MYSELF INTO THE MOUNTAINS OF THE MOON!--



NO, GREAT PAN-THA--! YOU WEAR THE CHARM OF THE GREAT DEAD CAT! NO HARM BEFALLS YOU! BUT WE WILL PERISH! WE WILL NOT---



HYENA'S WHELP!-- YOU DARE TO DISOBEY ME? I AM SON OF THE GREAT DEAD CAT! DEATH TO ALL WHO DO NOT HEED MY LAW!--



ARE THERE ANY MORE WHO WILL NOT HEED ME? GOOD!-- WE START OUR TREK AT THE SUN'S RISE!--



THE NATIVES ARE NOT ABLE TO WITHSTAND THE TERRIBLE FIERCENESS OF THEIR CHIEF! --- THE NEXT DAY, FIVE MISERABLY FRIGHTENED TRIBESMEN, PATTON AND THE WITCH-DOCTOR SET OUT FOR THE DREADED MOUNTAINS! ... HIGH IN THE TREES, THE MONKEYS CHATTER WARN THE JUNGLE OF THEIR APPROACH-



PAN-THA ... WHY DO YOUR PEOPLE SAY THAT YOU ALONE ARE PROTECTED FROM THE DANGERS OF THE MOUNTAIN?

I WEAR THE AMULET OF CURSES AROUND MY NECK! -- AS LONG AS I WEAR IT, I AM **DEATHLESS!** -- HE WHO WEARS IT IS **SAFE** FROM THE GREAT CAT!



WHEN AT LAST THE TINY SAFARI CUTS THROUGH THE JUNGLE, AN AWESOME SIGHT STRETCHES BEFORE THEM ...



GOOD LORD! -- LOOK AT THAT MOUNTAIN PEAK! -- LIKE A ... **HUGE CAT!** --

YES - THE GREAT PANTHER OF THE MOUNTAINS OF THE MOON! IT CALLS TO ME ...

DO YOU HEAR THAT DRUM? -- I MUST BE IMAGINING THINGS ---

IT IS THE **VOICE OF THE MOUNTAIN!** I HAVE HEARD IT EVEN FAR BACK IN THE JUNGLE! --



PATTON AND THE WITCH-DOCTOR TURN TO THE NATIVES TO FIND ...

THREE OF 'EM HAVE RUN OUT ON US! -- THE DIRTY! --

FEAR HAS ROOTED THESE TWO! -- IT IS WELL --- THEY WILL BE **ENOUGH!** --



CAUGHT BETWEEN SUPERSTITION AND THEIR FEAR OF PAN-THA, THE TWO REMAINING NATIVES FOLLOW AS IN A STUPOR ...

LOOK! UP AHEAD ... IN THE **CAT'S MOUTH!** --

I **SEE!** WE NEED GO NO FURTHER! --



IN THE STONE JAWS LIES THE **TREASURE!**





UNGALLA!
BWAMBA!--
INTO THE
JAWS AND
BRING OUT
THE TREASURE!
QUICKLY!

THEY'RE
ALMOST
PETRIFIED
WITH FEAR!
BUT---
THEY'LL
DO AS HE
SAYS!----



THE J-JAWS
ARE MOVING!
TH-THEY'RE
CLOSING!

**NO ONE
CAN TELL OF
THE TREASURE
NOW! NO
ONE BUT
US!--**



BUMBOMB BOOMBUMBOMB



THEY'RE GONE!
GONE! WAIT!--
ARE YOU **MAD?**
D-DON'T GO
IN **THERE!**

HAVE NO
FEAR...
NOTICE THAT
THE DEATH-
DRUM HAS
STOPPED? AS
LONG AS I WEAR
THE AMULET, I
CANNOT BE
HARMED!----



THE GIANT CAT'S JAWS ARE
SOON EMPTIED OF ITS
TREASURE!-- AS PAN-THA
TURNS TO HIS CAT-GOD, PATTON
RIPS THE AMULET FROM HIM
AND SHOVS THE WITCH-
DOCTOR FORWARD...

NOW I HAVE THE
AMULET!... THE
TREASURE WILL
BE **ALL MINE!**

WHAT
IS---?
NO!
NO!



EEAAAR!
BOOM
BOMBUM
BOOM



HAHAHA
**YOU
FOOL!**
NOW I
CONTROL
THE GODS
OF THE
MOUNTAINS
OF THE
MOON!--



MY MIND MUST BE
PLAYING TRICKS ON
ME!--- I FEEL THAT
WITCH DOCTOR'S
PRESENCE! I'VE GOT
TO GET AWAY FROM
HERE!----

**DID YOU THINK YOU COULD KILL ME?
YOU ARE THE FOOL...**

YOU'LL NEVER GET ME, YOU SATAN! --- I'LL HAVE THE AMULET WITH ME ALWAYS! YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TOUCH ME! ---



GRANT PATTON! SNATCHES HIS TREASURE FROM THE VERY JAWS OF DEATH! -- HE FLEES AS IF A THOUSAND DEMONS ARE IN PURSUIT! THE MOMENT HE REACHES THE COAST, HE BOARDS THE FIRST SHIP BOUND FOR NEW YORK! ---



MR. PATTON? PARDON ME, SIR ...

WHA-? WHO'S THAT? -- WHAT THE DEVIL DO YOU WANT?



I DIDN'T MEAN TO STARTLE YOU, SIR... BUT -- SOME OF THE PASSENGERS HAVE BEEN COMPLAINING ABOUT A JUNGLE SMELL -- COMING FROM YOUR CABIN! LIKE THE SMELL OF A CAT! -- YOU KNOW WE DON'T ALLOW PETS ABOARD, AND...



CAT? CAT SMELL? NO! I-I HAVE NO PETS! --- IT'S JUST THIS QUEER SOUVENIR THAT I PICKED UP IN AFRICA! NO MATTER WHAT I DO TO IT, I CAN'T GET THE PANTHER-SMELL OUT OF IT! ---



OH... I SEE, SIR! --

WHAT A QUEER ONE HE IS... AND WHAT A HORRIBLE AMULET! UGH ---! HE WEARS IT LIKE A -- LIKE A WITCH-DOCTOR!



FINALLY, HE IS HOME! -- HIS FRIENDS THINK HIM HALF-INSANE BECAUSE HE ALWAYS WEARS THE AMULET! BUT AS THE MONTHS PASS, HIS WEALTH MAKES THEM OVERLOOK HIS STRANGE BEHAVIOR...

THE NIGHTMARE OF AFRICA IS ALMOST FORGOTTEN! --- I'M RICH AS A KING, AND I'M SAFE! ---

MR. PATTON, YOUR GUESTS ARE WAITING FOR YOU DOWNSTAIRS...





SOME TIME LATER, GRANT PATTON AND HIS GUESTS ARRIVE AT THE ZOO THAT GRANT HAD RENTED FOR HIS PARTY...



BOMBUMBOOOOMBOMBUMBOOM!



AND IN HIS STUDY,
GRANT PATTON
BEGINS TO PAY
THE PRICE OF
AVARICE AND...
MURDER!---

M-MAYBE IF I
DRINK S'MORE--
TH' DRUMS WILL
STOP!-THEY-
THEY GOTTA
STOP!!



BOOMBOMB
BUM

NO! NO!
NO! NO! NO!
STAY AWAY
FROM ME!
DON'T--
DON'T--
YAAAAA



SUDDENLY



NO! NO!!
I-I DON'T
BELIEVE IT!--
G-GO AWAY!
I S-STILL
HAVE THE
AMULET!

NO! STOP!
TAKE BACK
YOUR CURSED
AMULET!---
D-DON'T
HURT ME!--



YOU CANNOT
ESCAPE! TODAY
IS YOUR DEATH-
DAY...

YOU HAVE
LONG PASSED
THE POINT OF
NO RETURN,
GRANT
PATTON! WITH
YOUR STOLEN
TREASURE,
CAME THE
CAT'S
DEATH!!

BOOMBOMB
BUMBOOM
BUMBOOM
BOM!



BOOM
BOOM
BOM
BOM

QUICKLY, DOCTOR!... HE'S
IN THERE ALONE, SCREAMING
AS THOUGH THERE WERE
SOMETHING IN THERE WITH
HIM...



LEAD THE
WAY, BRIGGS-

OHhhh--HIS THROAT!
IT'S -IT'S HORRIBLE!--
L-LOOK AT HIS ---!



INCREDIBLE!
THERE'S...NO ONE
HERE! AND YET...
SOME ANIMAL---
SOMETHING HAS
ATTACKED HIM!

GREAT SCOTT!-L-LOOK,
BRIGGS... THAT LITTLE
STONE AMULET...! ITS
FANGS ARE DRIPPING
BLOOD!



The
End