TRUE AMAZING ACCOUNTS OF THE STRANGEST STORIES EVER TOLD!

WE'VE GOT TO BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL. OUR UNDERWATER ATOMIC EXPLOSIONS HAVE HAD SOME STRANGE EFFECTS ON THE FISH IN THIS AREA!

DON'T TELL ME YOU BELIEVE THAT STORY ABOUT THE GIANT FISH THAT CAN THINK LIKE A MAN -- AND OUTSMART MOST OF US!
$100,000 RING SALE
SELLING ENTIRE LOT — SAVINGS TO 60%!

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IMPORTED SIMILE STONES!

The Windsor

Star Studded
3 GIANT Pseudo Diamonds — a ring for well-dressed men! Glittering electro-gold plated. Really a knockout! No. 362. Reduced to $1.98.

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Glamorous! Has 15 Rainbow color sparkling Stones. Natural gold color setting. No. 331. Only $1.98.

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Extra heavy! 5 Pseudo Diamonds — hard to tell from genuine! Gold plated. Big price reduction! No. 319. Only $1.98.

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Beautifully embossed by Bass-relief process. In natural gold color. No. 301. Only $1.98.

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Your initial in 3-D relief on pseudo Ruby, flanked by 2 imitation diamonds. A real stunner! No. 401. Only $1.98.

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Women feel proud wearing this splendid friendship ring. Same styling as diamond rings selling for $200. No. 309. Only $1.98.

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Lovely classical engagement ring. 5 brilliant Pseudo Diamonds. Natural gold color band. Perfection in craftsmanship! No. 327. Only $1.98.

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Massive, extra heavy men's ring. 3 Dimensional band is fine example of inspired Indian craftsmanship! Gold plated. No. 351—only $1.98.

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Georgous rings—12 sparkling Pseudo Diamonds. Natural gold color bands. $1.98 each ring. Both for $3.96. No. 311.

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A ladies' ring that out-dazzles your expensive one! Lovely Sterling band. set with 2 large & 4 small Pseudo Diamonds. No. 341—$1.98.

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A real man's ring! 2 extra large brilliant imitation diamonds on 14 K gold plate heavy band. No. 411. $1.98.

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RUSH me the rings I have indicated by number below—ON 5 DAY FREE TRIAL. . . . Money Back Guarantee. I enclose $1.98 for each ring. (Send thin paper strip to show ring SIZE.)

NUMBERS.

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COD's cheerfully accepted. Pay 35c extra postage on delivery.
"Oh, brother! What a gimmick! Simply ram a broken spar into the whirling metal under one of those floating boxes and stop them dead! Then I wait... for one of them to come down!"

"They're pale and soft and except for the fact that they have two eyes, they don't look like anything I've seen around here. I once saw a mass of seaweed foul them up and one of these pale, soft things came down to examine it. That's how I learned to trap them. Ah... this one looks good and juicy."
BOY, THESE PALLE: SOFT THINGS SURE TASTE GOOD... BETTER THAN ANYTHING I CAN CATCH DOWN HERE! COURSE, PARTS OF THEM ARE HARD TO DIGEST, BUT, I'D BE DOWNRIGHT GREEDY TO QUIBBLE ABOUT A LITTLE THING LIKE THAT...

OOF! THERE GOES THAT PAIN AGAIN. SOME TIMES I FEEL LIKE IT'S GOING TO TAKE THE TOP OF MY HEAD OFF! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY I GET THESE HEADACHES. NOTHING SEEMS TO BOTHER THE OTHERS WHO LIVE AROUND HERE: GOSH, IT HURTS! IT DRIVES ME WILD!

WHHEW! IT'S GONE! COMES AND GOES... JUST LIKE THAT. BUT I'M OKAY NOW. FACT IS, MY MIND IS CLEAR AS A BELL AFTER ONE OF THESE ATTACKS, CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT... NO MATTER HOW I TRY. OH OH, HERE COMES ONE OF THOSE LITTLE SMART ALECKS!

A SWEET, LITTLE RACKET THEY'VE GOT. WITH THAT GISMO ON THEIR HEADS, THEY CAN STICK TO YOU LIKE GLUE AND FREE LOAD ON YOU WITHOUT DOING A STITCH OF WORK! THE OTHERS OF MY KIND DON'T SEEM TO CARE, BUT, I'M NO EASY MARK FOR THESE CHISELERS... I'LL JUST GIVE THIS RUNT THE BUM'S RUSH!

WHAT A WORLD! NOBODY HERE SEEMS TO HAVE A THOUGHT IN HIS HEAD EXCEPT TO EAT, FIGHT AND RUN FOR COVER! THERE MUST BE MORE TO LIVING THAN JUST THAT! I SEE SO MANY THINGS THAT MAKE ME CURIOUS!

NOW, TAKE THESE WOODEN CONTRAPTIONS THAT I OCCASIONALLY FIND! ONE TIME I SAW ONE DRIFT DOWN FROM ABOVE, AND IT WAS PACKED WITH THOSE PALLE, SOFT THINGS I'VE LEARNED TO TRAP! I POKE AROUND AND FIND ALL SORTS OF MEANINGLESS STUFF IN THESE BOXES, FOR SOME REASON, I FIND THEM INTERESTING.
I take these things to a cave and arrange them so I can look at them without being disturbed by those blundering morons around here! They'd never appreciate this, but somehow, I get a bang out of building the collection...

I'm getting hungry again! Can't help that, I guess. I'm a pretty big fellow with a big appetite! I think I'll bag me another one of those pale soft things. I just can't get enough of them!

There it is... the area where the light is strong from above! Now, I'll drag out this box I found and I'll open it up. So the light can strike the pile of round bits of yellow metal. This seems to attract the pale soft things. I found this out by accident once, and it never fails to work!

'Yep! Here comes one now!' Well, he brought a friend along! That's nice. I didn't expect a double portion!

I'll let them play with the metal a bit before I come up behind them. Instead, I rush them... cut them off... and... wow! What's this?
A PALE, SOFT 'SHE'? IT CAN BE NOTHING ELSE. I'VE ALWAYS FIGURED THEY EXISTED BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE UNTIL NOW! WHAT GRACE AND COLOR! I WON'T EAT HER, I'LL ADD HER TO MY COLLECTION... AS SOON AS I'VE FINISHED WITH THE MALE!

'Ow! That character carried a stinger! Lucky, I saw it before he jabbed at me! If I hadn't twisted in time, I'd have gotten it in a vital spot instead of a flipper. Well, he never got another shot at me, I can tell you that. Where'd that female go to?

She's heading up... up to the green roof... if she goes beyond it, she'll disappear! But she won't get away. I'm fast... faster than she is!

'Got her! Boy, these pale, soft things put up one heck of a battle for their puny size and strength! There's something about the way they look at me when I nail them that often makes me wonder... if they're able to think... like me, I mean, they're certainly different than the others around here.'

Well, anyway they don't last as long! For some reason they can't live down here... like this one. She's gone limp already. No life in her. Too bad. Oh, well. She'd never have understood that I wasn't going to hurt her.

There! Now, that I've placed her in my collection, she sure brightens up the whole works! I had to place stones on her to keep her from drifting off, but it doesn't spoil the effect to any great degree!
"I CAN STICK AROUND THIS CAVE AND STUDY MY COLLECTION FOREVER! IT MAKES ME THINK... ABOUT THE MANY THINGS I SEE AND YET DON'T UNDERSTAND! I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO LEARN EVERYTHING ON MY OWN HOOK! NOBODY AROUND HERE SEEMS TO BE SMART ENOUGH TO BLOW BUBBLES? WHAT A BUNCH OF IGNORAMUSES!"

"WHAT'S ABOVE THE GREEN ROOF? I'VE POKE MY NOSE THROUGH IT A FEW TIMES AND I CAN'T FOR THE LIFE OF ME SEE HOW THE PALE SOFT THINGS CAN LIVE IN THAT BLINDING LIGHT AND KEEP FROM GAGGING UP THERE! HEY! THERE'S SOMETHING COMING DOWN FROM THE GREEN ROOF NOW!"

"OW! OWOWOWOWOWOWOWOW! IT'S GOT ME! OW... IT'S DRAGGING ME UP THERE! IT HURTS! I CAN'T SHAKE IT LOOSE!"

"(COUGH!)(GASP!) I'VE BEEN LIFTED ABOVE THE GREEN ROOF! I'M ALMOST BLIND... CAN HARDLY BREATHE...

(THROW) (GASP!) (GAAAASSPP!)"

"EASY MEN, EASY... THAT'S IT, LOWER HIM INTO THE TANK! YOU MEN... WITHOUT THE PROTECTIVE COVERING... STAY CLEAR OF THAT SHARK!"

Continued after next page"
**New! Super-Duper! Simply Terrific! TELEVISION BANK**

**LIGHTS UP! LIKE BIGGEST, COSTLIEST TELEVISION SETS!**
- Show's brilliant pictures in full color
- Hits every television high... fights and all
- Thrills you and your friends pop-eyed!
- And... makes your savings mount up fast!

Nobody ever before set their excited eyes on anything so terrific as this amazing new Television Bank! Your whole gang will be begging you for a look at this new gadget wonder!

**LIGHTS UP THE MINUTE YOU DROP COINS!** Just click a penny, nickel, dime or quarter into top slot. Instantly your grand new Television Bank lights up — in a big, BIG way! In a split second, the screen leaps into dazzling life!

**AND WOW! WHAT A PICTURE!** Whether you go for the famous shows (lights and such) or want a dream dance-team or peppy cartoon, you've got them — and MORE — right on this miracle Television Bank! What's more, shining convex lens over screen gives you the brightest, clearest, pictures yet!

**TURN OF KNOB SHOWS NEXT EXCITING PICTURE!** When you've finished your admiring flit at one picture, just turn center knob (for next thrill-packed show). Light goes out automatically as new picture appears! To light new picture, bank another coin. No less than SIX exciting pictures in all — a high, dramatic dance team, tense rodeo scene, hilarious cartoon, swell house chase and circus clown with his trick dog!

**PUTS YOU "IN THE MONEY" — AND FAST!** Your savings pile up PLENTY FAST — and with this marvelous new Television Bank! None of your friends, relatives or chance visitors can resist depositing enough to see the complete show! And with SIX wonderful pictures to see — you bank REAL MONEY just for letting them look!

**IT'S A MONEY — IN EVERY DETAIL!** You'll be the envy of all your friends with grand new Television Bank! A console model, it's an exact miniature of the most expensive sets. Complete even to the handsomely painted-on speaker grille and dials. All metal ruggedly built. 4½" x 4", has smart mahogany finish. Automatic screen light powered by efficient, replaceable battery. GUARANTEED TO DELIGHT YOU, bank comes complete with bulb, battery and unlock key for opening and emptying out your wealth of savings.

**BE THE FIRST IN YOUR CROWD TO HAVE THIS WONDERFUL NEW TELEVISION BANK! SEND NO MONEY! ORDER YOURS TODAY!**

**NEWEST DECORATOR'S NOTE TO ALL DOLL HOUSE OWNERS!**
Nothing is so truly luxurious for the modern doll house! This beautiful new Television Bank is the last word in elegance — matches all styles of furniture — makes a stunning addition to your doll's living room! You'll love it, and so will all your friends!

**SEAGEE CO., Dept. Y99**
2 Allen Street, New York 2, N. Y.

Make this magnificent day with our Television Bank! Take this opportunity to own the most unique present possible. It's a unique gift! Order yours today! And don't forget to order the TELEVISED STARDOG! It will delight and amaze your friends and family.

- **SEND NO MONEY! ORDER YOURS TODAY!**

**SEAGEE CO., Dept. Y99**
2 Allen Street, New York 2, N. Y.

Please rush me my TELEVISION BANK. I agree to pay $1.98 plus few cents postage with understanding that if I am not delighted I may return bank in 3 days for full refund of purchase price.

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City ____________________________ Zone ______ State ______

[Signature]

[Timesaver] $0.00 Your payment. Same money-back guarantee.
OH, WHAT A RELIEF! THAT DEVIL'S TOOTH IS GONE AND I'M FREE... TO SOME EXTENT ANYWAY! THERE'S NOT MUCH ROOM IN THIS PLACE IN WHICH I'VE BEEN DUMPED! THERE ARE WALLS ON EVERY SIDE OF ME... WALLS I CAN'T SEE, BUT THEY'RE THERE! I'VE BRUISED MY NOSE BUMPING INTO THEM, BEYOND THEM, LOOKING AT ME ARE A SCHOOL OF THE PALE, SOFT THINGS!

BIG FELLOW, ISN'T HE? AND BY THE CONDITION OF HIM, I'D SAY HE'S PERFECT FOR STUDY!

THE GEIGER COUNTER'S RACING LIKE MAD, SIR. THIS BABY HAS DEFINITELY BEEN IN THE H-BOMB EXPERIMENT ZONE!

HEY CASEY! GET A LOAD OF THAT NIGHTMARE WITH FINS!

SAY, I WONDER IF THAT MONSTER CAN BE THE BIG BOSS THE ISLANDERS HAVE BEEN YAKKIN' ABOUT--YOU KNOW THE STORY--

NAW, THAT'S STRICTLY ONA-GODNA STUFF! THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THING AS A FISH WHAT THINKS LIKE A MAN! BOY, LOOK AT THE SIZE OF HIM!

THE PALE, SOFT THINGS... I UNDERRATED THEM! THEY'RE SMART! SMARTER THAN ME, I THINK! THEY OPEN THEIR MOUTHS AND MAKE SOUNDS TO EACH OTHER... TELL EACH OTHER WHAT THEY THINK AND WORK TOGETHER! THERE MUST BE MILLIONS OF THEM UP HERE! SAY, MAYBE I CAN MAKE SOUNDS WITH THEM TOO... AND TRADE A FEW IDEAS...

THE SCABROUS TISSUE... THE TUMOR GROWING FROM HIS HEAD... OBVIOUSLY THE DIRECT RESULT OF EXPOSURE TO RADIOACTIVE ELEMENTS.

THAT TUMOR... I'LL FRANKLY ADMIT I'M MADE SOME FANTASTIC SPECULATIONS ABOUT IT--

SO I'VE HEARD, DOCTOR! YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT'S A TUMOR... IS THAT IT?

WE'VE HAULED NUMEROUS SPECIMENS SUCH AS THIS ONE, FROM CONTAMINATED WATERS, SIR... AND WE'VE MADE SOME UNIQUE DISCOVERIES... AS FOR THIS TUMOR... IT COULD BE AN ORGAN WITH A SPECIFIC FUNCTION--

YOU'LL GET YOUR CHANCE TO FIND OUT, I'M GOING TO HAVE IT REMOVED FOR STUDY!
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO... SPIN LIKE A TOP TO MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND ME? I'D BETTER THINK OF SOMETHING FAST! THESE LITTLE DEVILS HAVE THE MEANS TO KILL ME! SUFFERING SEA HORSES? THEY MIGHT TRY TO DO IT! HEY! SOMETHING'S GOING ON UP THERE... OVER MY HEAD...

THE DOCTOR SAYS I'VE BEEN IN THE 'SLEEP JUICE' AND THAT'S WHAT HE'S DOING!

YOU'RE LUCKY! I'VE GOTTA GO DOWN THERE AND MAKE SURE THIS MICKEY FINN HAS DONE ITS JOB...

I DON'T LIKE THIS! WHAT ARE THEY UP TO? EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE CLOUDING UP... GETTING HAZY... I FEEL A KIND OF BUZZING INSIDE MY HEAD! HEY YOU UP THERE, YOU CAN'T KEEP ME IN HERE. YOU UNDERSTAND? LET ME OUT! LET ME OUT, YOU DEVILS!

LOOK OUT, YOU GUYS!

I'M GETTING WEAKER. CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY... THE RIGHT'S GONE OUT OF ME... JUST WHEN I NEED IT MOST! MY HEAD IS POUNCING AND MY EYES ARE GROWING HEAVY... CAN'T KEEP 'EM OPEN... DON'T KILL ME, DO YOU HEAR? IT'S NOT RIGHT... IT'S NOT RIGHT... NOT RI...

THE ANESTHETIC IS TAKING EFFECT! I'M TELLING THAT DIVER TO GET READY TO DOUBLE CHECK!

YES SIR!

MEANWHILE, IN THE DOCTOR'S QUARTERS... WE'LL BE OPERATING ON THE SHARK SOON! I WONDER IF IT'S WISE...

YOU'VE READ MY NOTES ON THAT BEAST'S UNCANNY BEHAVIOR! SUPPOSE THAT TUMOR ON HIS HEAD... IS NOT A TUMOR AT ALL... BUT...

BUT WHAT, DOCTOR? WHAT DO YOU THINK WE'LL FIND WHEN WE CUT INTO IT?

POSSIBLY, A HIGHLY DEVELOPED AUXILIARY BRAIN! OUR SUBJECT MAY BE A THINKING BEING...

HA-HA... I SHOULD HOPE NOT, DOCTOR... BECAUSE IF IT'S REALLY SO, OUR INTELLIGENT FISH WILL BE A MORON WHEN WE ARE DONE WORKING ON HIM!

THE END
Zika Terzic

In 1915, this Yugoslavian Amazon, a sergeant in the Serbian Army, successfully defended a narrow pass against 500 Bulgarian soldiers.

The toothache victim of the middle ages seldom enjoyed a visit to the dentist... especially since the dentist happened to be the local blacksmith!

A powerful St. Bernard dog has been acting as postman for several years to the highest meteorological station in the Swiss Alps... he climbs 10,000 ft. every other day.....

Giving her the bird...

A Parisian woman sued her neighbor with whom she had left her parrot for a few weeks... upon her return, the parrot began spouting words not even used in French slang!
APPRENTICE

She waited for him on the porch in the warm blackness fragrant with honeysuckle and freshly turned earth. The crickets vocalized for their nightly chorus and the moon seemed determined to spend the evening hiding behind the clouds. Kate wished she felt as calm as the familiar sights and sounds and smells, but she didn't and she never would again unless she could make Carl understand—tonight.

In a few minutes he would be here and not much later he would ask her to marry him for the hundredth time. Only tonight instead of half promises and noncommittal yeses, she was going to say "no". If that didn't snap him out of his lethargy, nothing would. A house like hers took money to maintain. Carl didn't earn that kind of money working as general handyman in the same dress house where she was a seamstress.

He was efficient, capable and a hard worker. He just didn't have the courage to go to Mr. LaFarge, the boss, and ask for a better position or a raise. "It's not the time," he would tell her when she goaded him, "I'm still an apprentice to Mr. LaFarge. It took him years to learn the business. I'll know when the time is ripe." He spoke softly, gently, "My voices will tell me—" they always do."

"Pouf!" she chided. "This is one time when your voices went to sleep! Does it take an apprentice 20 years to learn his job?"

As always, she had to stop so that he would not read the fear in her heart. The insurance John had left was almost gone. And she was so tired of working. If she married Carl and he stayed on at his present salary she would have to continue as a seamstress in order to maintain the house that had been her home for the last 19 years. She heard his step on the walk and her heart leaped to see him. She really loved him. Not in the way she had first loved John, but in the way of a woman who knows there is no time to cultivate a new love. She kissed him and the moon smiled out upon the two. But before it faded behind a darkening cloud, the house was clearly outlined and Kate knew her moment of weakness was over. She would not say yes. She would not live in the city with Carl, nor would she continue working if she married him.

He sat beside her on the steps. "The voices," he began, "Can't you hear them, Kate? They're urging us, compelling us to get married."

"Silly!" she said, "you're listening to the crickets."

"I love you," he told her, "I've been trying to get you to marry me for a year. What do you want?"

She tried to be gay, nonchalant, but her voice broke. "You're a failure," she screamed at him. "You've got no guts! You expect me to marry an old man who's been an apprentice all his life?"

When he left or what he said before leaving, she could not remember, but she would never again smell honeysuckle without thinking of him.

The next morning she received a special delivery letter from him: "Kate, in order not to embarrass you at the shop, I have handed in my resignation, effective today. Carl."

When she returned to work three days later, she found the shop buzzing feverishly. Mr. LaFarge had died the night before, leaving his entire fortune to Carl, plus the management of the business. There was only one provision—Carl was to be in his employ at the time of his death.
20 DRESSES FOR $3.50

BIG DRESS SALE
ASSORTED in Silk, Wool, Cotton & Rayon,
ALL SIZES in Good Condition
BUT NO LESS THAN 20 DRESSES
AT THIS BARGAIN PRICE

LADIES' BLOUSES
39c each
5 for $1.69
Assorted colors and styles, in Silks, Crepes, Rayons, Acetates.

QUILT PIECES
3 lbs. - 99c
Large bundle of beautiful new cotton prints, checks, stripes and solids. All solid-size cuttings.

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$1.89 each
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All sizes with or without fur collars. These are in excellent condition and need slight repairs.

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$99c each
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Many styles and patterns in short and long sleeves. Various colors.

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99c pair
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Good quality Leather and Fabrics. Will give many months of good wear.

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Beautiful, well tailored slips that really give you value for your money.

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Full assortment of colors and styles. All Wool, plaids and Mixture.

FREE!
With $3.00 Order in More than 1 pair of Ladies Hose, money back if not satisfied. $1.00 Deposit must come with order. You pay postman balance plus COD and postage charges. No Order Accepted For Less Than $1.00. A Trial Order Will Convince You Of Our Wonderful Bargains.

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160 Monroe Street New York 2, N.Y.
Please send me the following items, $1.00 deposit enclosed.

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[Additional information and order form]

Give Hose size - if order is $5.00 or more.

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No Order accepted without $1.00 deposit. Canada & Foreign - Full Payment with Order.
I've got a stake to drive through your heart. Whatever you are ---

**THIS TIME YOU'LL DIE!**

Get behind me, quick! Your guns are useless against Laruki! Only this talisman can protect us from She, who never dies!

---

The beginning is sheer accident. You, Steve Munson, don't plan it that way. It just happens that your motor breaks down, and there you are, a hundred miles from nowhere!

Nothing! Just a rock sticking up out of the Pacific! You and your ideas, Steve Munson, the big brain! "Buy a boat," he says. "Hire a navigator!"

Now, look!

We couldn't book passage on a regular liner. Remember? We're hot! The cops want us! I don't like this any more than you do!

Shut up! The idea was good. I've got a wife to think of!

Nor... do I, Mister Munson! This island... it is tabu! Long ago, my people marooned a woman here! A woman called Laruki... the witch woman!

The witch woman! I've heard the stories! A vampire! The undead! Mr. Munson, this is not a good place! Stories say Laruki still lives!
It has been a long, hard chase! For months, the police have pursued you, half way around the world, but you're smart and tough! So, you don't worry about fairy tales.

Skip it. How long to fix that motor? I don't know! But Mr. Munson, let's go back to the boat! If not for your own sake, then for your wife's, it's safer!

The rain, the thunder, make a symphony of sound! A dull, steady drone! So, after a while you sleep! But... not for long.

Laruki! I see the accursed one!

Arghh!

It must work! She's gone! I... I never saw anything like it! It was a woman! But a minute ago I'd have sworn it was an animal!

Danny's dead! His throat! It's a mess!

Danny!

Mmm! This isn't too bad, is it, baby? It's not the ritz. But, just you wait one of these days, the cops'll be off our necks and then I'll make it all up to you!

The storm builds swiftly! You find a cave! You even manage a smile for Rosa! Your wife! The only person in the world you really trust!

Save your bullets! They cannot harm her! Only Hoga can drive her off! It's a charm against all evil!

Mr. Munson, let's go back to the boat! Laruki cannot cross water! That's why my people brought her here!
YOU'RE NOT A SUPERSTITION MAN! IN THE RACKET'S YOU LEARN TO BE HARD, PRACTICAL, BUT HAVE ROSA TO THINK OF, SO YOU AND THE OTHERS STUMBLE THROUGH THE BLACKNESS TOWARD THE BEACH.

SMASHED! THE STORM MUST HAVE SMASHED IT AGAINST THE ROCKS! NO FOOD, NO WATER, AND NOW... NO BOAT!

THE BOAT! IT'S...

THERE IS NO ESCAPE! BUT AFTERWARD IT IS NOT OF FOOD OR WATER THAT MATTERS!

SMART MAN PLACES FIRST THINGS FIRST!

IF WE DON'T FIND HER SHE WILL COME AGAIN TONIGHT! STAY CLOSE TO ME! THIS HOGA WILL PROTECT US!

Yeah! Last night when she saw that thing, she took off... and I figure to go on living, GIVE ME THAT!

NO! IT IS MINE!

Lay off, Mike! We'll worry about the hoga tonight. If we have to! Right now, we're going to find Laruki?

FOR A STAKE YOU PICK UP A BIT OF FLOTSAM FROM THE BEACH, THEN THE SEARCH IS ON! THE ISLAND IS SMALL, BARE, AND YET... AT SUNDOWN, YOU HAVE FOUND NOTHING!

NOT A SIGN OF THAT... THE THING! AND IT'S GETTING DARK! WHAT'S NEXT?

WE HOLE UP! THESE ROCKS WILL GIVE US COVER! WE ALL STICK NEAR KIMA AND THAT GADGET OF HIS AND ONE OF US STAND GUARD! YOU!

THE TROPIC NIGHT COMES SUDDENLY! YOU DON'T SLEEP! YOU CAN'T! LATER, YOU DOZE! IF IT DIES, THE NIGHT PASSES, BUT NOT UNEVENTFULLY! IN THE MORNING, YOU FIND OUT!

MIKE! WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S WRONG WITH KIMA?

IT WAS HERE! IT MUST HAVE BEEN! KIMA IS DEAD! JUST LIKE DANNY... I NEVER SAW IT!
THE HOGLY! YOU TOOK IT OFF HIS NECK WHILE HE SLEPT. THAT'S WHY IT PAINED YOU UP!

Yeah, so what? MIKE BECKETT looks out for MIKE BECKETT!

I see! And what about ROSA and MIKE? THAT THING MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN US, TOO!

You can look out for yourselves. YOU'RE DEAD! You got me into this, but I'll get myself out of it.

STEVE! NO!

WILL YOU, MIKE?

IT WAS HIM, OR US, ROSA!

Don't look at me like that. You heard? I had to do it.

Don't touch me! Don't come near me! I never believed that you were a MURDERER! I thought the police were wrong. But, they weren't! You killed him in cold blood.

ALL RIGHT! SO I'M A KILLER. THE WORLD IS LIKE THAT! KILL OR BE KILLED! Go back to the beach. I'm going to find LARUKI and put that stake through her heart. I'll still save our necks!

ONLY YOU DON'T FIND LARUKI! THE DAYS WEARE ON AND YOU FIND ONLY ROCKS AND EMPTINESS! BUT YOU HAVE THE HOGLY! EVEN AFTER DARK, YOU GO ON! AND AT LAST, YOU HEAR SOMETHING!

A WOMAN! THAT WAS A WOMAN'S LAUGHTER... LARUKI!!
YOU'RE SCARED! PETRIFIED! BUT YOU GO ON! FOR ROSA'S SAKE! BECAUSE IN ALL THE WORLD YOUR WIFE IS THE ONLY THING YOU CARE FOR. YOU FOLLOW THE LAUGHTER!

THERE IT IS AGAIN! SHE'S IN THERE!

NOTHING! IT'S EMPTY!

ROSA!

STEVE/ AT LAST! I WAS AFRAID! I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING YOU FOR HOURS! I'M SO... TIRED...

ROSA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU POOR KID! YOU MUST BE WORN OUT! YOU FAINTED! JUST TAKE IT EASY! I'LL FIND LARUKI TOMORROW! SHE MUST HAVE A HIDEOUT SOMEWHERE!

FUNNY! YOU'RE A KILLER, BUT FOR ROSA YOU HAVE ONLY TENDERNESS/ WHEN SHE FALLS YOU FORGET LARUKI! YOU FORGET EVERYTHING!

THAT'S WHEN YOU BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND/ YOU SEE ROSA'S EYES, AND YOU LET HER GO! YOU TURN FRANTIC, TERRIFIED!

AT LAST, YOU KNOW WHERE LARUKI HAS BEEN HIDING, AND YOU KNOW THAT YOU HAVE ONLY ONE CHANCE/ YOUR FINGERS CLAW FOR THE HOGA/ BUT... YOU NEVER REACH IT!

THE END
Lesson for a conqueror! In the process of destroying everything that's living -- make sure you don't --

**Wake Up the Dead!**

These creatures roamed the shattered world, dazed as if with long sleep! And it was with these that the invaders were concerned with later... when their spaceship knifed in to complete their grim work.

Commander! I thought I saw something move below! Yes! There is it possible that something lived through our attack?

Possible, even if improbable! But I see it also! A human! And if there is one, there will be others! We shall have to land.

Our orders were to burn the planet clean... so, that one day, when it has renewed itself, our colonists may settle upon it! We were not to land unless it was necessary! Now it is necessary.
But it would be an easy matter to burn that crawling little thing.

And if there are others, logic admits only one solution, Captain! We shall land and hunt them down! Give the order!

Logic! That was the one, the only law of the conquerors! Men though they were, they were still not men! They were beings who could coldly slaughter a world and coldly hunt down the few wretches who did not die!

The first scout ship has returned, Commander! Two prisoners. Things first, extermination?

First, things first, Captain!

Did these human fight back? Attempt to escape?

Why, no, sir! They seemed meek, dazed... as if in shock.

That is to be expected! Give them food! We shall take them with us! Our technicians will be grateful for the opportunity to study them!

From all the corners of the smouldering Earth, the scout ships returned from Asia, Africa, the Americas, and each brought with it... its cargo!

Cattle! They do not resist! They do not even seem to hate us!

Cattle, yes! And yet, somehow, they survived, Captain! After we return home, it will be interesting to discover how.

No eyes saw the meteors that streaked skyward soon after. There was no one left on Earth to watch!

All is well, Guard?

NOR did anyone care! For the humans sat quietly, the food before them... untouched!

They do not eat their food, sir! What's more, I think it is I who am being watched! They look at me and whisper among themselves!
I THINK YOUR IMAGINATION IS PLAYING TRICKS WITH YOUR LOGIC! LOGIC IS OUR CREED, SOLDIER! USE IT!

YES, SIR...

IT GREW WITH UNEASESS! WITH A TENSION WHICH GREW SLOWLY BUT SURELY. I DROVE THE CREW INTO SMALL FRIGHTENED KNOTS UNTIL LOGIC DEMANDED ACTION!

ENOUGH! A HANDFUL OF STARVED HUMANS PENNED IN A CAGE AND YOU TELL ME MY CREW FEARS THEM? WE BURNED THEIR PLANET, YOU AND YOUR OFFICERS SHudder WHEN YOU PASS THEM.

I UNDERSTAND THEM NO MORE THAN YOU AS A SOLDIER. I FIND THEM DOGILE PRISONERS MILDLY HARMLESS. IT NOT TO DISREPECT BUT I WOULD SIMPLER MERELY TO OPEN A LOCK AND DROP THEM INTO SPACE?

SIR, I MEAN NO DISREPECT BUT I WOULD SIMPLER MERELY TO OPEN A LOCK AND DROP THEM INTO SPACE?

IT WOULD BE SIMPLE AND ILLLOGICAL! I UNDERTOOK TO BRING THE HUMANS TO OUR WORLD. I SEE NO LOGICAL REASON FOR ALTERING THAT DECISION. RETURN TO YOUR DUTIES!

AND STILL THE HUMANS SAT SILENT WHILE THE FLEET RACED ON UNTIL AT LAST SOMETHING HAPPENED. SO SUDDENLY, THAT AT FIRST THE COMMANDER HARDLY WAS AWARE IT WAS TAKING PLACE?

YES? WHAT IS IT, CREWMAN?

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS? HOW DARE YOU BRING THESE CREATURES ON MY BRIDGE?

NO ANSWER! A UNIFORMED ROBOT STOOD STIFFLY AS IF IN A TRANCE AND FOR THE FIRST TIME THE COMMANDER KNEW AN EMOTION AGAINST WHICH LOGIC WAS OF NO AVAIL: FEAR!

WEAPONS WILL NOT HELP YOU, COMMANDER! NOR AN ALARM! THE OTHERS OF YOUR CREW ARE ALREADY LIKE THIS GUARD! WE GIVE THE ORDERS NOW!

WHY YOU, INSOLENT...
...stand back...

It is useless! You cannot draw your weapon, commander! Not you nor any of the others.

And so it was! Those eyes! It was as if the commander could read his doom in their luminous eyes! As if hypnosis were a giant fist closing upon his brain!

It's true! I can't move! And you...you speak our language?

We learn! We know many things, commander! Earth had many mysteries! And we are grateful to you.

Your fires burned clean, commander! So clean that even the earth ran like water! It was for that we are grateful!

Your fires could not harm us, but they burned deep... deep!

They burned away the wolfbane, the herbs, the ancient charms with which men imprisoned us and made us helpless! We slept! But, now... we walk again! We live! We shall be contented in your world.

You shall take us there...lead us to this fruitful place of your kind...

Who... what are you?

But the answer meant nothing to the commander! His was a world of logic! And logic does not admit that there can be such things as... these!

We have had many names down through the centuries, commander! But, before you destroyed them, the people on Earth called us vampires!
The man and girl stood on the pier that stretched out into the ocean and watched the myriad lights reflected in the midnight waves below. Finally the man said, "'I've got it," and reached into his pocket, "the ring you wanted. Janie, I love you!"

But the girl was more interested in the ring than in his embrace. He had asked her to marry him before and she had agreed, but her heart was set on the blue white emerald cut diamond they had seen in Boulton's Jewelry Store window. It was far too expensive for a man in his position. But if he bought it for her, would it not prove he was capable of making a good living?

She held the ring in her fingers and turned it back and forth to catch the lights. It was perfect. "It must have cost you a pretty penny," she said coyly. "Ask me again, Bert. And when I give you my answer, you may put the ring on my finger."

He was too blinded by his love to do anything except her bidding. Women required dramatics, he assumed. But as his big fingers trembled to hold her hand in his, the ring slipped, rolled on the boardwalk, and fell soundlessly into the swirling waters below.

In an effort to retrieve it, they both stooped quickly, bumped heads. She looked up with tears in her eyes. "'Clumsy oaf!' Janie said, and ran from him.

When he caught up with her, she was standing pale beside his car. "Take me home," she said, "I never want to see you again."

The man had been fishing all day and he was tired. He had expected the boat excursion to leave him rested as it usually did, but the pressure on his mind would not let him relax. Tonight he would have to tell Mary the truth and then, he supposed, they would call in the police but because of the time that had already elapsed, it would be a long, perhaps never concluded affair.

Tonight was their anniversary and Mary would expect to wear the ring. How could he tell her it had been sold by mistake to the young man who had come in last week? For a song, too. He should never have put it in the window, but it was so lovely that he had used it as a come-on. It had been his first real gift to Mary, celebrating the opening of Boulton's Jewelry. She would never forgive him.

He walked down the pier with his catch and suddenly the odor was repugnant to him. He threw his entire haul to a fisherman. "Use them for bait," he called.

The fisherman was busy dressing his own haul. Boulton's fish were too good for bait--the Mrs. might enjoy that bass for dinner. He split the fish deftly from head to fin. Inside was a large, emerald shaped ring.

"The bigger they are, the cheaper they are," he said, "Must have dropped from a crackerjack box!" He tossed it back into the water and continued to dress his fish.
MISTER TREE

BLACK MAGIC'S
SCIENCE FICTION
FANTASY

THE LIFE OF
A MIGHTY
TREE IS OFTEN
A MILLENNIUM,
ITS SPAN
OUTLASTING
GENERATIONS
OF MEN....
WHYYYY???

...IT'S THIS FLUID! THIS IS
THE SECRET OF LIFE! IF
A MAN SHOULD DRINK THIS
EXTRACT FROM THE HEART
OF THE TREE, HE COULD
LIVE FOR A THOUSAND
YEARS!

IN THE MURKY LABORATORY, THE FINGERS OF THE
BOTANIST TREMBLE AS HE MIXES A CONCENTRATED
SOLUTION OF THE FLUID... AND GULPS IT DOWN!

THERE! IT'S DONE! NOW
ONLY TIME AND SCIENTIFIC
TESTS CAN PROVE
WHETHER MY THEORY
IS CORRECT! THIS MAY
BE THE GREATEST
DISCOVERY OF
ALL TIME!!
Now, to test my discovery... YIIIIII!
Oh, no!!

Tree bark, leaves... growing on my skin! How far will it go? What will be the next stage of this strange transformation?

But the change from animal to vegetable matter was not to stop there! The potent mixture was doing its work!

It... it's still growing!! I... I'm turning...

... into a...

... tree!!
INTO THE MOIST, DANK EARTH, THE MAN WHO WOULD CONQUER DEATH TOOK ROOT, ALLOWED TO WATCH THE CENTURIES ROLL BY! THEN....

I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT HAPPENED TO ALAN. HE SAID HE'D BEEN BACK TWO DAYS AGO....

I... I HOPE NOTHING HAPPENED TO HIM. HE SAID HE WAS WORKING ON THE GREATEST EXPERIMENT THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN....

BILL! TIM! HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS TREE! I WAS HERE LAST MONTH AND THIS TREE WASN'T HERE!! YOU GO IN.... I WANT TO LOOK AT IT MORE CLOSELY....

NOT A SIGN OF HIM... NOT... NOT EVEN A NOTE! I WONDER.... THAT... THAT SCREAM! IT SOUNDS LIKE... LIKE MARTHA! LET'S GO!

HELLP!! LET ME GO!

HELP!

LIKE THE SOUND OF A TORMENTED SOUL; THE ANGUISHED SCREAM OF THE GIRL ECHOES OVER THE GRUESOME ESTATE. THEN, SUDDENLY, IT STOPS...

IS... IS SHE... SHE... SHE'S DEAD! BUT HOW? WHO....

I... I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! THERE WAS NO ONE-- NOTHING IN SIGHT... EXCEPT THAT WEIRD-LOOKING TREE....

IT... IT'S INSANE-- BUT... BUT IT SEEMS AS IF THE TREE TRIED TO HARM HER... WE'D BETTER CALL THE POLICE!
The ghastly tree seemed to smile wickedly as a group of police-men and scientists appeared. A few hours later.

And you say that it looked like the tree was responsible? It... it's crazy, I know... but... never in all my experience have I ever seen a tree like that!

L-look! It-it's captured that animal... that thing is more than a plant... it seems a creature of evil!!

As though the gnarled, horrid tree was charged with a venom more deadly than the sting of a ferid viper, the bird plummeted to the ground seconds after it touched the tree.

Ughh! Look how the poor bird's contorted... What happened?? How did the bird die??

Look... look how the birds avoid the tree...

One's going to land on it! Let's see what happens...

We're going to find out just what gives this tree its power! Why... it... it's bleeding!!

I--looks like human plasma! Be... be careful, Doc... the devil only knows what's in it...

Help! Help me... Arghhhh!! Look out! The tree... it... it's crushing him... Can't... you do anything...
"With God... all things are possible!"

Dear Friend:
- Are You Facing Problems of Any Kind?
- Are You Worried About Your Health?
- Are You Worried About Money Troubles, or Your Job?
- Are You Worried About Some One Dear To You?
- Are You Worried About Your Children, Your Home Life, Your Marriage?
- Is Some One Dear To You Drinking Too Much?
- Do You Ever Get Lonely, Unhappy or Discouraged?
- Would You Like To Have More Happiness, Success, "Good Fortune" in Life?

If you do have any of these Problems, or others like them, dear friend, then here is wonderful NEWS—NEWS of a remarkable NEW WAY of PRAYER that is helping thousands of other men and women to glorious NEW happiness and joy! Whether you have always believed in PRAYER or not, this remarkable NEW WAY may bring a whole NEW world of happiness and joy to you—and very, very quickly too!

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You will surely bless this day—so please don’t delay! Just mail your name, address and 10c (coin or stamps) now to LIFE-STUDY FELLOWSHIP, Box 1699, Noroton, Conn. We will rush this wonderful NEW Message of PRAYER and FAITH to you by AIR MAIL.
IT... IT'S KILLED HIM, TOO!!  L-LOOK...
LOOK! ANOTHER TREE IS GROWING
... THERE!!

LET... LET'S DIG IT UP...

THE SOFT, DANK EARTH GAVE WAY EASILY,
AND THE GHASTLY PLANT UPROOTED WAS...

A... A HAND!
BILL, THAT RING
... IT'S ALAN'S!!!

IT'S ALAN'S HAND...
BUT... BUT-- LOOK
AT IT...

... BUT COULDN'T WE
SPARE THE TREE FOR
A SHORT WHILE-- FOR
SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES?

NO! IT'S OUT OF THE
QUESTION, SIR! THAT
TREE HAS CAUSED TOO
MANY DEATHS ALREADY...

AS THOUGH THE
TREE OF DEATH
KNEW ITS FATE,
IT BEGAN TO UP-
ROOT ITSELF...
TO ESCAPE
AND...

... SPREAD HAVOC. BEFORE IT... AVENGE ITS
FATE ON HUMANS

EEEEEKKK!!!
P-- PUT ME
DOWN!!

... AND CRUSH EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH!
IT... IT'S GONE!!
COULD IT BE THAT
THE TREE UNDER-
STOOD WHAT I
SAID...

THIS TREE IS NOT
A MERE PLANT! IT
SEEMS TO HAVE A
HUMAN INTELLIGENCE...

I'VE FOUND IT! COLLINS THOUGHT TO
LENGTHEN HUMAN LIFE BY SUBSTITUTE
PLANT SAP FOR BLOOD...

THAT TREE MUST BE
THE RESULT OF HIS
EXPERIMENT!

IT ALL FITS
...THE RING...
ALANS EMBRACING MARTHA, HIS
FIANCEE!

A Cordon of Men is thrown around the area...
SEARCHING, HUNTING DOWN THE MADDENED TREE-
MAN...

BANG!!
BANG!!
CRACK

He went this
way, sir! I hit
him but it didn't
do any good...

We'll never
get him with guns...
He'll have to be
chopped down and
burned...

LIKE A WEIRD AND FIERCE HOMING BEAST, THE
MAN-TREE FLOWS BACK....

It's back again... The tree has
a vegetable instinct to kill
members of the animal
kingdom... Perhaps, in time,
it will lose its
human intelligence,
its warped thinking
powers!

...but we can't
take the chance.
I'll cut it
down...
MAY... MAYBE HE'LL GET YOU LIKE HE DID THE OTHERS...

YOU FORGET THAT THIS TREE WAS ALAN COLLINS... MY FRIEND! HE KNOWS THAT I'M DOING WHAT'S RIGHT, I WON'T BE HARMED!!


FORGIVE ME---ALAN... IT HAD TO BE DONE! AT LEAST YOU PROVED THAT THE THEORY OF LIFE WAS FALSE, YOUR EXPERIMENT WASN'T WASTED...

AS THE SMOKE RISES THE UNNATURAL VOICE COMING FROM THE TREE GRADUALLY FADES AWAY AND THERE IS... SILENCE!

EEEeee!!

CRACKLE... SPAT! POP!

THE END.
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