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PHANTOM Lady

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PHANTOM
LADY

CRIME
NEVER
PAYS!



PHANTOM Lady

BY GREGORY PAGE



GAIETY IS COUPLED WITH MURDER WHEN THE FESTIVAL IS AT ITS HEIGHT. BUT THE PHANTOM LADY DOESN'T KNOW WHAT SHE IS GOING TO BE INVOLVED WITH AS SHE MOVES IN TO ATTEMPT HALTING THIS DESPOTIC PLOT FOR MORE MAYHEM IN THE TERRORIZING CASE OF "THE JACK-IN-THE-BOX MURDERS!"

NEW ORLEANS AND FESTIVAL TIME... NO ONE NOTICES A COSTUMED CELEBRANT AS HE DROPS FROM THE CROWD AND SILENTLY RUNS DOWN A DESERTED ALLEYWAY..

WISH I COULD MAKE UP MY MIND WHETHER I'D BE SAFER IN COSTUME OR NOT. THOSE THREATENING NOTES HAVE ME CONFUSED AS WELL AS UPSET!

THERE HE IS...

THIS IS TO MAKE SURE YOU NEVER GET TO BE PRESIDENT, MISTER SENATOR!

WHY.. WHY.. YOU ARE...
AHHH..

THE FOLLOWING DAY ALL WASHINGTON IS SHOCKED AT THE NEWS OF THE MURDER... SENATOR KNIGHT, SANDRA KNIGHT'S FATHER, ESPECIALLY.

WUXTRY! WUXTRY!
MAD KILLER AT LARGE IN FESTIVAL CROWDS!

HOW SHOCKING! SANDRA IS IN NEW ORLEANS! I'D BETTER JOIN HER IMMEDIATELY!

PHANTOM LADY

THAT NIGHT, AS SANDRA AND HER FIANCE, DON BORDEN, ATTEND A HOUSE PARTY...

WHAT A SCRUMPTIOUS PLACE, EH, DON? LOOKS LIKE WE SHOULD HAVE A WONDERFUL EVENING!

RIGHT! AND I'M IN FAVOR OF IT, TOO! HERE COMES OUR HOSTESS!

LOVELY TO SEE YOU TWO DARLINGS! I WANT YOU TO MEET MY BROTHER, SANDRA... HE'S IN POLITICS, TOO, JUST LIKE YOUR DAD!

DELIGHTED TO, MRS. WILKS!

OH-OH! COMPETITION, EH?



HERE HE IS. BILL ASHLEY. ISN'T HE HANDSOME? HOPES TO BE MAYOR SOMEDAY, TOO!

REALLY, SIS. GOOD EVENING, FOLKS!

LATER...

THAT'S THE REPRESENTATIVE, DON! DAD KNOWS HIM WELL!

HOW NICE!

OH, DEAR! THE LIGHTS WENT OUT!

THE MOON-LIGHT'S BRIGHT ENOUGH FOR ME! TEE-HEE!

HE LOOKS AS NERVOUS AS I FEEL!

WHAT A SHAME! MRS. WILKS WILL FEEL SO EMBARRASSED

HOW DO YOU DO, SIR.



SUDDENLY THERE IS LIGHT... A SINGLE BLINDING SPLIT OF LIGHT THAT COMES FROM THE OUTSIDE...

YOU HAD BEST ALL LEAVE FOR THE PARADE! THOSE WHO REMAIN HERE CHANCE DEATH!

OHH!

A SHOT! THAT'S GUNFIRE!

SOMEONE IS HIT! OHH! IT'S THE REPRESENTATIVE!

THE MURDERER!





SANDRA! THE NEWS I'VE BEEN GETTING BETWEEN THE RADIO AND PRESS HAS ME HALF CRAZY!

WE GOT YOUR WIRE, DAD! I WISH YOU DIDN'T COME HERE!

SHE'S RIGHT, SENATOR! SOMEONE IN THESE PARTS DOESN'T LIKE POLITICIANS!

I WON'T REST UNTIL THEY CAPTURE THAT JACK-IN-THE-BOX CHARACTER! HOW DO I GET TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION?



IT'S ALL RIGHT, DAD! WE WANT SOME AIR!

SOON... I'D FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE ABOUT YOUR SAFETY IF YOU'D COME INSIDE WITH ME!



I KNOW YOU'RE SHORTHANDED, SERGEANT, AND THE FESTIVAL HAS YOUR MEN HOPPING, BUT WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE JACK-IN-THE-BOX!

BELIEVE ME, SENATOR KNIGHT, I'M DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE!



PERHAPS YOU'VE LOOKED IN THE WRONG PLACES, SERGEANT!

YOU! NO... IT COULDN'T BE!

IT'S HIM! JACK-IN-THE-BOX!



SURE, IT'S ME! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

I'LL TEAR HIM TO BITS! SO HELP ME I WILL!

YOU'D DARE TO FLAUNT BEFORE THE POLICE! WHY, YOU...



NOT SO FAST, SENATOR! WE WANT TO TALK TO YOU!

SURE! YOU DIDN'T THINK WE WUZ LOOKIN' FOR COPS, DID YOU?

WHAT THE...