

GOLD



BORIS KARLOFF

BORIS

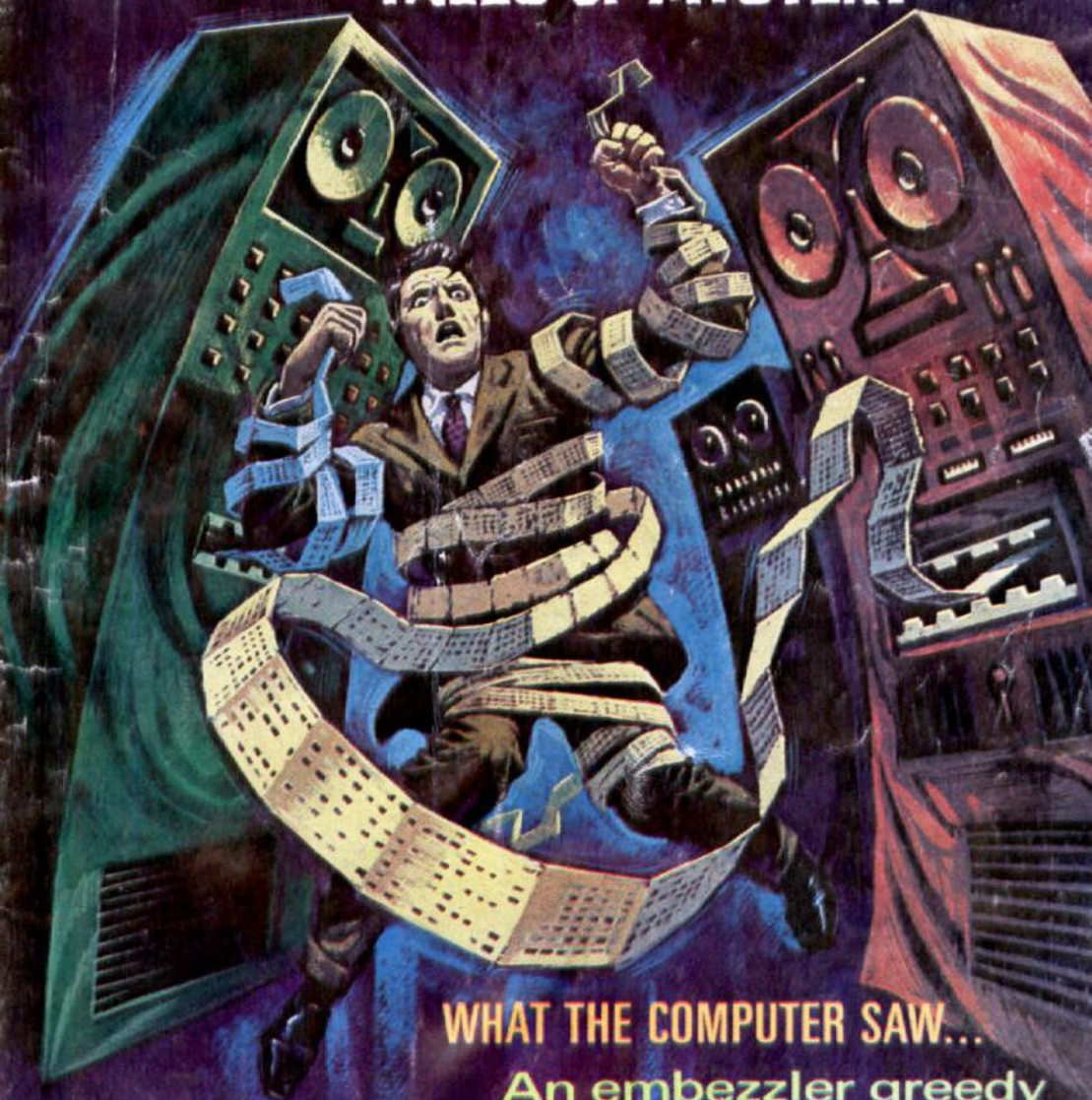


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KARLOFF

TALES OF MYSTERY



WHAT THE COMPUTER SAW...

**An embezzler greedy
for its hidden wealth!**

BORIS KARLOFF
Tales of Mystery

THE MAN "MARTIAN" WHO CRIED

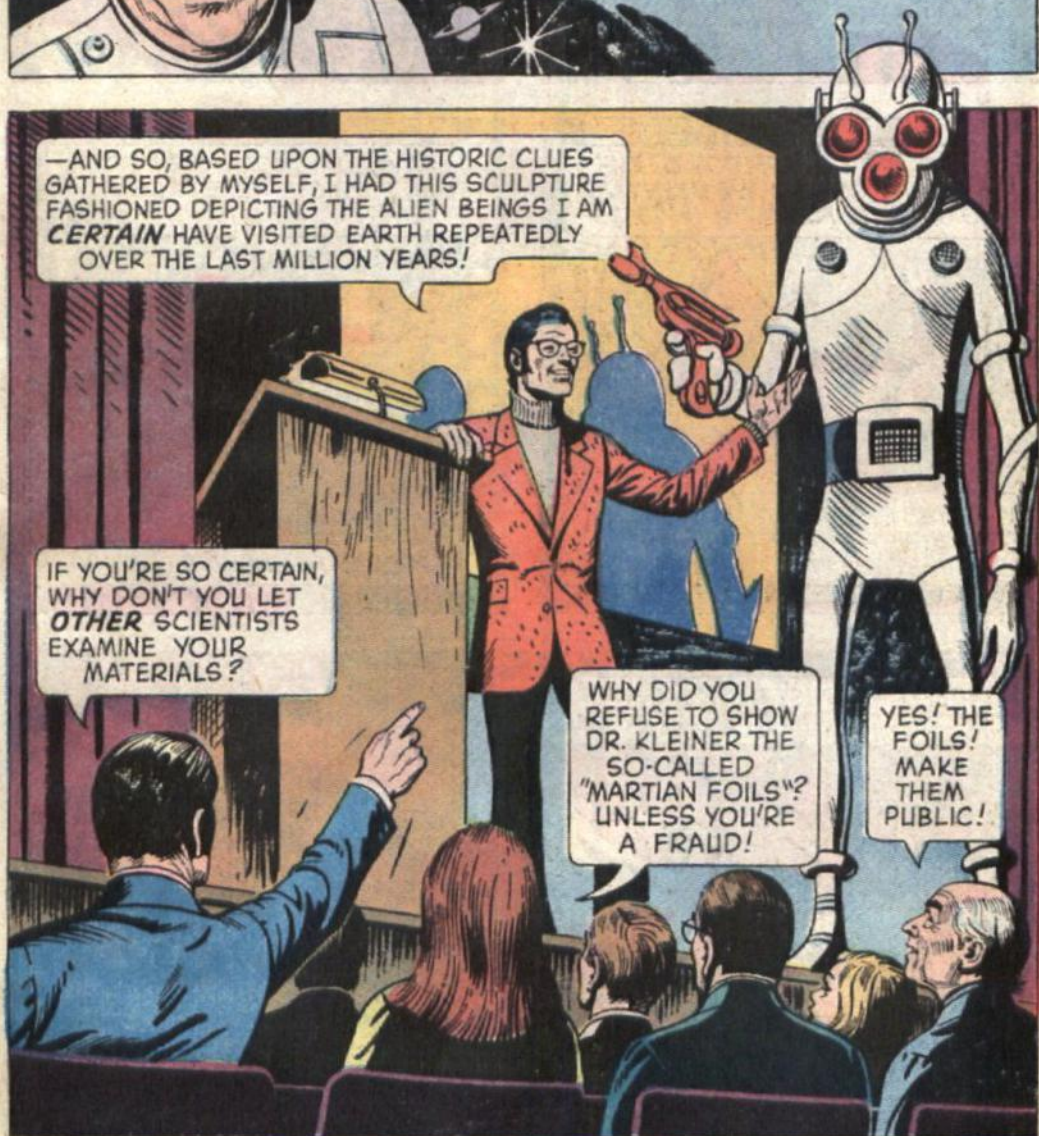
"IF YOU BUILD A BETTER MOUSETRAP, THE WORLD WILL BEAT A PATH TO YOUR DOOR!" PROVIDED YOU DON'T TRIP THE TRAP—YOURSELF! TAKE THE CASE OF MASTER TRAP-BUILDER, NIELS MERKISEN!

—AND SO, BASED UPON THE HISTORIC CLUES GATHERED BY MYSELF, I HAD THIS SCULPTURE FASHIONED DEPICTING THE ALIEN BEINGS I AM **CERTAIN** HAVE VISITED EARTH REPEATEDLY OVER THE LAST MILLION YEARS!

IF YOU'RE SO CERTAIN, WHY DON'T YOU LET **OTHER** SCIENTISTS EXAMINE YOUR MATERIALS?

WHY DID YOU REFUSE TO SHOW DR. KLEINER THE SO-CALLED "MARTIAN FOILS"? UNLESS YOU'RE A FRAUD!

YES! THE FOILS! MAKE THEM PUBLIC!



CONTROVERSY, TO NIELS MERKISEN, AUTHOR AND LECTURER, IS THE STUFF THAT FILLS AUDITORIUMS TO THE WALLS...

IF THE DOUBTING THOMASES WILL QUIET DOWN—

—I WILL GLADLY ANSWER THEIR SIMPLISTIC QUESTIONS LATER!

THAT'S TELLING 'EM, MERKISEN!

PROJECTIONIST, START THE FILM! A JOURNEY BACK TO THE "FIRST ALIENS ON EARTH"

BASED UPON MY BOOK OF THE SAME TITLE!

"THE EARLIEST DEPICTION OF THE SPACESHIPS THAT HAVE BEEN LAND-ING ON EARTH FOR A MILLION YEARS—"



—IS THE GREAT PYRAMID AT GIZEH! THE EGYPTIANS, OF COURSE, THOUGHT THE INVADERS GODS!"

"MANY CATASTROPHES REFERRED TO IN THE BIBLE WERE PROBABLY ALIEN RETALIATIONS—"



—FOR UNFRIENDLY RECEPTIONS!"

"INDEED, THE DESTRUCTION OF THE LOST CONTINENT OF ATLANTIS WAS PROBABLY—"



—A GIANT TIDAL WAVE CREATED BY AN ALIEN MEGA-BOMB!"

"WHILE, THE PREVIOUSLY UNEXPLAINED
GREAT STONE FACES OF EASTER
ISLAND—"



"—ARE NOTHING LESS THAN DEPIC-
TIONS OF SOME GIANT INVADERS!"

AS YOU KNOW, THESE NOTIONS ARE
BASED UPON TRANSLATIONS OF
PREVIOUSLY UNDECIPHERABLE

EGYPTIAN,
AZTEC AND
DRUID
WRITINGS
MADE
POSSIBLE—

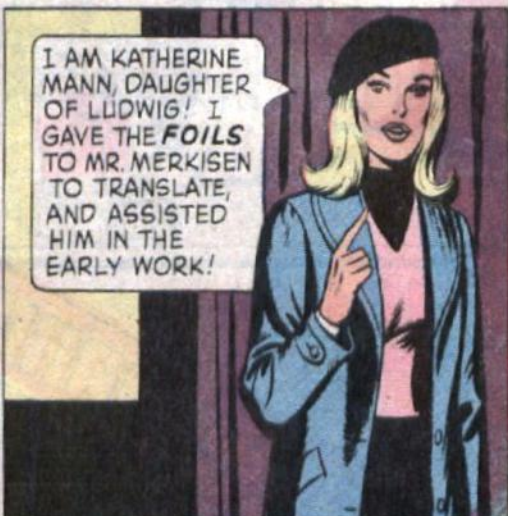


—THROUGH THE DISCOVERY OF THE
"FOILS OF XECHUTOTEC" BY THE
LATE, GREAT ARCHEOLOGIST,
LUDWIG MANN!



THE WORLD TRUSTED
DR. MANN—BUT NOT
YOU, MERKISEN!
HOW DO WE KNOW
YOUR TRANSLATIONS
AREN'T FAKE?

I AM KATHERINE
MANN, DAUGHTER
OF LUDWIG!
I GAVE THE **FOILS**
TO MR. MERKISEN
TO TRANSLATE,
AND ASSISTED
HIM IN THE
EARLY WORK!



A ROAR OF APPROVAL
RUNS THROUGH THE
AUDIENCE...

CLAP! CLAP!

NO QUESTION
ABOUT DR. MANN'S
INTEGRITY!

CLAP!
OR ANY
DAUGHTER
OF HIS!

BRAVO,
MERKISEN!
BRILLIANT
WORK!



LATER, AS MERKISEN'S BUSINESS MANAGER WHISPERS CONGRATULATIONS.

THIS PUBLICITY WILL SELL OUT YOUR TOUR! THE FOILS IS YOUR GREATEST GIMMICK, NIELS!

SHHHH!
KATHERINE'S COMING!

YOUR SILENCE IS **RIDICULOUS**, KATHERINE! SAY SOMETHING!

AHHH! SAME OLD PROBLEM, EH? WELL, GET TO IT!

YOU **PROMISED** YOU'D TURN THE FOILS OVER TO DR. KLEINER'S COMMITTEE MONTHS AGO!

AND I WILL! I WILL! BUT I'VE GOT TO FINISH MY SECOND BOOK FIRST! IF THEY GET THE FOILS NOW—

—THEY'LL RUSH TO PRINT BEFORE I'M READY!

I DON'T CARE TWO FIGS ABOUT THAT! AND MY FATHER WOULD HAVE CARED **LESS!** NIELS—DID I MAKE A MISTAKE BY TRUSTING YOU?

ANGER, WHICH HE WISELY CONTROLS, RAGES INSIDE MERKISEN!

OF COURSE I'LL MAKE THE FOILS PUBLIC! BUT THE MONEY FROM MY NEW BOOK WILL UNDERWRITE OUR **MARRIAGE!** YOU STILL WANT THAT?

OH, YES! YES!

WITH A SUDDEN AND MIGHTY EFFORT,
KATHERINE TEARS AWAY FROM THE
ROMANTIC CLOUD ENVELOPING HER!

NO! I'M ALWAYS **LETTING** YOU DO
THIS TO ME! MIX ME UP! LIKE TELLING
AUDIENCES THAT I HELPED
TRANSLATE THE FOILS!

WELL, WE
AGREED
THEY WERE
A BIT TOO
COMPLICATED
FOR—

NOT "WE," NIELS! **YOU** SAID THEY
WERE TOO MUCH FOR ME!

I WANT THOSE
FOILS MADE
PUBLIC BY
TOMORROW!
GOOD NIGHT!

AS YOU WISH,
MY DEAR!

GOT TO MOVE FAST! I'M ON THE
LAST CHAPTER OF THE SEQUEL!
IF I WORK ALL NIGHT, I CAN FINISH
IT BY NOON!

MUSTN'T OFFEND
KATHERINE! NEED
HER TOO MUCH—
AND HER FATHER'S
REPUTATION!

THROUGH THE NIGHT, MERKISEN
WEAVES HIS FANCIFUL PSEUDO-
SCIENTIFIC TALES...

—AND MY RESEARCH CONVINCES
ME THAT EVEN NOW THERE ARE
ALIENS AMONG US PATIENTLY
WAITING UNTIL SUCH TIME—

—AS THEY CAN
TAKE COMMAND
OF EARTH!
BEWARE THE—

A STRANGE
SOUND, HALF-
WHISTLE, HALF-
ROAR, RUSHES
AT HIM FROM
THE WINDOW...

THAT NOISE!
AND SOME KIND
OF BRILLIANT
LIGHT! WHAT THE—?

REEEOOOEEEEEE



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