

The

WEB

SPIN YOUR
WEB OF CRIME,
YOU CREATURES
OF EVIL! YES,
SPIN IT STRONG,
SPIN IT CLEVERLY,
SPIN IT ANY WAY
YOU WILL! BUT THIS
IS YOUR WARNING...
YOU ARE WEAVING
ABOUT YOU A MESH
FROM WHICH THERE
IS NO ESCAPE... A
TRAP OF YOUR OWN
MAKING; YOU CANT
ESCAPE THE
WEB!

The Black
Dragon of
Death!!
SINISTER,
MOCKING,
RUTHLESS AGENT
OF THE TREACHEROUS
JAPS! NO GREATER
SCOURGE HAS EVER
PLAGUED OUR LAND, NO
GREATER FOE WILL THE WEB
EVER ENCOUNTER... OUR
OPENING SCENE, IN THE LAIR OF
THE "Black Dragon, WHERE HIS MEN
ARE "PLAYFULLY" AT WORK...



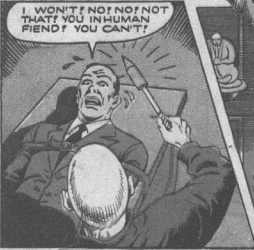
TALK, WHITE SCUM? WHERE AND WHEN WILL AMERICAN TROOPSHIPS LEAVE?

I... I'LL NEVER TELL!

CURSE YOUR OBSTINATE BONES! I'VE BEEN MUCH TOO LENIENT WITH YOU, YOU'VE WORN MY PATIENCE THIN!



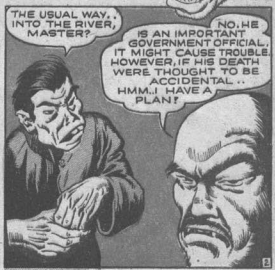
I GIVE YOU LAST WARNING. GIVE ME THE INFORMATION I SEEK ABOUT YOUR TROOPS.



I WON'T! NO! NO! NO! THAT! YOU INHUMAN FIEND! YOU CAN'T!



PAH? THE STUPID, PATRIOTIC FOOL? REMOVE HIS CORPSE. THE SMELL SICKENS ME!



THE USUAL WAY, INTO THE RIVER, MASTER?

NO, HE IS AN IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL. IT MIGHT CAUSE TROUBLE. HOWEVER, IF HIS DEATH WERE THOUGHT TO BE ACCIDENTAL.. HMM.. I HAVE A PLAN!

AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE PALATIAL HOME OF NICK MORRO, BIG-SHOT GANGSTER,

SO THE WEB'S GOT YOU BUFFALOED?

BUT YA GOTTA ADMIT, NICK, THE GUY'S UN-CANNY. EVERY TIME A MOB PULLS A JOB, THE WEB'S THERE!

WELL, I DON'T SCARE EASY, SEE? I STILL RUN THIS TOWN...WEB OR NO WEB. WHY IF HE WAS HERE THIS MINUTE, I'D...

ULP! THE WEB!

YES, NICK. JUST WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

THUNDER-STROCK, THE THUGS REACH FOR THEIR REVOLVERS WITH NERVELESS FINGERS.

SUDDENLY GOT TONGUE-TIED, EH, NICK?

WELL, I WON'T TELL YOU WHAT I'M GOING TO DO. I'LL SHOW YOU!

YEEOW! LET NICK HANDLE 'IM. HE SAID HE COULD!

YEAH. I'M GOIN' TO LISTEN TO ME MUDDER AND GO STRAIGHT.

COME CLEAN NOW, GENERAL MASON'S MISSING. IF ANYBODY IN THE UNDERWORLD KNEW WHO SNATCHED HIM, YOU WOULD, NOW GIVE!

I DON'T KNOW NUTHIN' ABOUT ANY GENERALS.. YOU THINK I'D BE NUTS ENOUGH TO FOOL WID A GUY AS HOT AS HED BE... RANSOM OR NO RANSOM.. AN' NONE O' THE MOB SNATCHED HIM EITHER, OR I WOULD HAVE KNOWN IT BY GRAPEVINE!

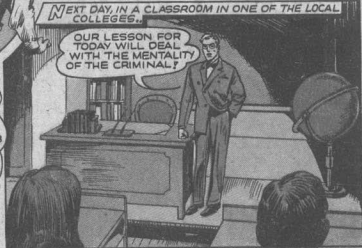
HMM.. HE MAKES SENSE, HE'S TOO SCARED TO BE LYING ANYWAY.



NEXT DAY, IN A CLASSROOM IN ONE OF THE LOCAL COLLEGES..

OUR LESSON FOR TODAY WILL DEAL WITH THE MENTALITY OF THE CRIMINAL!

OKAY, NICK, BUT I WARN YOU.. KEEP YOUR NOSE CLEAN, OR THE NEXT TIME THE WEB PAYS YOU A VISIT, YOU WON'T GET OFF SO EASY!



THE CRIMINAL IS A COMPLEX CHARACTER, BUT BASICALLY HE IS AFRAID. AFRAID OF THINGS HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND AND THAT ARE BEYOND HIS CONTROL!

PROFESSOR RAYMOND?! I HAVE A PROBLEM I'D LIKE YOU TO HELP ME WITH. IT HAS TO DO WITH YESTERDAY'S LECTURE ABOUT SUSPICIOUS COINCIDENCES

THIS MORNING, I SAW A MAN TRAPPED IN A BURNING CAR.. APPARENTLY AN ACCIDENT.. YET, I DISCOVERED ON INVESTIGATION THAT THE CAR HAD BEEN STANDING STILL WHEN IT CAUGHT FIRE!



HMM.. THAT IS UNUSUAL!

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT IT WAS ACCIDENTAL, YOU KNOW, MISS WAYNE.

YES... BUT ISN'T IT ALSO PECULIAR THAT IT SHOULD HAVE BURNED SO LONG UNNOTICED? YOU YOURSELF SAID THAT SUCH COINCIDENCES ARE UNLIKELY!

IS THIS THE PLACE WHERE THEY CARRIED THE BODY?

YES, PROFESSOR. I DO HOPE THEY HAVEN'T REMOVED IT YET?

WE'RE IN LUCK! IT'S STILL HERE!

START CARRYIN' OUT THE BODY, BOYS!

I BEG YOUR PARDON, SIR, I'M PROFESSOR RAYMOND, PROFESSOR OF CRIMINOLOGY. MAY I HAVE A LOOK AT THE CORPSE? SCIENTIFIC CURIOSITY, YOU KNOW?

HMM... I DON'T SUPPOSE IT MAKES ANY DIFFERENCE. OKAY, GO AHEAD!

EEEEEE!
HOW TERRIBLE!

WHAT HAVE WE HERE? THE BONES ARE TWISTED PRETTY BADLY, AS THOUGH THE VICTIM HAD BEEN TORTURED, AND... GOOD LORD! I RECOGNIZE THE VICTIM NOW. IT'S THE CORPSE OF GENERAL MASON??

THAT MAN'S DEATH WAS NO ACCIDENT.. IT WAS **MURDER!**

A WISE GUY, EH?

LOOK, GOOGLE EYES! LIN CHOW FOUND THE CAR, AND HE'S A REPUTABLE CHINESE PHILANTHROPIST. THE CORONER PRONOUNCED HIM DEAD DUE TO BURNS, BUT HE'S A DOPE TOO, I SUPPOSE.



AS THOUGH WARNED BY SOME SIXTH SENSE, RAYMOND DUCKS, AND THE AX MISSES HIM BY A HAIR..



RIGHT BACK AT YOU, MISTER!



THEN, FROM THE OPPOSITE END OF THE STREET..



WHY, PROFESSOR, WHERE DID YOU EVER LEARN TO FIGHT LIKE THAT?

EH..AH.. WHEN ONE IS FORCED TO DEFEND ONESELF, ONE DOES STRANGE THINGS!

I'LL LEAVE YOU HERE...!..AH..JUST REMEMBERED AN APPOINTMENT! MUST KEEP.

GOODBYE, PROFESSOR, SEE YOU AT CLASS TOMORROW.

AS ROSE WAYNE IS ABOUT TO DRIVE OFF, SHE NOTICES A STRANGE OBJECT BY HER FOOT.

A SPIDER CLASP! THAT'S QUEER. WHO COULD HAVE DROPPED IT IN THIS CAR? THE PROFESSOR AND MYSELF WERE THE ONLY ONES HERE!

WAIT A MINUTE. THE PROFESSOR IS ALWAYS DISCUSSING THE WEB IN HIS LECTURES. AND AFTER THE WAY HE FOUGHT... HM..I THINK I'LL FOLLOW HIM..

WHILE AT THIS MOMENT, THE PROFESSOR, WHO HAS RETRACED HIS STEPS TOWARD CHINATOWN, DUCKS INTO A SIDE ALLEY, PEELS QUICKLY, AND...

THE WEB STEPS FORTH.

UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, MR. LIN CHOW, THE "REPUTABLE" PHILANTHROPIST IS BEHIND THIS ATTACK. I SAW HIM SIGNAL SOMEBODY JUST AS I LEFT HIS PLACE BEFORE. I WAS RIGHT. HE'S NO MORE A CHINAMAN THAN I AM. HE'S A JAP!



AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE
BACK ROOM OF LIN
CHOW'S PERFUME HOUSE.

HONORABLE BLACK
DRAGON! THE WHITE
MAN YOU SIGNALLED
US TO KILL HE
ESCAPED.
HE FOUGHT LIKE A
THOUSAND FIENDS!

WHAT! YOU
INCOMPETENT
DOG! THOSE
WHO SERVE
ME....

FAIL ME ONLY
ONCE!

NO,
MASTER!
NO!
AIEEE!

DISPOSE
OF THE
JACKAL'S
BODY, AND
THEN JOIN ME
IN OUR SECRET
MEETING
ROOM..

LET US HASTEN TO
THE SECRET MEETING
ROOM. IT WOULD NOT
BE WISE TO INCUR THE
BLACK DRAGON'S
DISPLEASURE
NOW.

SUDDENLY, A PAIR OF SINEWY
HANDS REACH OUT FROM
SEEMINGLY NOWHERE, AND..

BAM

FIRST, I'LL TRUSS THESE BIRDS UP AND KEEP THEM OUT OF TROUBLE.. THOSE BEADED DRAPES WILL SERVE THE PURPOSE!

A SHORT WHILE LATER...

MY MUNCH IS PROVING TRUER THAN I EXPECTED. IF THIS ISN'T THE WEB'S WORK, MY NAME ISN'T ROSE WAYNE!

WHILE IN THE BLACK DRAGON'S LAIR...

I HAVE LOCATED THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE TROOPSHIPS LEAVING FOR AUSTRALIA!

WE STRIKE TONIGHT.. AT ONCE.. I HAVE THE EXPLOSIVES READY. I'LL BLOW THEM ALL TO SHREDS!

ONE OF MY FAVORITES.. WHAT'S THIS? THERE'S THE ODOR OF ANOTHER PERFUME IN THIS ROOM.

STEALTHILY, THE BLACK DRAGON APPROACHES THE DOOR. SUDDENLY YANKS IT OPEN.

AH! A VERY NICE PERFUME, THIS.

WHA..?

I HEARD YOUR PLANS, YOU INHUMAN MONSTER!

HOW UNFORTUNATE FOR YOU?

DIE! AS DID THE OTHERS WHO STOOD IN THE PATH OF THE BLACK DRAGON!

SO YOU KNOW MY PLANS..



SUDDENLY..

THE.. THE WEB!



YES, THE WEB, BLACK DRAGON! YOUR WEB! A WEB OF MURDER THAT YOU'VE WOVEN ABOUT YOURSELF! AND NOW YOU'RE TRAPPED!



BONES OF MY ANCESTORS! I'LL SHOW YOU!

AARGH!

THEN, A BOMBSHELL BURSTS AMONG THE JAPS, AS THE WEB HURTTLES INTO ACTION.



I FIX MISERABLE WEB NOW, MASTER!

BANG!



Y!! HONORABLE PANTS FALLING DOWN?



YES.. AND SO DOES DISHONORABLE YELLOW MONKEY!

SPLAT

WEB! THE BLACK DRAGON!
HE'S ESCAPING!

AS THE WEB TURNS TO SEE, ONE OF
THE JAPS LAUNCHES HIMSELF FROM
BEHIND.

SUCKER!
AND YOU'RE
THE GUYS
WHO KNOW
ALL ABOUT
JIU JITSU!

BUT THE FORCE OF THE
IMPACT SENDS AN OIL
LAMP CRASHING IN A
BLAZE AMONG THE
BOXES OF DYNAMITE!

DANGER DANGER
 T.N.T.
 DANGER DANGER
 T.N.T.

FRANTICALLY, THE JAPS
FLEE IN ALL DIRECTIONS,
WHILE THE WEB AND
ROSE FOLLOW THE
BLACK DRAGON, JUST
IN TIME TO SEE...

DESPERATELY, THE WEB
FLINGS A CHAIR AT THE
CLOSING SECRET DOOR.

AIEE! WE'LL ALL
BE BLOWN TO
BITS!

THERE HE
GOES!

THAT WAS CLEVER, WEB! THE
CHAIR WEDGED ITSELF IN THE
DOOR LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO
GET THROUGH!

THIS
IS NO
TIME FOR
COMPLIMENTS..
RUN!

THEN, AS THEY FLEE HASTILY
ALONG A CORRIDOR, THE FLAMES
REACH THE DYNAMITE, AND...

BOOM

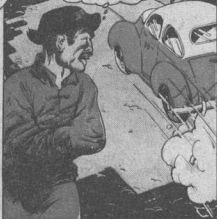
THAT TAKES
CARE OF THOSE
JAPS. BUT THERE'S
STILL THE BLACK
DRAGON TO DEAL
WITH.
COME
ON!

YOU GO
AFTER
HIM, WEB.
I'LL ONLY
DELAY
YOU!

SLOWLY, A MANHOLE COVER IS LIFTED, AND THE VENOMOUS EYES OF THE DRAGON PEERS OUT TO SEE THAT ALL IS CLEAR.



HA! THE POLICE SCUTTling TOWARD THE SCENE OF THE EXPLOSION, NO DOUBT, THE IDIOTS!



HEY, PADDY! THERE'S LIN CHOW! PULL UP! I WANNA TALK WITH HIM!



LIN CHOW, JUST A MINUTE, I WANNA ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS?



ABOUT THAT BURNING AUTOMOBILE THIS MORNING, THAT PROFESSOR WAS RIGHT ABOUT WHO THE CORPSE WAS, AND...



AND YOU'VE FOUND OUT HE WAS MURDERED, EH?



WELL THAT'S TOO BAD FOR YOU, LIEUTENANT!

AARGH!



SUDDENLY, SPLITTING THE DARKNESS LIKE A LIGHTNING BOLT... THE WEB!





YOU AGAIN! THE FIENDS TAKE YOU! I'LL... OOFF!

YOU'VE HAD YOUR CHANCE DRAGON... YOUR FIRST AND LAST!

POW

PUT THE CUFFS ON HIM LIEUTENANT!

FUNNY THING IS, I ONLY WANTED TO ASK HIM SOME ROUTINE QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT BURNING CAR... I NEVER WOULD HAVE KNOWN IT WAS MURDER, IF HE HADN'T TOLD ME!

YOU'RE TRAPPED, BLACK DRAGON! HOPELESSLY TRAPPED IN A WEB OF YOUR OWN MAKING!

NEXT DAY..

OH, PROFESSOR RAYMOND, MAY I SPEAK TO YOU ALONE?

HMM... ALL RIGHT.. CLASS DISMISSED?

IT WASN'T VERY POLITE LEAVING ME SO ABRUPTLY LAST NIGHT.. WEB!

YOU KNOW! YOU MUSTN'T TELL.. PLEASE PROMISE!

I WILL, IF YOU'LL PROMISE TO TELL ME HOW YOU CAME TO BE THE WEB?

I DON'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE! ALL RIGHT, I WILL!

NEXT ISSUE - THE SECRET OF THE WEB? SENSATIONAL... DIFFERENT!! DON'T MISS IT!