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Eugene Register-Guard

LANE COUNTY'S HOME NEWSPAPER

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 1948

Little Orphan Annie

PETER AND POLA PETARD, AXEL'S BUTCHERS, GET ANOTHER CUSTOMER... COULD IT BE SAID THAT EVEN AXEL IS "HOIST" WITH HIS OWN PETARD?

THAT STRANGER AGAIN...THE ONE WHO SAVED MY LIFE FROM AXEL'S MESSENGER...HE WANTED THAT NOTE I FOUND AFTER MAX DROPPED IT... "TAKE GOOD CARE OF THIS ONE"...

I HOPE HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOIN'...BUT WITH AXEL BACK I'VE PLENTY WORRY TO KEEP ME BUSY...HARK... MAX IS COMIN' BACK...

IT WAS ONE OF THOSE YOU SENT FOR US TO "TAKE GOOD CARE OF"...

EH? I SENT? WHEN?

HE SAID "SOME TIME AGO," BUT THAT HE HAD BEEN DELAYED... BUT HE IS SAFE AT LAST WITH PETER AND POLA!

WAIT! FOOL! HE HAS TRICKED YOU...ALL I SENT HAVE BEEN TAKEN CARE OF!

THAT ONE IS AN IMPOSTOR...BUT, BY THE DRAGONS OF DEATH, I SOON WILL SPOIL HIS PLANS...

SHALL I COME, TOO, AXEL?

HAVE YOU NOT DONE ENOUGH DAMAGE? YOU WAIT HERE! I'LL HANDLE THIS!

NO NEED TO AROUSE PETER AND POLA! I KNOW WHERE THE SECRET CHAMBER IS... I WISH TO FIND THIS CLEVER ONE, ALONE...SO...

HA! SO! IN BED...WITH THE COVER OVER HIS HEAD...OR IS IT ONLY A PILLOW...EH?

THERE! GOOD! SLEEP AXEL! SLEEP FOR AN HOUR, TILL YOUR GOOD FRIEND, PETER, COMES SOFTLY IN THE DARK! NOW I MUST GO...

PETER...IT IS TIME...THAT SHABBY ONE NOW MUST BE SLEEPING! HE LOOKED HARDLY WORTH THE TROUBLE...

ONE NEVER KNOWS...HE MAY CARRY MUCH MONEY...IT ALL ADDS UP... BRING THE LIGHT IN FIVE MINUTES...

IT WAS EASY! THEY ALL ARE EASY...HIS THROAT WAS SOFT... BUT, WHISKERS...I DID NOT RECALL WHISKERS! QUICK, POLA! THE LIGHT!

WHISKERS? THE SHABBY ONE HAD NO WHISKERS!

IT... IT IS AXEL! WE HAVE "TAKEN GOOD CARE OF" AXEL!

OAF! YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN EVEN IN THE DARK! THE WHISKERS!

QUICK! IT IS A GREAT MISTAKE...BUT LOOK AT THE MONEY! THOUSANDS! WHAT A SHAME WE DO NOT DARE DISPLAY HIS CLOTHES FOR SALE!

AND HE WILL NOW SEND US NO MORE BUSINESS...I STILL DO NOT UNDERSTAND, BUT IT IS A PROFITABLE NIGHT... HERE...THE TRAP DOOR... AND WE MUST NEVER SPEAK OF THIS TO ANYONE...

HAROLD GRAY
8-1-48