

Murder in New Orleans

By BRETT HALLIDAY (Author of the Michael Shayne Stories)

(Chapter Four) Shayne went up the side steps and pushed an electric button. An elderly Negro opened one of the doors, and smiled pleasantly.

afraid of Shayne. He must know he'll never get a penny out of ME. Not with Walter dead. I don't care how much he talks. I can cash in Walter's chips and get the hell out of here.

"I'd like to see Mr. Carson," Shayne said.

"The Negro turned away and a woman stood there before Shayne. Belle Carson was a symphony in green and black. Her black hair was smoothed back from a high forehead and curled up around her neck.

She said, "Well, in a deep voice and lowered her long black lashes. "I wanted to see Mr. Carson," Shayne told her. "Isn't your husband here?"

"You must have guessed who I was when I first showed up," Shayne said. "Sure, I figured Whitey had sent you. That's why I wanted you to stick around because I figured Walter had made arrangements."

"No. Come on in," "What you sit down?" she said, indicating a chair nearby. Shayne said, "Thanks. I understood Mr. Carson was expected back on the three-twenty train."

"You know all about it, don't you?" "But that's when you still thought Walter was alive."

"Do you mind being alone here with me until he comes?" she parried. Shayne grinned.

"You haven't told me your name," "Some peop call me Martins."

"When does the next train get in?" "Not until tomorrow afternoon."

"Then I guess I'll have to wait." "We have a half dozen guest rooms, Red."

She got up and pushed a button. The aged Negro, Abe, came in silently. "Mr. Smith is an old friend of Mr. Carson's," she said.

"You've got me wondering," he confessed. "After the come-on you first handed me, I'll never know whether you're playing it straight or still handing me a line."

"Yassum. How many fo' dinner, Mis' Carson?" "Two. I don't think Mr. Carson will be here."

"I told you that's when I thought Walter had things fixed for you to come. I figured you were casing the layout for Whitey."

"Mrs. Carson filled both glasses to the brim and drank heartily." "You're wondering about me aren't you, Red?" she said.

"No. But I knew he figured to sic that shamus on Whitey, and when he left he said not to be scared if Whitey showed up here."

"Why don't you tell me who you are and what you're doing here?" He made a negative gesture.

"Where do you get that idea?" "Look! I'm doing a lot of guessing. I know all about Shayne. Hell, I went on angrily, "how do I know I won't get the cards for him to bump your husband last night? Yeah. You and him together."

"The doorbell rang somewhere toward the back of the house. Abe shuffled to the door. "There's a gentleman wants to see you, Mis' Carson," he said.

"They didn't plan it all then? Your husband hasn't been to the city for months."

"You can go out on the terrace—through those French doors. I'll get rid of him."

"Maybe that is what he told Whitey," Shayne growled. "That doesn't make it the truth. I'm still wondering if you fixed that room upstairs with me for the stake-out. You admitted you were making it easy for me to stay because you figured your husband had it fixed for Shayne to cool me—along with Whitey. How the hell do I know that doesn't still stand?"

"You're crazy," she snapped. "I don't know what you're saying."

"I'll be damned, Mr. Shayne. When did they plan it all then? Your husband hasn't been to the city for months."

"I wondered, ma'am. You see there's a fellow here in town—big red-headed fellow—and I thought maybe he'd been to see you."

"Red! Don't say those things. Come over here and kiss me."

"If he comes you give us a ring down at the hotel."

"How did it happen?" Captain Denton told her. It was evident that he didn't know about the empty room in the St. Charles hotel.

"Your husband went to New Orleans to contact a private detective named Michael Shayne this morning," Denton said.

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Comic strip panel with dialogue: 'IF YOUR TOE KICKS ON THE BRICK, YOU SHOULD LIE DOWN, MR. BLURB!' 'EVENTUALLY... BUT FIRST I MUST UNPACK!' 'THAT WARDROBE'S SO SMALL YOU WOULDN'T CUS A CAT WITHOUT GETTING HAIR IN YOUR TEETH; YOU BOYS DON'T MIND IF I PUT YOUR STUFF HERE--'

Comic strip panel with dialogue: 'FREE LIBRARY' 'SMACK' 'SILENCE' 'OH, I DON'T KNOW--MAYBE BOTH LIVE!' 'YOU SAID IT, ANNIE--AND WE HAVE A LITTLE MONEY IN THE BANK--'

Comic strip panel with dialogue: 'WERE O.K. ANNE--IT WAS CLOSE, BUT WE MADE IT--' 'ROCKY CARRIED ME--THE SMOKE--I PASSED OUT--IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR ROCKY--' 'WE--WE LOST EVERYTHING, ANNE--NO INSURANCE--OF COURSE, NO ONE WOULD INSURE SUCH AN OLD FIRETRAP--' 'OH, I DON'T KNOW--MAYBE BOTH LIVE!' 'YOU SAID IT, ANNIE--AND WE HAVE A LITTLE MONEY IN THE BANK--'

Comic strip panel with dialogue: 'IT' I WANT TO KIN OF OURS, BABE--' 'IT'S A STRANGER, BOYS--AN 'YO' KNOWS MAH GOLDEN RULE--' 'KIN AH, KILL THIS STRANGER, DADDY--' 'THREE?' 'THASS A LIE, UNCLE SHADBACK--WARRIN' KILT THRE STRANGERS--' 'WAIT--' 'AFORU YO BLASTS MAH HAID CLEAN OFF'N MAH (GAW?) BODY--KIN AH MARRY UP WIL TH' BOOTIFUL GAL THAR?' 'NAY, HAWK WASH?' '??-STRANGER, WHUFFO IS YO LOOKIN' AT MAH KNEES?'

Comic strip panel with dialogue: 'THE CABIN'S BURNING, I'VE GOT TO GET THE WESTCOTT BOY OUT OF THERE--' 'IF CASSIDY MAKES A RUN FER TH' CABIN, WE'LL GIT HIM FER SURE--' 'INSIDE THE CABIN--'

Comic strip panel with dialogue: 'I SIMPLY HAVE TO HAVE SOMETHING THRILLING AND EXCITING FOR MY TELEVISION PICTURE!--' 'HOW ABOUT ME, MR. FLICKER? MAKE A PICTURE ABOUT ME!' 'ABOUT YOU? WHAT'S SO THRILLING AND EXCITING ABOUT YOU?' 'AH-HAAAA-- YOU'D BE SURPRISED MR. FLICKER!' 'THE MOST THRILLING AND EXCITING MOMENT OF MY LIFE WAS THE DAY I WAS BORN!' 'YESSIR! I WAS SO THRILLED AND EXCITED I WAS SPEECHLESS FOR TWO YEARS!'

Comic strip panel with dialogue: 'TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, TEX, WE'VE ALWAYS SUSPECTED DANNY'S DINER WAS A FRONT FOR SOME KIND OF RACKET, BUT WE'VE NEVER GOTTEN A SHRED OF EVIDENCE, WHY ARE YOU SO INTERESTED?' 'I'M ONLY CONCERNED ABOUT WOOLLY AND HIS WIFE, I DON'T WANT EM TO HAVE MORE TROUBLE, LET'S RUN OVER AND SEE 'EM.' 'THIS IS SST. WINTERS OF THE STATE POLICE, MR. AND MRS. SMITH, I'VE BEEN TELLING HIM A LITTLE ABOUT THE TROUBLE YOU HAD.' 'GLAD TO KNOW YOU, SERGEANT, IF YOU'D BEEN HERE A FEW MINUTES ASO YOU'D'VE SEEN ONE OF 'EM.' 'YOU MEAN ONE O'THOSE VARMINTS HAD THE CRUST TO COME BACK HERE?' 'YEP, THE ONE WITH THE MUSTACHE, BOY-- WAG HE SOBEE ABOUT THE BEATINS HE GOT!'

Comic strip panel with dialogue: 'HE FOLLOWED ME HOME, UNCA DONALD... MAY I KEEP HIM?' 'OH, HE WON'T BE--' 'WHY YES, IF YOU CAN BE POSITIVE HE WON'T BE LONESOME AWAY FROM HIS HOME!' 'YOUR ORDER, PLEASE--?' 'A CUP OF CRACKED ICE, WITH HEMLOCK, XANTIPPE!'

Comic strip panel with dialogue: 'SCIENCE SAYS TWO OUT OF EVERY 88 BIRTHS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE TWINS-- THAT MEANS THERE ARE A MILLION PAIRS ALIVE SOMEWHERE-- AND SOME OF THEM MUST LOOK LIKE THE PICTURES ON THIS LAYOUT!-- SO MY PROBLEM IS SIMPLE-- FIND SAME!' 'BUT MY FEET ARE WORN OFF HALF WAY UP MY SHINS AND MY MOUTH IS SO DRY MY DENTURES ARE DUSTY! MAYBE I SHOULD PAMPER MYSELF WITH A PAUSE IN YON OASIS!' 'YOUR ORDER, PLEASE--?' 'A CUP OF CRACKED ICE, WITH HEMLOCK, XANTIPPE!'

RADIO PROGRAMS TABLE: THURSDAY—F. M. KGW, KOIN, KEX, KSLM, KOCO. Lists programs for various stations including 'The 3 of Us', 'Feature Story', 'Green Hornet', 'Straight Arrow', 'Swing Time', etc.

RADIO PROGRAMS TABLE: FRIDAY—6 A. M. TO 4:45 P. M. KGW, KOIN, KEX, KSLM, KOCO. Lists programs for various stations including 'Hedda Podes', 'Farm News', 'News Summary', 'KOCO Klock', etc.

DIAL LISTING, KOAC 550. COAC Thursday P.M.—5:00, Children's Theater; 5:15, On the Uprate; 5:50, Sports Club; 6:15, Organ Music; 6:30, Round Camp; 7:00, Headlines in Chemistry; 7:35, Evening Farm Hour; 8:00, Flying Time; 8:15, OSG Library; 8:30, Vet News; 8:45, News; 9:00, Weather; 9:05, Music That Endures; 9:15, Evening Meditations; 10:00, Sign Off.

Crossword Puzzle. Includes puzzle grid and solution for 'Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle'. Solutions include: 1. Clutter, 2. Style of type, 3. Bone, 4. Thraentad, 5. Masculline, 6. Arnistice, 7. Ghit, 8. Cosmopolitant, 9. Babylonian, 10. Welly, 11. Delly of consent, 12. The pineapple, 13. En in account, 14. Dellen, 15. Art of force, 16. Golf club, 17. Feminine name, 18. Sacred images, 19. Arctic plant, 20. Eagle's nest, 21. Portable out-door lamp, 22. Sailboat, 23. Edible seeds, 24. Purpose, 25. Burdened, 26. Moham, 27. Sacrament, 28. Smoking device, 29. Soft drink, 30. Egeant, 31. Mountain in Crete, 32. Optical organ, 33. Football position; abbr.

ROOM AND BOARD By Gene Ahern

Humorous cartoon illustration with dialogue: 'BY JOVE, I HAVE IT! EUREKA!' 'INSTEAD OF AN ALARM CLOCK TO AWAKEN THE SLEEPER BY HIS EAR, THRU AN IRRITATING BELL, THE ELECTRIC CLOCK WILL AROUSE HIM FROM SLUMBER BY HIS NOSE!... THE SLEEPER WILL BE AWAKENED BY THE JOYOUS SMELL OF COFFEE AND THE DELICIOUS OOR OF FRYING BACON!... YES...

Conscience Returns \$1

Durant, Okla., Feb. 2 (UP)—C. G. Landers was \$1 richer today because a fellow citizen lost a 43-year-old battle with his conscience. Landers, former co-owner of a five-and-ten-cent store, said yesterday he had received an unsigned letter, postmarked in Durant, which confessed: "Restitution: 43 years ago I had taken a little item from Lesnett and Landers store. You will find enclosed \$1. God forgive me, I know you will." Landers said the dollar bill covered interest due him, since no items sold for that much in his store.