

THE SULTRY SUMMER DAYS OFFER LITTLE AMUSEMENT. FOR YOUNG MATT AND LUKE REEVES, HOWEVER, THE BOREDOM WILL SOON BE ENDED, FOR THEY HAVE DISCOVERED CYRUS FENBY'S CURIO SHOP...

WELL, WHAT DO YOU KIDS WANT? AND DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING!

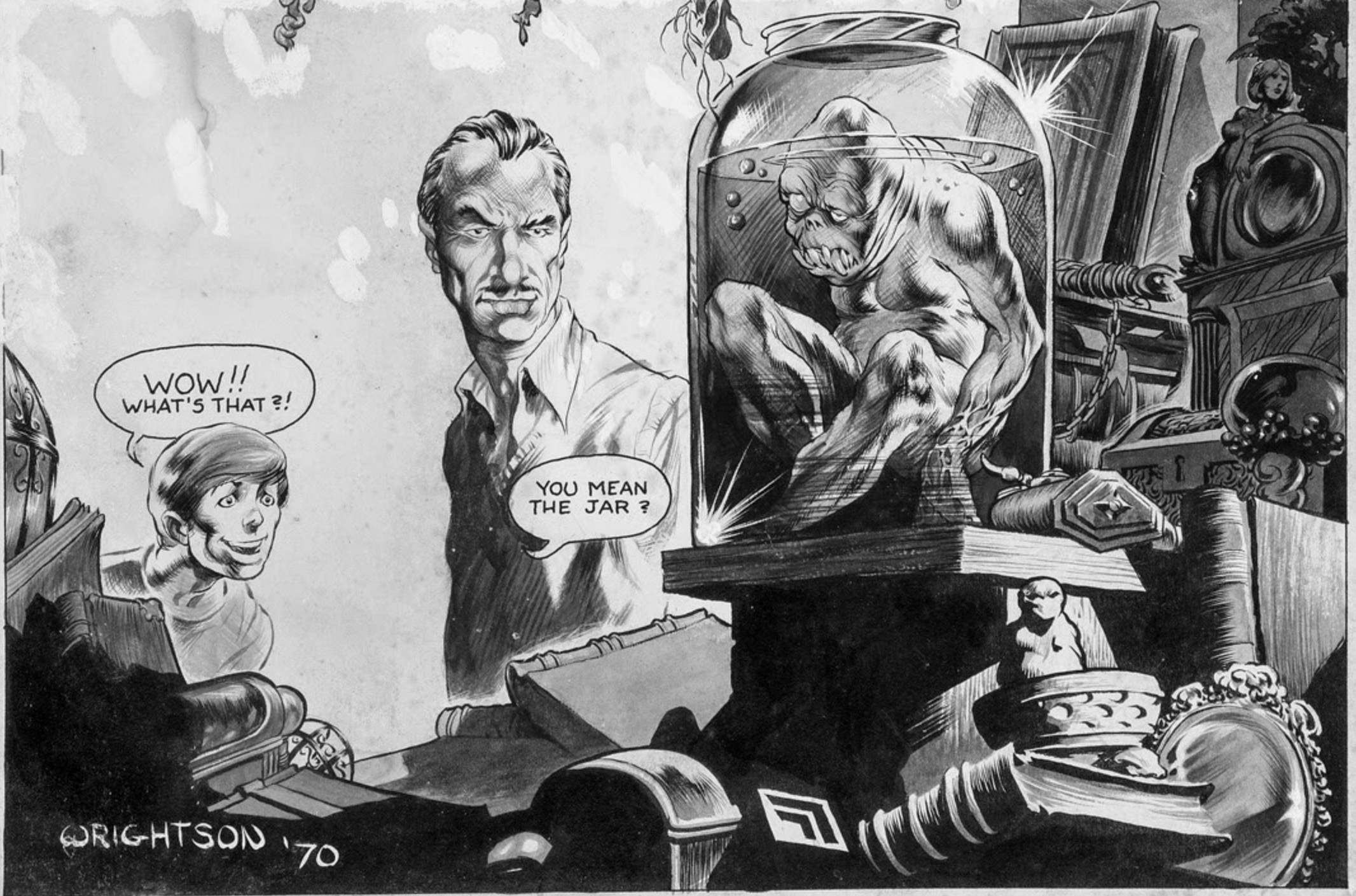
AW, DON'T GET SORE...WE GOT MONEY!

YEAH, MR. FENBY... WE GOT SEVEN DOLLARS AND WE'RE ONLY GONNA SPEND IT ON SOMETHIN' REAL SPECIAL.

SEVEN DOLLARS, EH? ...WELL, HOW ABOUT THIS GENUINE, AUTHENTIC ROMAN CENTURION HELMET?

NAW! ME AN' MATT'VE BEEN WORKING ALL SUMMER AND WE WANT SOMETHIN' NOBODY ELSE HAS GOT...

# THE MONSTER JAR



WOW!! WHAT'S THAT?!

YOU MEAN THE JAR?

CYRUS FENBY'S GNARLED FINGERS LOWER THE MYSTERIOUS JAR FOR THE BOYS TO INSPECT...

FENBY REMAINS SILENT AS HIS MIND RACES BACK... BACK TWO YEARS... TO THE DAY THE CARNIVAL CAME INTO TOWN...

LOOK, LUKE! THERE'S SOME KIND OF ANIMAL IN IT!

IS IT DEAD?

WHAT IS IT MR. FENBY?

WHERE DID YOU GET IT?



...AND THAT GAUDY CARNIVAL POSTER THAT STIMULATED HIS LUST FOR WEALTH...

...UNTIL, AT LAST, HIS MADDENED DESIRES OVERCAME HIM AND HE BROKE INTO THE CARNIVAL TO STEAL THE JAR, NEARLY KILLING AN UNEXPECTED GUARD...



FENBY GOT AWAY WITH HIS CRIME, BUT MUSEUM AFTER MUSEUM GAVE HIM THE SAME FATEFUL NEWS...

AND NOW FENBY'S CHANCE HAS COME TO SELL THE JAR... MAYBE HE'LL BE LUCKY ENOUGH TO GET THE WHOLE SEVEN DOLLARS!

I'M SORRY, MR. FENBY. I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT IS, BUT IT'S ABSOLUTELY WORTHLESS!

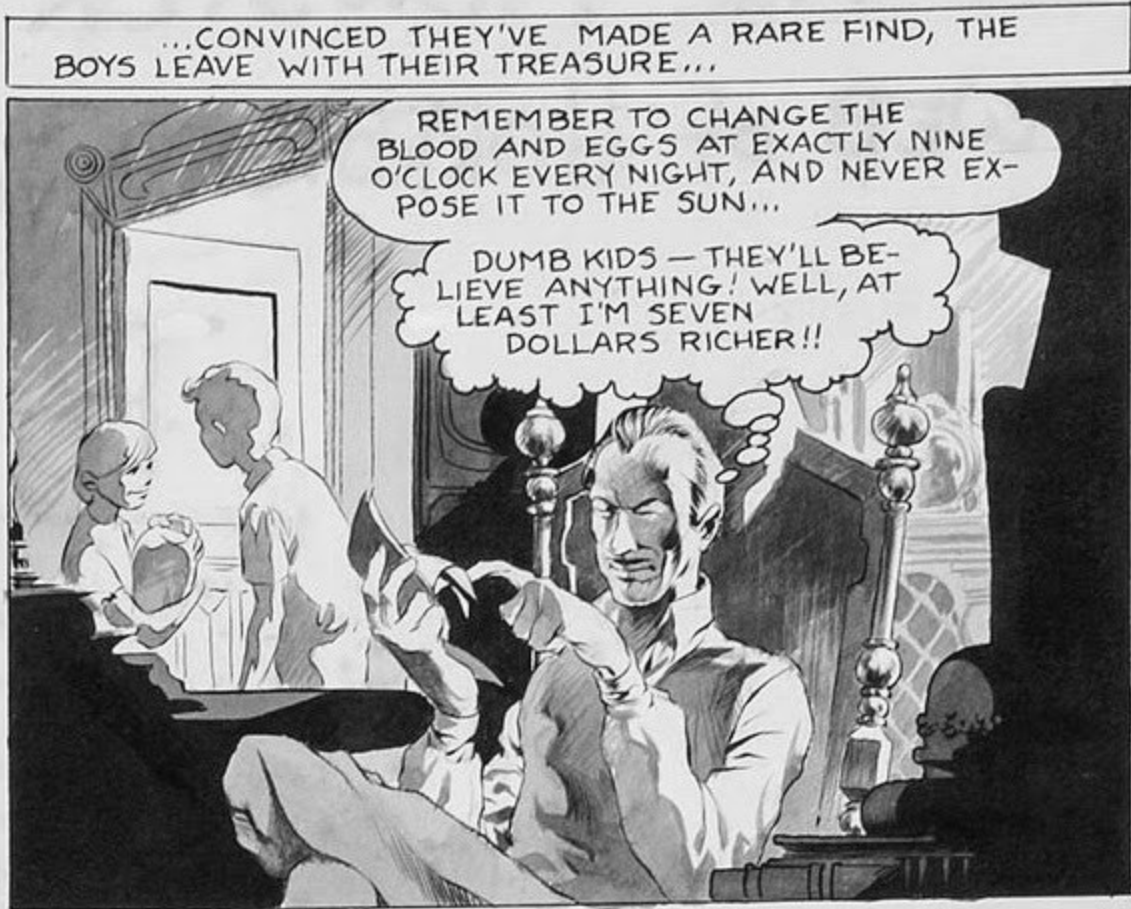
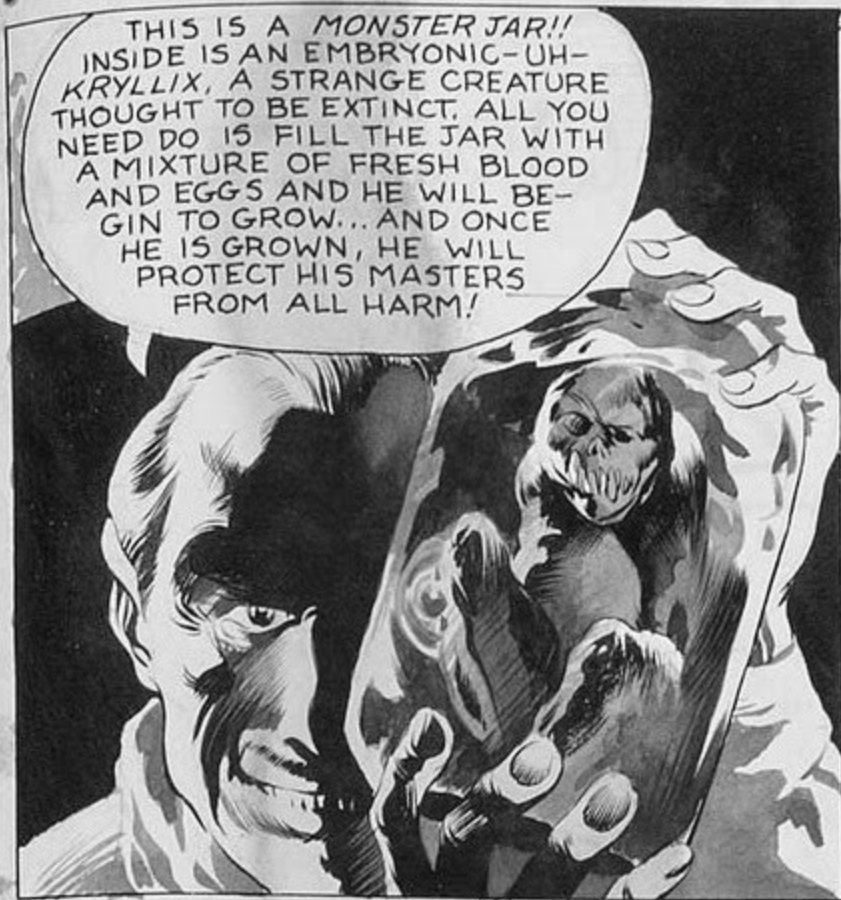
NO! IT CAN'T BE! THEY—THEY CHEATED ME! ...THOSE CROOKS!

HEY, MR. FENBY! IS SOMETHIN' WRONG?

NO... JUST THINKING...

WELL, WHAT ABOUT THE JAR?





THE BOYS SEARCH FOR A PLACE TO KEEP THE JAR HIDDEN AND FINALLY...



WITH THE JAR SAFELY LOCKED IN THE TOOLSHED, THE BOYS PAY THE LOCAL BUTCHER A VISIT...



...LATER THAT EVENING, BACK IN THE OLD SHED...



SLOWLY, THE MIXTURE OF FRESH, RED BLOOD AND EGGS REFILLS THE JAR...

YOU SURE THIS'LL BRING THE MONSTER BACK TO LIFE?

MR. FENBY SAID IT WOULD, DIDN'T HE? WHY WOULD HE LIE? BETTER STAND BACK, MATT.



THE HOURS CREEP ON AS THE BOYS STARE EXPECTANTLY AT THEIR LIFELESS TREASURE...

GOSH, LUKE, IT'S BEEN HOURS AND I AIN'T SEEN IT MOVE YET!

MAYBE IT NEEDS MORE TIME... IT'S GETTING KIND OF LATE. I THINK WE BETTER GET ON HOME.



THE DAYS TURN INTO WEEKS, AND STILL THE BOYS CONTINUE THEIR GRIM NIGHTLY RITUAL...

BE CAREFUL, LUKE. DON'T SPILL ANY...



...EVER WATCHING...  
...EVER WAITING...

IT'S BIGGER THAN IT WAS, MATT!



... FOR THEIR KRYLLIX TO COME TO LIFE ...

IT'S BREATHING, LUKE! IT'S ALIVE!!

YOU'RE CRAZY! IT AIN'T MOVING AT ALL!!

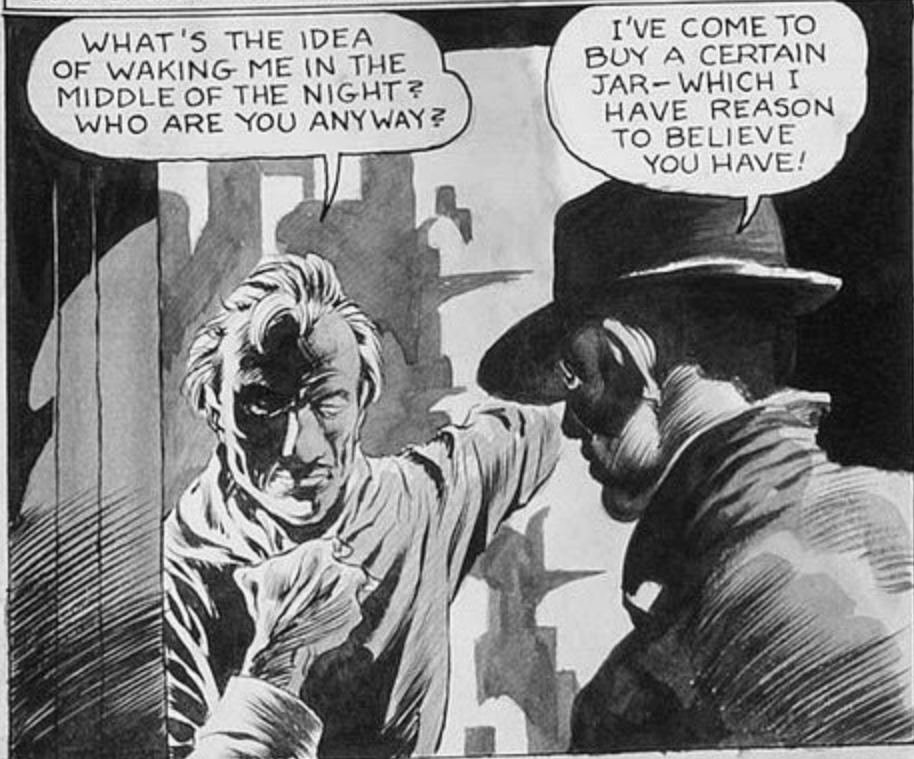


YOU'RE RIGHT! I GUESS IT NEEDS MORE TIME...

WE CAN WAIT!



A PERSISTANT KNOCKING AT CYRUS FENBY'S CURIO SHOP IS FINALLY REWARDED WITH ANSWER...



WHAT'S THE IDEA OF WAKING ME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT? WHO ARE YOU ANYWAY?

I'VE COME TO BUY A CERTAIN JAR - WHICH I HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE YOU HAVE!

...RELUCTANTLY, FENBY ADMITS THE STRANGER...

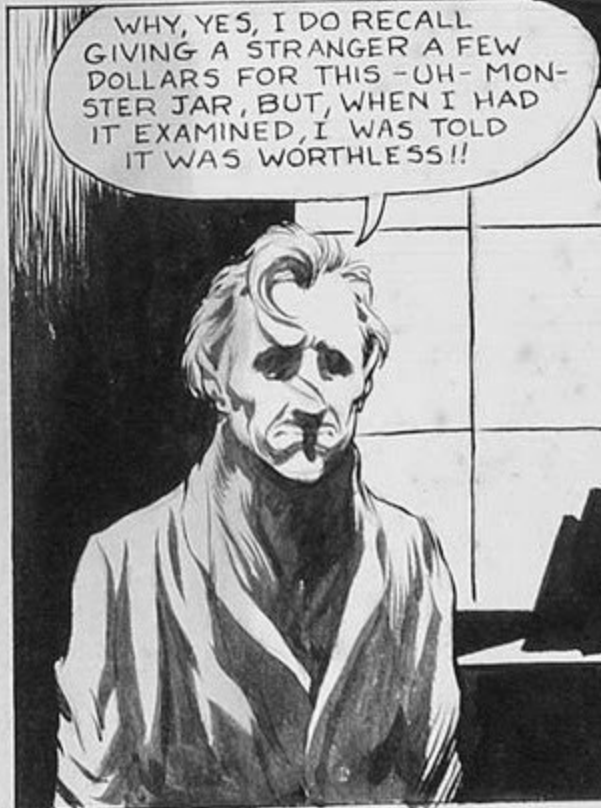


YES, YES... NOW WHAT JAR IS IT THAT YOU WANT?

THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL JAR. YOU SEE, I'M BASIL CANADAY, OWNER OF CANADAY CARNIVAL AND FOR TWO YEARS I'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIND ONE OF MY STOLEN ATTRACTIONS...



...MY MONSTER JAR... IT IS RUMORED THAT YOU ARE NOW THE OWNER... IF THIS IS TRUE, I'M PREPARED TO GIVE YOU \$1000 FOR IT.



WHY, YES, I DO RECALL GIVING A STRANGER A FEW DOLLARS FOR THIS - UH - MONSTER JAR, BUT, WHEN I HAD IT EXAMINED, I WAS TOLD IT WAS WORTHLESS!!



THERE ARE STRANGE SECRETS ABOUT THE JAR WHICH NO EXAMINATION WOULD EVER REVEAL, MR. FENBY. NOW, MAY I PLEASE SEE THE JAR?



I'M SORRY, BUT THE JAR IS - AH - IN STORAGE! I CAN HAVE IT FOR YOU TOMORROW!

FINE - FINE!! I'LL HAVE THE JAR FOR YOU THEN!

THE JAR MUST NOT BE DAMAGED IN ANY WAY OR I'LL BE UNABLE TO PAY YOU ANYTHING. I'LL RETURN TOMORROW AT EXACTLY FOUR!!

CYRUS ARRIVES AT THE REEVES FARM EARLY THE NEXT DAY...



EVER SINCE THEY WASTED THEIR SAVINGS ON SOME DARN JAR THEY'RE HARDLY HERE AT ALL - MISSING MEALS, FORGETTING THEIR CHORES - SPENDING THE WHOLE DAY DOWN IN THAT SHED YONDER.

OH? OH YES! I'LL TRY THERE! THANK YOU!



THEY'RE NOT HERE! I'LL HAVE TO BREAK THE LOCK...

CYRUS IS SUDDENLY CONFRONTED BY AN ANGRY MATT AND LUKE...



HEY!! WHATCHA THINK YOU'RE DOIN' MISTER?!

WHY, IT'S MR. FENBY!

I MUST HAVE THE JAR BACK, BOYS! I'LL GIVE YOU TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS FOR IT!!

SEEING THE MURKY LIQUID IN THE JAR, FENBY IS OVERCOME WITH RAGE...



YOU'VE RUINED IT! RUINED IT!! NOW, I WON'T GET A CENT!

BUT, WE ONLY DID WHAT YOU SAID!

YEAH! MAYBE WE WON'T SELL IT BACK AFTER ALL!

THE BOYS QUICKLY DECIDE...



GOLLY-T-TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS!!

SURE THING MR. FENBY!



I'M TAKING IT AND YOU TWO AREN'T ABOUT TO STOP ME! OUT OF MY WAY!

YOU CAN'T TAKE - UGGGHH!!

THE DOOR!! LOCK HIM IN!!

...THE BOYS LEAN AGAINST THE LOCKED DOOR, LISTENING TO FENBY'S MUFFLED CRIES...

I'M SORRY, BOYS,  
LET ME OUT...  
...PLEASE...



... GROW WEAKER AND WEAKER...

PLEASE!  
THE JAR...  
IT'S...



... AND FINALLY DIE!!

I CAN'T...  
NO! I... AARRGHHH!!



HE - HE'S GONE!!  
HE'S ESCAPED!

AND LOOK!! OUR  
MONSTER'S DEAD!!  
HE KILLED IT AND  
TOOK THE JAR!



IT WAS ALIVE!!  
I KNOW IT WAS,  
'CAUSE IT'S SMILING  
NOW!!

HE DIDN'T  
TAKE THE JAR,  
MATT. HERE IT  
IS AND...  
GOOD LORD!!



IT PROTECTED US,  
JUST LIKE HE SAID!

I KNEW HE  
WOULDN'T LIE!



WELL, GANG, LOOKS LIKE  
OL' FENBY WAS SQUEEZED  
INTO A JARRING SITUATION  
AND GOT HIMSELF ALL  
SCREWTOP, AND... WHA?!

... OH, YOU SAY THE  
STORY'S FINISHED,  
NOW?! OH, I...  
WHAZZAT?! OH,  
SH-SHUT UP?!  
OH, WELL...

