CAPTAIN KRONOS
Vampire Hunter

A HAMMER FILM PRODUCTION

Starring
HORST JANSON ..... Captain Kronos
JOHN CATER ..... Professor Grost
JOHN CARSON ..... Doctor Marcus
CAROLINE MUNRO ..... Carla
IAN HENDRY ..... Kerro
SHANE BRIANT ..... Paul Durwood
WANDA VENTHAM .... Lady Durwood
LOIS DANE ..... Sara Durwood

Directed by BRIAN CLEMENS; Screenplay by BRIAN CLEMENS; Photographed by IAN WILSON; Edited by JAMES NEEDS, Produced by ALBERT FENNELL and BRIAN CLEMENS. Released by Bruton Films. Certificate AA.

Script : Steve Moore

Artwork: Steve Parkhouse

NO MORE OF ANYTHING AT ALL...

THIS IS GOOD OF YOU, PAUL... BUT HOW IS YOUR MOTHER, THE *LADY DURWARD?*

NO BETTER, I'M AFRAID... BUT SHE'LL ALLOW NO *PHYSICIAN* NEAR HER... NOT EVEN *YOU*, DR MARCUS...

THE DEATH SHOCKS THE VILLAGE... EVEN THE DURWARD FAMILY SEND A WREATH...

THEN, AS THE FUNERAL ENDS...

A *SAD AFFAIR*... ESPECIALLY FOR HER SISTER, ANN. BUT NOW I MUST GET BACK TO THE HOUSE! GOOD DAY, DR MARCUS!

COME HOME WITH US, PETRA... WE COULD DO WITH A HAND... AND IT MIGHT TAKE YOUR MIND OFF THINGS...

THANK, YOU, ANN...

BUT WHEN DR MARCUS TOO LEAVES THE SCENE...

ANN? ANN, ARE YOU ALRIGHT? WHAT'S THE MATTER? CAN'T YOU *SPEAK...?*

YET WHEN MARCUS BRINGS THE ENTRANCED GIRL TO HER SENSES...

P-PETRA...

PETRA? WAS SHE WITH YOU? WHERE..?

GOOD GOD!

OH, NO, NO NOOOO...!

THAT NIGHT...

POINTER... I WANT YOU TO TAKE THIS LETTER TO *CAPTAIN KRONOS*... AND STOP FOR NOTHING UNTIL YOU GET TO HIS CASTLE! IT'LL BE A *HARD RIDE*... TO THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS...

POINTER RODE FOR THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS AND FINALLY REACHED THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS...

NONE COULD HAVE ARRIVED MORE SWIFTLY THAN KRONOS, AND SO...

GA-DANG! GA-DANG!

KRONOS! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE THE WAR! IT'S GOOD...

WILD HORSES COULDN'T HAVE KEPT ME FROM COMING TO YOUR AID, OLD FRIEND! BUT *LISTEN*— THOSE BELLS! THAT'S *NO WEDDING PEAL!*

GA-BANG! GA-DANG!

THAT SOUNDS LIKE AN *ALARM*, MARCUS! TO THE CHURCH, *QUICKLY!*

MOMENTS LATER...

IT'S *VANDA SORELL*... MOTHER OF THE FIRST GIRL ATTACKED... AT LEAST, IT WAS...

LOOK, GROST...THE *BLOOD ON THE LIPS*... OUR JOURNEY HASN'T BEEN WASTED...

IN A *CHURCH*, KRONOS? SURELY NO VAMPIRE COULD..?

SOME VAMPIRES COULD! WE NEED MORE INFORMATION ON WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST, THEN WE CAN DEAL WITH IT! GROST KNOWS THE FIRST STEPS...

AND GROST DOES INDEED KNOW WHAT TO DO...

DEAD TOADS? YOU'RE *BURYING DEAD TOADS?*

PRECISELY, MY DEAR... *TOAD IN THE HOLE!* ONLY A FEW MORE...

NONE KNOW OF GROST'S WORK... LEAST OF ALL THE TWO YOUNG LOVERS WHO ARRIVE IN THE FOREST THE NEXT DAY...

GILES... I THOUGHT I SAW SOMEONE OVER THERE... SOMEONE *REALLY OLD*...

WHERE? I DON'T SEE ANYONE, MYRA... COME ON, I'LL WALK YOU HOME...

AND HAVE MY *FATHER* SEE YOU? NO, IT'S ONLY A LITTLE WAY...YOU CAN WATCH ME UNTIL I GET CLEAR OF THE WOODS...

AND AFTER ALL, WHAT COULD HAPPEN IN SUCH A SHORT STRETCH OF PATH?

FOR MYRA IS ONLY OUT OF HER LOVER'S SIGHT FOR A FEW SECONDS...

BUT THOSE FEW SECONDS ARE ENOUGH...

MYRA!

MYRA... MYRA, MY LOVE...

SOON...

SHE THOUGHT SHE SAW SOMEONE...SOMEONE OLD... BUT I WATCHED HER ***ALL THE TIME***...THERE WASN'T *ANYONE* NEAR HER!

YOU RINGED THIS AREA, GROST? GOOD... WE'LL CHECK...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, KRONOS... I'M A MAN OF SCIENCE, BUT...

BUT WE DEAL IN *LEGEND*, MARCUS...THERE'S AN OLD RHYME: " IF A VAMPIRE SHOULD BESTRODE CLOSE TO THE GRAVE OF A DEAD TOAD, THE VAMPIRE'S HEART ITS LIFE SHALL GIVE, AND SUDDENLY THE TOAD SHALL LIVE!"

BUT I *CAN'T* BELIEVE...

BUT YOU *MUST*... THE TOAD BEARS WITNESS...OUR VAMPIRE CAME THIS WAY...

NOW WE KNOW WHERE TO START LOOKING...THE *SOUTH* END OF THE VILLAGE...

UNLESS IT CAME *THROUGH* THE VILLAGE...

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO'S INCREDIBLY ***OLD***?

THE *TAVERN'S* AT THE SOUTH OF THE VILLAGE...WE'LL START THERE TOMORROW...

NO... FOR ONE WHO'S *YOUNG*... YOUNGER THAN THEY *SHOULD* BE! IT'S NOT ***BLOOD*** OUR VAMPIRE STEALS... BUT ***YOUTH!***

AND TALKING OF THE YOUNG... AND THE BEAUTIFUL... IN THE DURWARD MANSION...

HOW'S *MOTHER*, SARA?

JUST THE SAME, PAUL... SHE WON'T EAT... SHE JUST LIES THERE LIKE... LIKE A ***DEAD THING!***

AND SHE LOOKS SO ***OLD***, PAUL! SHE USED TO BE SO ***BEAUTIFUL***... BUT THE LAST THREE YEARS HAVE AGED HER SO MUCH...

SINCE ***FATHER DIED***, YOU MEAN... BUT SHE'S ONLY A DURWARD BY MARRIAGE, WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HER WON'T HAPPEN TO ***US***... ALL THE DURWARDS ARE NOTED FOR THEIR ***YOUTHFULNESS...***

NEXT DAY FINDS KRONOS ALSO NOTING THE YOUTHFUL...

SO YOU'RE ***GARTH MARKSTEIN***... THEY SAY YOU CAME BACK FROM THE CITY A WHILE AGO LOOKING ***YEARS YOUNGER...***

WHAT IF I DID?

OH, WE'RE JUST INTERESTED...THAT FINE ***HEAD OF HAIR...***

...IS A WIG?

HA! HE DIDN'T FIND THE SECRET OF YOUTH... HE FOUND A WIG-MAKER!

GIVE THAT BACK...!

BUT WHILE KRONOS AND HIS COMPANIONS FIND AMUSEMENT IN THE TAVERN, DR MARCUS HAS MORE SERIOUS MATTERS IN MIND...

GOOD MORNING, PAUL... I WAS... ER... PASSING, AND I THOUGHT I'D DROP IN TO SEE HOW YOUR MOTHER WAS...

WHAT'S THIS YOU'RE READING, PAUL? 'WITCHCRAFT AND NECROMANCY'..?

OH—IT WAS MY FATHER'S... I'M FINALLY STARTING TO PUT HIS LIBRARY IN ORDER...

NO BETTER... BUT NO WORSE, DOCTOR! BUT I'M AFRAID SHE'LL STILL SEE NO ONE... NOT EVEN YOU! STILL, IF YOU'RE HERE, PERHAPS I CAN OFFER YOU A BRANDY...

IS THAT WHY YOU STARE AT ME SO HARD, DOCTOR? OR DO YOU THINK THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME?

THAT'S WHAT THEY SAY'S GOING ON IN THE VILLAGE... WITCHCRAFT! FIRST ISABELLA, AND THEN... WHAT DO YOU THINK, PAUL?

MY BROTHER DOESN'T FORM OPINIONS TOO RAPIDLY, DOCTOR...

SARA! AS YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL AS EVER! I REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DO IT... IT'S ALMOST MAGICAL!

FORGIVE ME, MY DEAR...

HIS MIND FULL OF DARK THOUGHTS, MARCUS RIDES BACK... UNDER A SKY THAT HAS SUDDENLY BECOME EQUALLY BLACK...

THE MASSIVE THUNDERHEAD HAS FORMED SO RAPIDLY IT SEEMS ALMOST UNNATURAL... AND YET THE DARKNESS, AND THE HOWLING WIND, ARE REAL ENOUGH...

I REALLY OUGHT TO GO... TELL ME, PAUL... DOES THAT BOOK HAVE ANYTHING ABOUT VAMPIRES IN IT?

I DON'T THINK SO...

SOME PEOPLE THINK THEY DON'T EXIST... WELL, GOOD DAY TO YOU BOTH...

BUT THE DARKNESS PRESSES DOWN HEAVILY ON MARCUS... CLOSING IN ON HIM...

AND MARCUS FEELS THE STING OF FEAR... POISONOUS, LIP-BITING FEAR...

AND THEN THE STORM BLOWS ITSELF OUT IN AN INSTANT, AND ALL IS AS IT WAS BEFORE... LEAVING MARCUS TO WONDER IF IT WAS FREAK WEATHER...

OR SOMETHING MORE.

KRONOS AND GROST, MEANWHILE, HAVING EMPTIED THE TAVERN, HAVE RETURNED TO THE FOREST...

FINE! A FEW MORE OF THESE AND WE'LL HAVE EVERY PATH IN MILES COVERED!

RIGHT... NO ONE... OR NOTHING, WILL BE ABLE TO PASS THROUGH WITHOUT OUR KNOWING...

AND YET...

AND NEXT DAY FINDS KRONOS, GROST, CARLA AND MARCUS AT POSITIONS IN THE FOREST... WAITING AND WATCHING...

WATCHING EVERYONE WHO PASSES WITH **SCRUPULOUS ATTENTION**...

UNTIL...

A BELL! OVER THERE...!

TOO LATE! TOO LATE **AGAIN**!

THIS THING'S BECOMING AN **EPIDEMIC**... LIKE A **PLAGUE OF VAMPIRES**! AND A **PLAGUE ON THEM**! THE BELL-TRAP NEVER FAILED BEFORE!

THAT NIGHT...

YOU *HATE* THEM, DON'T YOU, KRONOS... BUT WHY? WHY IS IT SUCH AN OBSESSION?

I ONCE WENT OFF TO FIGHT A WAR... LEAVING MY MOTHER AND YOUNGER SISTER BEHIND. WHEN I RETURNED, MY SISTER GREETED ME WITH A **KISS**...

A **VAMPIRE'S KISS**! I WAS **STRONG ENOUGH** TO SURVIVE, BUT THAT MEANT I HAD TO...

KILL THEM? OH GOD..!

FOR THE CONCLUDING CHAPTER, TURN TO PAGE 25.

KRONOS~VAMPIRE HUNTER

Part Two

BUT FOR KRONOS, THE PERSONAL HORROR IS FAR FROM OVER, FOR NEXT MORNING...

KRONOS! KRONOS! LOOK AT MY FACE! I'M... YOUNGER!!

CHAINS, GROST!

THE GIRL IN THE FOREST... IT WAS MY FAULT WASN'T IT?

YES, MY FRIEND... AND YOU KNOW WHAT WE MUST DO! THERE WILL BE PAIN...

DO IT, KRONOS... DO WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO DO...

BUT GROST STEPS IN QUICKLY TO SAVE KRONOS THE GRISLY TASK...

AAAUUGH!

BUT...

HE DOESN'T BLEED, KRONOS... A VAMPIRE ONLY BLEEDS AT THE MOMENT OF ITS DEATH!

HANGING THEN...

BUT EVEN NOW...

FIRE, GROST... WE'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP TRYING UNTIL WE FIND THE RIGHT WAY... MARCUS?

OOOOOOH...

THIS TIME...

THAT'S ENOUGH, GROST... CUT HIM DOWN...

MARCUS?

BLOOD! HE'S DEAD, GROST! BUT HOW?

A CROSS? HE WAS WEARING A CROSS... A SIMPLE STEEL CROSS...

NO, GROST, A CROSS OF HOLY STEEL! THAT'S OUR ANSWER... THAT'S HOW WE KILL THE VAMPIRE...

SO, THAT NIGHT...

THIS'LL DO, KRONOS! GOOD HOLY METAL... I CAN FASHION A FINE SWORD FROM THIS...

BUT...

LOOK! THERE THEY ARE! THE ONES WHO KILLED DR MARCUS!

AND THEY'RE ROBBING GRAVES NOW...!

RUN GROST... RUN!

AND SO KRONOS BEGINS A DESPERATE REARGUARD ACTION...

AAAGH!

UNTIL...

SORRY, GENTLEMEN... I'LL ENTERTAIN YOU ALL AGAIN SOME OTHER TIME...

AAAIII!

OUR ARMS... HE HIT US ALL...

IN THE SAME PLACE!

AND SO, KRONOS AND HIS COMPANIONS WITHDRAW TO THE SAFETY OF THE FOREST...

ALMOST FINISHED, KRONOS! A SWORD FIT FOR A KING...

OR A VAMPIRE, EH, GROST?

BUT FIRST WE HAVE TO **FIND** OUR VAMPIRE, KRONOS...

WE'LL FIND HIM, GROST! REMEMBER WHERE MARCUS WENT THE DAY BEFORE HE... DIED..? THE **DURWARD MANSION**...

AND, IN THAT VERY HOUSE...

I'M NOT HUNGRY, SARA... TAKE IT AWAY...

BUT, MOTHER... YOU MUST... OH, IF ONLY YOU WERE WELL AGAIN! BUT WE **WILL** MAKE YOU WELL... I **SWEAR IT**...

BUT SARA HAS OTHER JOBS, TOO... FRESH FLOWERS FOR THE FAMILY CRYPT...

YES, IT'S **HORRIBLE**, ISN'T IT, PAUL... BUT IT WON'T HAPPEN TO **US**, WILL IT? I CAN'T BEAR THE THOUGHT OF GETTING OLD...

STILL NO BETTER? **THAT'S** WHERE IT ALL STARTED, SARA... WHEN FATHER DIED... THREE YEARS, AND SHE'S BECOME AN **OLD WOMAN**...

MEANWHILE, KRONOS AND GROST CAREFULLY MAKE THEIR PREPARATIONS... THEN, WHEN STORM-WRACKED NIGHT CLOSES IN...

LISTEN, GROST! THE VILLAGE BELLS... IT'S **STRUCK AGAIN**! COME ON...!

GADANG!

GADANG!

AND...

THERE... THE **DURWARD COACH!**

AND THE TOAD... **LIVES**! IT'S **HIM**, KRONOS... IN THAT COACH...

FINALLY...

I'M READY... BUT ARE **YOU**, CARLA? DO YOU STILL WANT TO GO **THROUGH** WITH THIS?

BE A **DECOY**? YES, KRONOS... I **WANT** TO DO IT...

AND SO, THE NEXT EVENING, KRONOS BEGINS HIS PREPARATIONS...

THERE WERE **THREE** MURDERED IN THE VILLAGE LAST NIGHT, KRONOS! THAT MEANS WE'RE DEALING WITH **MORE THAN ONE**...

TWO, THEN? THE BROTHER AND THE SISTER... **PAUL AND SARA**...

AND SO, WHEN DARKNESS FALLS...

WHAT THE DEV...

OH, SIR! PLEASE HELP ME, SIR... I SAW THE LIGHT AND...

MY FATHER TRIED TO FORCE ME INTO A MARRIAGE... I RAN AWAY... PLEASE, SIR... LET ME STAY HERE TONIGHT... I WON'T TROUBLE YOU... I'LL JUST STAY HERE BY THE FIRE...

OF COURSE... IT'S A SIMPLE KINDNESS... HERE, DRINK THIS...

WE'LL LEAVE YOU, THEN... GOODNIGHT!

AND GOODNIGHT TO YOU, SARA... SLEEP WELL... AND AWAKE RENEWED!

OUTSIDE...

WE'VE WAITED LONG ENOUGH, KRONOS... I DON'T THINK THEY'D ATTACK CARLA YET BUT...

BUT WE CAN'T TAKE THE CHANCE... COME ON, GROST... TIME WE MADE OUR MOVE...

HURRY, KRONOS... THERE'S ANOTHER STORM BREWING! I DON'T LIKE IT!

NOR I, GROST... BUT WE MUST APPROACH QUIETLY...

AND, INSIDE THE HOUSE, ANOTHER IS APPROACHING QUIETLY...

CARLA WAKES, LOOKS, AND CATCHES ANOTHER PAIR OF EYES... STRANGE HYPNOTIC EYES...

YOU... YOU'RE...

AND AS SHE SITS THERE ENTRANCED, LIKE SO MANY BEFORE HER...

MOTHER!

HER FACE, PAUL... LOOK AT HER FACE! WHAT'S WRONG...

YOUR FATHER... I AWAKENED HIM... I HAD TO BRING HIM BACK...

BUT AT WHAT PRICE, MOTHER? WHAT PRICE? YOUR IMMORTAL SOUL...?

WRONG? WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL? LIFE HAS BEGUN ANEW, SARA... FOR ME... AND...

NONE CAN RESIST THE HYPNOTIC STARE OF THE VAMPIRE... AND AS PAUL AND SARA REMAIN MOTIONLESS...

NOW, HAGAN... SHE SHALL BE **YOURS**... I GIVE YOU HER **LIFE**...

WHAT PRICE? **WHAT MATTER? YOU** WILL REMEMBER NOTHING OF THIS! LOOK AT ME! **LOOK... AT... ME!**

BUT THEN...

NO!

YOU SHALL **NOT** HAVE HER... **NO ONE WILL!**

NO ONE, MEDDLER? WE SHALL SEE! LOOK... **LOOK AT ME!**

BUT KRONOS HAS COME PREPARED... AND AS THE MIRROR FLASHES BEFORE HIS EYES...

NO... I... I...

IT IS **LADY DURWARD** WHO BECOMES LIKE STONE! BUT STILL THERE IS HAGAN, DEAD LORD OF DURWARD...

A SWORD? YOU WISH TO **FIGHT**, LORD DURWARD? YOU'RE MORE **FOOLISH** THAN I THOUGHT!

PERHAPS THE FOOL IS **YOU**... WHO TAUGHT YOU THE SWORD?

BARLOFF... OF THE **IMPERIAL GUARD!**

THEN YOU'RE **DOOMED**, SIR... BECAUSE I TAUGHT **HIM!**

AAAAH!

BUT PERHAPS THE **SWORD** IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE **SWORDSMAN**! THIS IS **GOD'S BLADE**... FORGED FOR YOUR **BLACK HEART**! AH! YOU **BLEED**...!

YOUR BLADE MAY HAVE BEEN GOD'S... BUT MINE IS THE **DEVIL'S**...!

MY SWORD!

DISARMED, KRONOS BACKS OFF RAPIDLY... AND THEN...

SINCE YOU KNOW THE DEVIL... YOU'LL PROBABLY BE **FAMILIAR** WITH THIS...

SKRIK!

FIRE, SIR! **FIRE AND BRIMSTONE!**

AAAAUGH!

AND, AS THE SULPHUROUS FLAMES ENGULF THE DEAD LORD'S CLOTHING...

AYYAAAAH!

A **FORETASTE**, SIR... FOR WHEN YOU **BURN IN HELL!**

AND HAGAN, DEAD LORD OF DURWARD, **DIES AGAIN..!**

BUT NOT **ALONE**... FOR AT THE LAST, HE REACHES FOR HIS BELOVED...

AND THE HYPNOTISED LADY DURWARD IS ALSO ENGULFED IN FIRE...

THEN, AS THE HYPNOTIC SPELL WEARS OFF...

MOTHER... FATHER... THEY...

IS IT **OVER**, KRONOS? **REALLY OVER, AT LAST?**

YES, IT'S OVER... **HERE!** BUT TOMORROW... SOMEWHERE ELSE PERHAPS...

I FEAR THERE'LL **ALWAYS** BE WORK FOR GROST AND I! **ALWAYS WORK FOR PROFESSIONAL VAMPIRE HUNTERS!**

THE END.

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