



R. CHETWYND-HAYES
HORROR
PAPERBACKS
ON SALE HERE



NIGHT-TIME IN THE CITY. A TIME WHEN MOST WOULD BE EATING... DRINKING. BUT NOT ERAMUS. A CREATURE OF THE DARKENED STREETS, WHO WAS...



...famished...

...haven't... had sup... for two weeks.

W-WELL, I'LL BE GLAD TO GIVE YOU SOME MONEY FOR FOOD...



...no. Can't keep food down... never could...



WELL, I'LL DO ANYTHING I CAN TO HELP YOU...



THE WRETCHED CREATURE'S EYES LIT UP AND HE SEEMED TO GAIN STRENGTH...

ANYTHING? OR, THANK YOU!!



POOR RONALD, THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE PROVIDED SUCH A SHOCK THAT HE FAINTED. AND THE NEXT THING HE KNEW...

WHAT?

I DO THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE ASKED...

MAY I BE PERMITTED TO INTRODUCE MYSELF? MY NAME IS ERAMUS. I'M A VAMPIRE, BUT OF COURSE YOU KNOW THAT!

I DIDN'T BITE DEEP... YOU WON'T BECOME ONE OF US!

HANDING BACK THE WALLET, ERAMUS NOTICED THE

R. CHETWYND HAYES! AUTHOR OF THOSE MAGNIFICENT HORROR STORIES.

WHY, YOU'RE MY FAVOURITE WRITER!

YOU MUST LET ME REPAY YOU! I CAN SHOW YOU MATERIAL FOR YOUR NEXT BOOK - THE REAL THINGS, NO NEED TO WORRY, YOU'LL BE QUITE SAFE...

YOU HAVE MY WORD... THE WORD OF A VAMPIRE!

AT THE MENTION OF NEW MATERIAL, RONALD FELT HIS WRITER'S INSTINCT TAKE CONTROL. AND ERAMUS DID LOOK SINCERE.

MATERIAL? WHAT KIND OF MATERIAL?

I WILL TAKE YOU TO A PLACE WHERE MY FRIENDS... WERE WOLVES, SNAKE-MEN, WASP-WOMEN, GHOULS... EVERY MONSTER YOU CAN IMAGINE! AND SOME FAR BEYOND THE IMAGINING OF MERE MORTALS! THERE YOU WILL DISCOVER SUCH TALES OF HORROR THAT WILL CURL YOUR TOES AND FREEZE YOUR BLOOD IN YOUR VEINS! JUST A SHORT WALK WILL TAKE US TO...

The MONSTER CLUB

SURELY THIS IS A TOURIST ATTRACTION. IT'S VERY AMUSING, BUT YOU'RE NOT REALLY...

I'LL HAVE THE USUAL, MY FRIEND IS PAYING.

I'M AFRAID GROUP B IS OFF, SIR. IF I COULD SUGGEST THE O, AND A TOMATO JUICE WOULD MAKE YOUR "FRIEND" LOOK LESS CONSPICUOUS!

AND, AS THE DRINKS ARRIVED...

THIS IS QUITE PLEASANT,
BUT DOES NOT SUSTAIN US.
GETTING THE REAL THING
BECOMES CONSTANTLY
MORE DIFFICULT - - -

PEOPLE ARE
SO EDUCATED THESE
DAYS, THROUGH T.V.
AND HORROR FILMS.

EVERYBODY
KNOWS ABOUT
GARLIC AND STAKES
THROUGH THE HEART.
IT TAKES ALL THE
COURAGE A VAMPIRE
POSSESSES JUST TO
WALK THE STREETS!

NERVOUSLY, RONALD GLANCED ROUND ALMOST
OBLIVIOUS TO ERAMUS'S MUSING. THEN HE
SPOTTED...

THAT CHART.
WHAT IS
IT?

OH, THAT'S
A MONSTER
GENEALOGICAL
CHART.

ERAMUS SHOWED AND NAMED
MANY STRANGE NEW MONSTERS
... AND EXPLAINED WHAT THEY
DID...

SHADMOCK

IT'S QUITE
SIMPLE, REALLY.
ALL YOU HAVE TO
REMEMBER ARE
THE BASIC RULES
OF
MONSTERDOM

DISCREETLY, ERAMUS
EXPLAINED, NOT WANTING
TO DRAW ATTENTION TO
HIS COMPANION'S
IGNORANCE...

VAMPIRES **SUP**,
WEREWOLVES **HUNT**,
GHOULS **TEAR**, SHADDOES
LICK, MADDIES **YAWN**,
MOCKS **BLOW**, BUT
SHADMOCKS ONLY
WHISTLE.

WHISTLE? THAT
DOESN'T SOUND
TOO
TERRIFYING!

OH, BUT IT
IS, I HEARD
OF A MAN ONCE
WHO HAD SEEN
THE RESULTS OF
A SHADMOCK'S
WHISTLE...

ONLY THE
RESULTS...

AND
YET...



BENOLD A YOUNG MAN WHO HAS WITNESSED TERROR! FOR SIX MONTHS HIS BRAIN TRIED TO CONTROL THAT WHICH HIS MEMORY COULD NOT BRASE. HIS LONG CATALEPTIC TIZANCES BEING SPLIT WITH PERIODS OF UNCONTROLLABLE RAGE.



AND BEHIND HIS EYES WHICH EXPRESSED VACANT TERROR. A SECRET... AND A MEMORY!

A MEMORY OF A TIME WHEN HE HAD ONLY WANTED ONE THING... MONEY! QUICKLY, AND BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY!

MAYBE WE OUGHT TO LOOK FOR REAL JOBS, GEORGE?

AND BE SLAVES TO THEM ALL OUR LIVES? WE'D NEVER AFFORD TO GET MARRIED...



HERE'S SOMETHING! ANTIQUARY REQUIRES SECRETARY TO CATALOGUE HIS COLLECTION."

SOME OF THESE OLD FOOLS HAVE STUFF WORTH THOUSANDS. GOLD-- MELTED DOWN-- UNTRACEABLE!



HE'S OFFERING ENOUGH MONEY... HAM... AND HIS PLACE IS CALLED...



"...ALBERIC HOUSE..."

MR RAVEN? HA ANGELA JONES. I WROTE TO YOU ABOUT THE ADVERTISEMENT.

OH, YES OF COURSE. PLEASE DO COME IN.





SO MANY VALUABLE THINGS...

YES, AND THEY ALL HAVE TO BE CATALOGUED. SO THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF WORK TO DO.



AND, AS ANGELA IS LED INTO THE STUDY...

BEFORE WE BEGIN, THERE'S SOMETHING I MUST TELL YOU... SOME PEOPLE FIND ME DIFFICULT-- IMPOSSIBLE TO WORK FOR.

I'M A VERY EASY TASKMASTER. BUT, IT'S JUST THAT... THAT...

GASP!



I'M SORRY, I DON'T THINK I COULD POSSIBLY-- I-- I'M SORRY.



RAVEN HAD GROWN USED TO THIS KIND OF REACTION, YET IT STILL HURT HIM... BUT THIS TIME...



...DEEPLY.

BUT GEORGE'S GREETING WAS A POWERFUL FORCE...

I CAN'T DO IT. HE WANTED ME FOR THE JOB, AND THE HOUSE IS FULL OF GOOD STUFF... BUT THERE'S SOMETHING... TERRIFYING ABOUT HIM!

YOU SAY IT'S FULL OF GOOD STUFF?

... AND SO ANGELA RETURNED TO ALBERIC HOUSE, MUCH TO THE DELIGHT OF THE MYSTERIOUS MR. RAVEN.

YOU-- YOU CAME BACK.

ANGELA WAS QUICKLY USHERED INTO RAVEN'S STUDY... THERE SEEMED A STRANGE DESPERATE HOPE IN HIS VOICE...

I USED TO WEAR A MASK, BUT IT'S MUCH BETTER FOR PEOPLE TO GET OVER THE SHOCK AT THE BEGINNING...

THEN THEY MIGHT EVEN GROW ACCUSTOMED...

NEXT MORNING, ANGELA FOUND HER NEW EMPLOYER IN THE GARDENS...

GOOD MORNING. OH, I DIDN'T MEAN TO FRIGHTEN THE BIRDS.

THEY ARE MY ONLY FRIENDS, BUT SOON THEY WILL GET TO KNOW YOU, ACCEPT YOU AS A FRIEND, TOO.

AT RAVEN'S DEEP, FASCINATED STARE, ANGELA BEGAN TO TREMBLE, FEELING A STRANGE MIXTURE OF FASCINATION AND FEAR...

I-I MUST GET TO WORK.

ALL THIS DUST. WHY NOT GET SOMEONE TO CLEAN UP THIS PLACE?

I CAN'T ASK PEOPLE TO COME HERE... YOU'VE NO IDEA HOW HARD IT WAS FOR ME TO ADVERTISE FOR YOU. I MUST NEVER GO NEAR PEOPLE OR LEAVE THE GROUNDS.

AREN'T YOU EVER LONELY?

IF ONLY YOU KNEW THE AGONY OF MY LONELINESS...

AND HE LOOKED AT HER WITH A DESPERATE MUTE APPEAL IN HIS EYES...



LET'S CHUCK IT... FORGET THE WHOLE THING...

IT'S NOT THAT I'M AFRAID OF HIM. IT'S JUST...

AT LEAST GET SOMETHING--SO I CAN SEE WHAT SORT OF STUFF HE'S GOT. GET IT VALUED.



BUT HE TERRIFIES ME... REVOLTS ME IN A WAY, AND YET... I JUST DON'T KNOW.



BUT THE NEXT DAY BROUGHT FURTHER SURPRISES...

YOU SHOULD ALWAYS BE SURROUNDED BY FLOWERS

THE--THE BIRDS. THEY WILL BE WANTING THEIR BREAKFAST

AH, YES. I MUSTN'T NEGLECT MY OTHER FRIENDS... YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT MEETING YOU HAS MEANT TO ME...



BUT THE BIRDS HAD NOT ONLY FOUND A FRIEND AT ALBERIC HOUSE, BUT ALSO AN ENEMY...

NO!

AS THE CAT COVERED, RAVEN FELT HIMSELF LOSING CONTROL. A ZAZE WAS BUILDING UP INSIDE HIM AS HE HELD THE LIFELESS CREATURE.



HIS LIPS BEGAN TO QUIVER, AND PUCKER UP INTO A SMALL CIRCLE...

THE DEATH-LIKE SILENCE OF ALBERIC HOUSE WAS BROKEN ONLY BY THE BUBBLING TAPPING OF TYPEWRITER KEYS. UNTIL A SUDDEN HIGH-PITCHED, BARS-BATTERING SOUND ECHOED AROUND THE HOUSE...



WONDERING WHAT HAD SHOCKED RAVEN SO, ANGELA SPED INTO THE GARDEN. WHERE SHE FOUND...



OH, NO!
THE CAT!
BUT HOW
-- NOW?

THE BLOOD IN ANGELA'S VEINS ALMOST FROZE WHEN SHE RAN INTO THE HALL AND SAW RAVEN...



DESPITE HER TERROR, ANGELA DID NOT RETURN EMPTY-HANDED THAT NIGHT...

THIS SORT OF STUFF WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO FENCE. IT'S TOO SPECIALISED AND WE'D NEED TONS OF IT FOR THE MELTDOWN VALUE TO BE WORTHWHILE.

BUT I BET HE'S GOT A HANDY LITTLE WALL-SAFE STUFFED WITH CASH SO HE CAN BUY THESE THINGS...



ANGELA GEDANED QUIETLY... KNOWING IT WAS NO USE ARGUING.

THE FOLLOWING EVENING, INSTEAD OF LEAVING PROMPTLY, ANGELA STAYED TO SEARCH ALBERIC HOUSE. BUT AS SHE CREEPT STEALTHILY INTO THE HALL...

RAVEN! AND HE'S GOT COMPANY... JUST MY LUCK...



AND, AS RAVEN'S GUEST STEPPED INTO THE LIGHT...



TURNING THE LIGHTS ON AT THE SUDDEN SCREAM, RAVEN RUSHED OVER TO ANGELA...

I THOUGHT YOU'D ALREADY GONE HOME.

HE'D NEVER HURT YOU! I'VE MADE ALL MY RELATIVES PROMISE THAT THEY'D NEVER HURT YOU!

HE'S VERY NICE REALLY... DO YOU WANT TO MEET HIM?

BUT DON'T WORRY, THAT'S ONLY MY GREAT UNCLE UZIAH, I'M AFRAID HE DOES LOOK A LITTLE STRANGE... TO AN OUTSIDER.

STILL TERRIFIED BY THE MEMORY OF THE HIDEOUS FACE, ANGELA COULD BARELY SNAKE HER HEAD, DESPERATELY TRYING TO REJECT HER HORRIFIC EXPERIENCE.

AGAIN RAVEN'S FACE MANAGED A STRANGE CARING SMILE AS HE CONTINUED...

THE OTHER DAY... IN THE GARDEN... I LOST CONTROL OF MYSELF. IT WAS HORRIBLE. I KNOW, IT'S MY CONSTANT FEAR THAT...

BUT NO, I'M ALL RIGHT NOW. SEEING YOU HAS COMPLETED THE CURE.

I... MUST BE GOING

FEAZING WHAT NEW TERRORS WOULD UNFOLD, ANGELA RETURNED TO HER WORK THE FOLLOWING DAY. ONLY TO BE GREETED WITH...

THIS RING ONCE BELONGED TO PRINCESS XEHOIA. SHE WAS SAID TO BE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL OF HER DAY... MORE THAN THREE THOUSAND YEARS AGO.

SHE MUST HAVE HAD YOUR COLOURING. IT MATCHES YOUR EYES AND SKIN PERFECTLY...

SUDDENLY, RAVEN WAS OVERCOME WITH SHYNESS AND RETURNED THE RING TO HIS HIDDEN WALL SAFE...

RAVEN'S FACE SUDDENLY CHANGED AT ONCE. IT FILLED WITH HOPE, YET DOUBT, WITH ANTICIPATION, YET DREAD...

YOU SHOULD KEEP ALL THOSE THINGS IN THE BANK

I DON'T LIKE BANKS, YOU HAVE TO SEE... PEOPLE. MY THINGS ARE MUCH BETTER HERE... WITH ME.

Angela will you marry me?

I realise my appearance... and everything, but you could still love me...

FOR HOURS AFTER, ANGELA KEPT HEARING RAVEN'S PROPOSAL IN HER MIND. AND, THAT NIGHT...

IT'S NO USE, GEORGE. I JUST CAN'T DO IT. NOT TO HIM.

DON'T WORRY. JUST PLAY ALONG WITH HIM. TAKE THE RING AS AN ENGAGEMENT PRESENT, AND REMEMBER THE COMBINATION WHEN HE OPENS THE SAFE. THEN, THE BIG ONE! WE'LL BE RICH!

THE NEXT DAY RAVEN WAS FAR TOO HAPPY TO NOTICE ANGELA'S FEAR AND TENSION BEHIND HER SMILE...

YOU'VE MADE ME SO VERY HAPPY! AND IT'S ONLY FITTING YOU SHOULD HAVE THE RING. THAT IT SHOULD ADORN SUCH A BEAUTIFUL HAND AFTER ALL THESE CENTURIES.

ANGELA WAS OBLIVIOUS TO RAVEN'S CONFESSION AS SHE CONCENTRATED ON THE NUMBERS...

I HAVE SOMETHING OF A CONFESSION TO MAKE. I'M A SHADMUCK. BUT I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU KNOW WHAT THAT IS ... WELL, IF EVER! WHISTLE ...

YOU MUST MEET SOME OF MY RELATIVES. THEY CAN EXPLAIN ... THE SITUATION ... TO YOU MUCH BETTER THAN I COULD ...

YES-YES. I ... ER ... SHOULD LIKE THAT ...

WE'LL HAVE AN ENGAGEMENT PARTY! AND IT CAN BE IN FANCY DRESS! EVERYONE CAN WEAR MASKS, AND GIVE YOU THE CHANCE TO GET TO KNOW MY FAMILY ... GRADUALLY.

BUT NO... I MUST NOT WHISTLE... EVER!

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!

AND SO, CAME THE NIGHT OF THE MASKED PARTY...

COME, MY DEAR. IT IS A SHAME TO HIDE SUCH BEAUTY -- BUT HERE WE MUST ALL BE MASKED.

FINALLY, SHE WAS ABLE TO SLIP AWAY FROM THE CROWD INTO THE STUDY ...

OPEN, SAFE ... PLEASE, PLEASE OPEN!



ANGELA WAS OBLIGED TO DANCE WITH MANY OF RAVEN'S RELATIVES, BUT EVEN MASKED, THEY TERRIFIED HER. SHE HAD MET GREAT UNCLE URIAH ... WHAT COULD THESE OTHER DANCING PARTNERS REALLY LOOK LIKE?

BUT SOMEONE ELSE HAD SLIPPED AWAY TOO ...

AND, AS THE SAFE FINALLY OPENED, REVEALING ITS TREASURES, ANGELA SCOOPED UP ALL SHE COULD CARRY, BUT WHEN SHE TURNED TO LEAVE...

TAKE THEM, THE MONEY AND OTHER THINGS DO NOT MATTER TO ME... GIVE THEM TO WHOEVER YOU PLEASE... BUT YOU COULD STILL... LOVE ME.



NO! NO... YOU'RE HIDEOUS... REVOLTING! THE MONEY! THE JEWELS! THAT'S ALL I EVER WANTED FROM YOU!

DON'T SAY THAT... YOU MUSTN'T!

I COULD NEVER LOVE YOU... YOU NAUSEATING THING... I'D BE SICK IF YOU EVEN TOUCHED ME! YOU'RE HIDEOUS!



AND ONCE MORE ZAVEN'S LIPS BEGAN TO TWITCH AND FORM A TIGHT LITTLE CIRCLE, AS HE INHALED DEEPLY.



TWO SOUNDS MADE THE GUESTS TURN SUDDENLY TOWARD THE STUDY. A PIERCING, SHREKING WHISTLE, LOUDER THAN ANYTHING IMAGINABLE...



AND A BLOOD-CURDLING SCREAM OF AGONY!

LATER, THAT SAME NIGHT...



YOU'RE BACK! GREAT, DID YOU GET IT?



BUT ANGELA'S ONLY REPLY WAS...

YOU... COULD... STILL... LOVE ME...

LOVE ME...



LOVE...

... ME.



THERE IS NOTHING Sadder
THAN THE AGONISED GRIEF
OF A TENDER-HEARTED
MONSTER!



THEN ERAMUS'S MEMORIES ARE
CUT SHORT, AS HE AND THE EN-
THRALLED AUTHOR TURN TO SEE...



THE ENTERTAIN-
MENT! IT'S ABOUT
TO BEGIN!

Welcome to

The MONSTER CLUB

Concluding our adaptation of the ITC movie



Edited & adapted by DEZ SKINN

Illustrations by JORGE BOLTON



ONCE MORE RONALD TURNED TO THE CHART OUT OF PUZZLED DESPERATION ...

QUITE ... ER ... SURELY SHE IS NOT A MONSTER?



HUMGOO

AH, NOW THAT IS A HUMGOO, A CROSS BETWEEN A GHOUL AND ... A HUMAN BEING.

AND DO ... ER ... HUMGOOS WHISTLE? OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT?

OH, NO, THEY DON'T REALLY DO ANYTHING INTERESTING BUT THEIR RELATIVES HAVE INTERESTING HABITS, ONE OF THEM TOLD ME A RATHER INTRIGUING STORY...

"SAM, AN AMBITIOUS FILM DIRECTOR, WAS CHECKING FOR A GOOD LOCATION FOR A NEW HORROR MOVIE..."

THAT'S ODD. NO MENTION OF LOUGHVILLE ON MY MAP, YET HERE'S A ROAD SIGN FOR IT!

LOUGHVILLE

WITHIN SECONDS OF DRIVING THROUGH THE HEAVY GROUND MIST, SAM FOUND HIMSELF IN THE VILLAGE ITSELF...



EAGER TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE VILLAGE'S INHABITANTS, SAM WENT STRAIGHT TO THE INN.

MAYBE YOU CAN HELP ME. I WANT TO MAKE A FILM IN THIS VILLAGE.

WHOSE PERMISSION DO I NEED? WHO RUNS THINGS?



RUN THINGS... THE BLOODED... THEY BE HERE... SOON...

"I'LL TALK TO MY ART DIRECTOR WHEN I GET BACK TO LONDON TONIGHT. HE'LL MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS."

YOU NOT GET THERE TONIGHT... TOO FAR... NOT SAFE GO AT NIGHT... YOU...



...STAY HERE...

...STAY...

...HERE

FEAR SUDDENLY GRIPPED SAM AND HE FORCED HIS WAY OUT OF THE INN ONLY TO SEE... HIS CAR ENGINE WAS TOTALLY WRECKED!



IS IT BROKE?

OF COURSE IT'S BLOODY WELL BROKE! WHO DID IT? AND WHERE'S THE NEAREST GARAGE AND PHONE?

VERMIN DONE IT, REAL MONSTERS... THEY BE.

GAR-AGE NO GAR-AGE NO... PHONE.



BE SNUG AT INN, STAY... HERE...

STAY HERE...



HAVING LITTLE CHOICE, SAM SOON FOUND HIMSELF IN THE INN'S GRIMY GUEST ROOM. WITHIN MINUTES, HE HAD A VISITOR...

LUNA COOK RABBIT STEW FOR YOU, DA DA. SAY YOU BAT.



LUNA? LOOK, LUNA, IS THIS A PRACTICAL JOKE DREAMED UP BY MY FRIENDS AT THE STUDIO? WHY, EVEN THE NAME "LOUSHVILLE" IS AN ANAGRAM OF GHOUL VILLE - THE PLACE OF GHOULS!

BUT, EVEN IF LUNA DID UNDERSTAND, SHE IGNORED THE QUESTION.

DO ALL PEOPLE ON OUTSIDE WEAR CLOTHES LIKE THIS? WE ONLY HAVE CLOTHES FROM BOXES. NO CLOTHES LIKE YOURS.

OUTSIDE? BOXES? YOU MEAN YOU FOUND BOXES FILLED WITH NIGHTGOWNS AND PYJAMAS? WHERE?



BOXES IN GROUND. CLOTHES WOOD, FOOD... ALL FROM BOXES. NO MORE BOXES NOW. ALL GONE.

I NOT LIKE OTHERS... I HUMGOD MOTHER WAS FROM OUTSIDE. WHEN I BORN, SHE GOT INTO BOX, THEN DUG UP FOR GREAT EATING... ALL HAPPY!





SOMEONE MUST COME THROUGH HERE, LUNA. PEOPLE, CAZE...

LONG AGO, ELDERS SET UP TRAP. MOTHER AND YOU WERE CAUGHT IN IT. NO ONE LEAVES HERE EXCEPT ELDERS. THEY COME SOON WITH MORE BOXES IN BIG MOTOR CAR.



LUNA, LISTEN. IF YOU'RE NOT LIKE THEM, HELP ME OUT OF HERE!

HIDE THREE IN CHURCH. THEY FALL DOWN, IE GO IN THERE. I MURDOR, CAN GO IN. COME HELP YOU WHEN OTHERS NOT WATCH.

SO SAM ONCE MORE RUSHED OUT OF THE INN. AND ONCE MORE FOUND HIS WAY BARRED.



BUT THIS TIME HE WOULD NOT BE STOPPED SO EASILY!



WITHIN MINUTES SAM HAD FOUND HIS SANCTUARY

ONCE HE WAS CERTAIN THE CREATURES WOULD NOT ENTER, SAM BEGAN TO EXPLORE THE OLD BUILDING...



AND IN THE VESTRY SAM COULD NOT SHAKE THE FEELING HE WAS NOT ALONE

AT FIRST SIGHT THE SKELETON SHOCKED HIM. THEN SAM SAW THE BOOK IT GUARDED...



A DIARY, AND THIS POOR SOUL MUST HAVE BEEN THE PARSON.

IT WAS THEN THE WHOLE STORY UNFURLED...

SAM LEAD HOW THE VILLAGE HAD BEEN A SMALL PLACE WITH ONLY FIFTY FIVE INHABITANTS. THE PARSON HAD FOUND A REPULSIVE CREATURE. THE VILLAGERS SAID IT WAS EVIL AND SHOULD BE KILLED...



BUT THE PREACHER TOOK IT INTO HIS HOME AND TRIED TO HELP IT.

THEN ONE NIGHT THE PREACHER SAW THE THING IN THE CHURCH-YARD, FEEDING.



BUT FOR THE ONE DRIVEN AWAY, TWELVE DID RETURN. THEY DANCED AROUND THE VILLAGE MAKING A BOUNDARY. A BARRIER THAT COULD NOT BE CROSSED.



I AM WEAK. FOR I HAVE NOT EATEN FOR MANY DAYS. THEIR HOWLS ARE LOUDER AND I HEAR SCREAMS LIGHTEN THIN MY DARKNESS. O LORD FOR I AM LOST IN THE VALLEY OF DARKNESS.

A SUDDEN NOISE DREW SAM TO THE WINDOW...



VILLAGERS CHASE ME. I NOT GO BACK CA-CA BEAT ME FOR HELP YOU TAKE LUNA WITH YOU?



YES, LUNA. I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME.

MUST ESCAPE NOW. BLOODS COME TO-NIGHT!



USE CROSS. IT PROTECTS.

AND GO...



KEEP CLOSE AND DON'T FALL BEHIND.





A WHOLE VILLAGE OF MONSTERS!

IT WOULD MAKE A GOOD STORY, WOULDN'T IT? AND SO MORAL, NO SEX OR NUDITY, A LITTLE VIOLENCE, BUT...



YES, WELL-- THANK YOU FOR A VERY PLEASANT EVENING. NOW I REALLY MUST BE...



IF - IF YOUR, AHM... FRIENDS INSIST -- I SUPPOSE I COULD STAY A LITTLE LONGER.



THE INTEREST IN RONALD QUICKLY FADED AS, TO HUGE APPLAUSE, THE CLUB'S SECRETARY TOOK THE STAGE...

FELLOW MONSTERS... PRAY SILENCE FOR TONIGHT'S GUEST OF HONOUR THAT GREAT VAMPIRE FILM PRODUCER...



"... LINTON BUGOSKY!"

A VAMPIRE FILM PRODUCER?

THEY ALL ARE-- FIGURATIVELY, ONLY HE IS...

LITERALLY!



IT IS A GREAT HONOUR FOR ME TO SHOW YOU AN EXCERPT FROM MY LATEST FILM... A PICTURE CLOSE TO MY HEART FOR IT IS BASED ON MY OWN CHILDHOOD.



I WAS BORN AND BROUGHT UP RIGHT HERE IN LONDON (THOUGH I NEVER HAD THE URGE TO ENTER MY FATHER'S PROFESSION, HE WAS A NIGHT WORKER, AND SLEPT THROUGHOUT THE DAY, HE NEEDED PEACE AND QUIET, NATURALLY, AND BEING A SHY CHILD, I WAS GLAD WE LIVED IN THE ONLY SECLUDED HOUSE AROUND.

"MY MOTHER -- MAY THE EARTH
LIE LIGHTLY ON HER BONES --
WAS ALWAYS DETERMINED I
SHOULD LOOK MY BEST."

NOW REMEMBER
WHAT I TOLD YOU
... NEVER SPEAK
TO STRANGERS



"BUT STRANGERS
WEREN'T THE ONLY
PROBLEM."

HELLO,
SHRIMP!

WEED!

ISN'T
'E PALE?

ANY
PUNY!



"SCHOOL WASN'T
THE HAPPIEST OF
PLACES ..."



WHATEVER DID THEY
DO TO YOU?

MUST HURRY AND
GET YOU RESPECTABLE
AGAIN. YOUR FATHER
WILL BE UP SOON!



"BUT EACH EVENING WITH
FATHER SEEMED SO SHORT ..."

NOW, MANFRED, YOU
MUST HURRY OR YOU'LL
MISS YOUR TRAIN.

DADDY-- I WISH
YOU COULD PLAY
WITH ME DURING
THE DAY-- ARE
YOU A WAITER?



NO, MY SON. I
LIGHTEN THE BURDEN
OF THOSE WHO HAVE
TOO MUCH -- AND I
RECEIVE NUTRITION
IN RETURN ...

A NIP AND
A SUCK AND
THEY DON'T
FEEL A
THING!

FEED WITHOUT
GREED. THAT'S AL-
WAYS BEEN MY MOTTO.
THE RUSH HOUR TRAINS
AND AFTER THEATRE
CROWDS PROVIDE
A RICH HARVEST.

BUT I MUST
ALWAYS BE ON
THE LOOKOUT FOR
THE BLEENY... THE
B-SQUAD, SON ...
BEWARE OF MEN
CARRYING VIOLIN
CASES!



ART BY DAVID LLOYD





PICKERING TURNED PROUDLY AWAY FROM THE VAMPIRE TO FACE HIS MEN...

AND FAILED TO NOTICE THE HAND MOVING FROM THE COFFIN!

UHP?

THEN, AS THE VAMPIRE'S STRENGTH FADED...

DON'T JUST STAND THERE! GET AN AMBULANCE!

YOU'LL NEED MORE THAN AN AMBULANCE! MY HUSBAND BIT DEEP! YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS...

YOU'LL TURN INTO A VAMPIRE, TOO! YOU'LL HAVE TO BE STAKED BY YOUR OWN MEN... NOW!

SHE'S RIGHT, SIR! THE VIRUS IS IN YOU! COME MOONLIGHT AND YOU'LL BE ON THE RAMPAGE! WE'LL HAVE TO DO OUR DUTY, SIR!

DESPITE THE ENIGMA STRUGGLE, THE VAMPIRE HUNTER WAS FINALLY... NAILED DOWN!

...AND CARRIED AWAY BY HIS MEN.

LINTON AND HIS MOTHER STOOD SPEECHLESS IN THE CELLAR... THEN ANOTHER SPOKE!

IT'S A GOOD THING I ALWAYS WEAR A STAKE-PROOF VEST... FILLED WITH KETCHUP!

THE ONE THING TO REMEMBER IN LIFE -- AND UN-LIFE -- IS YOU CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL!!

YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT, SERGEANT! I'M PICKERING! I'VE NAILED OVER TWO THOUSAND VAMPS! YOU CAN'T MEAN TO...



NOW I REALLY MUST BE GOING...

YOU CAN'T GO NOW - I'VE TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU!

(GASP!) BUT YOU'RE DEAD!



NO-NO, I'M GOING TO PUT YOU UP FOR MEMBERSHIP!

BUT-- BUT I'M NOT A MONSTER!

HE'S A ... A ... A HUMAN!



THE SHOCKED SECRETARY'S VOICE HAD BEEN SO LOUD...

BUT CAN WE TRULY CALL OURSELVES A MONSTER CLUB WHEN WE DO NOT BOAST A SINGLE MEMBER OF THE HUMAN RACE?

NONSENSE!

CURIOUS

PUNY!

INSIGNIFICANT!

WHAT CAN HE DO?

WHAT CAN HE DO?

IN THE PAST SIXTY YEARS THE HUMMS HAVE EXTERMINATED ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILLION OF THEIR OWN KIND! NO EFFORT WAS SPARED TO REACH THIS ASTRONOMICAL FIGURE AND THE METHODS USED MUST DEMAND OUR UNSTINTED ADMIRATION!

THE HUMMS BEGAN WITH MANY SERIOUS DIS-ADVANTAGES. BUT THESE THEY OVERCAME WITH WON-DEFUL INGENUITY: NOT HAVING A CLAW, FANG OR EYEBL & WHISTLE WORTH TALKING ABOUT THEY INVENTED GUNS, TANKS, AEROPLANES, BOMBS, POISON GAS, EXTERMINATION CAMPS, WORDS, DISEASES, BLYNDERS, BOOBY TRAPS, ATOMIC BOMBS, FLYING MISSILES, SUBMARINES, WARSHIPS, AIRCRAFT CARRIERS AND MOTOR CARS.



THEY HAVE ALSO PERSISTED A PROCESS FOR GORGING LETHAL DISEASE TO ANY PART OF THE PLANET TO SAVE NOTHING OF NUCLEAR ENERGY...

DURING THEIR SHORT HISTORY THEY HAVE CON-DEMNED OTHER HUMMS TO DEATH BY: BURNING, HANGING, BEHEADING, ELECTROCUTION, STRANG-ULATION, SHOOTING... DROWNING, RACKING, CRUSHING, DISMEMBER-ING AND OTHER METHODS TOO REVOLTING TO MENTION



THE MONSTERS WERE ALL OVER-COME WITH ADMIRATION...

I NEVER REALISED YOU WERE SO TALENTED.

WE DON'T LIKE TO BOAST.



I SECOND THE PROPOSAL A MEMBER OF SUCH A TALENTED RACE CAN ONLY BE A CREDIT TO US!

ELECTED!

HEAR! HEAR!



AND SO, A HUMAN BEING FINALLY TOOK HIS PLACE ALONGSIDE ALL THE OTHER MONSTERS...